



COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Dan Gelber and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: May 16, 2018

SUBJECT: MEETING OF THE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY COMMITTEE (SRC)
ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018

A meeting of the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee was held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 in the City Manager's Commission Chambers in attendance: Commissioner Micky Steinberg, Commissioner John Elizabeth Aleman, Commissioner Ricky Arriola, and Commissioner Mark Samuelian. Members of the administration and the public were also in attendance.

1. DISCUSSION ON THE SEAWALL COALITION MEMBERSHIP FOR THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH

ACTION: Item deferred to June 20, 2018 Sustainability and Resiliency Committee.

2. DISCUSSION URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO CREATE A MIAMI-DADE COUNTY GREEN COMMITTEE COALITION TO BRING TOGETHER THE VARIOUS CITIZEN SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEES IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

After-Action

Environment & Sustainability Director, Elizabeth Wheaton, presented the item. She explained that the idea was proposed by Sustainability Committee member, Luiz Rodriguez, and sponsored by Commissioner Michael Gongora. The goal of the coalition is to bring together the chairs of all green and sustainable committees throughout Miami-Dade County.

ACTION: Motion to urge the county to support the creation of a Green Committee Coalition. Motion made by Commissioner Arriola, seconded by Commissioner Aleman.

3. REFERRAL TO THE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY COMMITTEE REGARDING RESILIENCY DESIGN ELEMENTS AT P-LOT PARK

After-Action

Commissioner Mark Samuelian introduced the item. He highlighted the investments being made for green infrastructure and requested three main topics to be covered in the discussion:

- How can Miami Beach use parks to make the city more resilient?
- What is in the current plan to address resiliency?
- What might the city do, in context of other demands for the parks, to incorporate resiliency to plans?

Project Director of the Convention Center District, Maria Hernandez presented on the future project site plan.

Environment & Sustainability Director, Elizabeth Wheaton highlighted the department's collaboration with the convention center to consider elements such as living shorelines, and expressed that the Convention Center will be a model project.

Commissioner Micky Steinberg welcomed the public to speak in reference to the item.

Members of the public addressed the committee.

Ms. Hernandez explained Design Miami has a six year contract to bring their show to the convention center during Art Basel week. She noted concerns from other residents in reference to the number of canopy trees and explained the number of canopy trees in the original design has not change.

Commissioner Samuelian asked if the current design can be considered a stormwater park that will help manage stormwater issues.

Ms. Wheaton explained this project would not be considered as a stormwater park but it is a vast improvement from the original design and has an integrated approach to retain stormwater on site. The city and Florida International University (FIU) are in frequent communications on how to incorporate elements such as living shorelines to create habitat and treat stormwater nearby roads.

Commissioner Ricky Arriola noted that in response to resident concerns, the city will be adding 12 acres of green space.

Commissioner Samuelian directed staff to look into FIU's findings and ideas to see if any additional elements can be considered in the design. Ms. Wheaton explained that because this is a contaminated site, it presents an obstacle in terms of stormwater management elements. Commissioner Micky Steinberg suggested that Ms. Wheaton provide updates to the committee about these elements being incorporated into other park designs.

Commissioner Steinberg suggested that it could be a good opportunity to have a uniformed approach to see what can be considered in all future projects.

Commissioner Samuelian inquired on which upcoming park project could provide a good opportunity for resiliency elements.

Ms. Wheaton suggested a conversation with CIP Director David Martinez and Parks & Recreation Director, John Rebar, but noted that Brittany Bay Park has opportunity incorporate enhanced elements.

Commissioner Samuelian asked to hear updates on Brittany Bay Park and other future projects.

ACTION: No further action taken.

4. SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

After-Action

Sustainability Specialist and Liaison to the Sustainability Committee, Yanira Pineda gave a summary of the March 24, 2018 meeting on behalf of the Committee Chair, Dave Doeblér. Ms. Pineda highlighted the stormwater system discussion presented by Public Works Director, Roy Coley, and Assistant Director of Environment and Sustainability, Margarita Wells. She also mentioned the discussion on the city's recycling program. Ms. Pineda added the county will be present at the next Sustainability Committee to discuss how the city can improve beach recycling operations.

Commissioner Aleman asked Assistant City Manager and Chief Resiliency Officer, Susanne Torriente to consider time to synthesize the feedback given from Urban Land Institute (ULI) before taking action. Commissioner Aleman mentioned that the Harvard study action moved too quickly, and that it should be a standing agenda item for the Sustainability & Resiliency Committee to take recommendations and observations so that it can be incorporated into the city's Work Plan.

Ms. Torriente explained that the City Manager directed staff to choose four of the twelve recommendations within the Harvard report to implement into their work. Ms. Torriente suggested that this could be a starting point for the ULI Report.

Commissioner Samuelian suggested that operations in the current stormwater plan also be included as a standing item.

ACTION: No further action taken.

5. REVIEW OF RESILIENCE STRATEGY WORKPLAN – PLANNED AND IN PROGRESS RESILIENCY PROJECTS.

After-Action

Relationship Manager from 100 Resilient Cities (100RC), Eric Wilson gave an update on the 100RC resiliency strategy processes including the discovery areas and their current phase. Ms. Torriente explained that Mr. Wilson is in town on behalf of 100RC.

Ms. Torriente gave a detailed overview of the Work Plan. She explained both Greater Miami and the Beaches and Resilient Miami Beach booklets will be produced next year and will include different milestones and research.

Commissioner Arriola suggested that while thinking of reports done by ULI and Harvard, he hopes to see a diversified consideration of other issues, such as housing, transportation, jobs, etc. in the resiliency plans.

Ms. Torriente ensured that the 100RC discovery cover those topics.

Commissioner Aleman asked that Ms. Torriente consider a press release with the two deliverables: 1. Design guidelines for Resilient Historic preservation 2. A business case for resiliency.

ACTION: No further action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59 PM.