

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD  
Virtual Meeting  
September 29, 2020 - 6:15 PM**

<b>Cumulative Attendance</b>					
<b>1/2020 through 9/2020</b>					
	<b>Members</b>	<b>Appt By</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>1</b>	Jason Liechty, Chair	IV	P	6	1
<b>2</b>	Elizabeth Adler, Vice Chair	M	P	6	1
<b>3</b>	Carol Tamburry	III	P	6	1
<b>4</b>	Carolann Mazza	III	P	6	1
<b>5</b>	John Bonavita-Goldman	II	P	4	0
<b>6</b>	Douglas Meade	I	P	7	0
<b>7</b>	Enrique Vadiveloo	IV	P	4	3
<b>8</b>	Lawrence Clark	I	P	5	2
<b>9</b>	Muge Nurgun	II	P	7	0
<b>10</b>	Owen Cylke	C	P	7	0
<b>11</b>	Susan Wood	M	P	7	0

**Staff Present**

Public Works Department

Stephanie Wilk, Sustainability Specialist, Staff Liaison  
 Kimberly Pearson, Sustainability Coordinator  
 Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager  
 Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Public Works Director – Sustainability  
 Melissa Doyle, Program Manager - Solid Waste and Recycling  
 Jason Bocchinfuso, Sustainability Administrator

**Guests Present**

None.

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Stephanie Wilk at 6:15 p.m. An announcement was made to explain the videoconferencing process. The roll was called, and a quorum was present. Ms. Adler arrived at 6:23 p.m.

### **Approval of the Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes for August 24, 2020 were introduced. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Cylke and seconded by Ms. Tamburry. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Staff Liaison Report**

In response to questions that were asked by the Board in August, Mr. Hadwen shared the following answers:

- The City uses cool surfaces in parking lots;
- The City has several parking lots that have cool surfacing including the Orchid lot at City Hall.
- There are about 555 centerline miles of roadway in the City of Fort Lauderdale excluding roadways owned by other entities.
- There are references to cool paving in the City's *Design and Construction Manual*.
- In City facilities, filters have been upgraded to MERV 13 to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Bonavita-Goldman asked what type of material is used for cool paving. Mr. Hadwen answered that he would have to get more specifics, but it is generally a reflective coating that they apply to parking lots.

Mr. Hadwen shared that the City held its first tree giveaway since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. He stated that over 100 residents participated in this drive-thru event and the City distributed over 400 trees.

Ms. Wilk shared that the City Commission received the Sustainability Advisory Board's Waterway Quality Monitoring Communication at the September 15, 2020 City Commission Conference Meeting. The relevant segment of the September 15, 2020 City Commission Conference Meeting video was then played for the Board.

### **Presentations**

#### **Energy Management Program Update: Jason Bocchinfuso, Sustainability Administrator**

Mr. Bocchinfuso explained that energy is an important part of the City's Press Play Strategic Plan. It falls under the following goals:

- Goal 1: Build a sustainable and resilient community.
  - Objective: Promote energy efficiency and the expansion of renewable energy sources.
- Goal 8: Build a leading government organization that manages all resources wisely and sustainably.
  - Objective: Integrate sustainability and resiliency into daily operations.

Mr. Bocchinfuso stated that the biggest energy consumers are the water and wastewater treatment plants. These plants account for almost 50% of City operations total energy consumption. Mr. Bocchinfuso shared that the City's energy team has evolved its performance tracking by creating a

database and dashboard of electricity usage. Further, he shared that the energy team will be benchmarking the City's facilities using federal databases. As a result, the City can compare its facilities to similar buildings such as other water treatment plants throughout the country. Recently, Mr. Bocchinfuso added, the energy team has worked toward improving analytics and creating more interactive and easily accessible reports. In addition, the energy team has acquired an analytical program called *Tableau* to further expand analytics.

Recently the Sustainability Division finalized the City's Building Energy Efficiency Plan which evaluates energy efficiency strategies for City buildings first steps for investment. Mr. Bocchinfuso added that the installation of programmable thermostats has been very successful. After one year, the City saved about \$33,000. This past July, the City of Fort Lauderdale was recognized by the US Department of Energy for its success in the Better Buildings 2020 Challenge. The City achieved a 20% reduction of energy consumption by 2020. Mr. Bocchinfuso listed some success stories that helped the City achieve this goal, including:

1. 2016 Honeywell Energy Services Contract (LEDs, HVAC RCx, Envelope Repairs)
2. Employee Conservation Initiatives (Flip the Switch 1 & 2)
3. Beach Community Center Solar PV System
4. Programmable Thermostats Pilot Projects

Lastly, Mr. Bocchinfuso addressed energy impacts during the Covid-19 pandemic quarantine. While City staff was working from home, City operations reduced its energy usage by 0.98%. He explained that the reason why there was not a big decrease in consumption is because the largest energy consumers, the water and wastewater treatment plants, remained fully operational.

A question and answer segment ensued.

***The full presentation is attached.***

#### Impacts of COVID-19 on City Operations: Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager

Mr. Hadwen shared data from March through August of 2018, 2019, and 2020 on the following areas:

- Solid Waste and Recycling
- City Fleet
- Water Utilities
- City Operations Water Consumption

He noted that Solid Waste and Recycling had the largest impact. He stated that residential waste tonnage increased by 16% from prior year. Similarly, yard waste tonnage increased by 10%, recycling increased by 13%, and bulk increased by 22%.

Mr. Hadwen shared that the City fleet gasoline usage had an insignificant decrease of 1% from March through August 2018 and 2019. However, diesel usage decreased by 7%. Dr. Gassman added that normally City workers share City vehicles, consuming less fuel. However, to practice safe social distancing, employees utilized more vehicles and consumed more fuel in June and July.

Further, Mr. Hadwen explained that citywide water usage decreased by 4%. Dr. Gassman added that the decrease can be attributed to the decline in hotel occupation; and an increase of inflow and infiltration because of a particularly heavy rainy season. Lastly, Mr. Hadwen shared that there was a 0.3% decrease in City operation water usage.

### **New Business**

Ms. Wilk suggested that the Board review the November and December dates for the Sustainability Advisory Board meetings and discuss if they would like to reschedule them to accommodate the holidays. Mr. Liechty suggested that the Board keep the November meeting as scheduled but should consider moving the December 28, 2020 meeting to December 21, 2020, pending available space for a possible in-person meeting. Mr. Hadwen added that in the past the Sustainability Advisory Board used the December meeting as an informal social meeting and asked if the Board was interested in that that. He also shared that the December meeting would be the last meeting for Mr. Liechty and Mr. Vadiveloo as their terms will come to an end. Mr. Liechty asked Ms. Wilk to check on room availability. He suggested that next month the Board come with ideas for the December meeting.

### **Old Business**

#### **Sustainability Issues Regarding Yacht Docking Waivers Behind NE 20<sup>th</sup> Ave**

Ms. Wilk stated that there is no specific update regarding this concern. She shared that the Marine Advisory Board discussed gray and black water in their September 3, 2020 meeting. Ms. Wilk is awaiting minutes from that meeting so she can update the Board.

### **Proposed Communications**

#### **Beach Bucket Foundation Proposal**

Mr. Hadwen shared that after the discussion in the last meeting, there were some concerns from City Staff about the program's viability and maintenance. There are also issues with obtaining permissions for advertising and branding on the beach. Mr. Liechty asked the Board if they would like to pursue this proposal. Ms. Bonavita-Goldman shared that he is concerned that there is one individual maintaining this. The Board agreed to move on and drop this from the next agenda.

#### **Support for the Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance Revisions**

Mr. Pearson shared that the revised Ordinance is projected to be submitted to Planning and Zoning Board in November. She added that after the 2021 City Commission Calendar is released, they will target January for the first and second reading. Mr. Liechty suggested Ms. Pearson provide updates in November and the Board draft their Communication to the City Commission at that time. Mr. Hadwen

agreed and suggested that the Board allow staff to hold the Communication until the date the revised Ordinance is submitted to the Commission.

Commission Exploration of Plastic and Styrofoam Ban on City Property

Ms. Adler presented her first draft to the Board. The Board discussed the draft and made edits. For time's sake, the Board decided to finish drafting the Communication at the October 26, 2020 SAB meeting.

**Comments**

None.

**Items for Next Meeting**

Presentations:

- Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance Revisions Update

New Business:

- SAB Planning For 2021

Old Business: Sustainability Issues Regarding Yacht Docking Waivers Behind NE 20<sup>th</sup> Ave

Proposed Communications:

- Commission Exploration of Plastic and Styrofoam Ban on City Property
- Support for the Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance Revisions

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ms. Wood and seconded by Ms. Bonavita-Goldman to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.