

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Tower 101, Suite 1100
101 NE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
February 24, 2025 – 6:00 PM**

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2025 through 12/2025					
	Members	Appt by	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Robert Daoust	II	A	1	1
2	Kelly Charles	IV	P	2	0
3	David Blattner, Chair	I	P	2	0
4	Suzee Bailey	C	P	2	0
5	Whitney Dutton	IV	A	1	1
6	Robert Landers	III	A	1	1
7	Nicole Barnett	M	P	2	0
8	Vacant	I	-	-	-
9	Vacant	M	-	-	-
10	Vacant	III	-	-	-
11	Vacant	II	-	-	-
12	Parker Jacobson-Bertanzetti, Non-Voting Youth Chair	C	P	2	0

Staff Present

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager
Luz Ramirez, Sustainability Coordinator
Mallory Jones, Sustainability Administrator
Melissa Doyle, Sustainability Division Manager (via Zoom)

Guests

Juliet Gray- Williams, Rock Island HOA
Jon Dickinson (via Zoom)
Mike Flood (via Zoom)
Robin Christians (via Zoom)
Olivia Pickell (via Zoom)

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Mr. Hadwen. Roll was called, and a quorum was not present. At 6:16 p.m. Ms. Bailey joined meeting, and a quorum was achieved.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Ms. Charles, seconded by Ms. Barnett, to approve the January 27, 2025, minutes. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

III. **Liaison Report**

- Interim SAB Liaison

Ms. Ramirez announced she will be stepping in as interim liaison for the time being. Questions can be directed to Ms. Ramirez.

- Urban Forestry Master Plan (UFMP) Public Outreach Meetings

Ms. Ramirez announced that the UFMP outreach meetings are planned for each district, with Districts 2 and 3 scheduled for March, and Districts 1 and 4 scheduled for April. These meetings are tentative and may be changed. Mr. Hadwen added that more information will be shared when the schedules are finalized.

- Public and Fleet Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (EVCS) Kickoff

Ms. Ramirez shared that there was a kickoff meeting with Florida Super Charge last week. This vendor has been awarded a contract to help expand electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure across the City. Ms. Ramirez added that this is a \$650,000 contract scheduled for two years with renewal options.

IV. **Presentations**

Ms. Ramirez noted that the scheduled presentation on electrifying the City fleet is postponed until April. Instead, the Board will continue the discussion of the Net Zero Plan. Ms. Ramirez opened the floor for questions.

V. **New Business**

No new business discussed.

VI. **Old Business**

- Net Zero Plan Adoption Questions

Several members raised questions about the Plan, which were responded to by Mr. Hadwen, Ms. Ramirez, and Mr. Dickinson.

Ms. Barnett raised a question about the background of the Legislative-Adjusted Scenario, and whether it is anticipated that FPL will meet its goals as anticipated in this scenario. Mr. Hadwen responded that, as of today, these goals are still published on the FPL website. Mr. Hadwen continued that many of the items included in the Plan rely on

assumptions of what other parties may do, which are subject to change over time, but that the scenario and assumptions used in the Plan reflect the best information available at the time.

The discussion of the previous question continued with regard to funding opportunities, and whether these opportunities are also likely to change, and whether they are directive or suggestive. Mr. Hadwen responded that funding sources were chosen during the drafting of the Plan, which was finalized before the new administration took office, and are subject to change.

Ms. Barnett also asked a question regarding the definitions for the timeframes in the prioritization framework. Mr. Dickinson (WSP) explained that the timeframes and other prioritization framework fields are qualitative and are prioritized in relation to each other and the relative contribution of each action to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. He indicated that more information about the development of the framework is provided in the Methodology Appendix of the report, but noted that short-term actions are targeted for the next one to two years, while mid-term actions cover three to six years, and anything beyond six years is considered long term.

In response to a follow-up question regarding funding and the priority items in the Plan, Ms. Ramirez reiterated that research for potential funding sources was completed for each action item in the Plan at the time of drafting, but these are subject to change with recent changes to the federal administration. Ms. Ramirez noted that the intention is to continue to seek out potential funding opportunities and that one of the first priorities is to transition the City fleet to EVs.

One member asked whether public education is part of the Plan. Ms. Ramirez indicated that a representative from Raleigh, North Carolina, is scheduled to attend the next Board meeting to discuss EV implementation in Raleigh's fleet. In the following month, the Fort Lauderdale Fleet Services Program Manager is scheduled to attend to discuss the existing Fort Lauderdale fleet and how to best transition to EV. Ms. Ramirez confirmed there will also be public education outreach.

Ms. Charles asked whether the Commission, upon approving the Plan, will be committed to implementing all the Plans' recommended actions. Mr. Hadwen responded that adopting the Plan means the Commissions will aspire to implement its actions, and that moving from recommended actions to implemented actions will require ongoing resources, staff, communication, and funding. He indicated the next steps include bringing specific actions within the Plan to the Board for implementation. In a follow-up conversation, members discussed the importance of not letting the Plan gather dust on the shelf, but pushing for the implementation of actions one at a time; one member

suggested introducing the Plan in parts, rather than all at once, highlighting more feasible items first.

The group discussed the implementation of the Plan in the context of new developments, infrastructure, and buildings that are outside direct City control. Ms. Ramirez noted that several actions in the Plan relate to green buildings and incentives for developers and builders to implement green certifications and that while some of the items are currently preempted at the state level, the Plan calls for advocating at the county and state level to support these initiatives. Mr. Flood (WSP) concluded the conversation by noting having a documented plan is the first step to making it a reality.

No further questions or discussion.

VII. **Proposed Communications**

Ms. Ramirez explained changes to the communication to the City Commission regarding the Plan since the last meeting.

A member of the Board expressed her appreciation for the email Ms. Ramirez sent addressing the alignment of the Plan with the other City plans.

The Board discussed inclusion of language acknowledging the priorities, ambition, and collaboration needed to achieve the items in the Plan in the presentation to the Commission. The Board agreed to send the following Communication to City Commission:

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

On January 27, 2025, the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) received a presentation from Jonathan Dickinson of WSP on the City's Net Zero Plan. This presentation outlined the Plan's findings and recommendations, which serve as a critical foundation for developing forward-thinking City policies to address climate challenges and advance Fort Lauderdale's Net Zero goals. On February 24, 2025 the SAB had the opportunity to engage with WSP representatives once again to address any remaining technical inquiries.

The proposed Net Zero Plan addresses the critical need to mitigate the impacts and challenges that Fort Lauderdale has experienced firsthand through significant climate impacts in recent years. Additionally, the Plan supports the City's existing goals to achieve net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for government operations by 2040 and community-wide by 2050. The Plan is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan, Press Play Fort Lauderdale and Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan.

The Sustainability Advisory Board urges the City Commission to adopt the proposed Net Zero Plan by resolution.

Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
 - Conservation Element
 - Goal 2 Protect and monitor air quality to provide a higher quality of life for the City’s residents and visitors.
- The Infrastructure Focus Area
 - Climate Change Element
 - Goal 1: Develop mitigation and adaptation strategies to reduce emission that contribute to climate change.
 - Goal 2: Achieve a climate-resilient community through the protection and adaptation of public infrastructure, services, and natural resources from adverse climate change impacts.
 - Goal 3: Preserve and enhance the quality of life through advance planning, improved coordination with businesses and local and regional governments, better monitoring of evolving conditions, and equitable provision of resources to address issues related to climate change, and hazard and natural disaster resiliency and recovery.
 - Transportation and Mobility Element
 - Goal 1: Ensure the equitable development of a Complete Network for transportation that prioritizes Safety and emphasizes multimodal mobility and accessibility

Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan

- The Infrastructure and Resilience Focus Area
 - Goal 3: Build a sustainable and resilient community
 - Goal 4: Facilitate an efficient, multimodal transportation network

Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Ready.

A **motion** made by Ms. Charles, seconded by Ms. Barnett, to approve the communication to the City Commission. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

VIII. Comments

Ms. Ramirez noted upcoming events, including the March 8 Water Matters Day.

Chair Blattner announced he will be attending SAB meetings by Zoom for March, April, and June.

IX. Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Hadwen shared the agenda for next month's meeting, including the presentation by a representative from Raleigh, NC, on fleet electrification. Mr. Hadwen noted that he would share some materials to prepare for this meeting.

Ms. Bailey suggested that the Board schedule someone to speak on seawalls to share different designs and styles. Mr. Hadwen noted that seawalls will be discussed in June.

Mr. Hadwen raised the topic of roadway elevation for future Board consideration. The group also discussed the updated Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding program for raising houses and the Community Rating System (CRS) grading system goals. Ms. Ramirez informed the group that the City applied for Federal RAISE grant funding for the Roadway Elevation Master Fund. The group discussed the relationship between raising roadways and raising homes, and the prohibitive cost of raising homes for some people.

Ms. Charles requested a representative from zoning attend a future meeting to discuss requirements for permeable surface coverage, stormwater management, and green space requirement. The Board discussed having someone from the Development Services Department (DSD) come to speak about these requirements at a future meeting.

Additional discussion was held around waste from bars and other establishments on the beach. Ms. Doyle responded that the establishments are responsible for managing their own waste through obligations in their permit to operate, and any violations would go through code compliance. Ms. Doyle stated that she would follow up on those requirements.

A follow-up discussion on waste continued, with suggestions for zero waste events on the beach to prevent waste ending up in waterways. Mr. Hadwen shared that the Net Zero Plan an action to establish a zero waste goal for the City, which includes holding zero waste events.

The group also discussed sustainable procurement and the City's existing Green Procurement Policy.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting of the SAB will be held on March 24, 2025.