

## Sustainability Update – 8/05/13

### 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. The changes will mean premium rate increases for some—but not all—policyholders over time. Preliminary estimates say that general rates may increase from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per building. If a building is below the “flood plain” and built before 1970, premiums could raise by as much as \$20,000 to \$30,000 per building. Quick numbers find that 10,000 – 20,000 buildings across the Keys are below the “flood plain”. We should be looking at long term planning and what may happen if houses don’t sell because of the high insurance rates and what could be done to mitigate this increase (i.e. raising living areas). The County Climate Change Advisory Committee intends to elevate this issue to the BOCC and ask them to commission an economic study.

### B) State/Regional

- **Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact:** The group will convene its first of three technical advisory groups to craft template language and guidance for our region. The “Climate Guidance for Local and Regional Planning” is Sept 25/26 and 5 Keys folks will be there to represent our needs. The Next Summit will be held on Nov 7 & 8th in Fort Lauderdale. Read [draft agenda here](#). RSVP [here](#).
- **Seven50:** Seven50 Leaders recently recapped this year’s efforts on a [WLRN spot](#) and talked about next steps.
- **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.
  - Also, see **NFIP** above and **Water Quality** below

### C) City Specific:

**Green City Designation:** Chairman Larson met with City Manager Bob Vitas to discuss obtaining the Green City designation. It was agreed that we would go forward and that it would come out of the Managers fund.

**Building Permit Allocation System:** BPAS had its first reading at the Planning Board and received a few tweaks, including more opportunities to get additional points for sustainability measures. It has its second reading next week and will go on to the City Commission from there.

**Ordinance Updates:** See Tree Protection (under Land Conservation) below.

### Grants:

- **RESTORE:** The City turned in a [grant application](#) for \$8.6M for the “Restoration and Revitalizations of the Truman Waterfront” to the Monroe County BP RESTORE local pot with a 1:1 match from our own Capital Improvement Fund. Highlights include: Upgrades to the 60+ year old stormwater and sewer systems; 100% native landscaping, raised 2-4’; pedestrian/bike connectivity, namely Admirals Cut bridge; and the green outdoor amphitheater.
- **Edible Orchard and Aquaponics:** Two local community members have scored a \$50,000 family trust grant and are seeking to add “Fruit and Spice Park”-style landscaping to the City as well as a aquaponic system to grow greens for the area restaurants. They are part of the match to the RESTORE project as well.
- **Audubon Grant:** no update. Phase 2 plans still coming....
- **Florida Office of Energy [Local Government Energy Efficient Lighting Grant](#)** Program. The City received this left over grant money from the State because we had been so expeditious in spending the first round. Public works has now installed remaining 166 LED lights on Duval, for a total of 186 lights. The lights use only 1/3 of the energy of the past lights, cut down on labor and come with a battery pack to help in emergency situations when the power goes out. We will be doing a press event for this on Friday at 10am.
- Engineering is applying for: **FDEP [Florida Recreation and Development Assistance Program \(FRDAP\)](#)**: \$200K funds for playground park in Truman Waterfront area. Due end of Sept. Might turn in a second application....
- **[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.
- Our grant writers, Langton and Associates have compiled a list of grant sources based on their interviews with staff last month. We are now working with them to prioritize that list.



#### **D) Sustainable Seafood (January)**

No update.

#### **E) Water Quality (Feb)**

- The **Monroe County Canal Restoration** subcommittee is still waiting for the dissolved oxygen lab results on using crushed glass as a possible canal filler.

#### **F) Transportation (March)**

- **Transportation Coordination Team:** The Prius' are in and will potentially be decorated by Rick Worth and the Positive Step kids.
- **Bicycle/Pedestrian:**
  - The Bike/Ped Master plan has been rolled into the Parks and Rec Master Plan, which is in next fiscal years budget (starting Oct). Start date is uncertain, but completion will be within the year.
  - ~140 bike helmets were found in storage. They have been staged at the Community Garden building for a future giveaway, which would link BV families with safe helmets, child seat checks and the garden.
  - Commissioner Yaniz will be starting up Friday Bike Rides, once the weather gets cooler.
- **Transit:** Still looking for Transit Director.
- **Green Transportation Plan:** 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 has completed its preliminary conservation assessment for FKAA and will be briefing the team soon.

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

- **HOB Landscaping:** Still working on back forty design.
- **Learning Garden:** Completing plan this week.
- See Green Building: Green Jobs and Futures.

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

- Now that the residential recycling carts are out and the 1-1-1 pickups have been in place a month, Will Thompson is now working on commercial recycling. Read the [Rate Card](#) here.

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

- **Green Jobs and Futures:** We are in consultation with a variety of partners to pilot a high school green building vocational program. Phase 1 is to help with the Community Garden. Phase 2 is to help with door to door upgrades in Bahama Village. Phase 3 is an actual apprenticeship with local contractors. This will help meet energy and water reduction goals, help low income families afford their utilities, train local youth, increase community cohesion, and meet the needs of new building ordinances.
- **Green City Buildings:** The Public Transit team meets Sept 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **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 met twice and come up with an overall design and rules. We will be ordering building material very soon. Picture is from tour of Stock Island Village Marina community garden.

### L) Land Conservation (Sept)

- The **Tree Protection** ordinance (Chapter 110, Article VI) update was approved at Sept 4<sup>th</sup> City Commission meeting. The changes codified standard practices already used, incorporated best management practices, and reflected comments from multiple public meetings. The [Executive Summary](#) is here. The [Ordinance](#) is here.

### M) Energy (October)

- **Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE):** County Attorney Nat Cassel intends to bring a discussion of PACE to the Monroe County Board of Commissioners on September 17<sup>th</sup> in Marathon.
- **Keys Energy:** Had a great discussion with Dale Finigan, Ops Engineer about different ways to shave peak energy. We discussed ordinances, behavioral projects, etc. Will be pitching the Green Jobs idea to him soon.



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

- **Waste Diversion Progress:** Will Thompson will report separately.
- **Horse Manure Composting Shed:** By the time you read this we will have held three volunteer workdays and held ~6 after work meet ups and should be at 99% completion. The last step will be the mural and donation boxes, which will be ready for a “compost breaking” (instead of ground breaking) in November.



### O) Green Gifts (December)

No update.

### P) Other:

- **Preserve Island Life Campaign:** 333 total facebook likes (49 since last month!).
- **GLEE** (no update)