

CORAL GABLES SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

ZOOM MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021 @ 5:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	APPOINTED BY:
	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	21	21	
Martin Pinilla	*	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	P	*	P	P	Mayor Valdes-Fauli
Gordan Fales	*	*	*	*	*		P	P	P	*	P	P	Commissioner Fors
Rita Teutonico	*	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	P	*	A	P	Vice Mayor Lago
Greg Hamra	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	P	*	P	P	Commissioner Mena
Marlin Ebbert	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	P	*	P	P	Commissioner Keon
Enrique Bernal	*	*	*	*	*		P	P	P	*	A	P	City Manager Peter Iglesias
VACANT	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	P	*	P	*	City Commission-As-A-Whole
Teddy Lhoutellier	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	P	P	*	P	P	U.M. Representative
Monique Selman	*	*	*	*	*	P	P	E	P	*	P	P	C.G. Chambers of Commerce
Piero Gardinali	*	*	*	*	*	P	E	P	P	*	P	P	F.I.U. Representative

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

STAFF:

Matt Anderson, Senior Sustainability Analyst
Solanch Lopez, Administrative Assistant City Manager’s Office
Jeannette Reyes, Administrative Assistant Public Works Facilities

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairperson, Marlin Ebbert called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

GUESTS:

Jasper Brock, Resident
Stephanie Leroux, Sustainability Compliance Auditor
Daniel Martinez, Resident

MOTIONS:

January 27, 2021 SAB meeting minutes DRAFT – (NO MOTION DUE TO VIRTUAL MEETING)

Presentation by Matt: Update/Progress on City Sustainability Management Plan Goals:

SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

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

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 2013

Sustainability Advisory Board
February 24, 2021

Actions: LED Lighting/Motion Sensors (City Facilities); HVAC Upgrades, Energy Star (Appliances, CPU's), Timers on Exterior Lighting, LED Streetlights.

REDUCE BUILDING WATER CONSUMPTION

Down 22% since 2013

Actions: Installed Low Flow Faucets & Toilets.

REDUCE IRRIGATION WATER CONSUMPTION

Up 19% since 2013

Expanded Green Space/Parks

Actions: Installed AMI Smart Meters on 220 irrigation accounts (WASD), Soil Sensors (Youth Center).

REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION

Overall Citywide Water Use: Up 7% (2013)

REDUCE FUEL CONSUMPTION

Up 10% (2013)

Actions: 65 Electric Vehicles, Right-typing fleet, Fuel Efficiency

SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

Sustainability Management Plan & City's Strategic Plan

- Tree Canopy (Over 39,000 trees in ROW, Tree City USA: 35 years)
- Green Space (295 acres of parks)
- Green Business Certification Program
- Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy (Energy Use Down 14%)
- LED Conversions: City Facilities, Streetlights: FPL-Owned (60%:2,047) & City-Owned (55%: 318)
- Property Accessed Clean Energy, Solar Co-op, etc.
- Sustainable Construction (LEED & ENVISION): New Public Safety Building (LEED Silver)
- Waived Solar City Permit Fees & Expedited Permitting (SolSmartBronze)
- Waived City Permit Fees for Residential Water/Energy Efficiency & Flood Protection Upgrades
- Solar Benches (11) in City Parks and analysis of Solar PV Public Works
- Waste Diversion/Recycling
 - Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Program (Coastal Cleanups, HHW Events, Prescription Drug Disposal)
 - Expanded Polystyrene (2016); Plastic Bags (2017); Single Use Plastic Straws/Stirrers (2019).
 - 8% Residential Contamination Rate; Waste to Energy: Residential Garbage; Recycling ROW/Parks

Sustainability Advisory Board
February 24, 2021

- Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure
 - 65 EV's & 22 Charging points; 12% of fleet is electric. Goal:78 EV's & 43 Charging points
- Alternative Transportation
 - Multimodal Transportation Plan & Bike/Pedestrian Plan
 - Scooters, Freebie, Bike Lanes/Free Bike Racks, Free Trolley Service, Crosswalk/Sidewalk Extensions

City Commission Meetings: Sustainability Items –

- Greg stated that the City Commission voted unanimously in support of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.
- The Commission also passed on second reading a fertilizer ordinance
 - Highlights: No Nitrogen or Phosphorous can be applied from June 1 -September 30 each year. 20-foot buffer zone. Golf Course follow FDEP BMP's, creates Coral Gables Water Quality Trust Fund, etc.
- Waived City Permit Fees - Water Conservation Devices including rain barrels or anything associated with underground water systems, insulation replacement of LED lights, insulation of solar batteries, insulation for existing un-insulated residences, improvements of seawalls to account for sea level rise and insulation of drip irrigation systems any associated plumbing work necessary to do drip irrigation.

Marlin asked if the members are interested in adding a Coral Gables High School student to the Board. Matt will research the guidelines before voting.

Updates/Recap on City/SAB Initiatives (30mins)

Christmas Tree Recycling Program Results

– 2,800 trees were collected and mulched. The average 6' – 7' tree weighs about 50lbs, taking this into account it is estimated that 140,000lbs of mulch was collected.

Tipping Fee Savings on this program – between \$2,975 to \$5,075 of tipping fees were saved (if taken to the county facilities, the cost is \$72.50 per ton and if taken to the Waste Management facilities, the cost is \$42.15).

Grant Opportunity through the Florida Beverage Association – the application for the grant was submitted, which is up to \$25,000 the program submitted for the grant was the November Household Hazardous Waste program. The funds can be used to cover the cost of the Household Hazardous program, which is the biggest cost to the City for that Event. The community grant recipients will be announced next week on or about March 1st, 2021.

The Great American Clean-Up Season is March 20, 2021-June 21, 2021. The Plogging at Mathison is scheduled for March 20, 2021.

The International Coastal Clean-up – scheduled for September, date TBD.

Sustainability Advisory Board
February 24, 2021

Keep America Beautiful – hosting a webinar for anyone who is interested. The webinar series is Exploring the Transition to Zero Waste Communities.

Keep Coral Gables Beautiful Stats – official affiliate date July 22, 2020.

18 months Accomplishments Goals:

- Develop English/Spanish Educational Campaign combined with clean up events.
- Work with Businesses in High Liter Index Areas.
- Installation of Additional Receptacles in High Liter Index Areas.
- In vision Two to Three Events with Students from UM.
- Encourage Multi Family Units & Businesses with Recycling in Common Areas.
- Recommend Dog Waste Stations in City Owned Open Spaces.

3-5 Year Accomplishment Goals:

- Insulation of Grates in the Storm Drains.
- Collaborating with UM to Explore Some Type of Gamification

New Board Sustainability Ideas/Items (Open Discussion)

- Marlin would like to see a Solar Art Installation.
- Martin would like for all the new construction to add more green spaces.

Next Meeting – March 24, 2021

ADJOURNED: 6:30 pm