

DRAFT
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE – 8th Floor
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301
March 26, 2018 - 6:15 PM

| Cumulative Attendance | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------|------------|---------|--------|
| 1/2018 through 12/2018 | | | | | |
| | Members | Appt By | Attendance | Present | Absent |
| 1 | Jason Liechty, Chair | IV | P | 3 | - |
| 2 | Lawrence Clark, Vice Chair | I | P | 3 | - |
| 3 | Carol Tamburry | III | P | 3 | - |
| 4 | Carolann Mazza | III | P | 3 | - |
| 5 | Douglas Meade | I | A | 2 | 1 |
| 6 | Elizabeth Adler | M | P | 2 | 1 |
| 7 | Enrique Vadiveloo | IV | A | 2 | 1 |
| 8 | Owen Cylke | C | A | 2 | 1 |
| 9 | Susan Wood | M | P | 3 | - |

Staff Present

Public Works Sustainability Division
Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager
Ann Livingston, Principle Planner
Aneisha Nicholas, Staff Liaison

Guest

Sofia Thordin

Call of Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Liechty at 6:15 p.m. The roll was called and it was determined a quorum was present. Ms. Mazza arrived at 6:18 p.m.

Communication to the City Commission

The Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) provides the following Communication to the City Commission:

TO: Mayor and Commissioners, City of Fort Lauderdale
FROM: Sustainability Advisory Board
DATE: March 26, 2018
RE: Sustainability Priorities

Congratulations on your election to the 2018-2021 City Commission. We, the members of the City's Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB), look forward to working with you. The SAB was created in 2010 to provide support to the Commission on sustainability issues from knowledgeable community members. Additional background information on the SAB, including short bios of the members, the ordinance language, and a summary of previous SAB communications to the Commission, is attached as an appendix.

To launch our relationship with the new Commission, we outline below matters of public concern that we have examined. We encourage you to seek our advice and counsel on these issues.

To that end, we cordially invite you to attend our next meeting, on Monday, April 23, 6:15 pm, in the Commission Conference Room.

Climate Change

Fort Lauderdale's vulnerability to climate change is due to numerous factors, most of which are related to its proximity to the coast. Most areas in the City have extremely low elevations, often less than 10 feet above sea level. This low elevation is compounded by the region's porous limestone substrate and unusual hydrology. In addition to these geological vulnerabilities, Fort Lauderdale is often subjected to flooding from extreme high tides, prolonged heavy rains, and storm surge from hurricanes and tropical storms. Providing proper water control in this changing environment is critical.

In addition, as the City seeks to cope with climate impacts, it is important that the City and its residents and businesses also lead efforts to reduce the carbon pollution which drives climate change.

We encourage the City Commission to keep concerns of resilience, climate change/sea level rise vulnerabilities, sustainability, and energy and water use in the public eye. In particular, the Commission should continue the City's already-significant efforts to plan for and address sea level rise and flooding issues and to accelerate recent initiatives to track and reduce energy and water use in City facilities. We also urge the Commission to develop programs for the City's residents and businesses to reduce energy and water consumption and encourage deployment of renewable energy systems. Without additional efforts to address energy and water—particularly as the City continues to grow—we will not meet the City's stated climate and sustainability goals.

Growth, Infrastructure, and Transportation

Fort Lauderdale, as the heart of a robust, high-growth metropolitan region, faces accelerated economic and population growth trends. The challenge, of course, is balancing these growth trends with communities' and neighborhoods' deeply-felt and sincere concerns about their implications for the City's quality of life, sustainability, and resilience. The SAB can contribute to

the discussion of these trends and tradeoffs based on our growing understanding of professional analyses, individual professional and objective experience, and exploration of how other cities of similar size and trends are addressing these trends and tradeoffs.

Three areas stand out for priority attention: energy and water use (discussed above), urban infrastructure (including water supply, stormwater, and sewage systems), and transportation. The latter two areas are especially important to the City's residents, as reflected in the top issues during the recent election.

There are many examples of cities with enlightened policies that effectively balance the competing demands of development, transportation, sustainability, quality of life, and cost. The SAB stands ready to research and identify these case studies and customize them for our City.

As we work together to solve the problems of today and prepare our City for the challenges of tomorrow, the SAB will be helpful to you by using our expertise to examine City issues through a sustainability lens. This perspective considers impacts outside of an individual project or program's immediate purview, is oriented to longer timescales, and connects to regional, statewide, national, and global systems.

SAB Roles 2018-2021

- 1) We will always welcome requests to investigate, discuss, and make recommendations on various issues assigned to the SAB by the Commission.
- 2) We have asked City Public Works - Sustainability Division staff to look ahead to issues which will be coming before the City Commission in order to allow the SAB time to learn about, discuss, and offer sustainability-related recommendations on those issues.
- 3) We may make recommendations on other issues brought to our attention by SAB members, advocates, residents, or based on best practices in other communities.

In addition, the Sustainability Division continues to pursue an update of the City's Sustainability Action Plan, and the SAB is ready to provide significant input and feedback.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the City of Fort Lauderdale.

APPENDIX

Sustainability Advisory Board Members

The members of the SAB represent a wide variety of backgrounds, but we are united by the same desire: to see Fort Lauderdale continue to lead on sustainability and environmental issues in the region, state, and nation. We are:

- **Jason Liechty, Chair** - Senior Environmental Project Coordinator, Broward County Environmental Planning and Community Resilience Division.
- **Lawrence Clark, Vice Chair** - QCxP, GGP, LEED AP+ - Principal, Sustainable Performance Solutions, Fort Lauderdale-based engineering firm with practice focused on energy and sustainability consulting.
- **Elizabeth Adler** - Land use litigation Senior Counsel at Greenspoon Marder LLP
- **Owen Cylke** - Career professional in the areas of economic development and the environment; former Career Minister in the U.S. Foreign Service (USAID) and Senior Fellow at the World Wildlife Fund.
- **Carolann Mazza** - Family Attorney and Family Law Mediator at Carolann Mazza, P.A.
- **Douglas Meade** – Principal/Business Solutions Architect at BrandForces Consulting.
- **Carol Tamburly** – Conservationist, preservationist, and volunteer with degrees in Environmental Science Technology and Earth & Space Sciences with an emphasis in Geology.
- **Enrique Vadiveloo** - Senior Associate at Hazen and Sawyer, a consulting firm that focuses on all things water.
- **Susan Q Wood** - Owner/publisher of local Natural Awakenings magazine, environmentally-focused speaker and artist.
- **Two seats** are currently vacant.

Background on the SAB

The Sustainability Advisory Board was established by Ordinance (C-10-48) in December 2010 as the successor body to the Citizens Sustainability 'Green' Committee created earlier that year. The SAB consists of 11 members serving renewable one-year terms. The Mayor and Commissioners appoint two members each, and there is one consensus appointment. Five of the seats are meant to be filled by persons who meet specific criteria described in the Ordinance.

The “Purpose and Duties” of the SAB, as outlined in the establishing Ordinance, are:

1. *To act in an advisory capacity to the city commission with regards to environmental sustainability; and*
2. *To identify and recommend affordable strategies associated with conservation, renewable energy and energy efficiency; and*
3. *To research environmentally sound practices that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save money, energy and resources; and*
4. *To facilitate City residents' participation in creating an environmental strategic plan that will promote environmental sustainability within all areas of the community; and*
5. *To provide recommendations to the city commission on incentives for City residents, businesses, developers and organizations to practice environmental conservation and sustainable building practices; and*

6. *To provide recommendations to the city commission on the adoption, prioritization and implementation of initiatives, actions, policies, and public outreach and education programs to support and promote all aspects of sustainability; and*
7. *To research financial resources to offset costs such as grants and cost savings initiatives; and*
8. *To develop and recommend to the city commission outcome measures for sustainability programs and initiatives; and*
9. *To monitor the progress of approved initiatives and identify and address stumbling blocks to their implementation to ensure that sustainability benefits are achieved and strategic plans to achieve said benefits are implemented in a reasonable timeframe.*

Recent SAB Communications to the Commission

Since the fall of 2012, the SAB has sent 29 communications to the City Commission on a variety of topics, many of which have resulted in action by the City Commission, Mayor, or City staff. A sample of SAB communications which led to direct action by the City included:

- Expansion of the City's household hazardous waste collection events to include clothing, tires, and oils. Communication went before Commission on 2/17/2015.
- Approval by the City Commission of a pilot program to allow beach wrack (the organic material washed ashore by tidal) to remain undisturbed on a limited stretch of beach, in order to foster habitat and dune creation and provide an educational opportunity for residents and visitors. The program was later placed on hold. Communication went before Commission on 6/22/2015.
- Inclusion of edible plants as a sustainable strategy for City parks in the City's Parks System Master Plan. Communication went before Commission on 12/01/2015.
- Expansion of the Development Review Committee membership to include the Sustainability Manager. Communication went before Commission on 3/15/2016.
- Encouragement of stronger enforcement of the Sea Turtle Lighting Ordinance by the City, and, in a later communication, a statement of appreciation to the City Commission in response to an increase in the number of Code Enforcement personnel working proactively with affected buildings to achieve compliance. Communications went before Commission on 8/16/2016, 2/7/2017 and 2/21/2017.
- Upon request for input by the Commission, review of the City's efforts to incorporate alternative fuel vehicles in the City's fleet, commending Fleet Services for its actions to date and recommending an emphasis on electric vehicles. Communication went before Commission on 11/3/2015.
- Upon request for input by the Commission, review of an early 2016 version of the plans for the Bahia Mar redevelopment, opposing the plans in question and suggesting changes to improve the project's sustainability. Communication went before Commission on 4/19/2016.
- Recommendations to the Commission of a number of measures to reduce use of potable water for irrigation of the City's landscaped medians. As a result, the Parks and Recreation Department agreed to create a pilot project to explore the use drought-tolerant plants in medians. Department staff have met with the SAB several times to describe the projects and discuss the results, which were largely positive. As a result, the Department will continue to expand the use of drought-tolerant plants in medians, where appropriate. Communication went before Commission on 11/15/2016.
- Submission of sustainability-related priorities to the City Commission on several occasions for possible incorporation in the Commission's Annual Action Plan. Communications went before Commission on 3/15/2016 and 4/4/2017.

Motion

Motion made by Vice Chair Clark, seconded by Ms. Mazza to advance the above Communication to the City Commission. The motion passed unanimously.