

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA LOCAL AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE

A PLEDGE OF THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA LOCAL AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS ENDORSING THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CLIMATE ACTION PLEDGE; AGREEING TO JOINTLY ADVANCE STRATEGIC CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION PLANNING, PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND PROJECTS; AND ADVANCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION PLAN AS APPROPRIATE FOR EACH GOVERNMENT.

WHEREAS, Southeast Florida is considered one of the most vulnerable areas of the country to the consequences of global climate change, with impacts including sea level rise, elevated groundwater levels, rainfall intensification, extreme heat, and ocean acidification presenting extreme risk to Southeast Florida's communities, economy, and natural systems; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the need for immediate, coordinated and visionary action to address the impacts of a changing climate and provide for economic and environmental resilience in Southeast Florida, in 2010 the counties of Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach (Compact Partners) entered into the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Compact); and

WHEREAS, the Compact has been an international model for regional collaboration on climate action, with development of key tools, resources, and a Regional Climate Action Plan to expedite and harmonize efforts in support of 111 local and tribal governments across the four-county region; and

WHEREAS, to continue these efforts, the third iteration of the Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP 3.0) was undertaken in 2022, through a collaborative process involving more than 150 subject matter experts representing public and private sectors, academic institutions, and not-for-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, the RCAP 3.0 is voluntary framework designed to align, guide, and support the acceleration of local and regional climate action in Southeast Florida toward a shared vision of a low-carbon, healthy, prosperous, more equitable, and more resilient region; and

WHEREAS, local and tribal governments have individually demonstrated significant climate leadership, and the RCAP supports the alignment of these individual local efforts with the regional framework and vision; and

WHEREAS, the RCAP does not provide a mandate, but rather serves as a voluntary guidance document that local and tribal governments can adopt and utilize in a manner that reflects their unique context, priorities, and vision for the future of their community; and

WHEREAS, our response to the climate crisis represents an opportunity to build more resilient, livable, equitable communities; bolster regional economic security and advance vibrant, low-carbon innovation economies; and deliver resilient infrastructure that meets community needs now and into the future; and

WHEREAS, there is power in the collective action of counties, municipalities, and tribal governments in jointly developing, advancing, and advocating for mutually beneficial regional, state, and national climate and energy strategies, policies, regulations, and agreements that are consequential to Southeast Florida's shared resilience and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, all local and tribal governments throughout Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach counties are invited to sign on to the Southeast Florida Climate Action Pledge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PLEDGED THAT

Section 1. [city/town/village/tribe] _____pledges to jointly advance strategic climate adaptation and mitigation planning, programs, policies, and projects.

Section 2. [city/town/village/tribe] _____pledges to support the implementation of the RCAP 3.0 through integrating its recommendations and strategies into existing and future relevant planning, program, policy, and project development as appropriate.

Section 3. [city/town/village/tribe] _____pledges to utilize and integrate tools and resources developed by the Compact, as appropriate, in climate action planning and implementation, including application of the Regionally Unified Sea Level Rise Projection, participation in the Compact Climate Assessment Tool (C-CAT), and engagement in Compact events including RCAP Implementation Workshops and attendance at the Annual Climate Leadership Summit.

EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Pledge shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day _____, 2023.