

Green Implementation Advancement Board
Office of Sustainability and Resilience (OSAR) Staff Report
October 17th, 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.

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 Sep 11: \$273,925.05
- Encumbered for Current Year: \$ 19,569.35
- Grand Total: \$293,494.40

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. A public webinar is scheduled for Oct 25, when an overview of the GBO requirements will be presented, and there will be an opportunity for questions and input on the ordinance.

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 information is being incorporated into Portfolio Manager, starting with the top users.

Climate Action Plan

- The survey closed on September 15, 2024, with more than 360 survey responses received.
- Review of responses is underway, in preparation for presentation to Commission on November 12.

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

- A Pocket Refuge planting on the south side of the Old School Square Garage is scheduled for October 12.
- \$50,000 was approved in the Park's budget for the current fiscal year for habitat restoration at Leon Weekes Preserve.

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 under complete review for an impending update.

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 October 29.
- 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 present virtually to a realtors' Climate Action Network, on October 16.

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 continues to work 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 submittal is imminent.
- 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.