



SOUTHEAST FLORIDA  
REGIONAL COMPACT

CLIMATE  
CHANGE



## MAYORS' CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE

A PLEDGE OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF MONROE COUNTY ENDORSING THE MAYORS' CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE, AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMPACT, AGREEING TO CONSIDER IMPLEMENTING THE REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IN WHOLE OR IN PART AS APPROPRIATE FOR EACH MUNICIPALITY, AND URGING ALL MAYORS OF MONROE COUNTY TO SUPPORT THE MAYORS' CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE.

**WHEREAS**, Florida is considered one of the most vulnerable areas of the country to the consequences of global climate change with Southeast Florida being at the frontline to experience the impacts of a changing climate, especially sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the need for immediate, coordinated and visionary action to address the impacts of a changing climate and provide for economic and environmental resilience in Southeast Florida, in 2010 the counties of Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe (Compact Partners) entered into the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact); and

**WHEREAS**, further recognizing the role of State water managers and local governments in this regional initiative, the South Florida Water Management District and one municipal representative from each participating county were invited to participate in this early phase; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Compact commitment and through a two year collaborative process involving nearly 100 subject matter experts representing public and private sectors, universities, and not-for-profit organizations, the Compact Partners developed the Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP); and

**WHEREAS**, the RCAP offers recommendations that provide the common integrated framework for a stronger and more resilient Southeast Florida, including:

- Providing the common framework for Sustainable Communities and Transportation Planning to be aligned across the region
- Recognizing the need to protect and address vulnerable Water Supply, Management and Infrastructure and preserve fragile Natural Systems and Agricultural resources;
- Providing steps to move towards resilience and reducing emissions through exploring alternatives and decreasing the use of Energy and Fuel;
- Building upon strength as effective emergency responders and integrating climate change hazards in Risk Reduction and Emergency Management Planning;
- Providing for effective Public Outreach initiatives to educate the public on the consequences of climate change and providing guidance for developing and influencing Public Policies related to climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, recognizing that there are more than 100 municipalities within the region that will play an important role in the implementation of the RCAP, the Compact Partners included municipalities in the development of the RCAP; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities individually have been working to achieve sustainability, and the RCAP presents an opportunity to align these individual local efforts with the regional framework and vision; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities play a key role in the annual Regional Climate Leadership Summits, participated in RCAP Working Groups and now is the time to solidify local government support to advance the RCAP; and

**WHEREAS**, the RCAP now serves as the foundation document of Climate Resilience Planning as part of the seven county Prosperity Plan in support for economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, the RCAP does not provide a mandate but rather serves as a living guidance document with options that each regional and local government may align to their own plans and adopt and utilize based on their interests and vision for the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the willingness of counties and municipalities to jointly develop and advocate for mutually beneficial agreements, policies and strategies intended to influence regional, state and national resilience efforts advances “Good Neighbor” relationships; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2005 the U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted the U.S. Mayors’ Climate Protection Agreement (Mayors’ Agreement) that became a national model for effective collaboration and the framework for more than 1,000 municipalities throughout the nation to take actions to reduce global warming and address the impacts of a changing climate (climate disruption); and

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, four Mayors representing municipalities within Monroe County speaking on behalf of more than 54% of Monroe County endorsed the Mayors’ Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012 the need exists for Mayors within the region of Southeast Florida to collaborate on a renewed agreement that will advance regional climate action planning within Southeast Florida efforts while continuing to advance the national goals of the U.S. Mayors' Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, utilizing the U.S. Mayors' Agreement as a model for influencing regional climate policies and effective public outreach, all municipalities throughout the Southeast Florida region are invited to sign on to the 2012 South Florida Mayor's Climate Action Pledge and to collaborate on implementation of the RCAP starting today and for tomorrow.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PLEDGED THAT

Section 1. The municipality of Key West endorses the Mayors' Climate Action Pledge.

Section 2. The municipality of Key West affirms support for the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact.

Section 3. The municipality of Key West agrees to consider integrating the Regional Climate Action Plan framework in whole or in part as appropriate for each municipality into existing and future municipal sustainability action plans, comprehensive plans and/or climate action plans where and when appropriate and financially feasible.

Section 4. The municipality of Key West urges all Mayors within Monroe County to join the Mayors' Climate Action Pledge.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Pledge shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this                      day                      , 2012.