

Report to Green Implementation Advancement Board (GIAB)

June 17, 2021

The following report details many of the major activities undertaken by Office of Sustainability and Resilience (OSAR) staff during the past month. Though the report is not intended to be a comprehensive summary of work, it does cover the main work initiatives and priorities.

Green Board

Final edits on the annual GIAB report to City Commission were made.

Tree Canopy

Tree Inventory

The Purchasing Agreement is being prepared. Contingencies for additional work have been included, to ensure that all trees on City properties will be surveyed, and to obtain tree planting locations in the report. The dollar figure for the project is below the threshold that requires City Commission approval, so the Agreement will go to the Interim City Manager for review.

Tree Planting

The City has one more tree giveaway scheduled in June, and soon afterwards all work under the Agreement with Community Greening will be completed. OSAR continues to work with Purchasing to finalize the RFP for Tree Planting Year 2-5. Funding for the tree planting project has been requested as a Capital Improvement Project for future years.

Plastic-Related

SB694 is awaiting action by the Governor, if he signs, December 31, 2021, will be the new deadline for FDEP to submit a revised report to the legislature regarding plastics.

OSAR is working with Chamber of Commerce and the Restaurant Roundtable, preparing to address alternatives to plastics at their June 22 meeting. At the meeting, OSAR will make a presentation focusing on the Sustainable Food Ware document, and the City's Green Business Program. The Restaurant Roundtable meeting will also explore interest in group purchasing to reduce use of single-use plastics.

Solid Waste Authority

The FDEP Administrator that oversees the Solid Waste regulatory program, was unable to make a presentation at the June 17 GIAB meeting. She emailed that she would provide background information on permit requirements for the SWA facilities in Palm Beach County.

FGBC Local Green Government Certification

The City's submittal is under review, with a preliminary response from FGBC received on June 9, indicating the City met the Bronze level certification. Five clarification items were requested as an option to obtain additional points.

Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA)

The City Commission canceled the CCVA presentation that was set for June 8. The other 7 Coastal Resilience Partnership members are all presenting to their respective Commissions this month. OSAR will recommend that the presentation and Executive Summary be sent to the Commissioners with a

cover memo. The final CCVA report is in preparation, and AccelAdapt access will be granted for staff shortly.

EV Chargers

The City has not yet received follow up from FPL regarding the executed Agreement to install four chargers at Robert P. Miller Park. The Agreement was sent to FPL in April, and they are now working through their approval process.

FPL has also inquired regarding sites for the installation of fast chargers in the downtown area.

Boat Speed Survey

A request for a Slow Speed Minimum Wake Zone was submitted to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on June 11.

Green Building Ordinance

The green building ordinance was taken to the Planning and Zoning (PZ) Board on May 17. The PZ Board had a detailed discussion of green building issues, and the specifics of the ordinance. Concerns were voiced regarding the potential financial impact the ordinance could have on development, the 5,000 square foot threshold, and requiring LEED gold level certification. Potential revisions were suggested, including raising the threshold to 15,000 square feet, incentivizing green building, and tiering green building certification requirements. The PZ Board voted 7 to 0 to support the ordinance with amendments described above.

Palm Beach County Solar Co-op

The co-op was scheduled to close on May 31, but the sign up link still appears to be active:

<https://coops.solarunitedneighbors.org/coops/palm-beach-county-solar-co-op/events/>

As of June 9, 149 members had signed up, exceeding the initial goal of 100, and almost meeting the final goal of 150.

Outreach activities

BioBlitz

OSAR is working with Parks & Recreation to hold a BioBlitz for Delray Beach from July to September. The public is encouraged to explore the outdoors and learn about wildlife and biodiversity in our parks. By downloading the free iNaturalist app, anyone can take photos of the plants, flowers, birds, bees and more that they find. Bookmarks are being printed and will be distributed at schools, and postcards will be distributed during Uncle Sam Jam city even on July 3rd at Pompey Park. Uploading photos into the app and participating in our BioBlitz event will help us build a wildlife atlas for Delray Beach.

<https://www.delraybeachfl.gov/BioBlitz>

Daylight Hour

OSAR is asking staff to participate in the annual event Daylight Hour on June 18, 2021. The event is aimed at reducing energy use and improving working environments by encouraging offices of all sizes to reduce overhead lighting and use sunlight in the office from noon to 1pm. We already have more staffed signed up to participate than the previous year.