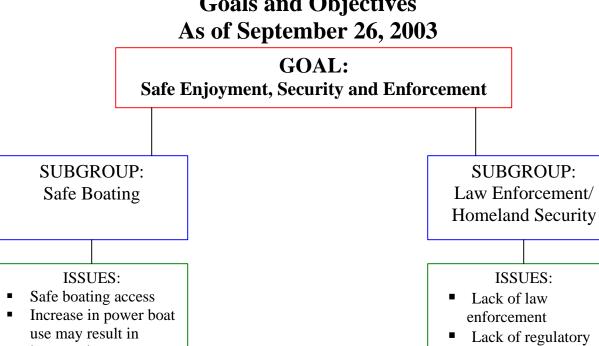
Biscayne Bay Strategic Access Plan Advisory Team **Goals and Objectives**



- increase in accidents/fatalities
- License and lesson requirements for boating

OBJECTIVES:

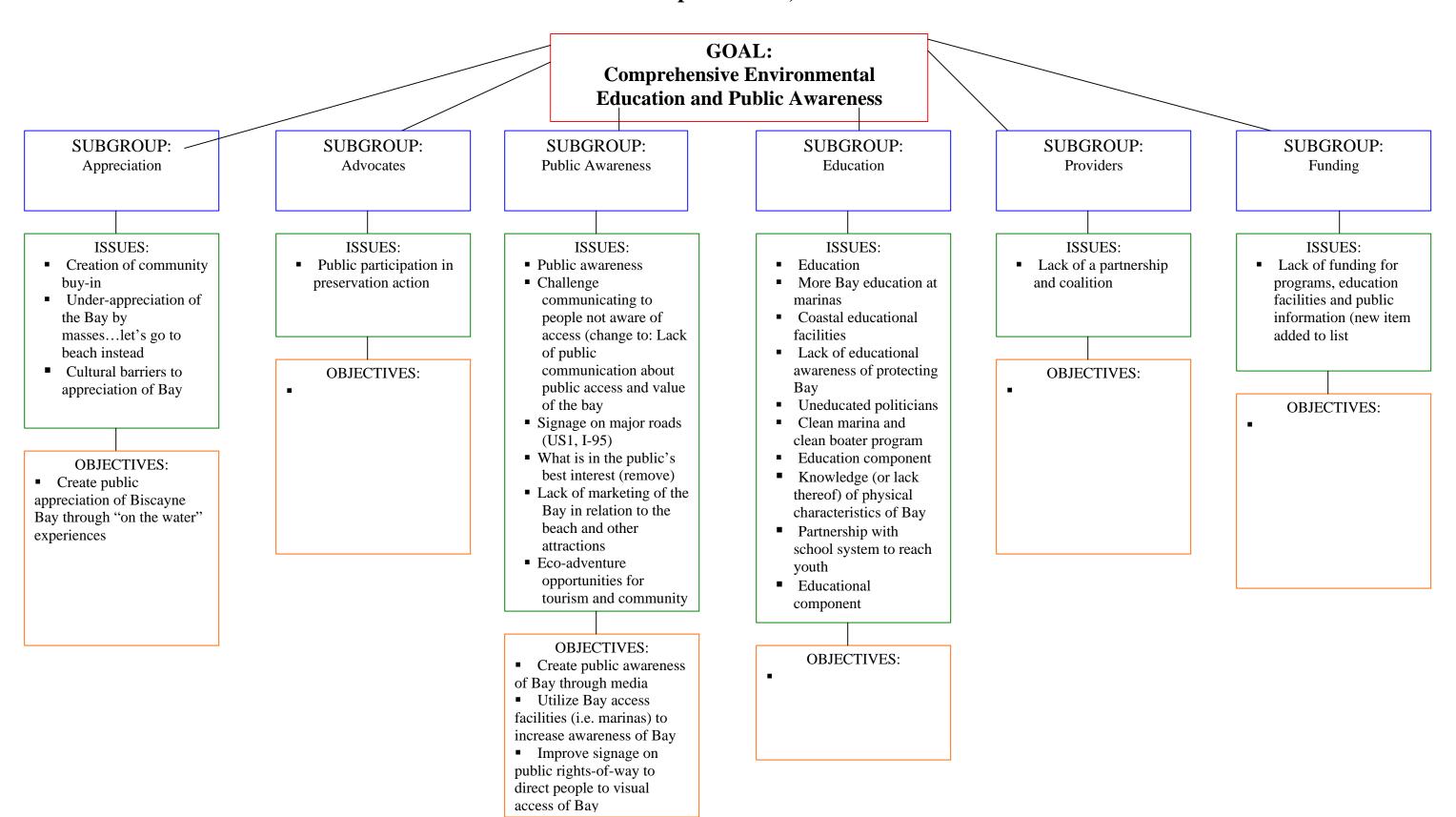
- Educate 25% boaters in 10 years to develop safe boating skills as needed
- Increase communitybased education programs/facilities to reach 40% of boating public within 10 years

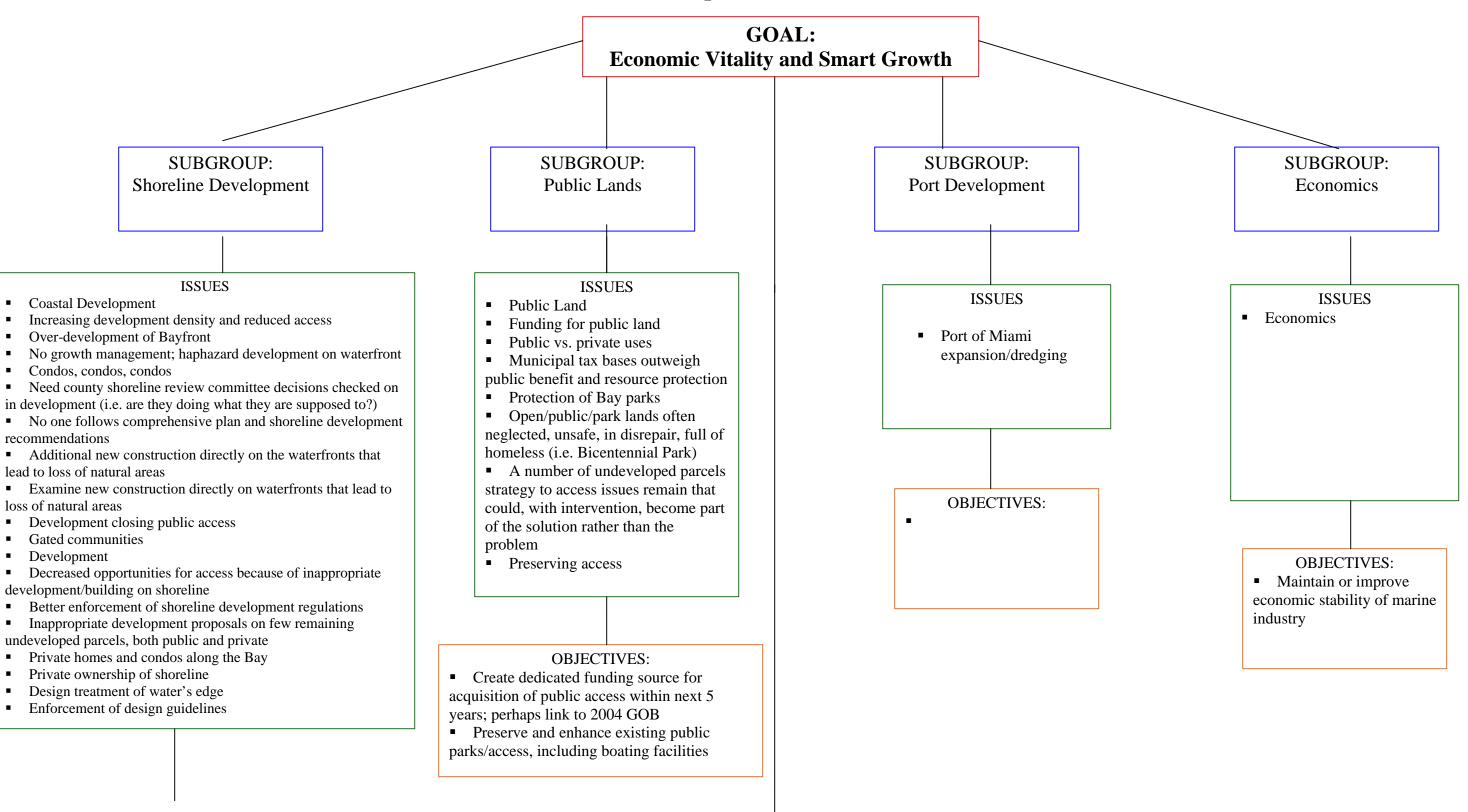
ISSUES:

- Lack of law
- Lack of regulatory enforcement (vessel use, development)
- Failure to enforce and/or implement existing public access or private and public development sites
- Increasing incidence of illegal immigration via the Bay
- Law enforcement nearly non-existen; at night none in many areas
- Security and vandalism of access improvements
- Need to increase awareness and preparedness of our security on water

OBJECTIVES:

- Multiagency coordination for effective law enforcement (County-City-50%-2 years)
- Integrate law enforcement with education programs (all – 5 years)
- Seawatch (crimewatch) program (100% 2-years all access – marinas/places)





OBJECTIVES:

- Miami-Dade Comp Plan should be amended to require dedicated public access for all shoreline development (timeframe: during EAR process)
- Enforce existing design guidelines for shoreline
- Develop design guidelines for areas without them

SUBGROUP: Visual Access

ISSUES

- View corridors
- Development controls on new construction to maximize visual access
- Too many high-rises blocking Bay view
- Commercial development blocks visual access
- New development blocking Bay views
- Protection of extraordinary aesthetic values of Biscayne National Park shoreline from development

OBJECTIVES:

■ Implement height restrictions in relation to Biscayne National Park and 100% of other natural shoreline areas (timeframe: next EAR process

SUBGROUP:

Boat Access and Facilities

ISSUES

- Too much emphasis on accommodating more boats how much is enough?
- Not enough marinas will decrease the economy generated by boating on the Bay
- Loss of water-dependent shoreline uses and access caused by redevelopment
- Commercial vs. pleasure/recreational use on the Bay
- Recognition of economic impact/potential
- Limited "big" boat access and wet slips
- Limited boat ramps

OBJECTIVES:

Increase boat slips and boat ramps by 10% by 2020

SUBGROUP: Smart Growth

ISSUES

- Divide between activists and developers; balance between economic development and resource protection
- Potential destruction of environmental resources in order to create access (seagrass, hardbottom, mangroves, etc.
- Industries that only seek monetary gain and don't worry about social/environmental impacts to resources
- Desire to make money off land no matter the environmental consequences
- Putting "for profit" private development on public Bayfront and submerged lands
- Can people shift from exploiting the shoreline for profit to ecotourism focus?
- As costs for ships/boat facilities increase, access for lower income groups decreases
- Eco-tourism

OBJECTIVES:

 Strike balance between environmentally sustainable development and public access

OVERARCHING ISSUE:

Agency Coordination

Lack of Agency jurisdictional coordination with respect to policy, plans and regulations

ISSUES:

- Increase interagency jurisdiction cooperation
- Multiple jurisdictions over Bay access issues leads to miscommunications/lack of coordinated effort
- Coordination among agencies
- Lack of coordinated coastal management plan
- Need to resolve debate which delays results unnecessarily
- Difficulty of resolving federal/state/private debate...therefore, no action taken until too late
- Confusing jurisdictions///state/county/cities/CORP/National Park

OBJECTIVES:

 Coordinated review and assessment of policies, plans and development proposals by a team comprised of relevant jurisdictions within 5 years

GOAL:

Coordinated Governance and Sound Public Policy

OVERARCHING ISSUE:

Political Issues
(1) Uninformed decisionmaking by politicians and
communities; (2) Lack of
political will to implement
sound policy decisions

ISSUES:

- Developers' abilities to get land use changes; politicos beholden to developers
- Uneducated politicians
- Political support for Bay protection and political will to fight off self-serving interests
- Environmental impacts of decisions
- Not enough involvement by policy makers
- Neighborhood association objections to public access projects
- If Biscayne Bay had become an EPA national estuary would access have been addressed comprehensively?

OBJECTIVES:

 I00% formal adoption of Biscayne Bay Access Plan within 2 years

OVERARCHING ISSUE: Policy (Land Use)

(1) Lack of consistent policies balancing development, access and environment; (2) Lack of adherence to land-use policies

ISSUES:

- No commitment and enforcement to preserve land with access to Bay
- Allowing variances to regulatory requirements that are intended to protect Bay or provide access
- Public policy requiring more waterfront property to have adequate access and more water-dependent uses
- Turkey Point expansion
- Cities grant land use changes on waterfront then cry about having no waterfront, boat slips and marinas
- Regulations to keep all shoreline from being privatized
- Too many [zoning] variances granted
- Lack of powerboat operator license program
- Balancing access with maintaining Bay management
- Appropriate use of state-owned submerged lands
- That Army Corp dredging frenzy
- Creation of overall master plan

OBJECTIVES:

- Comprehensive plans and development regulations amended within 5 years to follow recommendations of the Biscayne Bay Access Plan
- Decrease the number of variance allowed by 80% in the next 10 years

OVERARCHING ISSUE:

Permitting Ineffective and cumbersome permitting

ISSUES:

- Balancing and maintaining Bay management
- Compliance with regulatory agencies too expensive to encourage marina development
- Minimizing accessibility by over-regulation

OBJECTIVES:

 Develop consistent, streamlined and effective permitting process that implements policies of the Access Plan within 5 years

OVERARCHING ISSUE: Coordination of Enforcement

Enforcement of policies and regulations comprised by a lack of agency coordination and political will.

ISSUES:

- Selective or lack of enforcement of regulations
- Current regulations not enforced///why pass more regulations when there is not enforcement currently?
- Strong public policy base for public access not translated fully into implementing mechanisms and/or laws
- Lack of regulatory enforcement
- Inconsistent enforcement and lack of implementation of existing policies
- Failure to enforce or implement existing public access on private and public development sites
- Comprehensive Plan not followed
- No commitment to protect water quality
- Lack of enforcement (comp plan, shoreline review)

OBJECTIVES:

 Create completely funded, multi-jurisdictional team to effectively enforce regulation

SUBGROUP:

Capacity

Provide opportunities to increase access without sacrificing environmental values or resources

ISSUES:

- What is carrying capacity of the Bay?
- Impacts on water quality from increased use
- Access Bay on boardwalks through sensitive areas
- Lack of appreciation for preservation initiatives that have allowed some natural shoreline
- Too much access could exceed Bay's carrying capacity
- Increased awareness toward sustainability
- Without balancing access with other sometimes competing issues, such as aesthetics or environmental protection some intrinsic values of Bay can be lost in the name of access
- How can we balance access and preservation of habitats>
- Create designated access points so people do not destroy fragile ecosystems while trying to find places to launch canoes, kayaks, etc.
- Public might create negative impact if access points are overused
- Does public access/ownership guarantee protection
- Must protect intrinsic values of Bay that create the "incentive" to want to access it
- Lack of appreciation that humans are not the only ones who use the Bay

OBJECTIVES:

- Immediately establish parameters for resources with a determination of the maximum uses that provide for sustainability. Efforts should be dynamic, ongoing and dynamic.
- Implement and use cutting-edge management tools that increase access while preserving wildlife and habitat.

GOAL: Respect for Wildlife and Environmental Sustainability

SUBGROUP:

Restoration

The bay must be made accessible to thos eentities that have the means and ability to environmentally restore the bay. A restored bay provides experiences that can't be provided otherwise.

ISSUES:

- Ecosystem resources
- Resource protection
- Fragility of ecosystem
- Habitat protection (e.g. seagrass and natural shoreline)
- Avoidance of environmentally damaging human impacts
- Restoring and preserving the environmental integrity of the Bay
- Loss of habitat

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify opportunities within and along the bay for environmental restoration and preservation.
 Complete this inventory with 1 year.
- Immediately define activities that have adverse impacts on the environmental quality of bay and eliminate these uses
- Focus on restoration projects that provide natural means of enhancing water quality (like seagrass, mangroves, sponges, etc.)

SUBGROUP:

Wildlife

Healthy populations of wildlife and habitat need to be increased to enhance access experiences.

ISSUES:

- Loss of animal life (e.g. turtles and mammals other than manatees)
- Fish/shellfish populations; increase biomass
- Impact of Bay access on critical wildlife habitat
- Not enough mind is paid to animals and plants in the Bay
- Manatees and manatee protection
- Protection of sebirds

OBJECTIVES:

- Immediately, and as information becomes available, revise regulations as needed to enhance fish and other wildlife populations and increase habitat
- Coordinate state and local agency efforts to maximize fishing and development regulations in order to protect wildlife and habitat

SUBGROUP:

Pollution

Eliminate as many sources of pollution as possible.

ISSUES:

- Water quality
 - Need to control and limit pollution (point sources easier)
 - o Water quality is important for access
 - o Should be a Bay we can swim in
 - o Runoff (stormwater)
 - Mechanical (exhaust, oil, solvents, fuels)
 - Sewage (boats, marinas, uplands)
 - Turbidity
 - o Litter/trash
 - Trash in waterways leading to Bay impedes access
 - o Trash along the shore
- Other
- o Noise
- o Air
- Visual

OBJECTIVES:

- Immediately determine sources of pollution
- Within 5 years, ensure that all types of existing bay access facilities and sites include infrastructure to reduce pollution streams (pumpout stations, solid waste containers, restrooms, etc.); make this infrastructure a regiment for all new access facilities and sites
- Continue to retrofit sources of stormwater pollution

Access Advisory Team Chart: Goals and Objectives, 09/26/

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