

Implementation Workshop

Green Infrastructure and Innovative Approaches for Alternative Stormwater Management

JANET BOWMAN

Senior Policy Advisor/Climate Policy
The Nature Conservancy, Florida



Janet Bowman is Senior Policy Advisor/Climate Policy for the Nature Conservancy in Florida where she focuses on state climate and conservation policy, resilience policy, and transportation. She has also served as the Legal Director of 1000 Friends of Florida, attorney for the Senate Community Affairs Committee and the Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, focusing on local government land use, governance and finance issues, and Senior Attorney for the Department of Environmental Protection. Janet has served as an adjunct professor at Florida State College of Law teaching environmental law. She received her J.D. from the Florida State University

College of Law, and is a past Chair of the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of the Florida Bar and a frequent speaker on conservation policy topics and on environmental and land use law.

NIRMAL DATTA

Capital Program Administrator
Broward County



Nirmal Datta, P.E., serves as Capital Program Administrator for the Broward County Highway Construction & Engineering Division, where he oversees the planning, delivery, and management of critical transportation infrastructure projects. With more than 30 years of experience in transportation and land development, he has successfully led major highway design and construction initiatives that enhance mobility, safety, and community connectivity. Nirmal is a licensed Professional Engineer in both Florida and Texas, and is an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE), reflecting his commitment to advancing the engineering profession and supporting best practices in transportation

planning and development.

AMY EASON

Environmental Resource Engineer

Public Works Department, Martin County Board of County Commissioners



Amy Eason is an Environmental Resource Engineer for Martin County. She has 29 years of experience in civil and environmental engineering, with a focus on adaptation and resiliency for more than a decade. Amy has extensive expertise in stormwater modeling and the planning, permitting, design, and construction of water management facilities that provide stormwater attenuation, water quality treatment, nutrient removal, water supply benefits, and environmental enhancement. Her project portfolio includes interconnected stormwater pond systems, pump stations, and water control structures designed to improve community resilience and environmental performance. Prior to joining Martin County, Amy spent many years in the private sector, where she led vulnerability assessments, stormwater master plans, flood mitigation studies, and alternative analyses for stormwater system retrofits for municipalities throughout the region. Her work has helped communities address evolving flood risks while advancing sustainable water management solutions.

DAVID GOMEZ

Director, Office of Capital Improvements

City of Miami Beach



David A. Gomez serves as Director of the Miami Beach Office of Capital Improvement Projects. With 30 years of experience in architecture, construction management, and capital improvements, Gomez brings a strong record of delivering complex projects. He joined the city in 2015 after leadership roles in the private sector, where he oversaw sports, recreational, environmental, aviation, and government projects. A LEED Accredited Professional, Gomez holds a bachelor's degree in architecture and history from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. His work has contributed to major Miami Beach improvements, including North Beach Oceanside Park, the Beachwalk, Collins Park Garage, and Pride Park.

AMY KNOWLES

Chief Resilience Officer and Director of Environment and Sustainability

City of Miami Beach



Amy Knowles is the Chief Resilience Officer and Director of Environment and Sustainability for the City of Miami Beach, where she drives forward resilience strategies that reduce natural hazard risks and strengthen South Florida's iconic coastal environment. She leads the city's sea level rise adaptation planning and champions nature-based infrastructure solutions, while overseeing beach and dune management and a robust urban forestry program.

Amy heads the innovative Fight the Flood private-property adaptation program and Community Rating System initiatives, delivering innovative approaches that help residents and businesses build long-term resilience. She also advances public engagement through the Miami Beach Rising Above platform, leading immersive tours and presentations that bring climate adaptation to life for community members and international visitors. Her department integrates environmental stewardship across city operations—from plan review and permitting to water quality monitoring and sustainability planning. They play a key role in reducing the ecological footprint of large-scale special events, safeguarding beaches and protecting endangered species.

WALTER RODRÍGUEZ MEYER

Founding Principal, Local Office Landscape & Urban Design (LOCAL)

Adjunct Professor, Stanford University



Walter Rodríguez Meyer is a landscape architect, Principal of Local Office Landscape & Urban Design (LOCAL) in Brooklyn, and adjunct professor at Stanford University in NY. He founded the minority-owned firm in 2006 after serving as Sustainability Director at Cooper, Robertson & Partners and began his career at Ian McHarg's firm, WRT. His work creates parity between the humanities and nature through regenerative design that draws from his indigenous ancestry in the Muisca First Nation, a Chibcha Language group extending from the Colombian Andes to Costa Rica.

Through LOCAL, Walter has led award-winning projects that integrate community, infrastructure, and ecology, helping shape national resilience policy across three presidential administrations. His work includes the AIA Puerto Rico Honor Award-winning Parque del Litoral in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, the first citywide implementation of phytoremediation technology, NYC's first net zero neighborhood, resiliency plans for the states of Mississippi and New Jersey, and initiatives to adapt Miami to climate change through funded through the EPA.

LOCAL's work has received the White House Champions of Change Award from President Obama and Walter has been recognized by the Congressional Hispanic Caucus for leadership and innovation in the green economy. He has taught at Columbia University, Pratt Institute, and Parsons School of Design, and has lectured at leading universities across the United States.

JORDAN PASTORIUS

Assistant Community Development Manager

Martin County



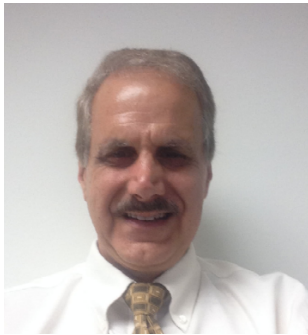
Jordan Pastorius is a community redevelopment and economic development leader focused on building resilient, future-ready communities through strategic infrastructure investment, environmental stewardship, and collaborative public-private partnerships. With more than a decade of public sector experience—including nearly a decade in redevelopment and community development—he has led transformative projects that enhance economic vitality, sustainability, and quality of life across South Florida.

His work includes managing complex redevelopment initiatives, infrastructure improvements, public engagement efforts, and land development coordination that support responsible growth and long-term community resilience. Several projects under his leadership have received statewide recognition, including awards for the Ripple Stormwater EcoArt Project, The Patio at Palm City Place Redevelopment Project and the Mapp Road Streetscape Project for excellence in redevelopment and infrastructure investment.

Jordan is passionate about the intersection of redevelopment, resiliency, and environmental responsibility, and believes strong communities are built through intentional leadership, regional collaboration, and forward-thinking investment.

RICHARD TORNESE

Director, Highway Construction and Engineering Division
Broward County



Richard Tornese is the Director of the Highway Construction and Engineering Division for Broward County. With more than 43 years of experience in transportation and land development, Richard has built a distinguished career delivering complex infrastructure projects and advancing transportation systems. A licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Florida, Richard has contributed to the advancement of transportation engineering through both his technical leadership and professional service. He serves as a member of the Florida Green Book Committee, helping to guide the development of standards and best practices that shape transportation planning and design across the state.

TIFFANY TROXLER, PH.D.

Associate Professor, Department of Earth and Environment &
Director of Science, Sea Level Solutions Center, Institute of Environment
Florida International University



Tiffany Troxler is an Associate Professor in the Department of Earth and Environment and Director of Science in the Sea Level Solutions Center in the Institute of Environment at Florida International University in Miami, FL. An ecosystem ecologist and sustainability scientist, her work bridges science, policy, and environmental management to address the challenges of climate change in both natural and urban systems. She and her students examine how Everglades ecosystems respond to sea-level rise and water management and develop new research and tools to enhance their resilience to climate change. Her research group also advances interdisciplinary collaborative research that supports local to regional strategies and actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Additionally, Tiffany has also served as a Program Officer with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories based in Japan where she supported

the integration of nature-based carbon mitigation strategies into national and international policy frameworks. She currently serves as Chair of the International Long-Term Ecological Research Network.