

Sustainability Update

February 7, 2014

Federal:

- The Executive Office of the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) launched its first [GreenGov Leader eNewsletter](#) in January.
- The CEQ is planning to hold a listening session in south Florida in conjunction with the Four County Compact to ask about specific rule changes they can do to help local governments adapt. This will happen sometime in the next few months.
- The [Newly Improved Energy Star Portfolio Manager](#) is launched! We have been waiting on truly using this free service until much needed improvements were made. Now we can go forward with both City buildings and asking businesses to register their commercial buildings as well.

State:

- Sea Level Rise Legislation Delegation Follow Up: The Four County Compact is working with Senator Dwight Bullards office to organizing a follow up meeting in Tallahassee on Thursday, Feb 20th. Monroe County and the City of Key West will be sending representatives.

Regional:

- The [Final Seven50 summit](#) was held on January 15th – you can read the [final report here](#).
- Upcoming Four County Compact Workshop Dates Include:
 - Workshop 3: Communications: Feb 13/14
 - Workshop 4: 10 Year Water Supply: April 3/4
 - Workshop 5: Stormwater: June 24/25
 - Workshop 6: Adaptation Action Areas: Aug 27/28
 - Workshop 7: Tri Rail Coastal Line, Sept 17/18
 - Workshop 8: TBA: Nov 18/19
- [“Tropical Green”](#) is a new venture by the South Florida Chapter of US Green Building Council, focused on communicating best practices for building in our humid, temperate environment. They held their inaugural one day conference in [September 2013](#) and staff is looking to find out lessons learned.



County:

- Solid Waste Contracts: See R4
- The Monroe County Climate Change Advisory Council is also looking to host more public invited, workshop-style meetings in 2014. Tentative dates include:
 - Feb 18 Workshop
 - April 29 Workshop
 - June 4 Workshop
 - Aug 13 Workshop
 - Oct 8 Workshop
 - Dec 15 Workshop
- RESTORE Grant Local Pot: No updates.
- Canal Restorations – See Water Quality

Municipal:

City of Key West

- **BV Garden Grant** – Tentative new spot at Truman Waterfront, 200% bigger, but will cost more money to do right. Reported to BVRAC this in Dec and have their okay for new site choice, will work up budget for larger ask at future BVRAC meeting. Still have to present to the Truman Waterfront Advisory to get their okay for the space. Found partnerships for free water and fill from upcoming drainage improvements to Geraldine Street and Angela. Will be creating grant calendar to find more potential funding.

- **Green Jobs and Futures Grant:** Passed City Commission last week! Have been in meetings with teachers and Habitat to get a schedule up and running.
 - **Sea Grant Adaptation Grant:** Got it! Am working on schedule (See Priorities)
 - **USFWS Urban Habitat Grant** – With 3 days turnaround, applied for a grant to completely underwrite the Frederick Douglas Learning Garden, which would free up funds for the Community Garden.
 - **LDR's** – The RFP for the LDR consultant team should go out this month, now with additional funding for an Adaptation consultant! Staff held a public meeting this week with sparse turnout. Would the SAB like to formally advise?
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GLEE – After a long hiatus, the GLEE board has reformed and is reinventing itself as a fiscal sponsor organization. After receiving requests for 501c3 umbrella assistance for worthwhile community projects such as a Marathon Community Garden and the Got Your Bags program, the GLEE board has decided to make its name, administrative time and seed money available to assist grassroots efforts Keyswide. For pilot projects, they have decided to take on the BV Community Garden and Edible Orchard. Stay tuned.

Water Quality – February is Water Quality Month!

- The City continues to work with local marinas to bring them into compliance with the No Discharge Zone ordinances.
- Conch Harbor Marina was the first private marina in Key West to receive its Clean Marina designation on Jan 23rd. They will be recognized for this at the Feb 19th City Commission Meeting during the Water Quality Month Proclamation. We are scheduling a Clean Marina Workshop later in the month.
- Alison is meeting with the Sanctuary's Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) on Feb 12th team to seek advice on additional measures to improve water quality in Key West.
- A representative from the WQPP will be speaking at Key West Green Drinks the night of Feb 12th at Old Town Manor at 511 Eaton Street at 6pm.
- OMI has been running its Water Quality psas on US1 Radio. New Extension Service Agent Shelly Krueger talked about WQ on Bill Becker last week.

Water – April

The Planners Forum heard an update on the FAWCETT program, including a municipal by municipal breakdown of water use. The group will be moving forward soon in advising on a Keyswide Level of Service / Per Capita Use Goal on water.

Water Conservation Month Activities will include:

- Indigenous Park / Wild Bird Center Cisten dedication / tour.
- Rainbarrel Workshop
- KWHS Video of Water Conservation Actions.

Transportation –

- KWDOT will be asking for 3 Clean Diesel busses and one hybrid bus at the Feb 19th, committing to a minimum 25% hybrid ratio for all new bus purchases.
- New bike racks were installed at KW Botanical Gardens and Smathers beach. We still need to purchase HARC approved corrals for old town and new single bollards with FY14 monies.
- The Transportation Coordination Team will be working on its budget recommendations soon.
- Transportation Month Activities will include:
 - Free Bus Day
 - Walks with Commissioners
 - Bike Registration Day (and Adult Rodeo?)
 - Freewheelin' Fridays [Commuting Contest](#) ?

Youth Leadership - May

By May, the Green Jobs and Futures program will be halfway through its 150 Bahama Village homes, and have some stats and videos to share.

Green Business – June

- The best option for a Green Business Certification is the [Florida Green Energy Works online](#) program, which is free for all Florida based businesses. The only unfortunate thing is there is no oversight to ensure that the reported green measures are in fact in place and followed. Our Discussion agenda item will explore what we could do with this...
- I'd also like to start up a "Top Employers" Team, of the top ten largest employers in Key West to work with them on specific challenges. If possible, we'd start in March for the Freewheelin Fridays Challenge, but if not, we'd start with a "summit" of sorts in June.

Green Building – July

The City & Keys Branch of USGBC hosted an overview of the Building Permit Allocation System. We are working on an expanded schedule which would offer more in depth green courses for local contractors.

Healthy Living: August

No update

Land Conservation: September

- HOB just received 156 more native trees and shrubs to its parking lot area bordering George Street. The majority of these plants were chosen because they are White-crowned pigeon and other migratory bird forage. There will be one more plant purchase from the grant which will mainly be street trees for our Urban Foresters priorities.
- **"Natures Notebook" Citizen Science:** Kim Gabel from the Monroe County Extension Service is hosting a workshop to involve local residents with collecting data about changes to our natural areas by tracking bloom dates, pollinators, etc. on Thurs, Feb. 20 at the Gato Bldg Conference Rm., 1100 Simonton, 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

Energy – October

Johnson Controls is scheduling another meeting with KES. Tim Root got permission from Lynne Tejeda to send a person to our SAB meetings. I think we should plan on how to best use their and our time.

R4 – November

- **City Recycling:** See Waste Diversion Report
- **County:** Sadly, the County has chosen short term price over sustainability at every turn.
- **Horse Compost:** Two giveaway days have been held and a reoccurring schedule will hold others on the first Saturday of every month (Noon-2pm), hosted by and benefiting local gardening groups. Plans for the new Mounted Horse Stables are in development, and will include a manure composting area. The roof will be incorporated into the new BV Community Garden.

Green Gifts – December

No Update