



City of Plantation
Green Team

WELCOME MEETING

Agenda



- ◆ Welcome & introduction
- ◆ Why are we doing this?
- ◆ Department action to date
- ◆ Substantiating data – what others are doing
- ◆ How do we start? Step by step process.
- ◆ Summary & conclusion

Why it's important to be “green”



- ◆ Our planet's population is well over the 6.5 billion mark.
- ◆ Billions of people rely on trees, plants, animals, water and other natural resources to build homes, make clothing, protect themselves, and feed their families.
- ◆ A majority of Americans agree that the Earth is getting warmer, but they are divided over the seriousness and the cause of the problem.
- ◆ Whether you agree or not that “global warming” exists, or that it is a serious threat to our environment and our lives, it must be agreed that in order to sustain life on our planet, we need to manage our natural resources wisely.

This has led to the “greening” of our daily lives.

The City's viewpoint



- ◆ The City recognizes that global climate change is a real and valid concern for our generation, and future generations as well.
- ◆ We are committed to reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions, a significant contributor to global climate change.
- ◆ The City of Plantation understands that its employees, residents and businesses have a direct and/or indirect effect on the local, regional and global environment.
- ◆ We believe that successful environmental stewardship will:
 - ◆ enhance local and national energy savings efforts, lessen the City's negative impact on the environment,
 - ◆ protect natural resources for future generations, and
 - ◆ result in long term cost savings.

We want to be a leader in these efforts



- ◆ **Example to residents** – energy efficiency, recycling efforts, waste reduction, water conservation, parks and open space, “green” landscape practices, biodiesel fuels, hybrid vehicles, etc.
- ◆ **Educator to Plantation businesses** – once we have established a benchmark and have shown improvement against that benchmark, develop seminars, workshops, newsletters, e-mail blasts to show benefits of sustainable practices
- ◆ **Influencer to Plantation development and redevelopment** – updated zoning ordinances and land use plans, review all plans for sustainable practices, encourage all new construction and remodeling developers to incorporate “green” practices whenever and wherever they can

“We were green before green was cool!”

Mayor Rae Carole Armstrong
Plantation Green Expo, June 2008



Survey of City departments reveals:

- ◆ Launched the City's "Green Resources" page on Plantation.org
- ◆ The City encourages sustainable practices in all new development and redevelopment
- ◆ Working to replace many everyday household items (cleaning products, paper goods, light bulbs, coffee cups, etc.) with more "eco friendly" and quite frankly less expensive alternatives
- ◆ City thermostats have been replaced with programmable thermostats
- ◆ Researching alternative fuel sources
- ◆ Volunteers from the community take cell phones to Women in Distress; computer ink cartridges go to a company called Enviro-Tek for recycling

More City initiatives ...



- ◆ Whenever possible, Aquatics Division used rain water to backwash pool filters and the Tennis Division recycles tennis rackets
- ◆ We have implemented (or are working towards) several paperless initiatives (Council agenda, online permitting, online job applications, employee timesheets, etc.)
- ◆ Many of our departments current use glass mugs instead of paper and plastic, turn off monitors at night, recycle and reuse glass, paper, plastic, office supplies
- ◆ And of course everyone's favorite: recycle scrap copy paper to make note pads!

We are not alone!



- ◆ On February 16, 2005, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels launched the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement initiative to advance the goals of the Kyoto Protocol (the international standard for reducing harmful carbon emissions).
- ◆ His hope was that at least 141 cities (mirroring the number of countries that signed the Protocol) would support the Agreement through leadership and action.
- ◆ **To date, over 700 cities have signed the agreement, including the City of Plantation.**

We are not alone!



A recent U.S. Conference of Mayor-sponsored survey reveals more cities than ever:

- ◆ are using alternative fuels or hybrid-electric technology
- ◆ use renewable energy sources such as wind, sun and hydro-power
- ◆ require City buildings and private sector development to be energy efficient, healthy and environmentally sustainable
- ◆ have a climate protection activities coordinator on staff
- ◆ Believe that reducing greenhouse gasses is part of their efforts to address public health concerns (improving air quality, encouraging active living)
- ◆ will utilize funds available through the Energy Environmental Block Grant (now pending in Congress) to improve community energy efficiency and institute or encourage green building practices

We are not alone!



- ◆ In 2007, venture capital funding for clean technology was **5.18 billion, up 44% from 2006**
- ◆ In 2006 California's governor signed law AB32, which mandates that the state's GHG emissions be cut to 1990 levels by 2020 – a 25% reduction

Certification and Validation



There are many organizations that provide green certification or rankings:

- ◆ **Florida Green Building Coalition’s “Green Local Government”**
- ◆ ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability “STAR Community Index”
International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives
- ◆ Popular Science magazines “50 Greenest Cities in America”
- ◆ Alternative & Renewable Energy Institute “Top 10 Green Cities”
- ◆ Country Home “Best Green Places”
- ◆ MSN CityGuides “10 Greenest Cities in America”
- ◆ SustainLane’s “US City Rankings”
- ◆ National Geographic “Top 10 Green Cities in US”

Plantation has selected ...



“Green Local Government”

- ◆ Developed for Florida by Florida organizations
- ◆ The **Florida Green Building Coalition** contributed to development of the Standard and now oversees all certifications
- ◆ Created under a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Florida Energy Office
- ◆ The Florida Solar Energy Center developed the working Standard
- ◆ The Miami Dade Department of Environmental Resources Management put together educational modules on fleet management and on landscape maintenance
- ◆ Sarasota , Alachua and Miami-Dade counties and the City of Gainesville helped with creation and review of the standard
- ◆ City of Orlando representatives also participated in its development
- ◆ Endorsed by Florida League of Cities



How do we become a Green Local Government?

Preliminary Steps

Step 1 – Identify leadership



Identify an Advocate or Champion

- ◆ Mayor Armstrong

Identify a Project Coordinator

- ◆ Susan DiLaura, Administration/PR
- ◆ Carlos Andres Gonzalez, Redevelopment Administrator/CRA Office

Step 2 – Create context



- ◆ What is our intended outcome? What is it that we are trying to do?

***Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions,
a significant contributor to global climate change.***

- ◆ How can we do this?

***Develop and implement innovative and clear-cut
policies and procedures that will reduce or eliminate
the City's negative impact on the environment
and our natural surroundings.***



Impact areas:

We need to create policies and procedures that have a positive impact on:

- ◆ **Energy and air**
 - Transportation policies and opportunities
 - Alternative fuels usage
 - Tree planting and landscape
- ◆ **Water conservation**
- ◆ **Waste management**
 - Recycling and materials reuse
- ◆ **Health**
 - Reduce pollution (greenhouse gas emissions) levels
- ◆ **Land use**
 - Public open space
 - Smart growth and green urban design
- ◆ **Awareness**
 - Education and outreach

Broward County goals



The goals of Broward County's climate change program are to:

- ◆ develop and implement projects and incentives for residents, businesses, and organizations to conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gases (GHG);
- ◆ develop and implement adaptation strategies to alleviate the likely adverse consequences of climate change;
- ◆ provide education and outreach to encourage Broward County residents, businesses and organizations to participate in the program; and
- ◆ pursue federal and state grants, energy cost savings, and other financial resources to off-set program costs.

Step 3 – Identify a Task Force



Task Force – internal action group:

- ◆ Daniel Keefe, Administration
- ◆ Jeff Sabouri, Building
- ◆ Jeri Cronin, Building
- ◆ Susan Slattery, City Clerk
- ◆ Danny Ezzeddine, Design & Const
- ◆ Brett Butler, Engineering
- ◆ Juan Figueroa, Engineering
- ◆ Herb Herriman, Finance
- ◆ Julie Musolino, Finance
- ◆ Chief Robert Pudney, Fire
- ◆ Denise Johnson, Fire
- ◆ Robert Castro, Info Tech
- ◆ Jeffery Siegel, Landscape Arch
- ◆ Patrice Sonnelitter, Landscape Arch
- ◆ Sue Reed, Landscape Arch
- ◆ Monika Knapp, Library
- ◆ Deb Wallace, Library
- ◆ Jim Romano, Parks & Rec
- ◆ Margie Moale, HR
- ◆ Jillian Tang How, HR
- ◆ Larry Leeds, PZED
- ◆ Elisabeth Bryant, PZED
- ◆ Chief Larry Massey, Police
- ◆ Frank DeCelles, Public Works
- ◆ Brian Law, Public Works
- ◆ Hank Breitenkam, Utilities
- ◆ Larry Duemmling, Utilities
- ◆ Edwill Rivas, Utilities

Step 4 – Make a formal commitment



Update City's mission statement to include sustainable component (ex):

“Continually improve citizens’ quality of life through the provision of value-driven, **environmentally supportive**, quality public services and facilities that reflect the expectations of Plantation residents and the business community.”

Resolutions before City Council

- ◆ Highlights the importance elected officials place on creating policy and procedures that support a sustainable lifestyle
- ◆ Serves as another opportunity to educate the public

What resolutions?



Existing legislation and initiatives that we can support:

- ◆ Adoption of a resolution in support of **FGBC's Green Local Government** and the US Conference of Mayors **Climate Protection Agreement**
- ◆ Adoption of an **Environmental Charter** specifying objectives
- ◆ Adoption of a **Green City Action Plan**
- ◆ Adoption of an **Environmental Advisory Committee**
- ◆ Adoption of green building codes

Step 5 –Advisory Committee



- ◆ **External** group of citizens representing the community, businesses, consultant groups, private citizens – anyone with a passion for creating a greener, more environmentally friendly community
- ◆ May be created by proclamation
- ◆ Establishes commitment and accountability
- ◆ Helps promote future acceptance of new practices by community at large

Step 6 – Research



- ◆ Establish a baseline – benchmark current usage and existing programs and initiatives

- ✓ Fuel
- ✓ Water
- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Electricity

Raw data for June 2007 – July 2008; will be requesting data from August and September to create one full fiscal year (October 2007 – September 2008) to compare year-over-year results.

- ◆ Identify and assess barriers and challenges

Step 7 – Develop a Plan



- ◆ Set a target (ex. reduce XX by 10% by September 30, 2009)
- ◆ Develop an **Action Plan** to achieve targets
- ◆ Implement the **Action Plan**
- ◆ Measure results against baseline

Using FGBC Green Local Government Standards criteria as our Action Plan

- ◆ Helps achieve Green Local Government Standards certification
- ◆ Can tie back to our benchmark of fuel, paper, water and electricity and hopefully show improvements in those areas over time

Summary



- ◆ To paraphrase President John F. Kennedy when he spoke to the UN General Assembly in 1963:

“The effort to improve the condition of man ... is not a task for the few. It is a task of all – acting alone, acting in groups ... The earth, the sea and the air are the concern of every nation.”

That is what we must commit to do today.