

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Regular Meeting
December 19, 2022 – 6:00 PM**

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2022 through 12/2022					
	Members	Appt by	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Sofia Thordin, Vice Chair	M	P	5	1
2	Douglas Brinkley	I	A	6	1
3	Robert Daoust	II	P	4	1
4	Kelly Charles	IV	P	10	1
5	David Blattner, Chair	I	P	10	1
6	Matthew McIntosh	C	A	3	2
7	Whitney Dutton	IV	P	9	2
8	Carolann Mazza	III	P	9	2
9	Jason Kirchhoff	II	A	0	1
10	Vacant Position	III	-	-	-
11	Jason Hignite	M	A	1	2

Staff Present

Public Works Department
Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager
Stefan Perritano, Sustainability Coordinator, Staff Liaison
Carla Blair, Prototype, Inc.

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Blattner at 6:05 p.m. The roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A **motion** to approve the November 28, 2022, minutes as presented was made by Ms. Thordin and seconded by Ms. Charles. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Staff Liaison Report

Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit Recap

Mr. Hadwen reported on the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit. He shared that approximately 800 attendees had gathered in Fort Lauderdale, with 20 members of City staff from various departments taking part. He discussed highlights, including an update of the regional climate action plan and a variety of speakers. He noted one speaker had discussed setting a target limit for sea level rise and potential impacts of a single ice shelf in Antarctica breaking off.

Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance

Mr. Hadwen shared a brief update on the progress of the Ordinance. He stated it was slated for a brief presentation at the December 21, 2022, Planning and Zoning Board (PZB) meeting and the consideration for approval at the January 18, 2023 PZB meeting.

Presentations

LEED for Cities Update

Mr. Perritano presented an update on the City's progress toward certification in the LEED for Cities program. He provided a brief overview of the program, and the areas staff was pursuing for qualification. He reviewed data gathered, partnerships identified, and changes to the population of Fort Lauderdale. He stated staff was submitting credits to garner approximately 65 points in the certification and hoping for Gold level certification.

Mr. Hadwen stated Mr. Perritano had working hard on the submission, and noted the next steps were submission, followed by a review of any comment, revisions, and then final submittal.

A question-and-answer segment ensued.

Presentation is attached.

New Business

2023 SAB Agenda Planning

Mr. Hadwen reviewed the list of topics identified for the Board's focus in 2023. He discussed the Sustainability Division's status with each and identified potential speakers.

Mr. Perritano asked the Board for feedback on topics they wanted to add or remove from the list. Discussion ensued regarding pending Ordinances, the Commission's top priorities, and the history of items identified on the list.

Ms. Thordin suggested walkability and a clean water initiative be added to the list. Mr. Hadwen stated a speaker from the Transportation and Mobility team may be appropriate to address walkability.

The Board reviewed the list and Consensus was to adopt a revised list of priorities for 2023 as follows:

- Citywide Vulnerability Assessment
- Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
- Renewable Solar Energy
- Seawall Ordinance
- Living Seawalls
- Walkability and Multimodal Transportation
- Clean Water Initiative

Old Business

Mr. Hadwen noted there would be an election for Chair and Vice Chair at the January meeting.

Proposed Communication

Allow Virtual Presentations for Board Meetings

Discussion continued regarding submission of a Communication to the City Commission addressing the use of virtual speakers in Board meetings, and the following was drafted:

The Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) provides the following Communication to the City Commission:

The Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) requests that the City of Fort Lauderdale allow invited presenters to participate virtually in City Board meetings when in-person participation is not feasible due to distance and/or logistics. It is SAB's understanding that the City's current policy does not allow virtual presentations to City advisory boards.

The SAB is charged with a specific mission to research and provide recommendations to the City Commission regarding climate change, sea level rise, resource use, conservation, renewable energy, energy efficiency while considering ecological, economic, and social equities. Due to these unique issues, many of the experts who have the insight to help Fort Lauderdale identify best practices for these difficult challenges do not live within driving distance of the City.

For its November meeting, the SAB invited a government official from Coral Gables to present on technical aspects of his City's electric vehicle ordinance. Due to the distance and timing of the meeting, the speaker would have been only available to present virtually and, therefore, he could not participate. This "in-person only" policy limits the SAB to learning from subject matter experts only in our local area.

Therefore, the SAB requests that the Commission engage the City Manager and City Attorney in a discussion to consider allowing advisory boards to receive virtual presentations. This policy change will increase the SAB's ability to bring forth best practices in its recommendations to the City Commission and have the added benefit of reducing the carbon footprint of speaker travel.

A **motion** to approve the Communication to the City Commission as discussed was made by Ms. Mazza and seconded by Ms. Thordin. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Comments

Ms. Mazza noted this was her last Board meeting prior to the end of her term. She stated she had served on the Board for six (6) years.

Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Perritano stated he would present on potential ordinance revisions to reduce the urban heat island effect, such as requiring cool roofs and hardscapes at the January meeting, including a proposed communication.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. The next meeting of the SAB will be held on January 23, 2023.