

Green Implementation Advancement Board  
Office of Sustainability and Resilience (OSAR) Staff Report  
November 21st, 2024

Tree Planting Program

- Year 4 program contract was executed on August 21.
- 179 trees were given away during the October 5 event at the Delray Beach Historical Society.
- 174 of the 877 tree allotment have been Dropped Off
- A tree giveaway is planned for the Green Market on December 7, 2024

Dead Tree Removal

- OSAR Tree Removal Project was completed as of the end of the fiscal year, September 30. Trees were removed at sites including Orchard View Park, Delray Beach Golf Course, and Lakeview Golf Course.
- An additional RFP is being processed by Parks, to continue removal of dead and poor quality trees.

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 ordinance went into effect on Nov 1, 2023.
- It is up for review of effectiveness.
- OSAR has started communications with interested parties in preparation for the upcoming ordinance review.

City of Delray Beach Facility Benchmarking

- The initial steps for benchmarking each of the city's facilities have been completed. Benchmarking is also expected to be a topic of discussion during the reevaluation of the GBO.
- A complete list of city water meters and water billing information has been provided to OSAR.
  - The top 5 users have been input
- All Trash and recycling pickup at all city buildings has been input in to Portfolio Manager.
- Citywide trash and recycling has been bulk benchmarked in Portfolio Manager.

Climate Action Plan

- The survey closed on September 15, 2024, with more than 360 survey responses received.
- Review of responses was done to prepare a presentation to Commission, which is scheduled for November 19.

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. Pre-session committee meetings are underway. The regular session will end on May 2, 2025.

#### Habitat Restoration

- A Pocket Refuge planting on the south side of the Old School Square Garage was done on October 12, in association with City Parks, and Friends of the Wildlife Refuge.
- \$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 is planning a habitat restoration workshop on December 10 at Orchard View Park.

#### OSAR Webpage and Social Media Outreach

- OSAR meets biweekly with the PIO office to discuss activities, events, and future initiatives.
- The City's web and social media outlets continue to be important advertising mechanisms for the Climate Action Planning Survey, the Green Building Ordinance, Climate Conversations etc.
- OSAR website is being edited to streamline and update the information.

#### Outreach

- Climate Conversations on September 6 at Arts Warehouse was well attended, and the next event is scheduled for December 7 also at The Arts Warehouse.
- OSAR presented to a Careers class at Plumosa Elementary on September 25, and a second presentation is scheduled for November 20.
- At their October 1 meeting the City Commission passed a resolution in support of Florida Climate Week. A post went out on City social media on October 4 regarding Florida Climate Week presentations organized by the VoLo Foundation.
- OSAR will have a booth at the Green Market on Nov 16, and is planning to have a booth at least once each month.
- OSAR will be making a presentation on the Tree Drop-Off Program at the SEFRCCC meeting in Key West, Dec 16 – 18.
- OSAR is providing support for a TEDx Delray event scheduled for Jan 25, 2025. During the event, there will be outreach regarding the Delray Beach Climate Action Plan.

#### Lawn Equipment

- Palm Beach County submitted a grant application to EPA, which includes a request to fund further study and outreach on this issue.

#### 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 with technical assistance from the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network. Application was submitted on October 23.
- An as-built energy rating was conducted on a sample home. A proposed improvement model was created that quantifies the potential GHG and energy cost reductions. This info is included in the grant application.

- OSAR provided assistance to the Boy & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, who also will submit an application.

LEED for Cities

OSAR registered Delray Beach and is beginning training to implement this project.