



Summer 2016

Compact Currents is a quarterly newsletter from the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact highlighting the progress of the Compact, and the counties and municipalities in Southeast Florida.

Register for the 2016 Climate Leadership Summit in October

[Registration is now open](#) for the 8th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit on October 5-7, 2016 in West Palm Beach.

[Register Now](#)

The Climate Leadership Summit is a major regional event focused on facilitating climate-related collaboration and knowledge sharing. The summit attracts innovative thinkers and leaders from business, government, academia and the nonprofit community to exchange ideas and plan for the climate future of the region.

Turning the Tide on Climate Awareness

The Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact serves as a model for other newly forming “compacts” in Florida and elsewhere. [Brevard County cities have signed the Indian River Lagoon Compact](#) modeled after the SFRCCC, and in Volusia County, officials gathered in DeLand for [water summit](#), “taking a page from city officials across Southeast Florida,” and gathered at Stetson University to consider a water resources compact.

Residents' awareness of these issues is also expanding. Today, more than four in five Floridians are very or somewhat concerned about climate change, according to a [2016 poll by the Saint Leo University Polling Institute](#). That reflects a significant jump from last year, when just two in three Floridians

answered the same way, according to Leo Ondrovic, one of the survey's designers.

Broward Approves PACE Financing & USACE Modeling Project

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners approved a county-wide Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program on June 14, unlocking this innovative form of financing for both residential and commercial property owners.



PACE allows property owners in participating cities to receive up-front financing for qualifying permanent property improvements, such as energy conservation, renewable energy, and wind resistance. Property owners then repay the debt through voluntary assessments on their property tax bills. [Learn more about the Broward PACE program here.](#)

Also approved was a project with the U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers (USACE) to evaluate flood conditions predicted under the combined conditions to create recommended top elevations for sea walls and adjacent infrastructure to improve flood protection. The study will also include an analysis of economic benefits potentially created through those recommended resiliency standards.

Miami-Dade Steps up Muni Collaboration & Joins 100RC

Miami-Dade County's Commissioner Rebeca Sosa (District 6) authored a resolution that calls for the County to coordinate and collaborate with all of the municipalities within Miami-Dade about sea level rise and related issues. [The resolution](#) was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on May 17, 2016. To spur collaboration, the County's Office of Resilience began a monthly enewsletter directed towards municipalities within the County.



Greater Miami and the Beaches (a formal partnership between Miami-Dade County, City of Miami and

Miami Beach) was also selected to be one of [Rockefeller's 100 Resilient Cities](#). The prestigious selection to the group includes:

- Funding for a Chief Resilience Officer
- Resources for drafting a resilience strategy
- Access to private sector, public sector, academic, and NGO resilience tools
- Membership in a global network of peer cities

The County and the City of Miami Beach have already appointed CROs, and the City of Miami is now in the process of creating an Office of Resilience & Sustainability and hiring a [Chief Resilience Officer](#).

New and Upcoming RCAP Resources

Video from the April 28th [RCAP #9 workshop: Reducing Climate Risk and Creating Economic Opportunity](#) is now available. The video is a great resource for those interested in managing risk as well as risk-related finance mechanisms.

More than 150 people attended last week's RCAP #10: [Essential Tools: Integrating the Southeast Florida Sea Level Rise Projections Into Community Planning](#). Video from the event is already available, and additional resources will come online in the future. This workshop is also an example of how these workshops continue to evolve with your feedback, as this is the first RCAP workshop to offer

continuing education credits via the Florida sections of the AICP and the ASCE.

Looking Forward: This Fall into 2017

Beginning in late summer 2016, the Compact will be conducting the second RCAP implementation inventory. The 108 communities in the four county region will receive a survey on implementation. This data collected will be housed in the Compact's implementation database which will act as a platform for local governments and the world to see the progress we've made as a region.

This also provides the baseline for the next revision of the [Regional Climate Action Plan](#) which begins late fall 2016.

Submit your RCAP achievements

The Compact is continuing to develop its RCAP [database](#). Visitors can search by Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP) recommendation, by city, or by individual case studies. If your community has implemented any programs addressing a [RCAP](#) recommendation, please [submit your case study here](#).

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