

Sustainability Update – 11/2/12

A) Climate Marketing: Preserve Island Life

At this time, the contractor, Cunningham Group, is set to present the entire project to the City Commission on Wed, November 7th. They will cover the [Green Behavior Survey](#), [Preserve Island Life Marketing Plan](#), [Logos](#), [12 Step Symbols](#), [Posters](#), [Website](#), [Facebook Page](#), and [School Curriculum](#).

As a way to cover all bases of sustainability, we are adopting a **12 Step Program for Sustainability**, a [12 month calendar of themes](#) that has been incorporated into our website, www.preserveislandlife.com



Sustainability Coordinator presented to Sunrise Rotary and Key West Garden Club during the month of October.

B) November is Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot Month

We will kick off the campaign with November as R4 month (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Rot). This will include a proclamation on Nov 20th, our first monthly eNewsletter, a workday to build the Horse Manure Composting Shed, a Glass Reuse Workshop and announcement of Key West's monthly eWaste/Household Hazardous Waste drop off site. [Sign up to the eNewsletter](#) to learn more!



1) Solid Waste Master Plan

Also on Nov 7th, the City Commission will hear from City Manager Bob Vitas on his negotiations with Waste Management. You can read the [Executive Summary here](#), as well as the [evaluation by Kessler Consulting](#) and the rest of the [agenda attachments \(page 8\)](#).

As part of the Solid Waste Master Plan Phase 1 progress, Utilities Manager Jay Gewin reports that the job description for the [Solid Waste Coordinator has been posted](#). It will remain posted until the job is filled.

Also toward Phase 1 goals, City Manager Bob Vitas, County Commissioner George Neugent, County Sustainability Coordinator Rhonda Haag and City Sustainability Coordinator Alison Higgins toured a potential site to compost yard waste for both local governments, with the hope to include organics like [food waste and biosolids](#) down the line. While there is a lot more research to be done, the collaboration is promising and will achieve economies of scale not possible alone.

See Sustainability Advisory Board Presentations (Item 3) below to learn about our workshop on Glass Re-use on Nov 8th!

2) Horse Manure Composting

We have partnered with the Mounted Horse Patrol, Home Depot, Sunrise Rotary, and Key West Garden Club to hold a "shed raising" to build the three-bay composting shed for the Horse Patrol on November 17th and 18th. The project is being completed without cost to the City and will save ~\$4,500 annually. Once the first batch of compost is ready, we'll have an educational workshop at the shed. Stay tuned!

3) Sustainability Board Presentations, Thursday, Nov 8th 5:30pm, Old City Hall

- **City Manager Bob Vitas, Nov 8th:** CM Vitas will kick off our monthly Sustainability Advisory Board meeting with a presentation on his vision for how his office will lead the sustainability movement.
- **Glass Reuse:** As part of their new community education campaign, the SAB will hear from experts on how we can best utilize our recycled glass locally, as Phase 1 recommends. We will hear about mulching glass, using glass in construction as well as a new possibility, using glass for water quality restoration.

C) Community Gardens:

- **Bahama Village Community Garden:** The [proposal for a community garden](#) will be heard by the Bahama Village Community Redevelopment Advisory Committee on Thursday, December 6th.

D) Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact Summit: Dec 6 & 7th, Jupiter

The annual Summit agenda has been set for December 6th and 7th in Jupiter, Florida.

The HUD-[Southeast Florida Regional Partnership](#) hosted their first “road show” and work group in the Keys on October 11th. They highlighted the major work products of the grant and asked the people of Monroe to prioritize the action steps for our region. Results will be posted after the group has completed its road show tour of all seven counties.

E) Utility Tracking Project

The [Utility Tracking Project](#) has completed their water meters list, recommending the closing of ~34 meters at an estimated cost savings of ~\$8,000 annually. Our next step will be to examine those meters with the highest water use and propose behavior and technology changes to increase efficiency.

F) Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)

[PACENow](#), a nonprofit dedicated to broaden the awareness and adoption of PACE programs, presented to City Manager Bob Vitas, Assistant City Manager Mark Finigan and Assistant City Manager David Fernandez. All three were in favor of proceeding, and advised that we work together with the County (who is also pursuing PACE) and do one on one with the Commissioners before we go to resolution. You can read about the [three big players in PACE in Florida](#) here.

G) USGBC Keys Branch

- The LEED Green Associates accreditation prep training course: Core Concepts and Strategies (a requirement for the exam) has been moved to Friday, January 11th. Contact Nicole Malo at nmalo@keywestcity.com for more information.
- The Government and Sustainability presentation by the Keys branch of USGBC is rescheduled for Friday, January 25th.

H) Educational Partnerships

After meeting Dr. Jonathan Gueverra, FKCC’s new President during an Ambassadors class, I have been invited to sit down with their core sustainability staff during a future date. As we move toward more energy efficiency projects, I am interested in helping train local contractors in new technologies and products to help residents and business owners.

I) Grants

- **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation [Environmental Solutions Grant](#):** Full proposal not requested.
- **EPA – [Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities](#):** Pedestrian, Bicycle & ADA Coordinator Diane Nicklaus turned in an application for a “Walkability Audit” to Smart Growth America on October 25th. There will be more chances in February as well.
- **Bahama Village Community Redevelopment Agency:** see Community Gardens, Item C above.
- **ClimateWise Partnership:** [The Geos Institute](#), a non profit that helps regions predict, reduce and prepare for a changing climate, has gotten a green light from NOAA to submit a full proposal and intends to include the Keys. Dubbed [ClimateWise](#), their program involves public workshops and risk assessments to identify vulnerabilities and prioritize adaptation strategies.
- **[Dept of Energy – South Florida Regional Planning Council](#):** \$500,000: This project prepares South Florida region's communities for successful and accelerated deployment of plug-in electric vehicles and infrastructure.
- **Florida Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services:** \$5K [Community Gardens Grant](#). We are a partner in this grant, led by Erica Baugh at Sigsbee Charter school. We expect to hear back any week now.
- **Audubon/Toyota [Together Green Innovation Grant](#):** \$28,500: [Climate Adaptation Planting](#) **WON!!!** No change.
- **The Funders Network [Local Sustainability Matching Fund](#):** Expected to be announced in late fall.

J) Greening the Key West Airport: no change

K) Monroe County Community Climate Action Plan: No change.

L) Energy Contest: No change.

M) Green Business Certifications: No change

N) LED Lighting: no change

O) New Sustainability Intern: No change

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