

## Sustainability Update – 11/14/13

### A) Federal/Regional:

- **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):** The [Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012](#) requires the NFIP to raise rates to reflect true flood risk, make the program more financially stable, and change how Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) updates impact policyholders. If managed well, it will help us adapt for sea level rise, if not managed well, it could severely affect property values. The Key West Association of Realtors has scheduled a round table to discuss the issues on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Harvey Govt Center on Truman Avenue. The County hopes to do an economic assessment as an addendum to their Sustainability Implementation Plan.

### B) State/Regional

- **Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact:** The group gathered planners, transportation managers and emergency managers for its first of three technical advisory groups to craft template language and guidance for our region. The results are expected in time for the Annual Summit on Nov 7 & 8th in Fort Lauderdale. Read [draft agenda here](#). RSVP [here](#).
- **Seven50:** No update.
- **Monroe County:**
  - **MC Community Climate Action Plan:** Comments from staff have been received and are being incorporated. Next step is going out to bid for an Implementation Plan (see NFIP above).
  - Also, see **Water Quality** and **R4** below
- **Village of Islamorada:** See **R4** Below.

### C) City Specific:

**Green City Designation:** Alison will be working with Community Services Deputy Director Rod Delostrinos and meeting with Department Heads in November about their sections in the Green City Plan.

**Building Permit Allocation System:** BPAS had its first reading at City Commission and passed unanimously. Staff is working with outside partners to hold informational and training opportunities for local businesses and residents to be ready for the implementation.

**Ordinance Updates:** No updates.

#### **Grants:**

- **Bahama Village Community Redevelopment Tax Increment Financing:** The City partnered with Key West High School on their **Green Jobs & Futures** grant application to conduct energy and water efficiency upgrades on 150 homes in Bahama Village. Partners included Monroe County's weatherization office, Keys Energy and FKAA. Future expansion includes a true vocational program for our local youth. See the [grant here](#) and read more about the [long term program goals](#) here.
- **RESTORE:** No updates.
- **Edible Orchard and Aquaponics:** No updates.
- **Florida Office of Energy** No updates.
- **Florida Share the Road [mini grant](#):** Will put in for this soon in partnership with the Key West Bicycle Association. We have 7,500 in this years City budget to roll over and only \$1,000 in next years funding.

### D) Sustainable Seafood (January)

No update.

### E) Water Quality (Feb)

- The **Monroe County Canal Restoration** subcommittee deemed that the bottles will have to get cleaner before crushed glass can be used in the restoration.

### F) Transportation (March)

- **Transportation Coordination Team:** The Prius' are on the road, but are still on track to be potentially be decorated by Rick Worth and the Positive Step kids, with funding from Art in Public Places. Rick Worth is working on the mock up now, using the Preserve Island Life logo series.

- **Bicycle/Pedestrian:**
  - The Bike/Ped/Parks/Rec Master Plan is slated for this fiscal year (started Oct 1). Community Services has already begun reviewing a scope of work.
  - The recently found bike helmets will be given out at a TBA community day at the BV Community Garden, along with an appearance from the Mounted Horse Patrol.
  - Commissioner Yaniz' Freewheeling Friday Bike Rides are TBA, probably in Nov.
- **Transit:** Our new KW DOT Director started on Set 23rd. Norman Whitaker of Lakeland, Florida brings 30+ years of extensive experience in the government transit field in the State of Florida. His 27 years at the Lakeland Area Mass Transit Districts' "Citrus Connection", where he managed and directed a staff of 108, includes experience with fixed route and para-transit services. He played a lead role in establishing their Automatic Vehicle Locator and Automatic People Counter technologies. Most recently he worked at the Sumter county Transit system where he oversaw a \$1.3M budget that provided for cut-a-way buses, transit vans, fixed route and door to door para-transit services. In 2012 Sumter County Transit System was honored to named as "Florida's Rural Community Transportation Coordinator of the Year" award under his direction.
- **Green Transportation Plan:** No update (on hold til Community Gardens and Cisterns and Horses projects are done)

#### **G) Water Conservation (April)**

- **Water Policy Planning:** Saint Johns River Water Mgmt District shared its preliminary conservation assessment for FKAA, and will be doing a bit more refining before rolling it out to the whole water policy team. Key findings showed that policy changes such as ordinances have the best conservation return on investment. We have also tentatively decided to pilot their GIS-based assessment/reporting system in conjunction with the Key West High School Green Jobs & Futures weatherization program in Bahama Village.

#### **H) Youth Leadership (May)**

- **HOB Landscaping:** Still working on back forty design.
- **Learning Garden:** No update.
- See **Green Building:** Green Jobs and Futures.

#### **I) Green Business (June)**

- The TDC gave an update on its Green Destination pilot project with RecycleBank. Over 4 million members of Recyclebank can redeem their points for specials at Keys destinations. While most members get points by how much they recycle, people can also get points for learning about and pledging to do specific actions. As the first Green Designation, the [Keys have two quizzes members can take](#) to learn more about us. Over 90,000 have done so! Also, [26 different Keys companies](#) have posted rewards to date.

#### **J) Green Building (July)**

- **Green Jobs and Futures:** See Grants.
- **Green City Buildings:** The Public Transit building is on track to be LEED Silver.
- **LEED Accreditation:** No updates.
- **Adaptation Workshop:** We will design and hold our workshop based on the outcome of the Regional workshops.
- **Green Building Workshop:** The Keys Branch of the USGBC is poised to host training for local contractors based on the outcome of the BPAS vote.

#### **K) Healthy Living (August)**

- **Bahama Village Community Garden:** The leadership team has approved policies, an overall design, and a draft RFP to construct the 36 plot garden. The interlocal will go before the City Commission and Key West Housing Authority by Nov 6<sup>th</sup>. We hope to be open for business before Thanksgiving.

#### **L) Land Conservation (Sept)**

- The Indigenous Park Master Plan public meeting was held and various options were considered. We will be making sure that there is an actual planting plan to increase the number of high quality forage for migratory birds.

#### **M) Energy (October)**

- **Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE):** Who knows – the County keeps putting it off.... ☹
- **Keys Energy:** The Rebates are back!

#### **N) R4 (Reduce Reuse, Recycle, Rot) - Nov**

- **Waste Diversion Progress:** Will Thompson will report separately.
- **Horse Manure Composting Shed:** This past Sunday, we trained the mounted horse patrol volunteers on composting protocol and posed for a photo of the “ceremonial first dump”. The final compost will be available at a grand opening party on Saturday, Dec 7<sup>th</sup>.
- **Monroe County** will be discussing RFP/No RFP options regarding their waste contracts during the Key West BOCC meeting on Oct 16<sup>th</sup>.
- The **Village of Islamorada** has an RFP for their waste collection out on the street, and hopes to choose soon. They hope that they can also create a Sustainability staff position from the revenue.

#### **O) Green Gifts (December)**

Monica Haskell will help with our outreach campaign for December!

#### **P) Other:**

- **Preserve Island Life Campaign:** 348 total facebook likes (15 since last month).
- **GLEE:** Past and present GLEE Board members are meeting on Oct 13th to consider new options for growth and recruitment. Key considerations are how they can serve as an umbrella for new green initiatives keywise, including community gardens and grants.

