

MIAMIBEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

Sustainability Committee Chairperson

David Doebler – Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg

Members of the Sustainability Committee

Jeremy Waks- Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber

David Doebler – Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg

Mohammed Islam - Appointed by Commissioner Mark Samuelian

Luiz Rodrigues- Appointed by Commissioner Michael Góngora

Mike Gibaldi - Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola

Max Litt - Appointed by Commissioner John Elizabeth Alemán

Chris Duggan – Appointed by Commissioner Joy Malakoff

DATE: May 28, 2019

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee has been scheduled for May 28, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Manager's Small Conference Room, 4th Floor, City Hall.

The attendees were as follows: Dave Doebler, Luiz Rodrigues, Mohammed Islam, Max Litt, Chris Duggan, Mike Gibaldi, and Jeremy Waks

City Staff: Elizabeth Wheaton, Environment and Sustainability Director; Roy Coley, Public Works Director; Flavia Tonioli, Sustainability Manager; Yanira Pineda, Sustainability Specialist; and Alyssia Berthoumieux, Sustainability Specialist.

Members Absent: None

Minutes

1. Committee Responsibilities

- a. **MOTION:** Motion to approve the March 26, 2019 minutes with corrections to the HEV sentence. Motion made by Mike Gibaldi, seconded by Chris Duggan.

2. Sustainability and Resiliency Committee Overview - Yanira Pineda, Sustainability Specialist, provided a quick overview of the discussions held during the last meeting.

3. Sustainability Committee Work Plan

a. Old Business

- i. **Fleet Assessment** – Yanira Pineda, Sustainability Specialist, introduced the item. She explained this was an ongoing discussion from the last month's meeting with the goal to develop a clearer motion. Chris Duggan highlighted the importance of reducing CO2 across the board which would help with addressing the larger issue. **MOTION:** Motion to support all efforts to make the reduction of CO2 emissions a primary focus of the fleet assessment, including providing appropriate funding, considering total cost of ownership, and prioritizing the use of electric vehicles. Motion made by Chris Duggan, Seconded by Jeremy Waks. Flavia Tonioli, Sustainability Manager, gave a quick update on EV charging stations

- throughout the city.
- ii. **Special Event Guidelines** – Elizabeth Wheaton, Environment and Sustainability Director presented the item. She explained that Environment and Sustainability worked with Tourism and Culture to update the guidelines. She added that over the summer, city staff would hold a Special Events University for event producers in the city. The workshop would showcase best practices that producers can adopt when planning and executing events and includes sustainability elements. Yanira Pineda mentioned the Special Event Guidelines were approved by commission and included the recommendations provided the committee.
 - iii. **Waste Hauler Contract** – Elizabeth Wheaton presented the item. She explained city staff was negotiating the terms of the contract with the haulers. Part of the ongoing discussions include increasing the percentage provided to sustainability initiatives, which is how all of the department’s sustainability programs are funded. Dave Doeblner inquired on whether the negotiations include mandating appropriate signage for bins. Ms. Wheaton stated that based on the committee’s recommendations, the city asked the haulers to include mandatory signage. She explained the request included using clear, simplified, bi-lingual signage. Luiz Rodrigues inquired about recycling glass. Ms. Pineda informed him that buildings not recycling the correct items could be directed to the Environment and Sustainability Department.

b. **New Business**

- i. **Sargassum Discussion** – Elizabeth Wheaton presented the item. She explained the responsibility for maintaining the beaches belongs to Miami-Dade County and removing seaweed on a daily basis was expensive. Miami Beach has requested that the county initiate a pilot project where they will remove seaweed from heavily accumulated areas such as 29 street in order to address the concerns that have been seen there. She mentioned there was a meeting set with county commissioners to further push the importance of this issues. Ms. Wheaton noted that keeping the sargassum on site provides many ecological benefits including keeping sand on the beach. Luiz Rodrigues mentioned he learned from a workshop that the source of the seaweed was from high numbers of nutrients in the water within the southern Caribbean.
- ii. **Flood Mitigation Review** - Roy Coley, Public Works Director presented the item. He explained Public Works is working with Jacobs on putting together a document that outlines the incorporation of blue and green infrastructure in the city and assessing the city’s road raising policy. Mr. Doeblner inquired on whether water quality was being addressed within these efforts. Mr. Coley explained that integrated water management includes addressing water quality. He suggested Mr. Doeblner attend the pubic meetings to get more clarification on their efforts in this subject. Mr. Rodriguez inquired on Best Management Practices (BMPS) already in place by South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) which includes utilizing shallow injection wells. Mr. Coley explained that gravity based, injection wells were only successful in areas of the city with high elevations. Mr. Rodriguez inquired on the use of retention ponds. Mr. Coley responded this was also being reviewed by Jacobs as an option.

4. **Public Comment and Announcements**

- a. **G.O. Bond Update** – Max Litt, committee representative for the G. O. Bond oversight committee, provided an update on the last meeting held. He expressed that he did not encounter any issues with incorporating sustainability and resiliency into three projects. He further explained at this point, the committee meets to vet the projects and sequence them into the four tranches. The goal of the committee was mainly to ensure the projects make sense and align with public priority.