

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: November 9, 2016

SUBJECT: MEETING OF THE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY COMMITTEE (SRC) ON  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2016

A meeting of the Sustainability and Resiliency Committee was held on Wednesday, October 26, 2016, in the Commission Chambers, 3rd Floor of City Hall. Commissioners in attendance: Commissioner Micky Steinberg, Commissioner Ricky Arriola, Commissioner Joy Malakoff, Commissioner Kristen Rosen-Gonzalez, and Commissioner Michael Grieco. Members of the Administration and the public were also in attendance.

Meeting was called to order at: 1:06 PM

### **Action Items**

1. **Discussion on Prohibiting Contractors From Using Roundup And Other Chemicals Labeled As Carcinogens In Public Spaces.**

#### **AFTER-ACTION**

Rodney Knowles, Greenspace Division Director presented the item. He explained that the City follows an integrated pest management (IPM) plan when treating for pests. Millicent McFadden, Parks Superintendent gave a presentation on the landscaping around the City Hall area. She explained how both Florida Friendly Landscaping methods and IPM are incorporated to ensure that the most resilient plants are placed throughout the City's public spaces

Commissioner Rosen-Gonzales inquired about using Lincoln Road as an opportunity for educating the public. She stated that the return on investment will make the cost of the project worth moving forward with.

Commissioner Arriola inquired about whether these practices can be incorporated in Maurice Gibb Park redesign. Ms. McFadden stated that these practices are standard for the Parks and Recreation Department and the best option to ensure this is to consider it during the design phase of a project.

Commissioner Malakoff asked that educational labels outlining the species benefits be incorporated throughout the City.

**MOTION:** Motion to draft a resolution for approval by the City Commission directing City Departments to incorporate best practices for landscaping to include the use Florida Native Species and proper guidelines when redeveloping parks and City owned land.

Motion Made by Commissioner Arriola, Seconded by Commissioner Rosen-Gonzalez

**MOTION:** Motion to refer the Florida Friendly Landscaping Plan for City Hall, including an educational component to the City Commission for approval.

Motion Made by Commissioner Rosen-Gonzalez, Seconded by Commissioner Arriola.

## **2. Discussion on the City's Anti-Idling Policy**

**ACTION:** Continued to the November 16, 2016 Sustainability and Resiliency Committee.

### **Discussion Items**

## **3. Discussion Regarding the Securing and Storage Of Commercial Dumpsters.**

### **AFTER-ACTION**

Item presented by Sara Saunders, Code Compliance Manager. She explained that there were concerns regarding the overflowing of commercial and residential dumpsters. She explained that dumpsters are required to have a tight fitting lid and those that do not, are subject to a fine. She added that Code has been enforcing sanitation issues strongly as a result of concerns over Zika.

Commissioner Grieco inquired about shortcomings in the policies we have in place that could hinder the City's ability to enforce this code. Ms. Saunders replied that code works with the owners of these containers to reduce the risk of repeat offences.

Commissioner Steinberg inquired about construction roll offs and whether they are covered in the code. Ms. Saunders explained construction roll offs not required to be covered. This only applies to when they're relocated and its legislated by the state. Commissioner Steinberg asked that the item be continued to November with the attachment of the full code for commercial, residential, and construction containers.

**ACTION:** Continued to the November 16, 2016 Sustainability and Resiliency Committee.

## **4. Discussion regarding implementing cigarette butt receptacles in high pedestrian traffic areas.**

### **AFTER-ACTION**

Elizabeth Wheaton, Environment and Sustainability Director presented the item. The Sustainability Committee passed a motion to increase the amount of cigarette ashtrays around the City. The only ashtrays within the City are found on the Coca-Cola dual bins located on Lincoln Road. Sanitation recommended that any additional ashtrays be placed on existing bins. She also explained that the Surfrider Foundation has an ashtray program that is being used in California.

Commissioner Rosen-Gonzalez, asked if any bins have the ashtrays in the center of the bin which may be a better option than buying new ashtrays that may not be compatible with current bins.

Dave Doeblor, Sustainability Committee Chair, presented on the ashtray offered by the Surfrider Foundation.

Commissioner Grieco explained that Surfrider has been a great partner with the City and that the ashtrays should be placed in high traffic areas, not just trash receptacles. He added that attaching them onto existing street furniture should not deter from regular sanitation services. Mr. Doeblor added that Huntington Beach had Surfrider take over the emptying of the ashtrays for one year.

**ACTION:** Item referred by acclamation to the Finance & Citywide Projects Committee for review.

5. **Discussion to possibly draft legislation regarding balloon releases on city property or elsewhere.**

*Commission Item C4J, September 14, 2016  
(Requested by Commissioner Grieco)*

**AFTER-ACTION**

Elizabeth Wheaton, Environment and Sustainability Director presented the item. The state of Florida prohibits the release balloons. She added that some local municipalities that have passed ordinances. She explained that more and more events have been interested releasing balloons and flying lanterns.

Commissioner Grieco explained that a local phone company released balloons on the City's right of way.

Commissioner Rosen-Gonzalez stated that it's a noble idea but that it may increase the size of our code and could be considered over regulation

Commissioner Steinberg recommended an educational campaign in place of new legislation.

Members of the public addressed the committee.

**ACTION:** No further action taken.

6. **Discussion on the potential expansion of the big belly trashcan program.**

**AFTER-ACTION**

Item presented by Eric Carpenter, Assistant City Manager. He explained that the City has had Big Belly's in place for 9 months and staff would like to expand upon it. Mr. Carpenter stated that when used in the right application, the program successful but it is still too soon to determine whether the Miami Beach is ready for a City-wide program.

Commissioner Rosen-Gonzalez inquired about the best locations for the bin. Mr. Carpenter responded that they best work in parks and commercial areas where city staff is already deployed for regular sanitation services.

Commissioner Malakoff added that there is a challenge when placing the large sized bins in areas where sidewalk space is limited. Eric Carpenter agreed that size is a challenge and that the second challenge is the huge increase in cost if the program is expanded.

Commissioner Steinberg suggested that an operational and financial analysis be conducted to understand the program.

Members of the public addressed the committee.

**MOTION:** Item referred by acclamation to the Finance & Citywide Projects Committee operational and financial analysis.

Motion made by Commissioner Arriola, seconded by Commissioner Rose-Gonzalez

7. **Discussion to Consider a Motion by the Sustainability Committee to Eliminate the Use of Bare/Unencapsulated Polystyrene in Private and Public Waters in the City of Miami Beach**

**AFTER-ACTION**

Elizabeth Wheaton, Environment and Sustainability Director presented the item. She provided a background on the prohibition of polystyrene within the City. She explained that polystyrene in floatable docks was not addressed during this prohibition.

Commissioner Rosen-Gonzalez stated that the Yacht Show is an event in which these docks have historically been a problem. However, the event has agreed to replace all exposed polystyrene docks by 2018.

Members of the public addressed the committee.

**ACTION:** Environment and Sustainability staff to work with legal on drafting a resolution to prohibit the use of bare/unencapsulated polystyrene docks. Action approved by acclamation.

**MOTION:** Staff to draft a resolution urging the County, State, and the Coast Guard to discontinue the use of bare/unencapsulated polystyrene docks.

Motion made by Commissioner Rosen-Gonzalez, Seconded by Commissioner Arriola.

### **Verbal Reports**

#### **8. Mayor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Flooding and Sea Level Rise**

##### **AFTER-ACTION**

Scott Robins, Committee Chairman presented the item. He provided an overview of the many projects that the city is undertaking and spoke about the recent king tide events. He also commended the City on its many efforts to address the king tides and reduce the impact of flooding.

**ACTION:** No further action taken.

#### **9. Sustainability Committee**

##### **AFTER-ACTION**

Dave Doeblar, Committee Chairman presented the item. He informed the committee of the Green Business initiative that Staff and the committee is currently researching. This program will incentivize business to incorporate sustainable practices.

**ACTION:** No further action taken.

#### **10. Resiliency Strategy**

##### **AFTER-ACTION**

Susanne Torriente, Assistant City Manager/ Chief Resiliency Officer explained the status of the 100 Resilient Cities partnership and the current successes.

Amy Knowles, Deputy Resiliency Officer presented on the current status of the resiliency work plan. The City was selected by a think tank called Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES) to come down and pilot a United Nations disaster score card to understand the City's strengths and weaknesses.

Susanne Torriente added that the city of Miami Beach will be joining a new resiliency coalition called Resiliency Florida to advocate for funding and policy for flooding and sea level rise.

**ACTION:** No further action taken.

JLM/SMT/ESW/FCT/YP