

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Regular Meeting
June 27, 2022 – 6:00 PM**

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2022 through 12/2022					
	Members	Appt by	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Sofia Thordin	M	P	1	0
2	Douglas Brinkley	I	P	2	0
3	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
4	Kelly Charles (via Zoom)	IV	P	5	0
5	David Blattner, Chair	I	P	5	0
6	Vacant Position	-	-	-	-
7	Whitney Dutton (at 6:08 p.m.)	IV	P	4	1
8	Carolann Mazza	III	P	4	1
9	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
10	Carol Tamburly, Vice Chair	III	P	5	0
11	Luis Castillo-Olivera	M	A	0	1

Staff Present

Public Works Department

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager

Sandy Leonard, Fleet Services Program Manager, Sustainability

Drew Newstrom, Automotive & Equipment Engineer, Sustainability – Fleet Services

Melissa Doyle, Program Manager, Solid Waste and Recycling (via Zoom)

Dr. Nancy J. Gassman, Assistant Director of Public Works (via Zoom)

Valentina Padron-Risenes, Sustainability Division Intern

Carla Blair, Prototype, Inc.

Guests Present

Alessandra Stivelman, Esq., Eisinger Law

Amy Dobrikova, Blink Charging

Andy Kinard, Blink Charging

Vanessa Balta, Broward County

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Blattner at 6:06 p.m. The roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

Communication to the City Commission

The Sustainability Advisory Board sends the following communication to the City Commission:

The Sustainability Advisory Board recommends that the City of Fort Lauderdale partner with Solar United Neighbors (SUN), to help promote its Broward Solar Co-op program. In 2021, the City of Fort Lauderdale set Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions goals for government operations and the community. One of the cornerstones of any net zero effort will be a substantial increase in the use of solar power.

SUN is a 501(c)3 nonprofit Solar Co-op Program based in Washington, D.C. and has been coordinating solar co-ops nationally for over 15 years. Since 2016, SUN has run 70 solar co-ops in Florida and five in Broward County, helping over 2,100 state residents switch to solar. The Co-ops provide education, outreach, and an opportunity to install solar as part of the Co-op. In the Co-ops homeowners bundle their buying power to secure competitive pricing and high-quality offerings for rooftop solar equipment for their homes. Co-ops focus on education, consumer protection, advocacy, and ongoing support in switching to solar power. There is no fee or obligation for homeowners to sign up and they can join online at [Solarunitedneighbors.org/Florida](https://solarunitedneighbors.org/Florida).

A City of Fort Lauderdale partnership with Solar United Neighbors of Florida could entail the following:

- *Share/publicize the programming in the community through a variety of communication channels;*
- *Provide City locations for solar information meetings; and*
- *Share an event on social media or assist with an event.*

Partnership is free and informal and is a mutual show of support. A partial list of the following municipalities and local governments that have already partnered with Solar United Neighbors of Florida include Miami, Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Broward County, Sunrise, Boynton Beach, Boca Raton, Coral Gables, St. Petersburg, and Delray Beach.

A **motion** to submit the Communication to the Commission was made by Vice Chair Tamburly and seconded by Ms. Mazza. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Attachments

- Solar United Neighbors of Florida Co-op Stats
- Solar United Neighbors of Florida FAQs
- Miami-Dade County Resolution in Support of Solar Co-op
- Sustainability Advisory Board June 25, 2022, Minutes

Solar United Neighbors of Florida Co-op Stats

- **70 Solar co-ops** implemented in Florida since 2015.
- **15,400 + homeowners educated** through information sessions and our educational emails.
- We have helped **2,100+ homeowners go solar** across Florida, resulting in **\$48 million** of economic investment and creating **327 jobs**.
- **20.4+ Megawatts** of total installed capacity.
- **316,800 Metric Tons CO₂e** Offset Lifetime (25-Year)
- **\$88.3 million** Electricity **Bill Savings** over 25 years



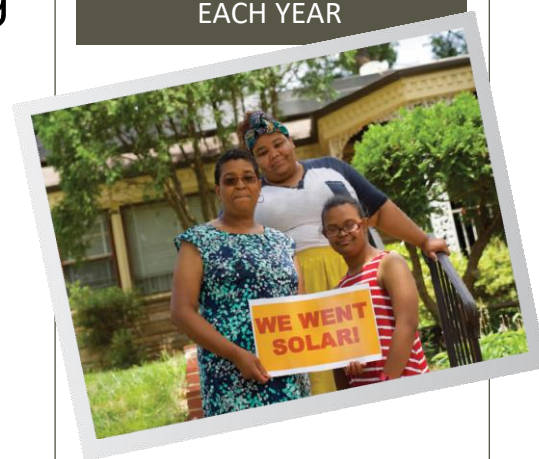
SAVE MONEY ON THE
COST OF GOING SOLAR



GET UNBIASED, EXPERT
HELP THROUGHOUT THE
PROCESS



WE'RE A NON-PROFIT
THAT HELPS
THOUSANDS OF
PEOPLE GO SOLAR
EACH YEAR





Florida Solar Co-op Program

For homeowners: reduced electric bills, more access to affordable solar PV equipment, more investment in local properties

For whole county: empowered citizens, more local jobs, cleaner air, help delay or avoid costly outlays on generating plants and transmission lines, expand business opportunities for solar installers

What is a solar co-op?

- Solar co-ops consist of homeowners who are bundling their buying power to secure a competitive price and high-quality offerings for solar PV equipment for their respective homes.
- Solar co-ops are homeowners coming together to take control of their energy production, learn together and exercise their purchasing power as more informed consumers.

How do solar co-ops work?

1. Homeowners learn about solar and decide to join online at **solarunitedneighbors.org/florida**. (There is no fee or commitment to sign up.)
2. Members' roofs reviewed remotely for suitability and members are notified via educational email.
3. Once 20 members have joined, installers invited to bid and co-op members select one installer.
4. Installer draws up customized design and each homeowner decides if they will sign contract.
5. Very important: There is no obligation to sign a contract!
6. Installer completes installations and co-op members celebrate!

What is happening in Florida?

- 73 co-op programs are either completed or underway.
- Over 2,150 homeowners have gone solar through a Florida co-op.
- Solar United Neighbors of Florida is a program of a 501(c)3 nonprofit based in Washington D.C., Solar United Neighbors. Solar United Neighbors has twelve (and counting!) state programs and has facilitated hundreds of solar co-ops across these states.
- Other local organizations will be invited to become local partners.

How can a County be involved?

- Elected officials can become **public spokes persons** with the media and other audiences.
- Government officials can **sponsor a co-op** and provide funding through a contract or grant. (Note: Orange County, Hillsborough and Broward County have signed contracts. Miami-Dade County and St. Petersburg pay for a Solar United Neighbors of Florida coordinator position dedicated to facilitating co-ops in that area.)
- Government officials can **publicize the co-op** through a variety of communication channels.
- Government officials can **provide space for "Solar Information Meetings"** designed to educate the public about the benefits of solar.
- Elected and other government officials can **lead by example and become members of the solar co-op**.

What is the track record of solar co-ops in Florida?

- St. Petersburg Co-op (2016) Mayor Kriseman endorsed
- Orange County Co-op (2016) Mayor Jacobs spearheaded and funded
- Brevard County Co-op (2016) Brevard County Commission & Satellite Beach Mayor endorsed
- Sarasota County Co-op (2017) City of Sarasota endorsed
- East and West Broward County Co-op (2017) Sponsored by County's Environmental Protection Dept.
- Miami-Dade County Co-op's (2017-2018) Green Corridor District sponsored 6 co-ops
- Miami-Dade County Co-ops (2017) Cities of Miami, South Miami, Miami Shores Village and Miami-Dade County pass resolutions of support for co-ops
- Miami-Dade County Co-ops (2017) Cities of Miami, South Miami, Miami Shores Village, and Town of Surfside passes ordinance to waive solar permitting fees
- St. Johns County Co-op (2017) St. Augustine Mayor Nancy Shaver endorsed
- Volusia County Co-op (2017) City of DeLand, DeLand Mayor Apgar endorsed
- Pinellas County Co-op (2017) City of Dunedin, Safety Harbor and Tarpon Springs endorsed
- Hillsborough County Co-op (2017) Sponsored by County Commissioner Pat Kemp, funded by Hillsborough County
- Palm Beach County (2017) Endorsed by City of West Palm Beach and Mayor's Office of Sustainability
- Leon County Co-op (2018) County Commissioner Dozier endorses, BOCC and City of Tallahassee pass Proclamation of Support
- Miami-Dade County Co-ops (2018) Miami Springs, Doral, Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay, and Miami Beach passes ordinance to waive solar permitting fees
- Miami-Dade County Co-ops (2018) Miami Springs passes a resolution in support of co-ops
- Citrus County Co-op (2018) County Commissioners pass Resolution of Support
- Franklin-Bay Co-op (2018) supported by City of Apalachicola
- St. Petersburg (2018) funds a St. Pete Co-op Coordinator F/T position and three co-ops
- Orange County (2018) gov't fully funds two co-ops; Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs went solar with co-op; 3 County Commissioners join
- Orange County (2018) Orange County achieve Gold status with SolSmart
- Highlands County (2018) BOCC passes Resolution of Support; City Councilman Lowrance and Deputy Mayor of Avon Park endorse
- Sarasota Co-op (2018) Sarasota County and City of Sarasota endorses
- Miami United Teachers of Dade (2018) forms the first affinity group co-op
- Polk County Co-op (2018) endorsed by City of Lake Wales and Bartow, as well as Polk County BOCC
- Palm Beach (2018) endorsed by City of Boca Raton, Delray Beach, West Palm Beach and Boynton Beach
- Broward County (2019) funds Broward County Solar Co-op. City of Coconut Creek passes Resolution of Support.
- Miami-Dade County Employees Co-op (2019) is geared toward employees and departments host info sessions
- Seminole County (2019) City of Oviedo passes Resolution of Support, City of Altamonte Springs hosts launch



- Space Coast (2019) Titusville City Council Member Robert Jordan and Cocoa City Council Member Lorraine Koss endorse; City of Cocoa Beach sponsors info session; City of Cocoa passes Resolution of Support and waives permitting fees.
- Orlando (2019) City of Orlando sponsors 2 co-ops as part of the American Climate Cities Challenge
- St. Petersburg (2020) City of St. Pete sponsors co-ops as part of the American Climate Cities Challenge
- Hillsborough County (2020) funds a co-op
- City of Maitland and City of Winter Park partner on the Orlando Solar Co-op 2020
- Green Corridor District funds 3 South FL co-ops 2020 – 2021
- Miami-Dade County and City of Coral Gables partner on the Miami-Dade Solar Co-op 2020
- Broward County partners on the Broward County Solar co-op 2020
- City of Sarasota and Sarasota County partner on the Sarasota Solar Co-op 2020 & 2021
- City of Layton partners on the FL Keys Solar Co-op 2020
- City of Cocoa, Satellite Beach, and Cocoa Beach partner on the Space Coast Solar Co-op 2020
- City of St Petersburg funds a co-op (2021)
- City of Boca Raton, City of Boynton Beach and City of Delray Beach partner on the Palm Beach Solar Co-op 2021
- County of Manatee, FL partner on The Manatee Sarasota Solar Co-op (2021)
- City of Bradenton, FL partner on The Manatee Sarasota Solar Co-op (2021)
- Broward County, the City of Sunrise and the City of Hallandale partner for the Broward Solar Co-op 2021
- City of Coral Gables, City of Miami, City of Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County partner on the Miami-Dade Solar Co-op 2021 and 2022
- City of Pensacola funds 2022 Solar Co-op
- Hillsborough County funds a 2022 Solar Co-op
- City of Tampa (2022) funds a co-op

For more information:

Heaven Campbell

Program Director, Solar United Neighbors of Florida

heaven@solarunitedneighbors.org

904-701-4059

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: June 6, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting solar
purchasing co-ops in concept;
directing the County Mayor to
provide in-kind support for
informational meetings on solar
co-ops in each Commission
District

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava.



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/smm



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: June 6, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☐ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)
6-6-17

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SOLAR PURCHASING CO-OPS
IN CONCEPT; DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR
COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE IN-KIND
SUPPORT FOR INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS ON SOLAR
CO-OPS IN EACH COMMISSION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, there is growing interest from homeowners in Miami-Dade County in installing solar panels on their homes, to reduce their energy bills, generate pollution-free renewable energy, and to be resilient to storms; and

WHEREAS, elsewhere in Florida and in other parts of the country, neighborhood solar purchasing co-ops have been created through entities such as Florida Solar United Neighborhoods (FL SUN); and

WHEREAS, solar purchasing co-ops are voluntary groups that may buy solar panels or other solar infrastructure in bulk for their members as a way to make solar power more affordable and accessible to the members of solar co-ops; and

WHEREAS, solar purchasing co-ops may also offer technical expertise and individualized assistance to property owners who are interested in solar power; and

WHEREAS, FL SUN has established solar purchasing co-ops in Broward County, Sarasota County, Orange County, St. Petersburg, and the Space Coast region; and

WHEREAS, FL SUN is in the process of setting up several solar purchasing co-ops here in Miami-Dade County, and property owners in the County who are interested in solar power may benefit from being able to choose to be part of a solar co-op; and

WHEREAS, FL SUN has represented that its solar purchasing co-ops around the country include moderate income neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to support the creation of solar purchasing co-ops in concept and to provide venues and other in-kind support for informational meetings on solar co-ops for interested property owners in Miami-Dade County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board hereby expresses its support in concept for solar purchasing co-ops and directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to provide venues and other in-kind support for informational meetings on solar purchasing co-ops throughout the County, and encourages FL SUN to work with each County Commission Office to collaborate in hosting information sessions in each Commission District.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava. It was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Chairman	
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	


The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of June, 2017. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Abbie Schwaderer-Raurell

5

DRAFT
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
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June 27, 2022 – 6:00 PM

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3	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
4	Kelly Charles (via Zoom)	IV	P	5	0
5	David Blattner, Chair	I	P	5	0
6	Vacant Position	-	-	-	-
7	Whitney Dutton (at 6:08 p.m.)	IV	P	4	1
8	Carolann Mazza	III	P	4	1
9	Vacant Position	II	-	-	-
10	Carol Tamburly, Vice Chair	III	P	5	0
11	Luis Castillo-Olivera	M	A	0	1

Staff Present

Public Works Department

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager
Sandy Leonard, Fleet Manager, Sustainability
Drew Newstrom, Automotive & Equipment Engineer, Sustainability – Fleet Services
Melissa Doyle, Program Manager, Solid Waste and Recycling (via Zoom)
Dr. Nancy J. Gassman, Assistant Director of Public Works (via Zoom)
Valentina Padron-Risenes, Sustainability Division Intern
Carla Blair, Prototype, Inc.

Guests Present

Alessandra Stivelman, Esq., Eisinger Law
Amy Dobrikova, Blink Charging
Andy Kinard, Blink Charging
Vanessa Balta, Broward County

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Blattner at 6:06 p.m. The roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

A **motion** to approve Ms. Charles' participation via Zoom was made by Vice Chair Tamburly and seconded by Ms. Mazza. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Mr. Hadwen introduced Sofia Thordin, new member to the Board, and the Chair invited the new Board member to introduce herself. Ms. Thordin shared that she holds LEED GA certification and is a practicing

transportation planner with experience in electric vehicles and mobility. She stated she was born and raised in Fort Lauderdale and holds degrees in sustainability and urban planning.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A **motion** to approve the May 23, 2022, minutes as presented was made by Vice Chair Tamburri and seconded by Mr. Dutton. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

The Staff Liaison Report was addressed following Presentations.

Staff Liaison Report

Landscape/Tree Ordinance

Mr. Hadwen explained the second reading of the Landscape/Tree Ordinance with revisions was heard by the City Commission on Tuesday, June 7 and the Ordinance did not pass. He noted the vote was a 2-2 tie. He stated that at its June 21 meeting, the Commission had requested staff revise the Ordinance to reduce the requirements for modular suspended pavements in residential areas. Next steps were still being determined and noted the item may have to go back to the Planning & Zoning Board and then the City Commission.

Termite Education Ordinance

Mr. Hadwen reported the Board's communication related to termite education was also presented at the Commission meeting on June 7. He played video of the presentation and discussion. The Board discussed the conversation held and next steps.

LEED for Cities

Mr. Hadwen provided an update on the LEED for Cities program and introduced the Board to the Sustainability Division's summer intern, Valentina Padron-Rasines, a Junior at University of Florida who would be helping with the effort. Ms. Padron-Rasines introduced herself and Mr. Hadwen noted she had already done a deep dive on the City's demographics in working toward the LEED certification.

Presentations

Electric Vehicle Charging

Sandy Leonard, Fleet Services Program Manager, introduced the presenters and began a *PowerPoint* presentation regarding electric vehicle charging. He discussed the infrastructure requirements and challenges of deployment of electric vehicles and chargers. Attorney Alessandra Stivelman shared her background in representing condominium and homeowners' associations and spoke regarding changes in laws for multi-family dwellings associated with charging stations, issues with capacity and availability of parking, and other challenges.

Drew Newstrom, City Automotive & Equipment Engineer, continued the presentation with a review of the benefits of electric vehicles. He discussed the commitment of manufacturers to advance availability. He reviewed the city's current electric fleet of four (4) vehicles and the charger levels. Continuing, Amy Dobrikova, Blink Charger, discussed the demand for electric vehicle charging and opportunities available. She shared details of the company's partnerships and major projects throughout the country.

A question-and-answer segment ensued.

Presentation is attached.

New Business

2022 SAB Calendar Review

Mr. Hadwen discussed the Board calendar and inquired as to whether the Board wanted to take a summer break as previously discussed or to reschedule for holidays in November and December. Discussion ensued regarding the Board's preferences.

A **motion** to cancel the July meeting and move the December meeting to December 19 was made by Vice Chair Tamburri and seconded by Ms. Mazza. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Mr. Hadwen shared that he had been approached by Leann Barber who was interested in presenting to the Board regarding urban farming in October. Consensus was to add the presentation to the agenda.

Mr. Dutton asked whether the Board needed to act regarding the failed Tree Ordinance. Mr. Hadwen stated he would keep the Board informed as the item moves forward. Mr. Dutton confirmed the existing Tree Ordinance would remain in effect until a change was made. Mr. Hadwen verified this was correct and provided further explanation.

Old Business

None.

Proposed Communication

Support for Broward Solar Co-Op

Chair Blattner shared a draft of the proposed communication regarding the Broward Solar Co-op written by Vice Chair Tamburri and Mr. Hadwen. The Board discussed the specifics of the wording and drafted the following:

The Sustainability Advisory Board recommends that the City of Fort Lauderdale partner with Solar United Neighbors (SUN), to help promote its Broward Solar Co-op program. In 2021, the City of Fort Lauderdale set Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions goals for government operations and the community. One of the cornerstones of any net zero effort will be a substantial increase in the use of solar power.

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A **motion** to submit the Communication to the Commission was made by Vice Chair Tamburri and seconded by Ms. Mazza. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Comments

Ms. Mazza asked for clarification on Ms. Padron-Rasines' LEED for Cities project. Mr. Hadwen provided detail on the program and the scope of the research being conducted.

Items for Next Meeting

Chair Blattner called for any additional items for the next meeting. Consensus was to place electric vehicle charging stations under old business. Mr. Hadwen suggested potential presentations regarding the LEED for Cities data collected to date and an update on the greenhouse gas emissions inventory.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.