

Draft Regional Climate Action Plan



EF-1 Advance energy efficiencies, energy conservation and the deployment of alternative and/or renewable energy technologies.

- Provide action examples for local governments: changes to local ordinances, incentives, education and energy efficiency financing strategies.
- · Provide action examples for regional agencies: incentives and education.
- Work with stakeholders to maintain the Florida Energy Code and define the responsibilities of each trade to improve compliance and enforcement.
- Follow county targets for greenhouse gas emissions reductions to assist with the regional reduction of emissions.
- · Deploy energy efficient fixtures to the greatest extent possible.
- Support and advocate for utilities to develop competitive rates for efficient outdoor lighting.
- Develop policies requiring all utilities to collect aggregated whole-building data from the local government jurisdiction's largest buildings and provide this data to building owners or managers and local government representatives for benchmarking and identifying opportunities to reduce water and energy usage.
- Develop policies to regularly audit, benchmark and/or retro-commission government and private buildings.

**EF-2** Increase the accessibility to alternative and renewable energy technologies through regional collaboration on the exploration and promotion of financing options, incentives and reductions in soft costs.

- Improve demand for renewable technology through regional collaboration on grant application.
- Adopt a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program or other financial platforms
- · Provide county incentives for solar.

**EF-3** Work with land planning groups to amend existing land development regulations and development standards to encourage the installation and use of renewable systems. Revise or eliminate provisions that act as a barrier.

- Reform permitting processes, reduce fees, make permitting rules clear and readily available, expedite the
  permitting process and make inspections convenient for property owners.
- Adjust zoning policies to better accommodate energy efficient practices and renewable energy.
- Install solar panels on public buildings and encourage local governments to promote solar energy by installing solar panels and signing solar power purchase agreements for public buildings.
- Adopt and preserve strong statewide interconnection and net metering policies.
- Implement policies that support energy storage, electric vehicle smart charging and microgrids.
- Require new properties to be "solar ready" or include a minimum amount of solar energy production per property.



With funding support from:

THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

**EF-4** Increase fuel efficient fleets and promote plug-in electric vehicles. Determine locations where infrastructure and/or battery switching stations are needed. Designate solar charging and other renewable options as a priority to maximize emission-reduction benefits and improve the community's emergency management preparedness in times of power outages.

- Establish a working group of public and private stakeholders to develop a strategy to promote the use of plug-in electric vehicles in the region.
- Develop policies to provide incentives for the deployment of infrastructure to complement transitoriented corridors, including preferred and/or reduced parking fees for riders accessing transit facilities by electric or other alternative fuel vehicles. Transit facilities develop plans to establish electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
- Work with relevant stakeholders to streamline permitting processes associated with charging equipment to encourage safe and expeditious installation.
- Coordinate monetary and non-monetary incentives for the general public and organizations purchasing electric vehicles.
- · Support regional efforts to establish a framework for locating public electric vehicle charging stations.
- Require cities and counties to maximize miles per gallon (MPG) fuel efficiency for all non-specialty vehicle procurement. Develop a vehicle procurement process that ensures city- and county-owned vehicles increase their MPG by 5% annually per vehicle-class whenever higher MPG vehicles are available. Use sources such as EPA's Green Vehicle Guide as a procurement guide and include the cost of carbon emissions in the life cycle cost analysis process.
- Encourage cities and counties within the region to regularly evaluate greenhouse gas emission reductions and the net environmental benefit of each fuel and vehicle under consideration for purchase in order to ensure the use of the most efficient vehicles and sustainably-sourced alternative fuels, including those that are locally produced, and investment accordingly.
- Encourage cities and counties to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the right fuel for each potential vehicle application, and develop a comprehensive energy plan for fuels and fueling infrastructure that establishes a strategy for renewable fuel adoption and a policy on "bridge fuels."
- Improve pricing and access to sustainably-sourced alternative fuels and high efficiency vehicles for city/ county operations.
- Incentivize new and renovated fueling facilities to be designed and constructed to accommodate alternative fuels, including, but not limited to E85 and B100.

EF-5 Explore regional ways to increase accessibility to affordable clean energy, particularly in low- and middleincome communities, to improve energy equity.

**EF-6** Promote and incentivize the state-wide adoption of the GOSolar Florida Model Zoning Ordinance developed by the GOSolar Grant.

EF-7 Implement policies that support energy storage technologies and microgrids.