

Sustainability Update

September 2015

Federal/National News:

- A new report from NASA shows that sea level is rising faster, closer to the high end of predicted ranges from a 2013 UN Panel. Compared to the historic rate at our Key West Tidal Gauge the last two decades have almost doubled, from .07 inches per year to .13 inches per year. In more understandable terms, we have added an additional 2" for every 50 years (6.5" instead of 4" of rise), if the new rate stays stable. There is not much evidence that it will stay stable.... Read more here: <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/aug/27/global-sea-levels-have-climbed-8cm-since-1992-nasa-research-shows>
- In August, President Obama unveiled the EPA's Clean Power Plan, which targets power plants carbon reduction to 32 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. The US is already generating 3x more wind and 20x more solar energy than in 2009. Watch Video here: <https://youtu.be/M8uUKIbaGal>
- The President also highlighted the changing climate in Alaska to underscore the importance of doing things now: <https://youtu.be/OoH0P3mNHks>
- An EPA Report, released in June, focused on how global action now will save lives and avoid significant climate change damages: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/bd4379a92ceceecac8525735900400c27/6331c5fbb7416b085257e6c004fe5a5!OpenDocument>

State News:

- In May, a bill championed by Senator Nelson closed a loophole in the Clean Water Act to return protections to drinking water resources for 1.8 Million Floridians. 29% of Florida's streams, including those feeding Okeechobee, are now re-protected. <http://www.environmentflorida.org/news/fle/obama-administration-issues-rule-help-protect-florida%E2%80%99s-lakes-and-rivers>
- Governor Rick Scott appointed a Key West local to the board of the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission. Robert Spottwood, 58, CEO Spottwood Companies Inc.

Regional Efforts:

- 7th Annual Compact Summit: Key West, FL!!! Dec 1-3 @ Casa Marina
<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=r7pgfvqab&oeidk=a07eb6m5c09b0c91b3b>
Help Needed:
 - Sponsorships: <http://files.ctctcdn.com/19f335a2401/b4b0a29b-f9cf-4319-a5d0-9855b01bc0c6.pdf>
 - Silent Auction
- Resilient Redesign II Workshop: Key West, Del Ray & Hollywood
- Working Groups:
 - New Municipality Working Group! Quarterly meetings.
- Compact Workshops Include:
 - Energy Efficient Public Buildings Workshop (Sept 17th)
 - Stormwater Guidance
 - Public Health (TBA)

County Efforts:

- [STAR Community Certification](#): Achieved 3 Stars!
 - Built Environment
 - Climate & Energy
 - Economy & Jobs
 - Education, Arts & Community
 - Equity & Empowerment
 - Health & Safety
 - Natural Systems
- Yard Waste Gasification: Yard waste composting has started.
- Monroe County Sustainability Dept
 - Sea Level Rise Modelling Workshops (TBA)
 - Sustainability Action Plan Goal Development (TBA)
 - Presentation of Draft Sustainability Action Plan (TBA)
- Monroe County Climate Change Advisory Council:
New members: Perry Johnson and Michael Larson & Shirley Gun

City of Key West

- **Budget:** Both the Bike/Ped Coordinator and the Energy Manager have survived budget cuts thus far!!!
 - **Interns:** Ripley Raubenolt served for +100 hours and completed the Energy Portfolio Assessments for all city occupied buildings. Also assisted in LEED credit research for Glynn Archer points. Still need another intern for the GHG Count.
 - **Energy:** Using Portfolio Manager, an Energy Assessment Team did walk around at the five most underperforming buildings the City occupies: Garrison Bight Trailer/Showers/Laundry, MLK Community Pool & KW DOT Building. Write ups are being completed now.
 - **BPAS:** Third Year BPAS applications just opened. In two years of BPAS the average score (min 0) went from 52.5 to 80 points. Total expected results are 67 market and 86 affordable; 130,000 gallons of new cisterns, 104 units built higher than 1.5' BFE; and for green building: 82 bronze, 47 silver, 9 gold and 4 platinum. We will be revisiting the rules for Year 4 to allow for more scalability and for more affordable incentives.
 - **Preserve Island Life Communications:** Our FB page now has 889 friends (up 96 from last report), and our email database has ~1,250 local contacts (up 80).
 - **Bike / Ped:** Bike events are growing! The Rainbow Pride Ride went great, as did the Samuels House Ride. A local business also set up a free flat tire workshop, and Commissioner Yaniz has scheduled 4th Saturday rides. Next event is Sept
 - **Green Business Certification:** The Green Business Portal is set up: <http://www.gbb.org/key-west/> We are designing a Green Business Certification sticker (think Zagats) to show business progress towards Certification, starting with Recycling. The Sustainable Floridians will help with outreach.
 - **LDRs:** Four workshops regarding the Land Development Regulations have been held, dealing with Transportation, Affordable Housing, Landscaping, Urban Design, Green Building, and Climate Adaptation. The presentations are available online at: http://keywest.cgasolutions.com/?page_id=192. The next steps are to take the comments given (you can still comment at KeyWestLDR@cgasolutions.com) and flesh them out, illustrate them, etc. Hopes are that the draft workshops will be held in December with Planning Board and City Commission coming in the spring (April Earth Day?)
 - **Glynn Archer:** The City has found substantial savings for the building of Glynn Archer. It will be investing that money saved into the two additional solar arrays that act as parking shade. With all three arrays, the panels will be able to provide 50% of the buildings energy use and snag the additional points needed to become the first LEED Platinum Historic Renovation in Florida, if not the Southeast!
-

- **Grants:**

- **Urban Forestry:** WON!!! \$20K Asked for a Tree inventory detailing species, health and height, and a Canopy Master Plan which sets canopy percentage goals for subareas of Key West and allows us to guide mitigation plantings there. Will start in the new fiscal year.
 - **NEA Our Town Grant:** Won! \$75K, first job: EcoArt Workshop. Will start in new fiscal year.
 - **Florida Transportation Alternatives Program:** Asked for Bike / Ped Master Plan. Should hear in Sept.
 - **Sea Grant Adaptation Grant (LDR's):** The LDR meeting regarding Adaptation was on 9/3/15 and you can see the presentations here: http://keywest.cgasolutions.com/?page_id=192
 - **BV Garden Grant** –
 - **Green Jobs and Futures Grant:** Cancelled...for now :(
-

Themes: OLD (Will have updates emailed out next week)

Water Quality (February)

- We honored Ocean Key Resort and Marina via Proclamation for Water Quality Month in Feb 2015. They became the 2nd private marina in the City to become a Certified Clean Marina by FDEP.
- Dock to Dish was our featured speaker for Green Drinks, drawing a large crowd.

Transportation (March)

- Transportation Month kicked off on March 1st with a featured event at the Key West Artisans Market. We had bike helmet fittings, free safety swag, bike registration paperwork, and a custom bike show. Over 3 pages of new email contacts were gathered as well as 2.5 pages of Bike Ped advocacy signatures.
- Also on March 1st, Commissioner Teri Johnston led a walk around the grounds of Glynn Archer, with ~50 citizens in attendance. We are still on track for Gold certification.
- Sat, March 14th, from 9-11am, Commissioner Tony Yaniz led a bike ride of Little Hamaca Park.
- St. Patty's Day, Tuesday, March 17th was Free Bus Day!
- The Green Commute Challenge ran from Monday March 23rd through Sunday, March 29th and attracted the following employers: City of Key West, Florida Dept of Health, Mosquito Control, Spottswoods, Southernmost, First State Bank, Coast Guard, Lower Keys Hospital.

Water (April)

- Great speakers slots with US Green Building Council and Mosquito Control at Key West Realtors "Get to Know Monroe" workshop on March 19th. It was standing room only and we got over 70 new contacts
- Hosted Rainbarrel Workshop with the Extension Service April 26th. 750 more gallons of capacity are now on the island! ☺

Youth Leadership - May

- Keys Energy Services is sponsoring the KW High Schools Audio Visual club to produce energy reduction videos.
- Hope to do Youth Leadership Proclamation and Show and Tell at May 19th Commission meeting.

Green Business – June

- Outreach money will go towards the Green Business Certification materials and website, as well as a professional booth for outreach events.
- Sustainable Floridians will be approaching businesses for recycling.
- One SFL is working on a Green Dining report and series of articles, set to come out in June.
- We hope to do talks in front of the Chamber and Lodging Associations in June.

- Hyundai might do a promo travel spot for its new plug in Sonata, helping showcase our greenness.

Green Building – July

- New research shows that Green Buildings cost 25% less to operate:
<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2015/01/05/green-buildings-cost-25-less-to-operate/>
- We are also discussing partnering with the Keys Realtors for a workshop about Greening the MLS and incorporation FEMA flood info.
- The City & Keys Branch of USGBC hosting CEU's workshops in order to draw in more folks outside of the choir. The next one will feature a historic restoration project (TBA, late May)

Healthy Living: August

- See Green Dining bullet in Green Business....

Land Conservation: September

- The City has an estimated 900 Trees on public property!
- The Tree Commission and Urban Forester were responsible for the replacement, transplant and/or mitigation of over 350 trees (publin and private) in 2014.

Energy – October

- **LED streetlights:** Still working with Keys Energy on LED Streetlights.
- **PACE** (Property Assessed Clean Energy):
 - Tied up in court. Florida programs on hold....
 - Will go forward with just Flood Raising mechanisms (see City: FEMA / CRS Ratings)

R4 – November

- **City Recycling:** Interviews started. New candidate should be picked soon. Trash cans may be phased.
- **County:** Will Thompson has started at the County! ☺
- **Horse Compost:** In demand! ☺

Green Gifts – December

- We are supporting local gifts and experiences in general. I want to explore a green gift certificate option to help recognize green businesses. Any input is welcome....