



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM V.A

DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2014
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: COUNCIL MISSION - CLIMATE RESILIENCE ACTIVITIES

Council staff continues to support and participate in activities that will further the ability of the region's leaders, stakeholders, and residents to enhance their ability to respond to and address the impacts of projected sea level rise and climate change. In today's meeting, the Council will receive updates on several related activities.

Monroe County Sustainability Action Plan - Presenter: Rhonda Haag, Sustainability Program Manager, Monroe County

Monroe County has launched a program that will affect the quality of life for residents well into the future. The County is seeking in-depth information from residents and business owners about their priorities and goals to protect their property and the environment.

The Monroe County Sustainability Action Plan will consist of strategies, policies, and tools to create sustainable initiatives, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy and water efficiency and conservation practices county-wide. The Plan will serve as the blueprint for the County's Sustainability Office and initiatives. A process shall be included to measure the County's performance and progress on Sustainability initiatives over time. Also included will be the results of a sea level rise modeling effort that will forecast sea level rise in the Keys and the anticipated effects to County infrastructure such as roads, buildings and bridges, and inundation to neighborhoods in the Upper, Middle and Lower Keys. Monroe County is the 3rd most vulnerable area in the County as far as the percentage of population that will be displaced by sea level rise. The County is meeting with neighborhood groups to identify the sea level rise risks to homes and businesses in neighborhoods, what the residents can to do prepare for sea level rise, what it will cost to prepare, and what the anticipated cost benefit is to prepare.

Adaptation Action Areas - Presenter: Keren Prize Bolter, Geosciences PhD Candidate, Florida Atlantic University Center for Environmental Studies and South Florida Regional Planning Council

Adaptation Action Areas are the main entryway for sea level rise adaptation in Florida. Adaptation Action Areas language has a place in Florida Statute, providing a flexible and optional framework that can be applied to the entire State. Adaptation Action Areas provide guidance regarding the prioritization of funding in a changing environment. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity is developing a diverse range of planning and implementation resources that will provide technical assistance and support.

Through funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Florida Coastal Office of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) engaged the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) to assist in the research of Adaptation Action Area implementation strategies. For many Florida communities, the planning process begins with the development and maintenance of a local government's comprehensive plan. A guidebook that will provide guidance on the benefits of incorporating adaptation strategies into local plans and programs is currently under development. This guidebook will assist communities in identifying specific vulnerabilities and strategies to increase community resilience.

**Public Health Impacts from Sea Level Rise on Vulnerable Populations in Southeast Florida -
Presenter: Roderick K. King MD, MPH, Chief Executive Officer, Florida Institute for Health
Innovation**

In November 2013, the Florida Institute for Health Innovation, formerly known as the Florida Public Health Institute, was awarded a two year grant from the Kresge Foundation to implement a mapping project that will identify populations in Southeast Florida that are most vulnerable to sea level rise, develop adaptation strategies designed for these communities, and produce a toolkit that can be shared with the region's communities. Project partners include the South Florida Regional Planning Council and Florida Atlantic University.

The goals of this project are to: (1) Identify the communities in Southeast Florida (Palm Beach, Broward, Miami Dade and Monroe counties) that will be the most vulnerable to sea level rise impacts in the coming decades; (2) Identify specific potential public health risks and correlate these risks to identified populations under a 2030 and 2060 sea level rise scenario; (3) Share this information with local decision makers to create more robust adaptation plans that include human health considerations; and (4) Develop a technical assistance guidebook and toolkit that can be shared with other coastal communities.

RECENTLY COMPLETED:

Health Impact Assessment of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact Regional Climate Action Plan (Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan)

The Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP) Health Impact Assessment (HIA) completed by the Florida Public Health Institute, now known as the Florida Institute for Health Innovation, earlier this year provides a comprehensive assessment of the 110 climate change adaptation and mitigation policy recommendations put forth in the RCAP to determine the health effects of climate change, specifically sea level rise and heat waves. The HIA describes the magnitude and distribution of climate change-related health impacts for a portion of the 5.6 million residents in Broward, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach and Monroe counties. This understanding of the widespread impact of sea level rise and heat waves on the health of millions of constituents will be of value to jurisdictions, stakeholders, and decision-makers at multiple governmental and community levels.

The HIA assesses the potential health impacts of the 110 climate change adaptation and mitigation recommendations put forth by the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact in its RCAP and focuses on the following four objectives:

- o Identify potential direct and indirect health impacts of climate change in Southeast Florida due to sea level rise and heat waves.
- o Assess the impact of RCAP recommended climate change adaptation and mitigation policies and resilient strategies on human health outcomes.
- o Inform on incorporating RCAP's recommendations for adaptation and mitigation policies and strategies that recognize the need to prepare and address the health impacts due to sea level rise and heat waves.

o Increase knowledge and awareness throughout the Southeast Florida region of climate change health impacts due to sea level rise and heat waves.

This Health Impact Assessment was made possible with funding from U.S. HUD as part of the Sustainable Communities Initiative and the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership's Seven50: Southeast Florida Prosperity Plan development process.

The 6th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit, October 1 - 2, 2014, at the Miami Beach Convention Center

Council staff was asked to assist the host communities, Miami Dade County and the City of Miami Beach, in the planning and execution of the very successful conference. Over 600 people attended including five Counsel Generals from Great Britain, Germany, Netherlands, France and Canada.

Information Only