

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

YOUTH CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM (IN-PERSON AND ZOOM)

Wednesday February 22, 2023, 5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
	23	23											
Nicholas Eterovic	P	P											Mayor Lago
Carmen Olazabal	P	P											Commissioner Fors
Jasper Brock	P	P											Commissioner Menendez
Greg Hamra	E	A											Commissioner Mena
Marlin Ebbert	P	P											Commissioner Anderson
Martin Pinilla	P	P											City Manager Peter Iglesias
Joe Fadel	P	P											Sustainability Board-As-A-Whole
Teddy Lhoutellier	P	P											U.M. Representative
Monique Selman	P	P											C.G. Chambers of Commerce
Piero Gardinali	E	P											F.I.U. Representative
Gabriela McGrath	E	P											Youth Appointment

A – Absent
 P – Present
 E – Excused.
 (*) no meeting

STAFF:

Matt Anderson, City Resiliency and Sustainability Manager
 Anthonique Jay, Public Works Administrative Assistant
 Solanch Lopez, Assistant to the City Manager

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 5:07 by Chairperson Marlin Ebbert.

MOTIONS:

January 25, 2023, Meeting Minutes – Carmen moved to approve the meeting minutes, Monique seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

PHYSICAL QUORUM (10): Nicholas, Teddy, Jasper, Monique, Marlin, Carmen, Martin, Joe, Gabi, Piero

Quorum was met at 5:07pm

Presentation- Matt gave a presentation and provided updates on the City's sustainability and resiliency initiatives.

Below are questions from SAB Members and answers:

-Reduce Electricity Use: Do the lights at Venetian pool stay on all night?

Once staff is done with the nightly routine, lights are turned off.

-Reduce Electricity Use: Is the system of draining the pool everyday still in use?

During the busy summer season, the pool is drained and filled every day and during the off season, the pool is drained and filled every other day.

-Reduce Electricity Use: Does the water from the pool get put back into the aquifer?

Because the pool is fresh water from the aquifer, it does get deposited back. There are very little amounts of chlorine that are put in the pool (less than 1 part per million).

-Reduce Building/Facilities Water Consumption: Why is there a big fluctuation between fiscal years 19 and 22?

There were a couple of factors: during this time, there were (2) public safety buildings in operation, and during FY19 and FY20, COVID was at its peak.

-Reduce Building/Facilities Water Consumption: When was the baseline established?

In 2015, the 2013 baseline was established through the sustainability management plan, which was the best year of data that was the most complete.

-Reduce Irrigation Water Consumption: What is an Advanced Metering Infrastructure Meter?

This is also known as an AMI Meter which can sense when there is an increase or decrease in flow or a break in the system. The meter can shut the system down and notify staff.

-Reduce Citywide Water Consumption: Who monitors the monetary savings?

The City's Finance Department monitors the savings when paying Miami-Dade Water and Sewer bills.

-Reduce Fuel Consumption: Is the trolley and freebie electric?

The trolley is currently diesel, and freebie are electric golf carts.

-Reduce Fuel Consumption: Will the trolleys be electric?

Hometown Trolley is the vendor that the City purchased trolleys from. Currently, we have one electric trolley being tested (pls confirm). The City is evaluating and looking into the piloting process.

-Reduce Fuel Consumption: Is there any plan to expand the trolley routes.

There are currently (12) trolleys in the City's fleet running (2) routes north and south, on Ponce de Leon Boulevard, from the Douglas Metrorail Station to Flagler Street, also north and south on Grand Avenue, from the Douglas Metrorail Station through the historic McFarlane Homestead District. The City is evaluating expanding the trolley service to Sunday.

-Reduce Fuel Consumption: Will Freebie be expanding their routes?

Freebie was established to stay in the downtown areas of Coral Gables to assist with the heavily visited downtown. The City is currently evaluating the program for possible expansion.

-Reduce Fuel Consumption: Has the City looked into using propane or biofuel?

The City has never looked into using propane or biofuel. The first venture into using alternative fuel went straight into EV and now more into hybrid usage in with our Police fleet.

-Reduce Fuel Consumption: When you calculate the carbon use does that include construction projects?

Once the development is complete, we can then start seeing the usage. FPL provides the overall usage from the industrial, commercial, and the residential use is used for greenhouse gas emission reporting. It is not site specific, but overall usage by the three sectors.

Member Comments

1. UM:

- **Solar Energy:** One of their athletic buildings installed a 100-kilowatt solar panel system which is connected to a dashboard to get the output of the solar energy.
- **Second Nature Summit:** Is the number one organization in the country for higher education. In 2007, the organization received the President's and Chancellor's vote to commit to carbon neutrality.
- **Eco Reps:** Is a team of students on campus in every dorm who spreads education on sustainable living. This happens during the race to zero waste for the month of February and March. One of the initiatives launched was the laundry detergent sheets which is plant based, instead of buying the large plastic containers of detergent.

2. Electric Lines: Nicholas inquired about the undergrounding of the electrical lines. Solanch stated this is a 10-year phased project through FPL which has already started. There will be an informational website through the City with additional details.

3. Artist In Residence In The Everglades AIRIE: Artists in Residence in Everglades (AIRIE) is a 501©(3) not-for-profit operating in Everglades National Park (ENP) and the Greater Miami Area. AIRIE supports a paid month-long immersive residency for artists in the park to explore the intersection of arts and the environment. In addition, AIRIE provides its own gallery space,

organizes local events, and fosters community with a diverse team engaged in the Miami art scene. Monique informed the Board that the organization expressed their interest to her and would like to come and present to the Board. <https://www.airie.org/>.

4. **Art Installations:** Marlin suggested for Earth Month to have solar powered decorative spheres around the City, showing people what the sun is capable of doing.
5. **Resilient Florida:** Carmen wanted to congratulate the City on receiving the resilient Florida grant for \$188,000. Carmen also inquired if the vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning were included in the process. Matt stated to receive funding, the City was required to complete an updated vulnerability assessment, and the updated assessment includes an adaptation plan for each specific facility with recommendations and cost estimates.
6. **Air Potatoes:** Joe stated Commissioner Anderson wants the Board to collaborate with her to support the removal of air potatoes.
7. **Sewage Pipes:** Piero recently attended the Biscayne Bay Commission where they announced that the City received a 2-million grant to replace a leaking sewage pipe and wanted to know where that pipe is located. Matt followed up with Public Works' Utilities Division on the location and the grant was for I & I identified locations towards the southeastern portion of the City.
8. **Irrigation:** Piero inquired about City irrigating with portable water. Matt stated the City does not have reclaimed water but have some well locations. We have water trucks that irrigate in some instances and the rest, are regular irrigation systems in parks, open spaces, medians, etc.
9. **Coral Gables Senior High**
 - **Back of the Kitchen Composting:** In January the CGSH Sustainability Club started their back of the house composting, sponsored by the PTSA district environmental committee and Renuable. To get students more involved with the composting instead of cafeteria staff doing the dumping, students dump the composting for every Tuesday's pickup.
 - **Lady Green Miami:** Lady Green is a grassroots waste management and recycling company currently servicing 1,300+ locations throughout Miami-Dade County. Lady Green was founded in 2010 with a mission to serve our communities by reducing and reusing waste, as well as giving back through educational and incentive programs. In hopes of keeping the momentum going with the students being sustainable, they decided to start the recycling program with Lady Green, that will provide recycle bins and weekly pickups. Gabi stated students are working on funding to get the program started. The

school has applied for the Friends of Gables High Grant, which they received but still needs a little over \$2,000 <https://www.ladygreenmiami.com/>.

Updates/Recap on City/Sab Initiatives

a. Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program Updates (KCGB):

i. Update on the 2023 Commercial Beautification Awards: Serves to recognize those businesses that have gone above and beyond in the beautification and maintenance of their storefronts and surrounding areas. Nominations are submitted by Code Enforcement, Economic Development, the Chamber. The Board will vote on Business nominated for this award and award business with the commercial beautification award. This year's nomination period begins March 1st through April 30th. In addition to Code enforcement, Economic Development, and the Chamber, other businesses, Boards, and the public, will be able to submit nominations.

ii. Recent Events

1. UM Staff Beautification Event: On January 27th, in partnership with City's Greenspace Management Division and 37 volunteers, the entrance of Alhambra Circle was replanted.

2. Sustainability Innovations Conference: On February 16th, with 30 participants, the Smart Cities Conference was held here in the City with the theme being Sustainability Innovation. Matt was the keynote speaker at the conference and gave a brief presentation on KCGB and all the projects being worked on.

iii. Upcoming Sustainability Events

1. Waterway Cleanup: on March 3rd, along with UM's club sports group there will be a waterway cleanup from the Rivera and Ponce site.

2. Florida Panther Documentary: On March 19th, for Save the Florida Panther Day, the Coral Gables Cinema will be showing the "Path of the Panther" Documentary.

3. FIU ASLA Beautification Event at Coral Gables Country Club: On March 23rd, FIU students will be helping with the replanting of an ongoing project at the Coral Gables Country Club.

4. Downtown Community Cleanup: Starting at the Chamber office there will be a kickoff to the Downtown Clean-up on March 27th at 5pm.

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5. Plogging Event at Matheson Hammock: Scheduled for April 1st.

6. Recycling Drive-Thru Event: Scheduled for April 22nd at 9am.

Next Meeting – March 22nd, 2023, 5:00 PM.

ADJOURNED: 6:28 pm.

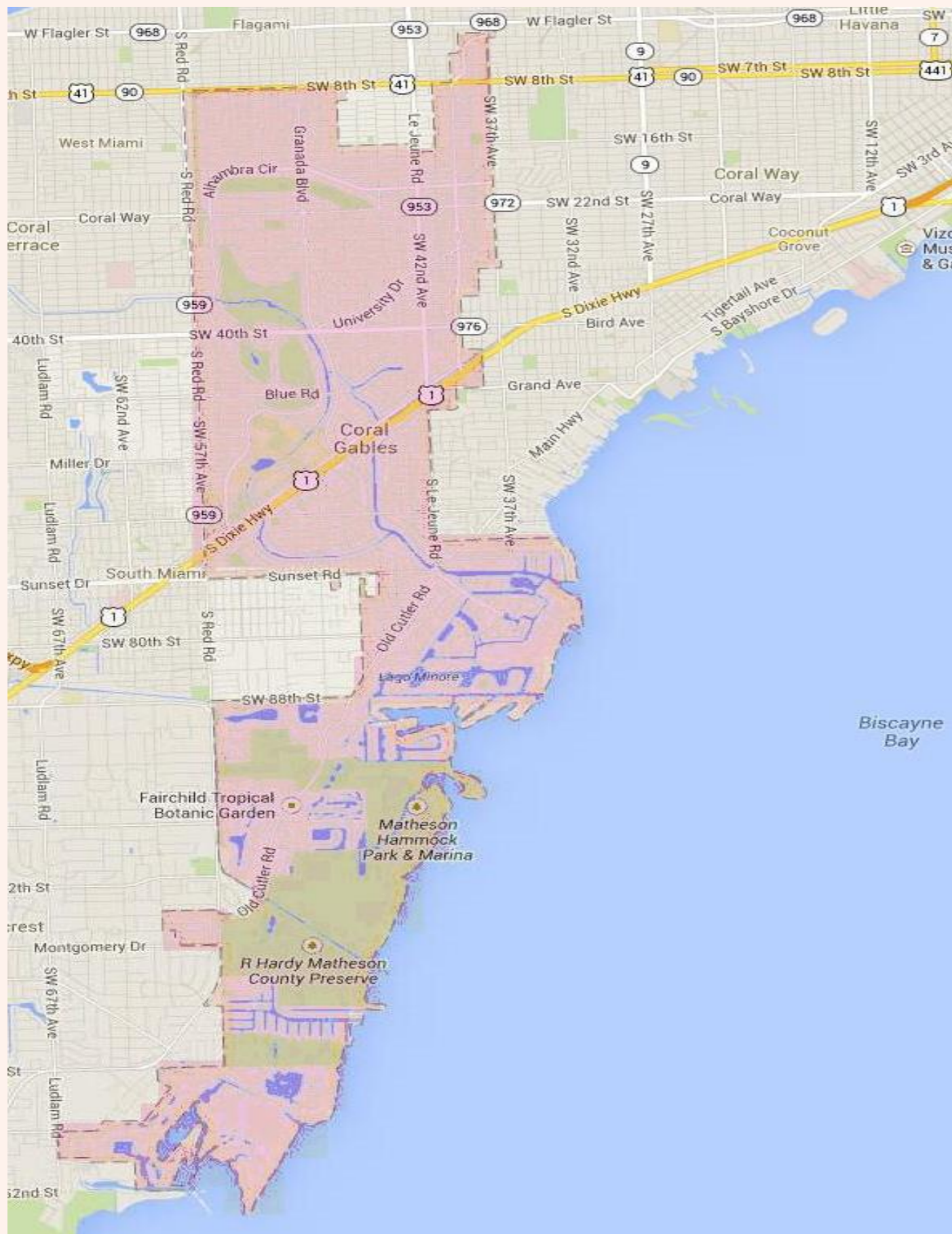
DRAFT

BUILDING A MORE
SUSTAINABLE &
RESILIENT CITY
BEAUTIFUL



CORAL
GABLES
THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

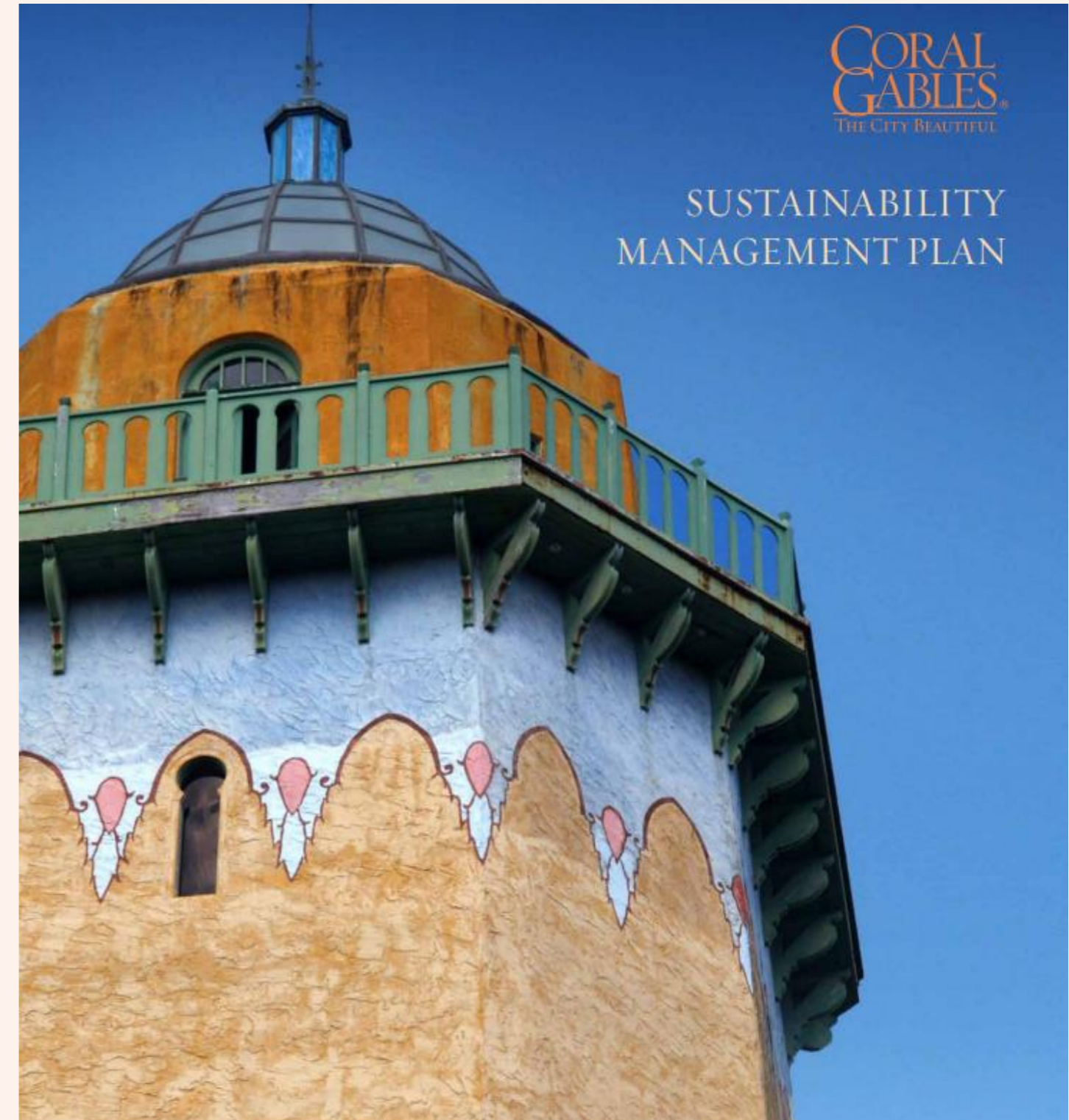




- Founded in 1925
- First planned cities in US
- 37 sq. miles (14 miles-land)
- 47 miles coastline/waterways
- Full-Service City (Police, Fire, & Sanitation)
- 50,000+ residents & 8,000 businesses
- 41% Tree Coverage
- Tree City USA (1985): 38 years
- Elevation: 0 to 22 feet
- Triple AAA Bond Rating (1 of 3 in FL)

SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Developed in 2015
- 10-year Plan
- City Operations: 23 projects
- Focus areas: Energy, Fleet, Water, Waste, Land Use & Transportation, Outreach, Finance
- 24% ROI (\$4 million)
- 2013 & 2017 Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory (City Operations & Community-Wide)
- Goals: Reduce Fuel, Energy, Water & GHG Emissions by 20% by 2025.

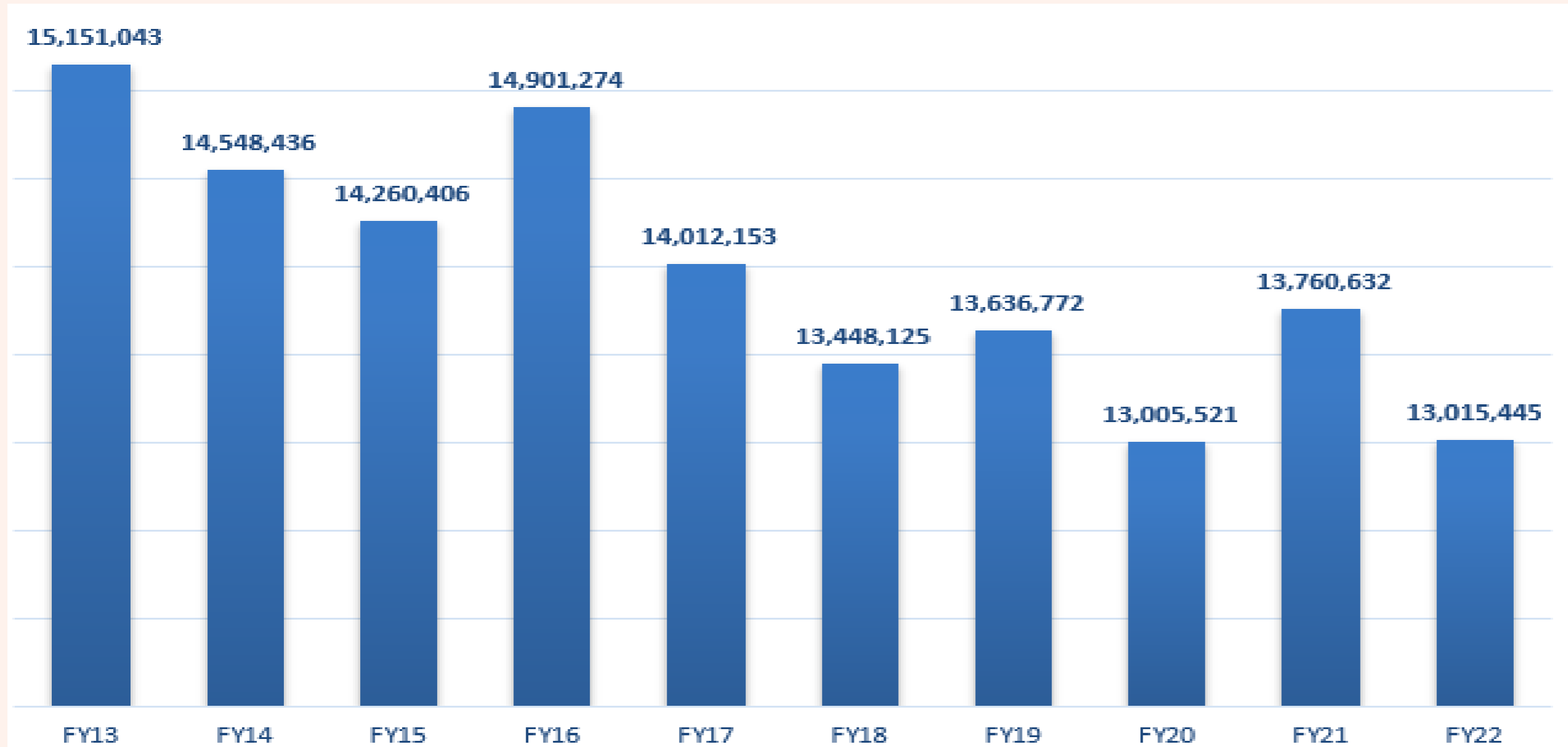


SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECTS



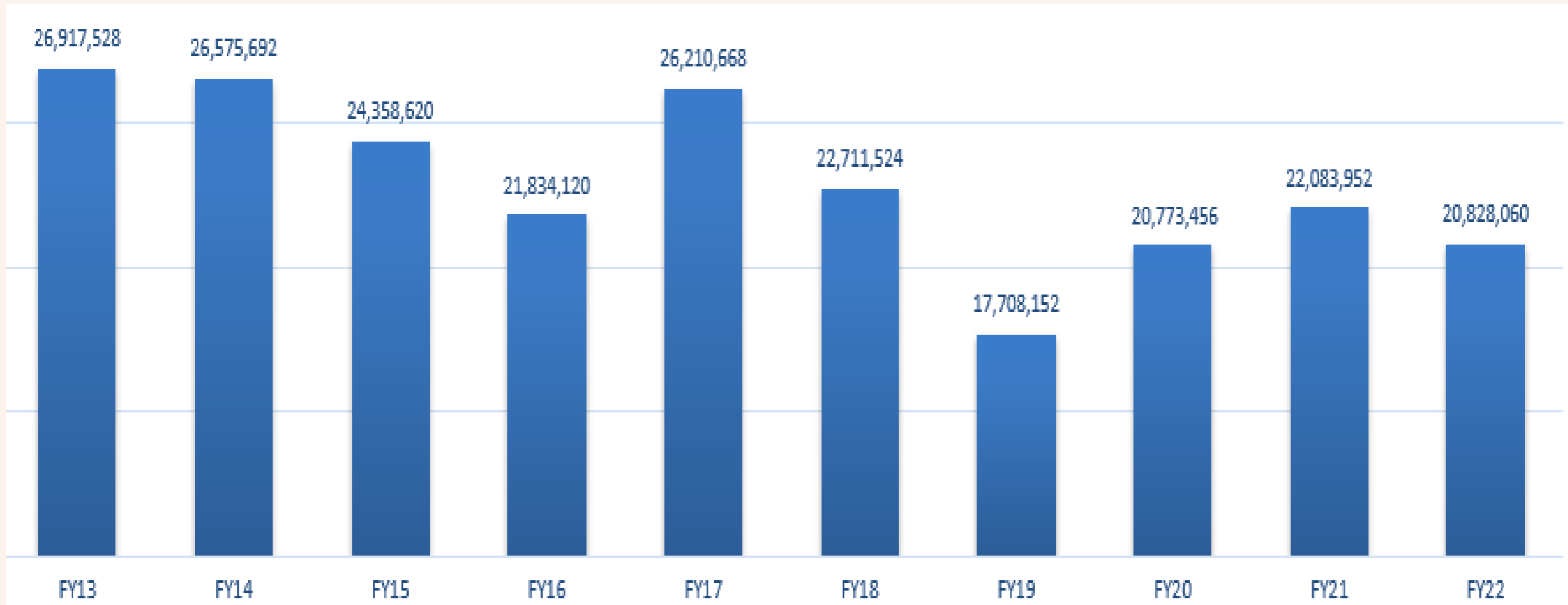
- Diversion of Single-Family Residential Garbage
- Vulnerability Assessment & Adaptation Plan
- Garage LED Lighting
- Building Energy Efficiency
- Irrigation Efficiency
- Utility Management & Control
- Electric Vehicles & Infrastructure
- Fuel Economy
- Non-Potable Water Irrigation
- Flow/Flush Fixtures
- Fleet Size
- Employee Sustainability Training
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Efficiency Revolving Fund
- Seal of Sustainability
- Increase Trolley Ridership
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Enhancements
- Solar Thermal Systems
- Regional Partnerships
- Photovoltaic System
- LED Streetlights
- Information Technology Energy Efficiency

REDUCE ELECTRICITY USE



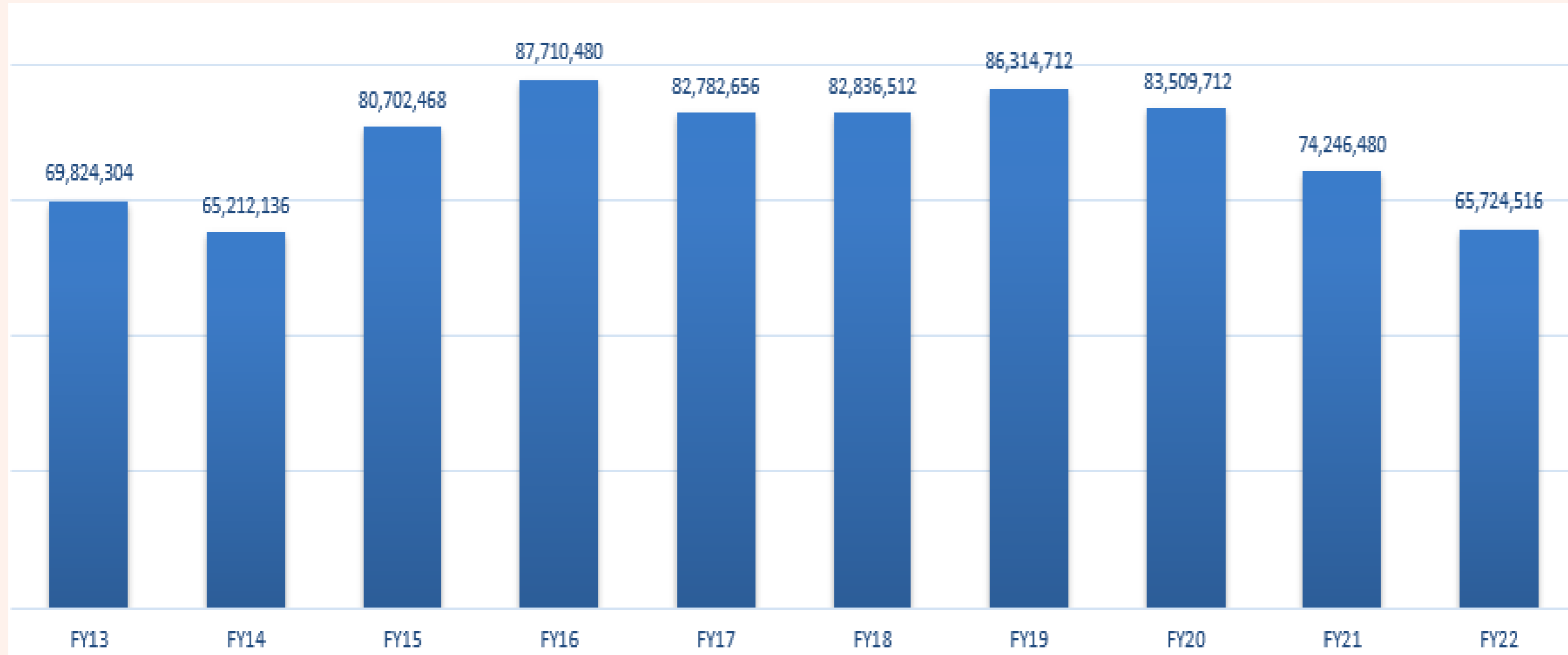
- Down 14% since FY2013
- Actions: LEED Silver Certification (PSB, Trolley Maintenance); LED Lighting/Motion Sensors (City Facilities)- Converted 73% City Sq ft; HVAC Upgrades, Energy Star (Appliances/CPU's), LED Streetlights (FPL);

REDUCE BUILDING/FACILITIES WATER CONSUMPTION



- Down 22% since FY2013
- Actions: Installed Low Flow Faucets & Toilets; LEED Silver

REDUCE IRRIGATION WATER CONSUMPTION



- Down 6% since FY2013
- Expanded Green Space/Parks
- Actions: Installed AMI Smart Meters-220 irrigation accounts (WASD), Soil Sensors (Youth Center), Native Landscaping

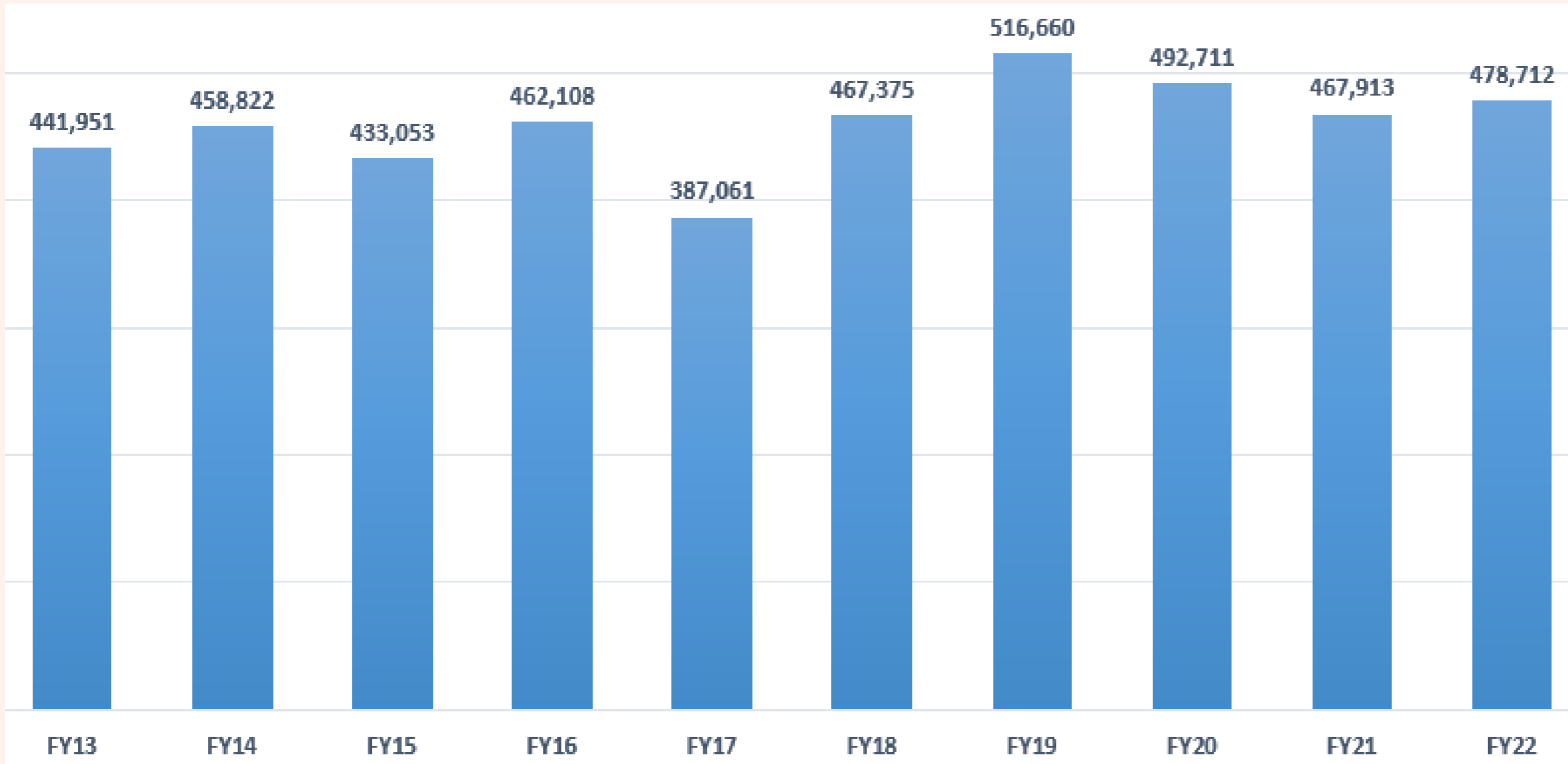


REDUCE CITYWIDE WATER CONSUMPTION



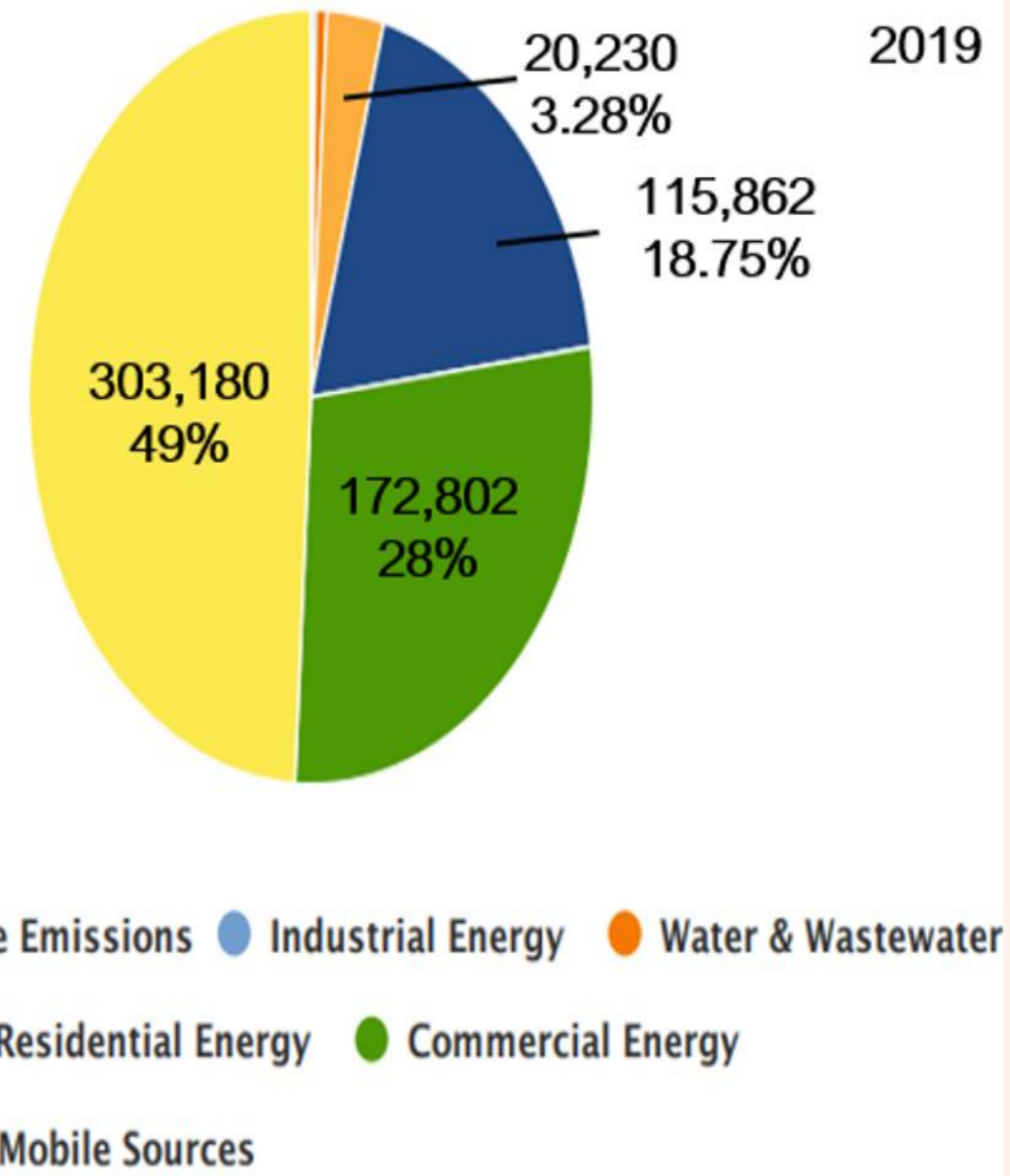
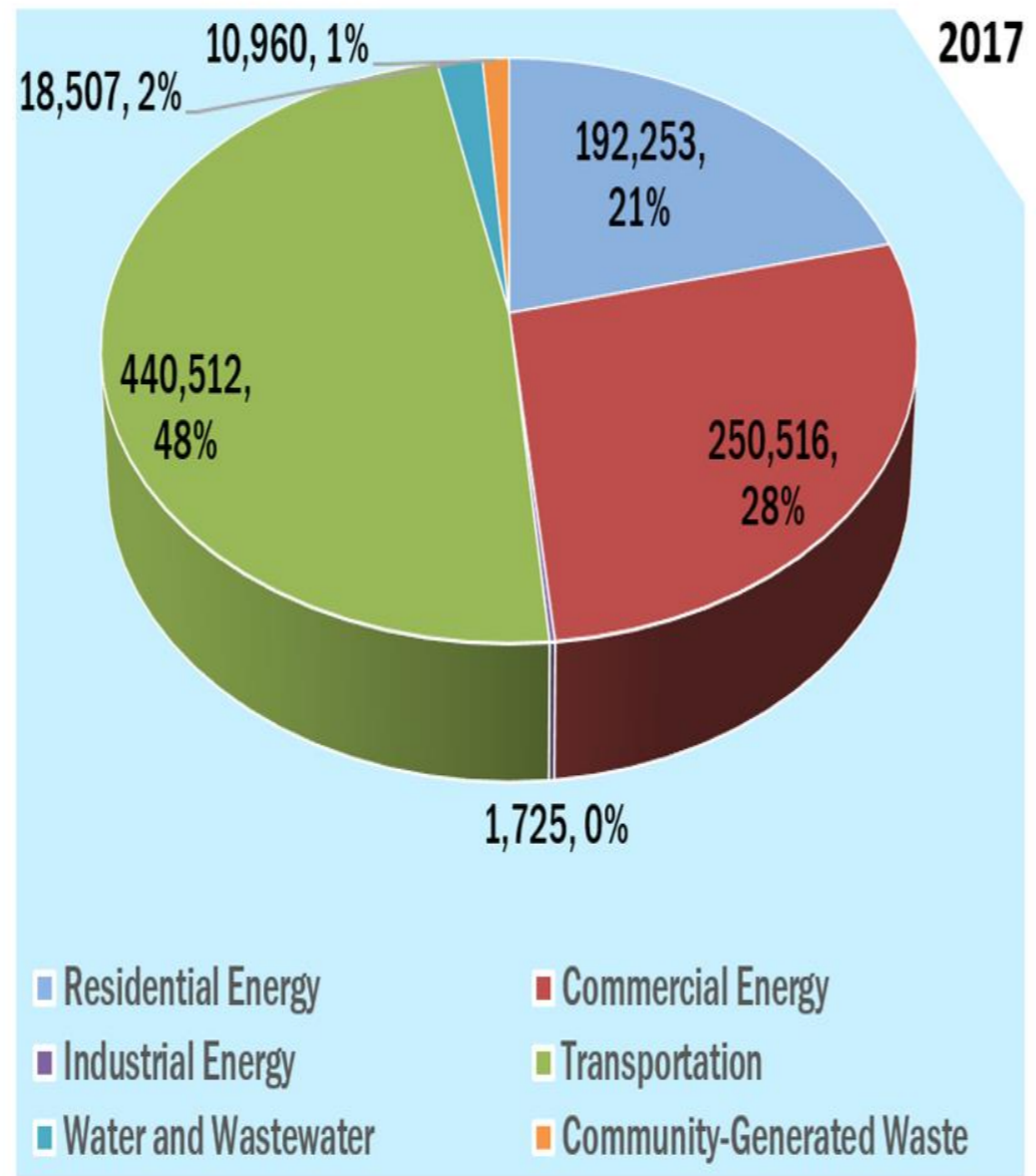
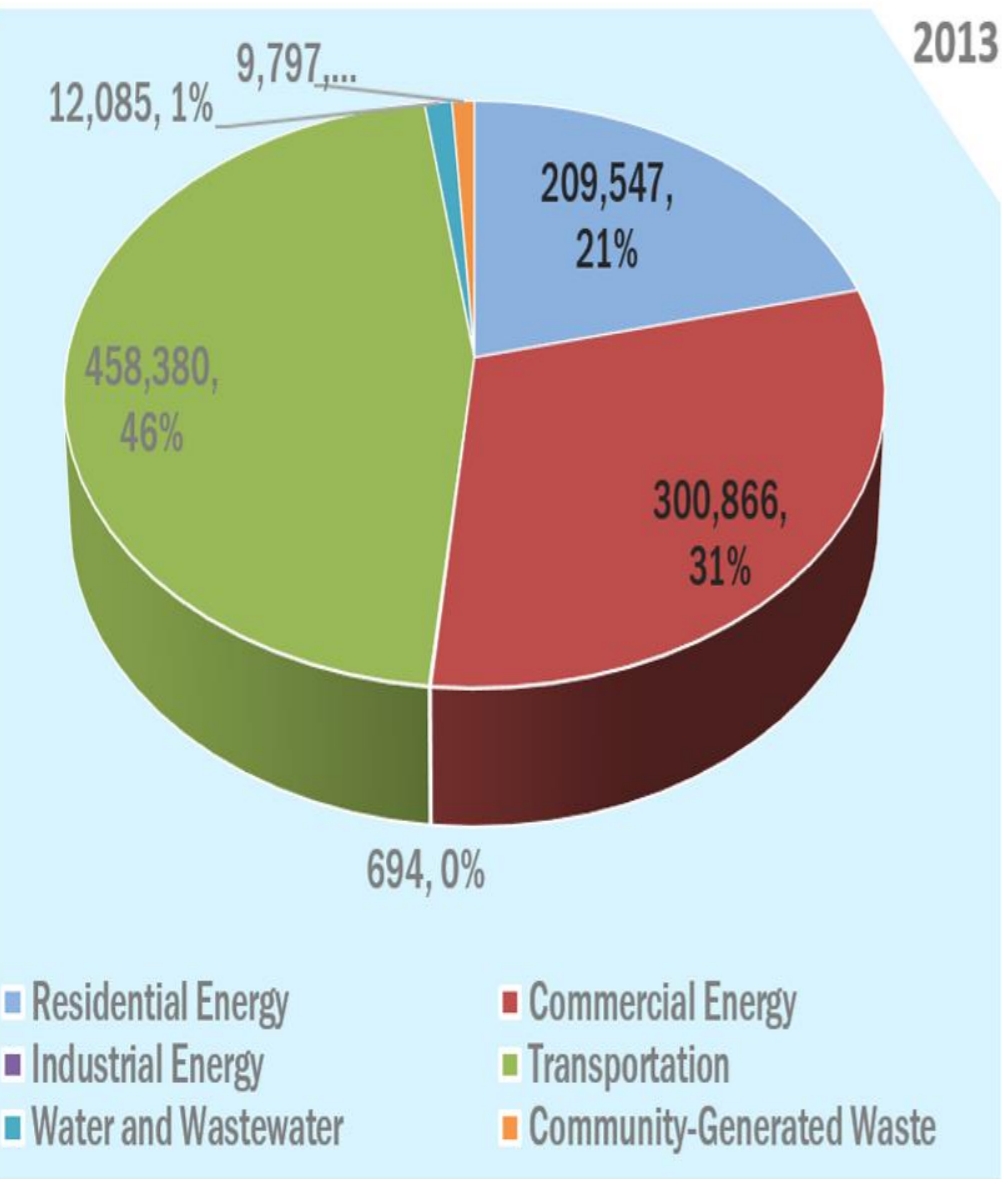
Overall Citywide Water Use: Down 10.5% since FY2013

REDUCE FUEL CONSUMPTION



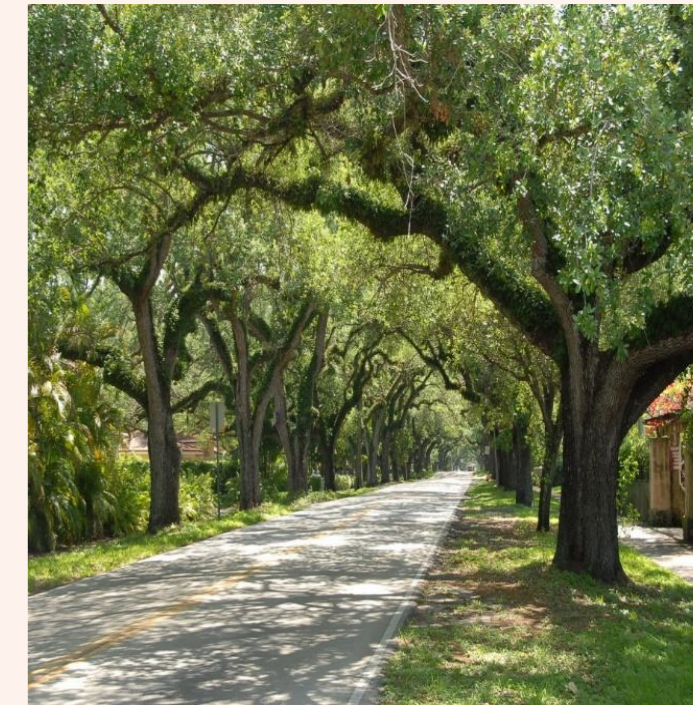
- Up 8% since FY2013
- Actions: 70 EV, Hybrid-SUV (Police); Right-typing fleet, Fuel Efficiency

COMMUNITY-WIDE GHG INVENTORIES



Total Community-Wide GHG Emissions Down 20% since 2013

SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES



- Sustainability Management Plan & City's Strategic Plan
- Tree Canopy: Over 40,000 trees in ROW (41% Tree Coverage) & Green Space: 295 acres of parks
- Green Business Certification Program
- LEED for Cities Gold Certification; Florida Race to Zero Co-hort. 8th Best City for ESG Investments

Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy

- LED Conversions: City Facilities (73% sq ft), Streetlights: FPL-Owned (71%: 2,363) Saving \$19k/yr.
- Property Accessed Clean Energy (2012)
- Sustainable Construction: Police/Fire HQ & Trolley Maintenance Facility: LEED Silver, Pump Stations, FS 4
- Waived City Permit Fees: Residential Water/Energy Efficiency & Flood Protection Upgrades; Solar PV
- Solar Benches (11) City Parks; Solsmart Silver, Solar PV: City Facilities (Granada Pro Shop, Mobility Hub)

Waste Diversion/Recycling/Litter Prevention

- KCGB-July 2020: 74 events/programs; 12,000 participants; 477,000 pounds of debris collected (Coastal Cleanups, Beautification, Recycling Drive-Thru, Battery Recycling, Prescription Drug Disposal, RVM)
- 8% Residential Contamination Rate; Waste to Energy: Residential Garbage; Recycling ROW/Parks.
- Expanded Polystyrene (2016); Plastic Bags (2017); Single Use Plastic Straws/Stirrers (2019).

Electric Vehicles/Charging Infrastructure

- Currently: 70 EV's; 12% of City fleet is electric. 41 public charging points; Future: 231 charging points
- EVSE Code updated in 2022: 5% Installed; 15% Ready; 20% Capable; Remaining 60% Sleeved.

Alternative Transportation

- Multimodal Transportation Plan; Free Bike Racks; Free Trolley Service: 1.2 million riders per year.
- Micromobility: Scooter Pilot Program, Freebie, Crosswalk/Sidewalk Extensions

RESILIENCY PLANNING

- Southeast Florida Regional Climate Compact (2015)
- LiDAR Maps (2016)
- Sea Level Adaptation Strategies: Legal Considerations (2016)
- Vulnerability Assessment (2016): SLR Projections, King Tides, Storm Surge Cat 1-5 (2070). 2022 update.
- Raising Pump Stations: Cocoplum/Journey's End (Envision); Check valves in City outfalls (Sunrise Harbor)
- Updated Comprehensive Plan: Coastal Management Element (2018)
- Zoning Code: Additional 3 ft of freeboard (2018)
- Community Rating Score: 5 (25% NFIP insurance premium discounts)
- Sea Level Rise Mitigation Fund (2017): \$13 million (2022). Goal: \$100M by 2040 (Stormwater Fee)
- Stormwater/sanitary sewer improvements: Approx. \$3.5 million annually.
- Prioritizing resilient trees/plants in City landscape and City projects

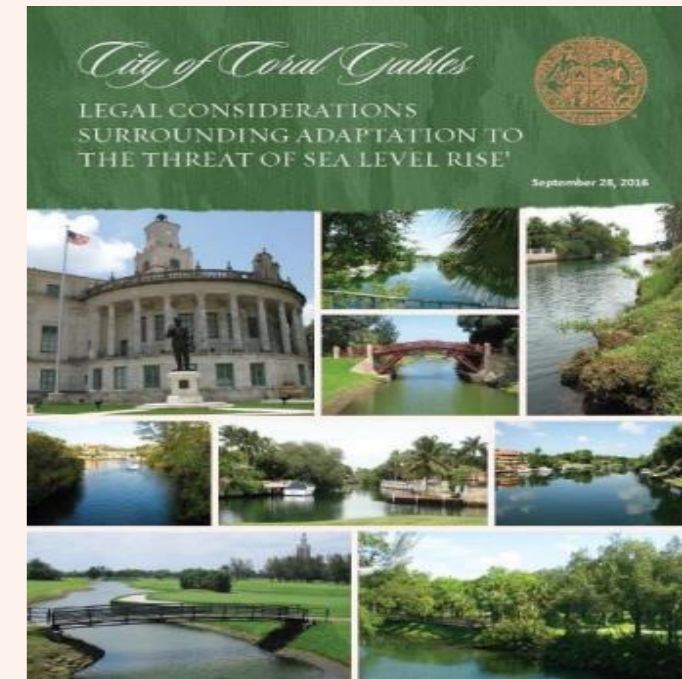
Smart City Dashboard

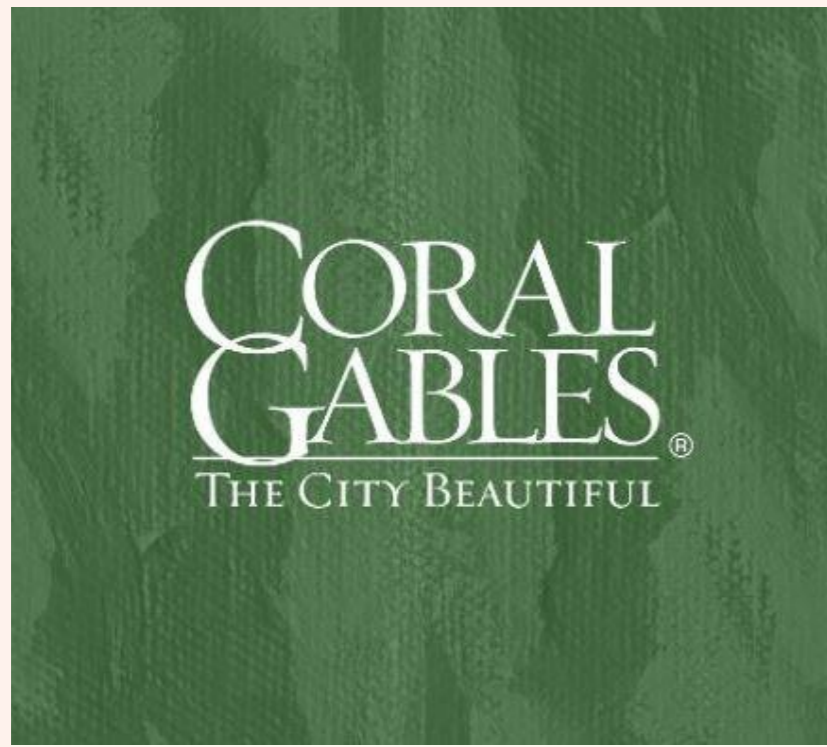
- FIU Tidal/Sediment Gauge Data; SECOORA- Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association
- Environmental Sensors: CG PSB HQ: Air Quality, Weather, Solar/UV Radiation.
- Urban Analytics: Traffic & Pedestrian Counts, Curbside Parking, etc.

Water Quality:

- Coral Gables Waterway Nutrient Analysis
- Pilot Projects: Smart Sponge: Riviera Outfall; Stormwater Curb Filters/Baskets/Drains Markers (Ponce/Downtown); Floating Wetlands
- Fertilizers/Glyphosate (City Properties/Parks); Miami-Dade Fertilizer Ordinance: No N/P (May 15- Oct 31)

Outreach/Education: Community workshops, presentations, education campaigns, events, etc.





Thank You

Matthew R Anderson

Resiliency and Sustainability

Manager

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