

**DRAFT**

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD  
Fort Lauderdale Fire Station 2  
Third Floor Conference Room  
528 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311  
May 20, 2024 – 6:00 PM**

<b>Cumulative Attendance</b>					
<b>1/2024 through 12/2024</b>					
	<b>Members</b>	<b>Appt by</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>1</b>	Sofia Thordin, Vice Chair	M	A	4	1
<b>2</b>	Vacant	I	-	-	-
<b>3</b>	Robert Daoust	II	P	3	2
<b>4</b>	Kelly Charles	IV	P	4	1
<b>5</b>	David Blattner, Chair	I	P	4	1
<b>6</b>	Suzee Bailey (at 6:03)	C	P	4	1
<b>7</b>	Whitney Dutton	IV	P	4	1
<b>8</b>	Cameron Steagall	III	A	2	3
<b>9</b>	Jason Kirchhoff	II	P	4	1
<b>10</b>	Vacant	III	-	-	-
<b>11</b>	Nicole Barnette	M	P	3	0

**Staff Present**

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager  
Luz Ramirez, Sustainability Analyst, Staff Liaison  
Mallory Jones, Sustainability Administrator  
Dr. Nancy J. Gassman, Assistant Director Public Works – Sustainability  
Jamie Opperee, Prototype

**Guests**

Dr. Jennifer Jurado, Broward County Chief Resilience Officer  
Tricia Halliday

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair David Blattner. The roll was called, and a quorum was present.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

A **motion** to approve the April 15, 2024, minutes as presented was made by Mr. Daoust and seconded by Mr. Dutton. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

## **Staff Liaison Report**

### **Net Zero Update**

Ms. Ramirez stated meetings with the consultant had been bi-weekly since the kick-off in April. She noted discussion is currently focused on branding concepts and outreach.

### **Solar at Warfield Park**

Ms. Ramirez shared that Parks and Recreation Department was coupling bond funds with \$75,000 received from Florida Power and Light (FPL) to install solar in Warfield Park.

Mr. Hadwen advised that there was remaining funding from FPL, and installation of solar on the fleet building was being investigated.

Ms. Jones noted provided additional details, explaining the original Parks and Recreation project had included solar installation at the Community Center but there had not been sufficient budget.

*Ms. Bailey arrived at 6:03 p.m.*

### **Energy Savings Trees**

Ms. Ramirez stated 75 new crape myrtle trees had been donated by the Florida Forest Service. She noted the deadline was extended to the end of May and residents who previously participated were now eligible to receive a second tree.

### **Chief Waterway Officer Communication**

Ms. Ramirez played a video from the City Commission meeting in which Mr. Hadwen presented the Board's Communication supporting establishment of a Chief Waterway Officer position.

Ms. Bailey offered to support staff in communicating to the Commission at future meetings.

### **National Adaptation Forum**

Dr. Gassman shared highlights from the Sixth Annual National Adaptation Forum in Saint Paul, Minnesota. She noted the forum is held every two (2) years and has grown over the past 12 years from 200 people working in climate adaptation to 1,087 this year. She stated sessions included gauging community needs, a continued and growing theme of equity, how climate impacts art, birds, bees, and culture. She added that the forum is interdisciplinary and includes a lot of information.

## **Presentations**

### **Broward County's Resiliency Planning Efforts**

Dr. Jennifer Jurado, Broward County Chief Resilience Officer, made a presentation on the County's resiliency planning efforts, including challenges, influences and trends, previous planning, work with partners, acceleration of sea level rise, adopted standards, updates to drainage infrastructure modeling, resilient redevelopment, planning tools under development, and coordinated efforts to manage water and improve conditions following a rain event or storm surge. She shared examples of seawall performance modeling.

Dr. Gassman commented on the difference in adaptation options between areas west of the salinity control structures and coastal areas. Dr. Jurado discussed opportunities for management through localized systems and reviewed County-wide improvements shown in the modeling. Mr. Daoust asked about coordination with the South Florida Water Management District. Discussion continued briefly.

A question-and-answer segment ensued. Discussion topics included canals and temporary water storage areas, options within the user interface tool, community outreach, funding, clarification of accelerated sea level rise, and how the messaging is received.

#### My Safe Florida Home Program

Ms. Jones shared details of the My Safe Florida matching grant reimbursement program, noting the next round of applications opens July 1. She played a video and provided a brief PowerPoint presentation outlining the program, which provides matching funds for repairs to help homes better withstand storms and prioritizes low-income and senior residents first. She stated the initial home inspection is free, and grant funding is based on that report.

Ms. Charles asked Ms. Jones if she would be able to present at neighborhood association meetings. Ms. Jones confirmed she would be available for presentations. She distributed flyers on the program.

#### New Business

Ms. Charles commented that she had attended Heal the Planet Day the previous month and she had met Xavier DeRoos, who founded a compost program called Renüable that picks up compostable waste and delivers fresh compost.

A **motion** to invite Xavier DeRoos to present at a future meeting was made by Ms. Charles and seconded by Mr. Kirchhoff. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

#### Old Business

None.

#### Proposed Communications

None.

#### Comments

Ms. Charles asked if it was the intent of the Board to skip a meeting over the summer. Discussion ensued, and Mr. Hadwen noted the Commission takes off the month of July.

A **motion** to cancel the July meeting of the SAB was made by Ms. Charles and seconded by Ms. Bailey. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

#### Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Hadwen advised that Todd Hiteshew, Environmental Programs Manager, had agreed to present on PFAS and the City's plans to address the issue in water treatment.

Ms. Bailey asked if the discussion would be limited to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), or would include salt water intrusion, as well. Dr. Gassman stated the City puts out a Water Quality Report annually which tells the concentrations of all primary and secondary chemicals and components of the City's potable water. She advised there is no salt added to Fort Lauderdale's water in the treatment process and noted some utilities use a different aquifer that is brackish and that salt that must be removed, but that is not the case with the City. Discussion continued.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. The next meeting of the SAB will be held on June 24, 2024.