

City of Delray Beach

*100 N.W. 1st Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444*



Minutes - Final

Thursday, January 16, 2025

09:00 AM

SOC Conference Room

Green Implementation Advancement Board

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04am by Evan Orellana

2. Roll Call

Present 5 - Evan Orellana, Heather Seaman, Vinnie Ardillo, Melanie Stefanovic, and Adam Jones

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Seaman, seconded by Stefanovic, that this be approved.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Orellana, Seaman, Ardillo, Stefanovic, and Jones

4. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Seaman, seconded by Jones, that this be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Orellana, Seaman, Ardillo, Stefanovic, and Jones

Attachments: [GIAB Meeting Minutes - 2024-12-19-draft.pdf](#)

5. Public Comments on Agenda & Non-Agenda Agenda Items

No public present

6. Old Business

6.a. Climate Action Plan

Evan Orellana asks if there are any updates on the Climate Action Plan.

Kent Edwards suggests deferring the discussion on the Climate Action Plan until the work groups are addressed.

6.b. Educational Initiatives

6.b.i. EP3 Memo

Kent Edwards discusses the addition of a sentence based on a Miami Dade County resolution from November 25, 2025. The Board reaffirms their approval for signing and sending to City Commission.

Attachments: [Memo EP3 011625.docx](#)

6.c. Legislative Issues

Kent Edwards talks about the legislative issues, including a bill to establish public access to Florida beaches and Senate Bill 62, which offers a tax credit for obtaining green building certification. Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards discuss the challenges and potential impacts of these legislative issues.

7. New Business

7.a. Green Infrastructure

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards discuss the addition of green infrastructure to the new business agenda. Kent Edwards mentions a bill submitted last year for mangroves and the need for a sponsor for its reintroduction. Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards talk about the importance of green infrastructure in addressing sea level rise and the need for legislative priorities to support these initiatives. Kent Edwards emphasizes the importance of educating the community on the benefits of green infrastructure and the need for public outreach.

7.b. Climate Action Plan Workgroups

Kent Edwards discusses the formation of work groups to address different sections of the Climate Action Plan, including energy efficiency, water use efficiency, and community energy efficiency. Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards talk about the importance of involving city stakeholders and community partners in these work groups. Kent Edwards mentions the need for public outreach and the importance of gathering input from various stakeholders. Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards discuss the role of the DDA and other city departments in these work groups and the need for clear communication and collaboration.

7.c. Drone Show VS Fireworks

It was decided that due to the recent drone show accident in Orlando, this discussion would be postponed.

7.d. Annual Report to Commission

Strategies for Climate Action Plan

Kent Edwards outlines the strategies for the Climate Action Plan, including energy efficiency of city facilities, energy savings performance contracting, and community energy efficiency.

Chris Chitester emphasizes the importance of energy savings performance contracting (ESPC) and its potential to address multiple priorities.

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards discuss the need for a clear and concise presentation of the Climate Action Plan to the commission.

Kent Edwards suggests focusing on the most impactful strategies and gathering input from city stakeholders to ensure the plan is comprehensive and effective. Kent forwarded an email to attendees which lists the sections of the CAP Survey and the top responses.

Outreach and Public Engagement

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards discuss the importance of public outreach and engagement in the Climate Action Plan process.

Kent Edwards mentions the need for a retrospective slide in the presentation to highlight the board's past efforts and priorities.

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards talk about the importance of community input and the need for a clear and engaging presentation to the commission.

Kent Edwards suggests including specific examples of outreach events and the impact of these efforts on the community.

Tree Planting Program and Urban Forest Management

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards discuss the tree planting program and its importance in the Climate Action Plan.

Chris Chitester emphasizes the need for a certified arborist in the city to ensure the protection and management of existing trees.

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards talk about the success of the tree planting program and the need for continued efforts to meet the city's goals.

Kent Edwards suggests including statistics and updates on the tree planting program in the presentation to the commission.

Coral Reef Restoration and Artificial Reef Deployment

Kent Edwards discusses the importance of coral reef restoration

and the potential for artificial reef deployment in the city.

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards talk about the success of artificial reef experiments and the need for further research and deployment.

Kent Edwards mentions the involvement of the Coral Consortium and the importance of community engagement in these efforts.

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards discuss the potential benefits of artificial reefs in improving water quality and supporting marine life.

Waste Reduction and Environmental Education

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards discuss the importance of waste reduction and environmental education in the Climate Action Plan.

Chris Chitester emphasizes the need for manufacturers to make better choices in packaging and materials.

Evan Orellana and Kent Edwards talk about the challenges of waste reduction and the need for community awareness and behavioral change.

Kent Edwards suggests focusing on strategies that address the root causes of waste and promote sustainable practices.

City Involvement and Supply and Demand Strategy

Chris Chitester discusses the need for city involvement to create demand for manufacturers to produce less plastic.

Evan Orellana explains that by changing the city's purchasing habits, companies will notice the shift in demand.

Evan Orellana suggests recapping the numbers at the beginning of the presentation.

City's Current Efforts and Transportation Challenges

Kent Edwards talks about the city's recycling program and the role of Mary Wozny in overseeing the contract.

Discussion on the challenges of transportation and ongoing planning communication efforts.

Kent Edwards emphasizes the need for multi-modal and regional public transportation.

The importance of getting the public involved and discussing the TRI-Rail station is highlighted.

Involvement of Local Organizations and Transportation

Solutions

Kent Edwards mentions the need to get the Chamber or the DDA

involved due to worker transportation issues.

Chris Chitester explains the role of the Urban Land Institute in advocating for commercial and multi-modal transportation.

Chris Chitester shares insights from a gentleman working with West Palm Beach on multimodal transportation.

Discussion on the parking issues in Delray Beach and the installation of parking sensors.

Consulting for Multimodal Transportation

Chris Chitester talks about the convenience issues with parking and the need for multimodal transportation.

The importance of working with downtown businesses to understand employee transportation needs is discussed.

Chris Chitester mentions companies that specialize in consulting for multimodal transportation.

Additional Discussion Points

Recap the memos of 2024. (Climate Action Plan, Green Building Ordinance)

Microplastics are showing up in virtually all parts of the earth and in all living organisms

We must take greater steps to address these issues

Climate Action Plan encompasses initiatives in Water, Waste, Green Infrastructure and Natural Environment, Transportation, Energy-Built Environment, Climate Resilience

Presentation Deliverable

The board acknowledged the annual report is intended to be ready by February 1st. Due to the late notice of the approaching due date there was a short discussion to determine if the board would commit to a presentation to commission at the February 18th regular commission meeting or if they would postpone the presentation. Its was unanimously decided that the presentation would be ready for the February 18th meeting.

8. Board Comments

There was not time for Board Comments

9. Staff Comments

There was not time for Staff Comments

Attachments: [GIAB Staff Rpt 2025-01-16.docx](#)

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am

A motion was made by Seaman, seconded by Stefanovic, that this be approved.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Orellana, Seaman, Ardillo, Stefanovic, and Jones