

# Sustainability Update

July 2014

## Regional:

- Upcoming Four County Compact Workshop Dates Include:
  - ✓ Communications: Feb 13/14
  - ✓ 10 Year Water Supply: April 17/18
  - ✓ Adaptation Action Areas: Aug 28
  - Compact Summit: October 1/2
  - Tri Rail Coastal Line: Nov 13
  - Stormwater: January 22

## County:

- GreenKeys: New Outreach/Engagement Website:
  - <http://greenkeys.mindmixer.com/>
  - See video about effort here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GUGQTudIJp0>
- Monroe County Sea Level Rise Modelling and County Infrastructure  
Wed, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> 3-5pm, [View on demand](#)
- Monroe County Sea-Level Rise Legal and Planning Issues Workshop  
Fri, Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 3:45pm. Marathon Govt Center.
  - Current and future climate change and sea level rise in Monroe County
  - Available sea-level rise adaptation options
  - Impacts of federal and state law on the adaptation options
  - Recent changes to the National Flood Insurance Program
  - Overview of benefits of the Community Ratings System
  - Case studies from two Florida CRS communities
  - Professional and Continuing Education Credits Pending.  
[Please click link to register for this workshop:](#)
- The Monroe County Climate Change Advisory Council workshop dates:
  - Oct 8 Workshop
  - Dec 15 Workshop
- RESTORE Monies: The five Gulf states and six federal agencies will begin submitting projects for “Federal Pot” funding; with project evaluation and selection activities taking place in the fall. The “Local Pot” process has begun, with committee members getting a re-debriefing, so that they can soon rank all the projects that were turned into them last year. At this time, the minimum funds to be allocated to Monroe County for distribution is \$913,728 (It will be more, but they don’t know how much).
- Urban Land Institute is interested in doing a research project in Key West and the Lower Keys regarding resiliency to sea level rise. The Kresge Foundation is funding a series of studies in select communities on this issue. The City and County are considering partnering.



## Municipal:

### City of Key West

- **Height Referendum** – As you probably are aware, the City Commissioners voted to allow the Height Referendum appear on the citywide ballot for vote on November 4th. They also accepted the resultant Land Development Regulation language that would go into effect if the voters pass the changes. Now that it is in voters hands, neither the City's Staff, nor its Boards may engage in advocacy for the measure. You may do so as part of your own personal efforts or your day job, but you may not reference your position with SAB.
  - **LDR's / Sea Grant Adaptation Grant:** The RFP for the LDR consultant team went out last month, and the pre-bid meeting went really well. All pre-bid attendees were given examples of the Sustainability and Adaptation polices that the City is expecting, including Green City Certification. Bids are due late Sept.
  - **BV Garden Grant** – We are trying a different angle to get into the original Truman & Emma Housing Authority property by entering into a \$1 lease. There is also a small possibility in utilizing the office space on the property to function as the home base for the Green Jobs and Futures students and materials.
  - **Green Jobs and Futures Grant:** Summer phase has ended, with another 40 homes finished. The fall phase will start up soon, able to do more evenings and weekend work. Still in need of more press!
  - **TIGER Grant:** Lobbyist and Commissioner Johnston visited with USDOT grant staff regarding Bike/Ped Master Plan. We should know within the next month or so.
  - **People for Bikes:** Turned in Letter of Interest for People For Bikes grant, leveraging the \$10K annual bike rack budget for \$10K towards bike lockers, mobile bike parking for events, and more bike racks.
  - **INTERN:** Had multiple interns helping over the past month:
    - **Summer High School Interns from A Positive Step of Monroe County.** Three local students helped update our Portfolio Manager account for all the buildings that the City owns and has people in. This includes energy and water bills for the last 2-3 years. This will help us pinpoint which buildings to start energy audits in.
    - **Emily Hepworth:** Emily is a Communications Major just starting her junior year at Purdue University. She only had three weeks of time while home visiting her parents, but helped with a wide variety of PR projects, including the new donation box at the Horse Manure Compost area.
    - **Melissa Paul-Leto:** A grad student from Savannah State University, Melissa is a Key Wester by marriage and sought out our City for her capstone project. She has a wide variety of experience and interest, so has helped with a number of side projects already, but her main project will be to conduct a tree canopy survey for the island, and help us formulate coverage goals and the policies and funding mechanisms to get us there.
  - **SAB:** We still have vacancies for one representative and one student. Names have been sent to Teri Johnston.
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**Water Quality** (February) – The County received funds for outreach efforts for folks living nearshore and on canals. We will be collaborating to roll out their program in conjunction with Water Quality Month.

### **Transportation** (March)

- The new bike racks have arrived! Ralph Major from Public Works will first replace broken bike racks, then work off the list of requested new bike park rack areas.
- Kevin Bond and Alison will be working on a commuting challenge for businesses for when the new bus routes are adopted.

### **Water** (April)

- Mural for Cisterns

## **Youth Leadership - May**

- Alison is working with the Botanical Garden's "Garden Companions" student volunteers for an event for September Land Conservation.

## **Green Business – June**

- The "Green Business Leadership Council" (Key West's largest 15 employers) will meet in September to talk landscaping practices and other outdoor green practices for Land Conservation Month. They will also be invited to either of two presentations by the City's Urban Forester during the Sept's SAB and Green Drinks meetings.
- The City, County and GLEE are working together to bring the Green Business Certification back. We approached past GLEE certified business Help Yourself to have them run through the new [Florida Green Energy Works online](#) program, which is free for all Florida based businesses. Alicia Betancourt from the County Extension Service and Alison Higgins will conduct the verification surveys in order to better understand training needed for volunteers. Training will be integrated into the upcoming Sustainable Floridian program that Alicia Betancourt is working on (like Master Gardeners).
- We are also looking into pairing it with a new program [Izzitgreen](#), which rewards green businesses with "green bucks" for green products and services. Stay tuned.
- The Straits Lighting Company has partnered USGBC and the City of Key West for a Green Business contest. They will offer a 100% free LED lighting home upgrade for the business that stands to gain the largest % of GHG's reduced. The company is also donating an upgrade the City Commission chambers in time for Energy Conservation Month for the Oct 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Green Building – July**

The City & Keys Branch of USGBC host regular educational workshops for professionals and residents:

- ✓ March 28<sup>th</sup>: HERS Rating (8 attendees)
- ✓ April 30: Reclaimed Wood Seminar (#?)
- ✓ May 2-4: ARCSA Certification Course (12 attendees)
- ✓ June 13<sup>th</sup>: Florida Green Building Council
- ✓ July TBD: Lighting Seminar (CEU's offered)
- September 24<sup>th</sup>: Sherwin Williams Seminar: High Performance paint coatings and ZERO to low VOC paints, protections from severe conditions, and innovative and cost effective applications for decorative concrete and treatments for long lasting results.
- November 14<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.: Mosquito Control / ARCSA: Seminar will address the role of the Mosquito control and how the BPAS ordinance with cisterns works with mosquito control concerns.

## **Healthy Living: August**

- Bill Irwin from FKCC was our speaker for Green Drinks in August and drew a large, new crowd. They received a grant to install a large size aquaponic system at the college. They hope to have it up and functioning by November. His assistant Austin has already been employed by three other entities (two restaurants, one home) to build small size systems for them.

## **Land Conservation: September**

- Karen DiMaria, the City's Urban Forester will talk about the Tree Commission and the City's current tree canopy surveys at the SAB meeting (Sept 11 5:30) and Sept Green Drinks (Sept 17. 5:30).
- See Green Business.
- We have discussed working with the KW Botanical Garden student volunteers on an educational program for September. We could also help with the International Coastal Clean up at the end of Sept. Local Charter Boat captains used to help.

## **Energy – October**

- See Green Business = Straits Lighting

- **Keys Energy:** Alison is working on a list of projects in response to Lynn Tejeda's presentation to determine how we can best work together. Key projects include: LED Streetlights (see below), Energy Tax Free day, Portfolio Manager format downloads for businesses.
- **LED streetlights:** the City has been researching LED streetlight companies and has been approached by Phillips Energy to receive 10 free smart lights. These lights are wireless, are adjustable, and have hurricane battery backups. We are very interested in seeing if the wireless capabilities of the lights can help both KES and FKAA do their meter readings as well as deliver island wide wifi.
- **PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy):**
  - The [Florida PACE](#) Funding Agency EVest Program announced that \$200 million in financing is now available to property owners in subscribing local government jurisdictions for qualifying energy efficiency, renewable generation and wind-resistance home or commercial business improvements or repairs. The improvement financing will be repaid over time as part of the property owner's annual property tax assessment. Currently the only participating areas are Flagler and Nassau counties. The Agency's EVest Program is non-exclusive, allowing participating local governments the opportunity to retain additional PACE providers at their sole discretion.
  - **The Florida Green Energy Works** program funded its first commercial deal for a \$45,000 retrofit of a family-owned business at 1101 North Tamarind in West Palm Beach. The work – new HVAC, lighting, refrigeration, windows & doors – is being done by a local contractor, **Fastrack MCI**, with funding from a local bank: **Grand Bank & Trust of Florida**.
  - PACEnow has a [youtube video](#) that better explains PACE financing...

#### **R4 – November**

- **City Recycling:** See Waste Diversion Report
- **County:** See County section.
- **Horse Compost:** Next Community Compost Day is Saturday, Sept 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am – Noon. The bulletin board is complete, and the donation box should be done within a month.

#### **Green Gifts – December - No Update**