

Green Implementation Advancement Board
Office of Sustainability and Resilience (OSAR) Staff Report
January 16th, 2025

Tree Planting Program

- Year 4 program contract was executed on August 21, 2024.
- 110 trees were given away at the Green Market event on Dec 7, raising the total to 289.
- 217 of the 877 tree allotment have been Dropped Off
- A Tree Giveaway is planned for February 1 at the Spady Museum.

Tree Trust Fund

- Fund Balance as of Nov 15: \$50,215.66
- Encumbered for Current Year: \$ 260,871.67
- Grand Total: \$311,087.33

Green Building Ordinance (GBO)

- The GBO review has been put on hold. Others questioned whether the review was intended to take place this year or next.

City of Delray Beach Facility Benchmarking

- No new progress

Climate Action Plan

- Emails have been sent requesting participation by City Departments in the development of strategies for each section of the CAP. A few responses have been received.
- An overview presentation on ESPC was given at the regular commission meeting on 2025/01/07.
- We are hopeful that there will be a follow up “Workshop” to dive deeper into specific questions from the elected officials and city departments stakeholders.

Legislative Issues

- The 2025 Florida regular legislative session begins on Mar 4, 2025, and the deadline for filing bills is at 12 pm that day. Presession committee meetings are underway. The regular session will end on May 2, 2025.

Habitat Restoration

- \$50,000 was approved in the Park’s budget for the current fiscal year for habitat restoration at Leon Weekes Preserve.
- The Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC) is planning an invasive plant removal volunteer event on January 18 at Atlantic Dunes Park.
- IRC is also planning an event at Orchard View Park or Barwick Park on February 15.
- The Grass River Garden Club will hold an invasive plant removal event at Orchard View Park on February 24.

OSAR Webpage and Social Media Outreach

- OSAR meets biweekly with the PIO office to discuss activities, events, and future initiatives.

- OSAR website is being edited to streamline and update the information. Planned content and minor organization updates to the website are to begin shortly.
- A discovery meeting with the City of Charlotte team and City of Delray Beach stakeholders responsible for creating the “Climate Action Dashboard” was held to learn about the platforms used to create their site.
- A follow up meeting was held with internal stakeholders including the development team that will work on our CAP Dashboard. The next step is to get timeline and cost estimates. We are still awaiting the cost and time estimate to create the “Sustainability Dashboard”. A follow up email was sent on 2025/01/08

Outreach

- OSAR made a presentation on the Tree Drop-Off Program at the SEFRCCC meeting on Dec 16 which was very well received.
- OSAR is providing support for a TEDx Delray event scheduled for Jan 25, 2025.
- OSAR had a booth at the Green Market on 2025/01/04.
- While we are still planning to have a booth at the Green Market every month we are not conversing with as many people as we would like. We are considering a booth at the Coco Market in anticipation of more interest with the more specific demographic in attendance.

EPA Community Change Grant

- OSAR worked with the Community Development Corporations of Delray Beach, Boynton Beach, and Riviera Beach to develop an application for this EPA grant . Post-submittal the EPA contacted the CDC’s and requested additional information, but “Green and Resilient Homes Program” was not funded in the most recent round of awards.
- OSAR also provided assistance to the Boy & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County on an application for this grant. Post-submittal EPA contacted the Boys & Girls Clubs and requested additional information, but the project was not funded in the most recent round of awards.
- The next round will not be announced until February, and it’s possible that additional awards will not be given.
- Palm Beach County’s Climate Resilient Communities Project was funded. This was a different track than the CDC application.

LEED for Cities

- OSAR registered Delray Beach and is beginning training to implement this project.
- A side by side FGBC vs LEED for Cities comparison has been completed for the purposes of determining what required LEED documentation we already have from completing the FGBC certification. This is a document tying together the related FGBC and LEED for Cities credits.
- A preliminary LEED for Cities checklist has been completed to help give direction to discussions to be held with stakeholders.
- As a complimentary document to the checklist additional information for each credit has been added to the “LEED for Cities Crosswalk”. This document is designed to be a living document to assist in individual credit management.

- Using the crosswalk, an in depth “Gap Analysis” is being completed on the LEED for Cities program. As much of the required documentation that already exists is being collected and organized on a SharePoint site dedicated to the LEED for Cities certification.
 - IP-Integrative Process – review completed
 - NS - Natural Systems - review completed
 - TR – Transportation – review completed
 - WE - Water Efficiency - review completed
 - EN - Energy and GHG - review underway

Plastics

The agenda for the current meeting includes an item with a draft memo attached, which addresses Environmentally Preferred Purchasing and restrictions on use of plastics.