



Topic Name: Preparing for Climate and Sea Level Rise Impacts

Idea Title: Storm water systems, solar panels, elevated buildings.

Idea Detail: Improve storm water treatment systems, insist that all new development (commercial and residential) installs some form of solar PV system and the building must be elevated above current recommendations.

Idea Author: Shirley G

Number of Stars 16

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Preventive Bridge Maintenance

Idea Detail: The County should make certain that FDOT is ahead of the curve in maintaining bridges along US 1. They are the best means of getting nearly everything we need from the mainland, including the majority of tourists who drive down our scenic highway. They are also among the most vulnerable links in the transportation system. Looking now at ways to harden supports against strong storms and increasing clearance above flood levels can save us from severe hardships in the future.

We can also look to arrange support in advance of our need from the Army Corps of Engineers, the military and other emergency management groups to stage temporary bridge solutions in South Florida to be deployed in the event we suffer a catastrophic wash out of a key connection.

Idea Author: Mark S

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: The Roads analysis will be presenting on September 3rd will lay the foundation to do just that. Get into the FDOT planning process early and often! | By Erin D

Idea Title: raise the roads!

Idea Detail: raise the roads! Create culverts! Green rooftops (for gardens!), strengthen the integrity of natural resources so they can better defend themselves! Maybe buy higher ground somewhere else and relocate the Conch Republic



Idea Author: Kate C

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: For me when I drive down US 1 I look at the vulnerable locations - ie Lower Matecumbe. There are plenty of others road locations from US 1 to individual island access. I think initially you can protect more roads, but as the water rises that will be the time to select priorities. | By Kim G

Idea Title: Stormwater treatment systems

Idea Detail: Improve the storm-water treatment systems to reduce flooding events, treat the storm-water run-off efficiently to reduce garbage and other pollutants running into near-shore waters.

Idea Author: Shirley G

Number of Stars 7

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Putting your efforts in perspective

Idea Detail: Here's what the IPCC is now saying.

The likely end of the era of civilization is foreshadowed in a new draft report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the generally conservative monitor of what is happening to the physical world.

The report concludes that increasing greenhouse gas emissions risk "severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems" over the coming decades. The world is nearing the temperature when loss of the vast ice sheet over Greenland will be unstoppable. Along with melting Antarctic ice, that could raise sea levels to inundate major cities as well as coastal plains.

The era of civilization coincides closely with the geological epoch of the Holocene, beginning over 11,000 years ago. The previous Pleistocene epoch lasted 2.5 million years. Scientists now suggest that a new epoch began about 250 years ago, the Anthropocene, the period when human activity has had a dramatic impact on the physical world. The rate of change of geologic



Idea Author: Michael W

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: The future prognosis can be debated, but we do know in the past 100 years, ocean rise has been measurably significant, already, and so we should be all hands on deck to prepare for yes, a worst case scenario. To do less is irresponsible and abandoning all reason. The recent citizen led marches on global climate change (300, 000+ in NYC, alone!) demonstrate, quite literally, people are demanding action! | By Michael S

Comment 2: Agreed, the science, especially that of the IPCC is critical to the debate. Is there something that we should consider differently in our analysis so far? Are the assumptions of the Southeast Regional Climate Compact (3-7" by 2030 and 9-24" by 2060) something we should reconsider? | By Erin D

Idea Title: Energy Efficiency or Renewable Energy Usage

Idea Detail: Small businesses can apply for grant or loans for energy efficiency improvement or renewable energy additions. USDA representative, Christine Goddard, will be in Marathon (BOCC room upstairs) on January 6, 2015 from 4 - 6 p.m. to explain how. Free to all. Up to 25% of cost can be in the form of a grant. 2798 Overseas Highway (MM 48.5 bayside). Call Lisa at SALT Service 305-289-1150 for more information.

Idea Author: Lisa K

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: These programs have demonstrated cost savings to consumer and utilities, alike. Providing information in the monthly bill envelope, and certainly online (more are now paying this method) will help to reinforce the message. Reduce unnecessary consumption! | By Michael S

Idea Title: Incorporate the "Seven/50" initiative with GreenKeys! Plan

Idea Detail: "Seven/50" is an initiative to foster cooperation among the seven SE Florida counties and municipalities as a guiding vision for the next 50 years. Created as an inter-



agency and public involvement-led effort, it is attempting to educate all stakeholders, foster consensus and prepare for not only an environmental blueprint for sustainability, but also one which recognizes the economic impact climate change and sea level rise (and salt-water intrusion into fresh water bodies and aquifers) will have on people, communities and their well-being, and to ensure future prosperity in the process. It endeavors to build upon agreed-upon principles for the inevitable population growth and stress on infrastructure and resources.

Idea Author: Michael S

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: And it allows us to figure out what has worked and been a challenge elsewhere! |
By Erin D

Comment 2: Excellent! Collaborative stakeholders make for a better community! | By Michael
S

Comment 3: Michael, we are going to be pulling in some of the Seven50 images for Keys specific strategies into our next sea level rise community workshop November 5th in Key Largo. The goal will be to give people something visual so they have ideas to generate strategies for our own area! | By Erin D

Comment 4: Totally agree Michael. That's why this project is so exciting because we are doing a plan that includes both principles of sustainability (broader) and sea level rise (more specific impacts). Our Focus Areas for the overall GreenKeys plan include: Government Operations, Climate & Energy, Natural Systems, Built Environment, Health & Safety, Education, Arts & Community, Economy & Jobs and Equity & Empowerment. The projects align and this is why we took the approach we did.
| By Erin D

Comment 5: Yes, to your second question! While Seven/50 is about the seven southeast Florida counties, it also addresses larger issues about the economy, culture, infrastructure, population growth, et al. GreenKeys has to be cognizant that none of these are mutually exclusive and hence no amount of "green" awareness can be effectively advanced unless it also takes into consideration these multi-layered issues. | By Michael S

Comment 6: Can you tell us how to incorporate their initiative with our planning process? Should we review their work products and look for synergies and identify those? | By Erin D



Idea Title: Copy the city of Galveston.

Idea Detail: After their terrible hurricane (around 1900), they raised the elevation of the land with fill. Do this where the Keys are already at their highest elevations and let the lowest lying lands be taken back by the sea.

Idea Author: Christina C

Number of Stars 1

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Galveston's experience can be instructive, but the Keys have a very different topography and ocean reality. Elevation here is better suited for architecture than landfill. Road beds, utilities, can be adapted more readily than massive earth moving for residential landscapes. In a similar vein, the Keys are not as suitable for Holland-style dams and dikes, to hold back the sea. The limestone and the mangroves present greater challenges. Certainly, many properties can be stilt-elevated, and this presents even more challenges than is currently being fully evaluated. | By Michael S



Topic Name: Help Us Select Discussion Topics

Idea Title: Supporting Plastic Bag Bans

Idea Detail: Here is a petition to support the resolution to allow local municipalities to implement a plastic bag ban <https://www.change.org/p/please-support-florida-house-bill-661-disposable-plastic-bags>

Idea Author: Kate C

Number of Stars 15

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: The Key West City Commission is weighing in on this. Speak to them. Document the cost and savings, and to the environment, principally. | By Michael S

Comment 2: The State doesn't like "home rule" very much, especially if it taps someone's pocketbook. Theirs. Write to Representative Holly Raschein in Tallahassee! | By Michael S

Comment 3: Great | By Alicia B

Comment 4: Key West Commissioners have set a great example for the Keys. On Tuesday March 3, they passed a resolution in support of Florida HB661 and SB966 "Disposable Plastic Bags". These bills would grant cities "home rule/local control" to enact local legislation on disposable plastic bags in their constituencies. We need as many local municipalities as possible to support these bills, not just in the Keys but throughout the State of Florida. Would the Monroe County BOCC give their support? The positive response to your plastic bag question implies some of us want that.

| By Shirley G

Comment 5: Kate, Thanks for the idea. We just posted a question about plastic bags on this site. | By Erin D

Comment 6: Increasingly, the practice of reducing the waste stream of plastic bags is beneficial to all aspects of the environmental load, to municipal refuse sites, to environmental clean-up and lessening wildlife hazards. | By Michael S

Idea Title: Support a schools & county "Farm and fish to table" program

Idea Detail: Farm and fish to table concept is truly renewing and restoring society's oldest,



most essential, healthy relationship, fostering a direct connect with our food source, the soil and farm, including our oceans. Embracing this mission supports the inherent value of placing quality over mere convenience. Locally grown & sourced food is regarded as healthier, more nutritious, being fresher, with less carbon footprint to grow and distribute to market with more local enterprise, diversified jobs, and is generative, not just consumptive and mass produced. Our county/state agri-extension office has the info and basic tools to teach citizens the "how-to" grow for personal use and foster community supported programs: local gardens, farmer markets. The schools can channel pilot projects to educate on eco-stewardship, prep for academic & practical use, tying into culinary training already existing. The county once exported food, our fisheries sustained us. Time to grow/catch-bring the harvest home.

Idea Author: Michael S

Number of Stars 12

Number of Comments 7

Comment 1: Add this to your reading diet: THE THIRD PLATE: Field Notes on the Future of Food, by Dan Barber.

Barber, a renowned chef, has established himself as one of the food world's leading voices on how farm practices

influence flavor. Combining memoir, travel diary and agricultural-culinary philosophy, he dares us to think about food from the ground up — "soil," "land," "sea" and "seed" — and imagine a food system that's as sustainable as it is delicious.

We take our food supply so much for granted. In the Keys, our shift from local production to import impacts us far more than we suspect. Our very relationship with food is at the core of who/what we are! Sustainability BEGINS with our food. | By Michael S

Comment 2: Increasingly, and beyond our borders, more communities are recognizing the benefit of supporting such a program, tailored and appropriate policy put into code and policy plans. We can embrace this, and see almost immediate return. | By Michael S

Comment 3: Alicia B. - I am glad to see Ibis Bay launching their "three hands" - fish to market to your table program. It's something that everyone benefits from doing, and enjoying. It is, one must note, fairly pricey for an average family, although it is no doubt worth every cent, and maybe worth far more, considering what it strives to foster, economically, and ecologically. At \$21.50 a pound, a "share" buys you two pounds a week, if I understand it correctly. That may be beyond some household grocery budgets, sad to say. | By Michael S

Comment 4: Check out the Key West Dock to Dish program | By Alicia B

Comment 5: Thanks for the idea, Michael. | By Erin D



Comment 6: The most recent post (March 3) here on Green Keys! is about this very concept/idea suggested (above): Here it is and you can weigh in on your thoughts, too, on the site:

"HOW CAN WE BOLSTER LOCALLY-SOURCED FOOD NETWORKS AND LOCAL FOOD CONSUMPTION IN THE FLORIDA KEYS?"

Description

Locally sourced food is fresher than food that comes from far away. Money spent on local produce and fish stays within the Florida Keys economy, rather than going to large producers and distributors in other parts of Florida, the United States and the world. In addition, purchasing local food, which doesn't have to be shipped hundreds or thousand miles, leads to energy efficiencies and reduces our carbon footprints.

The Florida Keys are home to the largest commercial fishing industry on the southeastern seaboard, yet much of the seafood on offer at local markets comes from abroad – in many cases even when the species being sold is also locally caught and exported.

The Keys, with our limited land and thin soil, are less abundant when it comes to produce. Still, technology is bringing new growing opportunities, plus, the many farms of Homestead and the Redland area sit just across the 18-mile Stretch. | By Michael S

Comment 7: We all depend on a productive food chain. The Keys additionally rely on having to truck all of our food to market. If each homesteaded residence grew some - even just a little - of their own table food - the benefits are many-fold. For every food dollar spent on local production (fresh veggies, herbs, fruits), it turns over up to nine times, while supermarket foods turn over (or circulate in the economy) only as little as 2.5 times. Pilot programs can be fostered for greater sustainability, for an improved social return on investment (SROI). As mini-farms, entrepreneurial growers of all dimensions, prosper providing to consumers, and then to restaurants and farmer/park markets, community development is leveraged, a healthier island chain is created. | By Michael S

Idea Title: Build more mangrove islands off the Keys

Idea Detail: We have so many very very shallow spots off the keys. Some with mangrove islands; some not. Can mangroves be planted. Will they root and grow? Seems that might be a natural barrier for hurricane and could be helpful for rising seas too. Seems like it might be not be very costly. Would help boating too. Better boat warning so you don't ground you boat so often.

Idea Author: Joseph B



Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: We need an active Key Dark Sky movement.

Idea Detail: The Florida Keys are an amazing spot to view the night sky. By reducing light pollution we can all work together to reduce power usage (greenhouse gas) and enhance one of our greatest assets, our night sky. Shielding stray light will make our island communities more sustainable and enhance our quality of life.

The mission of the International Dark Sky Association (IDA) is "to preserve and protect the night time environment and our heritage of dark skies through quality outdoor lighting. Light pollution is the result of outdoor lighting that is not properly shielded, allowing light to be directed into the eyes and the night sky. Light that shines into the eyes is called glare and light shining into the night sky above the horizon causes skyglow. Lighting can also cause light trespass when it is directed into areas that it is not wanted, e.g., a neighbor's yard and windows. IDA was the first organization in the dark-sky movement, and is currently the largest.

Idea Author: John L

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: We used to all have a direct, real, living relationship with the night skies. It wasn't just "darkness" and when all activity stopped. Far from it! We named our star constellations with mythic, archetypal stories. In the modern, electric lit-era, we have gained much, yet also lost something valuable, and most don't even realize it. Our islands are surrounded by vast oceans where if you have the chance, be on a boat at night and the stars will amaze and enlighten you. All said, in your own neighborhood, organize to limit skyglow, reduce glare, and also trim the demand for electricity and look up, to see the stories our ancestors crafted. See what it does to your own imagination! | By Michael S

Idea Title: Community Meetings like Canal Restoration

Idea Detail: Lets get more info about community meetings

Idea Author: Alicia B

Number of Stars 3



Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Solar energy and getting off the grid

Idea Detail: Every day I look up at the electricity towers and power lines that line US1 and think how the Florida Keys could lead the country in solar energy and "getting off the grid." We are in an ideal position to utilize solar energy and even sell it back to larger urban areas north (Miami IKEA as an example). It would bring new jobs to our community and teach our children to conserve and innovate, moving away from fossil fuels. We have a special and unique opportunity here to be a national leader in solar energy.

Idea Author: candace W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: The "Sunshine State?" Policies to encourage conversion to a solar economy are being thwarted by a well-funded lobbying machine in the Legislature that is resistant to shifting from the existing utilities monopoly-coal, oil, gas, nuclear. All of which are subsidized by taxpayers, while guaranteeing them a profit. Solar, wind, ocean - all plentiful in Florida. It's time the citizenry push forcefully for policies that will invest in conversion of these fossil - and finite - sources to renewables, across the whole spectrum: residential, business, industry. Locally, the Keys Energy and FKEC can support residential integration through rate adaptation, and programs to convert to solar water heating systems, and to continue their respective rebate programs for consumer purchase of more energy efficient appliances, reducing demand on the system. | By Michael S

Idea Title: US1

Idea Detail: I would like to see us address US1. The complexities of this road are not lost on me but it is an enormous division down the center of our islands. It prevents the growth of a healthy community by preventing people from safely traveling around our towns/villages by foot/bicycle. Crossing US1 is dangerous and discouraged. All studies show that communities where roads can be safely crossed multiple times at multiple locations are more sustainable and productive than those where crossing is not possible.

Is there a future for the Keys that does not involve a major highway down the center of our community? What would an excellent public transportation system look like down here? How would the road change if speed limits were reduced to 35 mph and pedestrian crossings were every mile? Could we incorporate a bicycle system such as the ones we see in Scandinavia where cyclists have designated raised cycle paths and traffic signals that are not secondary in



priority to vehicular traffic?

Idea Author: Ingelise G

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Thanks Candace. Solar energy is for sure an important topic. | By Erin D

Idea Title: Say NO to genetically modified mosquitoes!

Idea Detail: GM females will be released. This is an experiment. Oxitec is spawn of Syngenta. Please stop this now!

Idea Author: Meagan H

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name: Vulnerable Natural Systems

Idea Title: FKNMS, mangrove shorelines and coral reefs

Idea Detail: Reducing GHG emissions will reduce effects of climate change on coral reefs. A healthy reef will help reduce effects of storm surges on land. Mangrove shorelines should be protected for the same reason in addition to buffering against land erosion.

Idea Author: Shirley G

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Agreed! Ensuring healthy habitats is #1 for helping natural areas combat sea level rise naturally. We need to protect mangroves (better) and help them thrive, and maintain healthy Pine rocklands. This way, they have the best fighting chance to naturally adapt to fast paced climate change | By Kate C

Idea Title: Protect our inviolate connection w/Everglades, and reefs

Idea Detail: The Everglades are part of Monroe County, yet essential to all of the Florida Keys. The health of the entire eco-system, the "River of Grass", directly impacts the Keys and the vast water flow, and nutrient degradation from industrial fertilizer run-off, affects our reefs, the estuaries, and near-shore as well a off-shore water quality. Work with the regulatory agencies, build greater inter-governmental cooperation, foster policies for long-term sustainability.

Idea Author: Michael S

Number of Stars 9

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Protecting Big Pine Key Endangered Key Deer

Idea Detail: Big Pine and No Name Keys are poster children for the loss of land from sea level rise. Much of the predicted loss will be to habitat critical for endangered Key Deer. We should be investigating whether there are suitable substitute Pine Rockland habitat in Southeast Florida where Key Deer could better survive the impacts of sea level rise. I'm not optimistic that enough could be done to place effective barriers or raise ground level to salvage enough habitat over the long term.



Idea Author: Mark S

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: If you take the "key" out of the deer, are they still Key deer? Won't they go extinct eventually anyway by breeding with mainland deer? Poor island species, always have it rough!
| By Kate C

Comment 2: That's a really important issue to tackle- how are we going to deal with loss of critical habitat that sustains species making the Keys such a unique place? Land acquisition and management will only get us so far. | By Erin D

Idea Title: All areas are high priority

Idea Detail: While Big Pine and Key West will receive the biggest impacts the soonest, all of the Keys are incredibly vulnerable. This article in a British newspaper says it all.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jul/11/miami-drowning-climate-change-deniers-sea-levels-rising>

Idea Author: Michael W

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Preservation of the coral reef and roadway

Idea Detail: Our highest priority should be in preservation of the coral reef and keeping our road free from salt water.

Idea Author: Alicia B

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Mangrove shorelines, coral reefs

Idea Detail: Mangroves provide a strong defense against shoreline erosion. Don't allow



trimming as much as currently allowed. Enforce stronger fines and penalties and stricter mitigation requirements.

Coral reefs need help. We need to curb all sources of land-based pollution entering canals and waterways leading to the ocean which ultimately have a negative effect on the health of the reefs. If reefs are unhealthy and die, they cannot buffer wave strength effectively. All pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, cleaning agents, gasoline, oils, liquids that are used on land eventually leach into the porous limestone bedrock of the Keys and enter the near-shore waters and ocean. Large-scale users like construction businesses, landscapers, golf courses, government buildings, schools, hospitals, Navy & Coast Guard should set examples and be leaders in the community by curbing their use of heavily-chemical based, non-organic products on land.

Idea Author: Shirley G

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: REEF AND MORE

Idea Detail: The Reef system, Mangroves and wetland, Pine Rocklands

Idea Author: Kate C

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: We need to protect the State Parks and the unique natural areas mentioned by Kate C through scientific study, governmental protection and local visitor education. It would be nice to protect all, and may be possible now, but as water rises priorities will change. So the more we learn from the sea level models about these areas of vulnerability due to low elevation, sea level rise or future storm damage, and amount of residents living and visiting the area. | By Kim G



Topic Name: Make Monroe County Greener for our Future

Idea Title: To be a leader in a green future.

Idea Detail: Monroe County's sustainability should provide "triple bottom line" economic, social, and environmental benefits including: cleaner air and water, cost savings through efficiency and conservation measures, reduced dependency on fossil fuels and reduced traffic congestion & pollution benefiting our tourist based economy.

Idea Author: Alicia B

Number of Stars 8

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Top of my list is reuse of treated waste water.

Idea Detail: We will soon have AWT throughout the keys, but much of that near drinkable water is discarded. South Florida will face a fresh water crisis in the next 20 years, and Monroe County with its low population base will not be a high priority when this scare resource is allocated.

My vision for a green Monroe County would be that we are an example of sustainable practices for Florida communities.

Second on my list is a public transportation system that works. You can tell it works when residents and visitors alike use it frequently because it fits their needs.

A third important aspect of green keys is the availability of affordable housing near employers and public transportation. That will relieve demand for fossil fuels, reduce congestion on roads and bridges and improve the quality of life for those residents who are critical to supporting our tourist economy.

Idea Author: Mark S

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: OverSeas Heritage Trail --- until it is done!

Idea Detail: No matter what it takes, the OverSeas Heritage Trail must be completed, despite the recent devastating news about the bridges. For many reasons, not the least of which is the asset to locals for ease of travel between islands without fossil fuels, attraction of our islands



for international bicyclists to visit and travel the keys, again without fossil fuels. Added benefit -- keys folks become a more HEALTHY population and the Florida Keys a healthier destination.

Idea Author: Midge J

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Cb1X_ps-JW8
We need to be a bike tourism destination like Florida! Where bicyclist feel safe to ride on the US 1 shoulder (all need to be as wide as the Bahia Honda bridge, not as narrow as the Sugarloaf should, until you get near the Fire station. | By Kim G

Comment 2: Another item for the OHT trail is to plant a native pollinator corridor to provide food and shelter for our native pollinators (bees, butterflies, birds, bats). Instead of the architect designed landscape that is inappropriate and is being trimmed by Asplundh Tree company to keep below the power lines (for the electric company). The Extension Service can help with the design, obtaining plants from local garden clubs and garden centers, then planting and maintenance. Followed by signage to educate bike and pedestrian users about the plants and landscape practices (pesticides, fragmented habitat, etc.) that can harm the pollinator population. | By Kim G

Comment 3: OHT completion is definitely at the top of my list -from end to end and to find a way for locations like Ramrod to Big Pine Key, where you have to cross grass strips to get on the path again. It all needs to be connected! I have ridden the trail from Murray Nelson government Center, Key Largo to the southernmost point. but I feel like a third class citizen due to all the obstacles - road construction that dumps bicyclists on to US 1, or completed sewer line that leave barricades and pearock on the shoulder. The trail could be an eco-tourism destination if the trail was completed. Cyclists have to stop more often for food, water etc. meaning more business receiving income. | By Kim G

Idea Title: Wider education throughout the community.

Idea Detail: As with most things, education is the key to gaining support from the community about the importance of becoming a greener community.

The survival of our way of life is dependant on our fragile ecosystem. Should any of it be degraded, it will cost everyone. There will be less jobs, less tourism, less fisherman, less lobster and stonecrab, less building due to rising sea levels and so on.



Idea Author: TJ P

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Carrots & sticks to involve residents, businesses & tourists

Idea Detail: We'll only make a difference if everyone is involved. It's important to utilize policy, education and enforcement to help people incorporate the changes that need to happen for the Keys to adapt.

Idea Author: Alison H

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Reduce energy consumption.

Idea Detail: Energy conservation consists of two distinct strategies: efficiency and curtailment. Energy efficiency means using less energy to produce a similar or better service. Curtailment means exactly what you'd think: cutting out a use of energy altogether. We've tried efficiency and people have not cooperated. Now it's time to cut our energy usage dramatically. Fifty percent or more.

Idea Author: Michael W

Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Reliable public transportation, preserve public greenspaces

Idea Detail: Implement a more frequent and reliable public bus service servicing visitors and locals up and down the Keys. This will take more cars off the road, reduce GHG emissions and ease parking problems in cities such as Key West.

Idea Author: Shirley G



Number of Stars 5

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: A rail or tram system (elevated in part, and certainly across bridges) to rival Flagler would be embraced by travelers and residents, alike. Yes, it's an extraordinary and huge public/private infrastructure investment, yet may be an integral part of the mosaic to lighten the load on the road - and carbon footprint. | By Michael S

Idea Title: Elimination of chemical agents in county agencies

Idea Detail: Elimination of potentially dangerous and already proven dangerous chemical agents in all departments and agencies funded by public dollars. Including, but not limited to agricultural, housekeeping, hygiene, laundries, air fresheners, health and body and scented/fragranced products. www.ewg.org www.beyondpesticides.org

Idea Author: Midge J

Number of Stars 4

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: I know what you mean but it will be a hard educational sell to most of the community, except those who want to make that personal behavioral change. | By Kim G

Idea Title: Develop city and county resolutions to include bans on cert

Idea Detail: Develop resolutions to ban plastic bags, commercial and residential use of harmful pesticides and fertilizers, strengthen our public transportation service, discourage excessive cars by declaring some parts of downtown a no car zone, ENFORCE water quality laws- especially with regards to marine dumping, fight for money to create the infrastructure for water reuse, create more strict rules for removing trees and encourage locals to plant natives, have better access to community gardens, create and enforce rules regarding exotic pets/import, offer recycling for items not currently accepted (Styrofoam, batteries, plastic bags)

Idea Author: Kate C

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 1



Comment 1: I would like to see that all commercial and governmental landscapers attend a mandatory workshop on Best Management practices

http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/professionals/BMP_overview.htm (fertilizing appropriately, pest control, irrigation, landscape design and installation, etc.) and pass the exam and receive their certificate . I have been teaching the course for years but many landscapers have not attended. | By Kim G

Idea Title: Infrastructure for electric cars and trikes.

Idea Detail: For me personally I am an early adopter of an electric/solar/pedal trike. I envisioned riding to work but the Florida Laws are difficult to interpret. Also it could be a great county vehicle for travel just in Key West.

Idea Author: Kim G

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Monroe County government offices parking lot solar panels

Idea Detail: If Monroe County wants to be the leader for a greener community, it needs lead the way. by setting an example for other local governments and businesses to follow. An example would be to place solar parking canopies at Monroe county government offices (Key West, Marathon and Key Largo). <http://us.sunpower.com/commercial/products-services/solar-parking/>

Idea Author: Kim G

Number of Stars 2

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name: Arts and Culture

Idea Title: The Arts: view as "creative industries" benefiting all.

Idea Detail: The "arts" need to be evaluated in the broader context of what constitutes the "creative industries" - all of the cultural - and productive, economic connections that support the fine arts, and applied arts, & the quality of life bestowed. As such, the economic impact is properly assessed and can be regarded as an incubator for innovation, a generator for jobs suited for a tourism and natural environment destination, adding value beyond the stage, screen, or canvas. It fosters deeper cultural identity and serves to buffer the ups and downs of the general economy. Tourism was proffered through the WPA of the 1930's, infusing the Keys with needed vitality and refreshed identity and the current era is testament to its adaptability and resilience. Green, clean, generative, renewable-not wholly consumptive.

We need leadership, commitment & investment by private and public entities much greater than the current reliance on Tourist Development Council funding to attract visitors. Diversify!

Idea Author: Michael S

Number of Stars 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Michael- Can you suggest a forum that we can reach out to in which we can gain that diversity? | By Erin D



Topic Name: Top Priority

Idea Title: Create an integrated plan for environ-social-econ goals

Idea Detail: No one, single idea can accomplish the necessary goal. Sustainability planning requires a unified, systematic, integrated, wholistic approach that brings together environmental, economic and social objectives and actions. This protean plan would incorporate: LEADERSHIP-1) Reduce dependence of all fossil fuels, in county vehicle fleets and infrastructural grid. Convert to renewable/solar/wind/ocean currents, for cooling, energy, LED standards in building codes. 2) Reduce usage of chemicals and non-biodegradable materials that can accumulate in our fragile ocean and land topography. Eliminate toxics on public lands and waterways. 3) Promote activities that build the ocean/land ecosystems. No dump, pump-out waterways. Grow gardens. The health/prosperity of our human & wildlife community depend upon Nature's capacity and its ecosystems to continually restore and rebalance, the source of our food, air and water. 4) Do so by ensuring equity for all involved, we're all in the same boat.

Idea Author: Michael S

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Restrict chemicals, drastically reduce trash, plastic

Idea Detail: Restrict pollution from boats, chemical run off, pesticides, drainage from homes; reduce trash every way we can, mandatory composting like proposed in CA. Ban plastic bags, straws, etc.

Idea Author: candace W

Number of Stars 3

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Plastic bags

Idea Title: Yes

Number of votes: 26

Idea Title: No

Number of votes: 1

Comments

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: <http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-science/paper-plastic1.htm> - Paper bags are not the answer! Always bring your own reusable bag. | By Erika B

Comment 2: Sadly, at my local Publix grocery store in Key Largo, plastic bags are the default. When I have asked for paper bags, cashiers have often had difficulty locating paper bags. It would be great if retailers could at least make an effort to ask customers what they prefer and offer paper or reusable bags as an option. | By susan W

Comment 3: Major metropolitan cities are able to enact plastic bag bans. Surely, municipalities can (should!) do so in Monroe County. | By Michael S



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Protection of our Natural Systems

Idea Title: Maintain and enhance programs to improve water quality inshore and offshore

Number of votes: 20

Idea Title: Land acquisition and maintenance

Number of votes: 12

Idea Title: Open space preservation and buffering requirements

Number of votes: 12

Idea Title: Policies and regulations to protect mangroves and wetlands

Number of votes: 8

Idea Title: Protect habitat and wildlife from threats by exotic species

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: Protect shorelines from degradation and adverse construction impacts

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: Implementation of the National Marine Sanctuary Plans

Number of votes: 5

Comments

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: As we go forward we need to be educating local citizens in low lying areas about their landscapes, and plant salt tolerance (roots and leaves). For the least salt tolerant plants they will decline and die. And future planting of salt sensitive plants need to be on raised beds.
| By Kim G



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Reducing Litter

Idea Title: Place more garbage cans in areas such as bridges and causeways and shorelines, where people gather for hours-long outings.

Number of votes: 20

Idea Title: More shoreline clean-ups like the ones frequently organized by local governments, businesses and nonprofits.

Number of votes: 12

Idea Title: Everyone in the Keys should be in the habit of picking up trash that they see, both on land and on the water.

Number of votes: 12

Idea Title: It might cost a lot, but we need to prosecute litterers more frequently in order to send a message.

Number of votes: 9

Idea Title: We need to work with fishermen to reduce derelict crab traps.

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: Place more rules on access to some of these bridges, causeways and shorelines.

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: We need to continue coming down hard on lobster casitas, which are underwater litter.

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: We should do what we can, but part of the problem is out of our control as trash drifts onto our shorelines on ocean currents.

Number of votes: 2



Comments

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Great thoughts Kate. | By Erin D

Comment 2: Support a Plastic Bag Ban, or at the very least, make recycling them easier by placing more plastic bag collection bins in more places. Use volunteers and people serving community service or time to pick up litter. Enforce the law and hand out citations to litter bugs!
| By Kate C



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Increasing Energy Efficiency

Idea Title: Upfront cost

Number of votes: 12

Idea Title: Lack of technical resources

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Not sure what to do

Number of votes: 0

Idea Title: Not interested

Number of votes: 0

Idea Title: Insufficient payback

Number of votes: 0

Comments

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: My biggest obstacle is the time to do it.... | By Alison H

Comment 2: I work for FKEC. We employ three energy conservation auditors. Shawn Mulholland, Maria Jones or myself will gladly provide any of our members with a free residential or commercial energy audit upon request. I believe a lot of people aren't aware of the many low cost/no cost things they can do to save energy in their home or business. More costly improvements can return big savings in the long run. | By TJ P



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Built Environment Needs

Idea Title: Elevate homes and businesses

Number of votes: 12

Idea Title: Improve drainage in our neighborhoods

Number of votes: 10

Idea Title: Implement alternative energy programs and incentives

Number of votes: 8

Idea Title: Make construction meet higher resiliency standards

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: Increase recycling and reduce waste

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: Reduce water use in home and in landscaping

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: Reduce energy use through retrofits

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Relocate building or home electrical and mechanical systems

Number of votes: 2

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Prioritizing Transportation Needs

Idea Title: Raising Roads and Bridges

Number of votes: 12

Idea Title: Bus Shelters and Routes

Number of votes: 11

Idea Title: Bicycle Paths

Number of votes: 10

Idea Title: Elevated trams

Number of votes: 9

Idea Title: Boat/ferry systems

Number of votes: 7

Idea Title: Ride Share

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Electric and Biodiesel Stations

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Air Transportation

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Walking Paths

Number of votes: 0

Idea Title: Taxi and Shuttle Service



Number of votes: 0

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Locally-Sourced Food Networks

Idea Title: Local governments should provide land for community gardens, as Key West and the school district have already done.

Number of votes: 11

Idea Title: Local governments should offer grants to start-up produce growers in the Keys, including those growing hydroponic produce.

Number of votes: 11

Idea Title: The school district should participate in Florida's Farm to School program, which connects in-state growers with schools.

Number of votes: 10

Idea Title: We should model programs throughout the Keys after Dock to Dish in Key West, which connects fishermen with local consumers.

Number of votes: 7

Idea Title: The state should regulate, rather than prohibit, sales of snapper, grouper, dolphin and other fish by charterboat captains.

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: More Keys residents should fish sustainably themselves and more of us should grow a portion of our produce in home gardens.

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: I'm OK with private sector efforts to bolster the local food network, but I don't think it's the government's job.

Number of votes: 2

Comments

Number of Comments 4



Comment 1: I can help with the Florida's Farm to School program and community garden design and education. To me every school should have a garden and composting program onsite. | By Kim G

Comment 2: Kim: As the calendar allows, I have been encouraged to convene a working group to help achieve the goal of more farm to school, and field to table food distribution and consumption. I have Andy G, Bobby H. and Ron M all supporting this initiative - and need your help, beyond a doubt. In fact, you are integral to accomplishing this. Reach me at javastudios@gmail.com and let's see what we can craft! | By Michael S

Comment 3: And, to add: I thoroughly agree every school should have a producing garden and compost capabilities. | By Michael S

Comment 4: To live - and survive - in the Keys required our ancestors to be resilient and resourceful. In the modern present era, encouraging more direct marketing and farm or ocean to table production is challenging due to suitable and availability soils (to scale for economy), and the diminished marine fisheries and fishermen to harvest the bounty. While shrimping has been greatly reduced (from past decade's harvests), certain fin fish, stone crab and lobstering is still productive, and a major food export - and local consumption. Measures to preserve these resources and also to enhance recovery and restoration is vital for our economy. Provide incentives for greenhouse cultivation, supplying restaurants and stores. Permit food markets south of the County line, so we have locally sourced (the Redlands, Homestead, etc) foods more readily available. | By Michael S



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Conserving Water

Idea Title: I don't leave water running while I brush my teeth. Rather, I turn the faucet back on when I rinse.

Number of votes: 11

Idea Title: When I have a leak I address it quickly. I've learned the relatively simple task of replacing worn out gaskets and washers.

Number of votes: 9

Idea Title: I only run the dishwasher when it is full. To handwash dishes, I fill my sink rather than leaving the water running.

Number of votes: 8

Idea Title: I take short showers and try to turn off the water while soaping up.

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: I occasionally check my water meter to make sure there are no leaks.

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: I water in the morning and when it isn't windy for less evaporation. I deep soak the lawn so that the water reaches the roots.

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: When I do have to replace more significant parts, I buy products that have the EPA-backed WaterSense label.

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: I'll tell you what else I do by clicking the "Learn More" button and going to the "Comments" field.

Number of votes: 2



Idea Title: I use drought resistant grasses in my lawn.

Number of votes: 0

Comments

Number of Comments 7

Comment 1: We have a 13,000 gal cistern and no FKAA water connection. We have wonderful water. We are careful but do not want for anything related to water. Water saver washer and facets, under-soil garden soakers, native plants need less water - the fern garden, bromeliad and butterfly gardens do quite well. | By K B

Comment 2: I don't have a lawn; I have mostly native plants in my landscape, which don't need to be watered. I have two cisterns and use the water for watering house plants and washing my car, the dog, porch furniture, sand-encrusted kids, etc. | By Amalia W

Comment 3: took one of Kim's classes and we now have a beautiful rainbarrel, which collects just enough rainwater to water a small garden. Thank You Kim G.
Easy water saving tips: Low flowing shower head and toilet tank. Turn off water when brushing teeth or shampooing hair. Rinse dishes in sink 1/2 full of water instead of running faucet, and avoiding defrosting foods with running water, clean veggies in a bowl or sink, never under running water. Use broom instead of hose to clean deck from Iguana poop ...never ever use water pressure hose to remove paint and dirt... | By Erika B

Comment 4: I teach rain barrel workshops throughout the Keys, so homeowners learn about landscaping water conservation practices. I will be glad to do them for the Monroe County. Currenty, scheduling workshops for Islamorada and Key West. | By Kim G

Comment 5: Excellent, Kim! Rain barrels are a great and direct way to conserve water on your own property. Building codes in the County, I hope, encourage commercial buildings, with a larger footprint, to install similar technology, and even cisterns, as has been encouraged at this Green Keys site! | By Michael S

Comment 6: A tried and true method used throughout the Keys to conserve water: CISTERNS! If you don't have one (many have discovered an abandoned one under their homes, covered and forgotten!), you can readily gather rain water flowing from roof to gutter to a large barrel! Use it to irrigate plants, and cutting consumption at the faucet! | By Michael S

Comment 7: A tried and true method used throughout the Keys to conserve water: CISTERNS! If you don;t have one (many have discovered an abandoned one under their homes, covered



and forgotten!) Lacking a cistern, you can readily gather rain water flowing from roof to gutter to a large barrel! Use it to irrigate plants, and cutting consumption at the faucet! | By Michael S



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Human/Wildlife Interactions

Idea Title: In general, there should be more public education on the many issues related to human/wildlife interactions.

Number of votes: 10

Idea Title: Iguanas are invasive and easy to find. Let's investigate an eradication program.

Number of votes: 9

Idea Title: The county should give more financial support to nonprofits that provide spay/neuter and adoption services for cats.

Number of votes: 8

Idea Title: Implement a feral cat trapping program (like the Florida Keys refuges) that takes feral cats to shelters and returns house cats.

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: We need a local ordinance requiring owners to keep their cats indoors or leashed, similar to rules in place for dog owners.

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Although watering manatees can be cited as harassment, we should push for a more specific law to allow for easier enforcement.

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Friends and neighbors should more forcefully discourage people whom they see watering manatees.

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: State and county agencies should do more to promote garden installations and configurations that protect plants from iguanas.

Number of votes: 2



Idea Title: I have another idea, which I'm going to post by clicking the "Learn More" section and going to the "Comments" area.

Number of votes: 1

Comments

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Develop an iguana and lionfish chili cook-off, or some other tasty dish. One this will be a way of getting food for the cook off and have educational booths at the cook off about: 1) what iguanas eat and don't eat, 2) iguana egg collection nests 3) humane adult iguana killing methods. I can help with the education part. | By Kim G

Comment 2: How about actually enforcing the regulations we have?

It's been explained to me that writing citations for feeding Key Deer will bother judges and make it less likely that they will "help out" in the future?! This sounds ridiculous to me, yet have you ever heard of anyone receiving a fine for feeding Key deer? I haven't either.

Also, It is really important to educate the community!! Radio and Cable PSAs! Education programs in schools! And explaining WHY interactions with wildlife is bad, not just saying "it's illegal". No one wants to follow a rule they think is stupid. | By Kate C



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Labels for Genetically Modified Food

Idea Title: Pass these bills so that we will have the tools to decide for ourselves whether to purchase a genetically modified product.

Number of votes: 10

Idea Title: I'm willing to pay a premium for products that are not genetically engineered.

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: Ban them outright. Manipulating nature in this way scares me.

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: This issue just hasn't been studied enough. I think we should focus on more rigorous testing.

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: I have my own idea, which I'm going to provide by clicking "Learn More" and going to the comments field.

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Leave the status quo. The bureaucracy is already too big and I've never heard of anyone getting sick from a GMO.

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: I support labeling, but only if it's not going to significantly drive prices up.

Number of votes: 1

Comments

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Move toward the Precautionary Principle in the USA - it will start at local and state levels with consumers and the middle class. | By candace W



Comment 2: I think we should have education events and actively follow the work of Elizabeth Kucinich, Food Democracy Now, GMO OMG and other leading organizations working for transparency and the consumer's right to know. | By candace W

Comment 3: Personally, I am not a fan of GMOs but they do have a place in world agriculture. Labeling is not really necessary, buy only Organic produce, stay away from fast food restaurants and processed foods. | By Kim G



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Transportation Challenges Poll

Idea Title: Lack of alternative transportation options (shuttles, trams, trolleys)

Number of votes: 9

Idea Title: Aging / damaged infrastructure

Number of votes: 7

Idea Title: Insufficient public transit service

Number of votes: 7

Idea Title: Need more bicycle and walking paths

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Lack of connectivity to regional transportation options

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Inability to withstand the impacts of sea level rise

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Lack of charging stations for electric vehicles

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Safety concerns

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Impacts from storm events and flooding

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Lack of Ferry Service



Number of votes: 2

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Tell us how to best communicate with you about the GreenKeys! Project.

Idea Title: Email

Number of votes: 9

Idea Title: Facebook

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Meet and Greet Events

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Our GreenKeys.info website

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Twitter

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Text Message

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Newsletters

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Phone Calls

Number of votes: 0

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Taking Public Transit

Idea Title: More frequent service

Number of votes: 9

Idea Title: More public transportation options

Number of votes: 7

Idea Title: Desire to reduce your carbon footprint

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: More reliable service

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Extending the routes closer to home/work

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Lack of normal transportation options during future sea level rise flooding

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: More cost effective service

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Availability of transportation during rain events

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: More awareness of public transportation options

Number of votes: 1

Comments



Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Help us Best Highlight the Importance of Sustainability and Climate Issues

Idea Title: Provide good credible data so that people understand the opportunities to plan and costs of inaction.

Number of votes: 8

Idea Title: Tap into the strong community voices that fight to protect our quality of life.

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: Work with the business community to protect our economy from the impacts of climate change and sea level rise.

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Create public forums for people to discuss and prioritize the strategies in the planning process.

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Hold fun and engaging events to call attention to the issues we face.

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: Talk about protecting the critical wildlife and habitat we have from these impacts.

Number of votes: 2

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Future Development

Idea Title: Ability to withstand more flooding and rain events

Number of votes: 8

Idea Title: Protecting open spaces and natural resources

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: Affordability of my home

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Ability to afford property insurance

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: Maintaining the local character

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Upgrading aging buildings and infrastructure

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Attracting new businesses/jobs

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Maintaining market value

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Preserving historical sites/buildings

Number of votes: 0

Comments



Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Economic Vitality in the Keys

Idea Title: More affordable housing

Number of votes: 8

Idea Title: Better transportation

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Improvements in municipal and county services and public facilities

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Greater options for entertainment and cultural amenities

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Increased funding for schools

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Other (Provide your choice in the Comments)

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Greater tax incentives for business relocation

Number of votes: 0

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Sharing a Ride

Idea Title: A ridesharing social networking website or app for the Florida Keys to help you identify potential carpool candidates.

Number of votes: 7

Idea Title: Federal or other tax incentives (or deductions) for carpooling regularly.

Number of votes: 5

Idea Title: Incentives from your employer, such as preferred carpool parking or monthly prize drawings.

Number of votes: 4

Idea Title: A public information campaign that stresses the cost savings that you can realize by ridesharing.

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: More flexible work hours to allow for the possibility of carpooling with other employees.

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: A renewed hike in fuel prices.

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: I already carpool or ride share to work.

Number of votes: 0

Idea Title: Nothing. I like having the freedom of my own car.

Number of votes: 0

Comments



Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: As a government worker ride sharing needs to creating a program that will allow for county workers to ride together in a county vehicle to the office and home. Plus the bus system needs to meet the needs of the county residents with more buses and more room to transport bicycles. | By Kim G

Comment 2: Thanks Midge. What type of incentives do you think would be effective? | By Erin D

Comment 3: I carpool/ride share regularly and decline to travel when possible if not able to do so.

Better incentives to ride local buses would be welcome. | By Midge J



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Controlling Invasive Plants

Idea Title: A robust public education plan on the benefits of using native plants for gardening

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: A tax incentive program that rewards nurseries and related businesses for selling only native plants

Number of votes: 6

Idea Title: An ordinance requiring the use of only native plants in all private and public landscaping

Number of votes: 2

Comments

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: Educating the public - requires our public entities to do the job, and it's not "regulations" or an ordinance being promulgated. This very "Green Keys!" web campaign is utilizing our public funds, for example, and I'm confident our many public agencies, can seek and secure collaborative support from the garden clubs, nurseries, and consumer groups, etc., to promote sensible practices. Already, IFAS, and the Ag Extension office does this in every county. Bringing renewed focus is appropriate and desirable, and the governmental bodies aren't inhibiting "the economy" through this initiative. In fact, they are advancing the economy through encouraging best (agricultural) practices, and is aimed at limiting the cost to all of us from having to clean up, eradicate and mitigate the invasive species and exotics. | By Michael S

Comment 2: Thank you for the input Antonia. | By Erin D

Comment 3: Educating the public is a great idea - just not with Government money - neither county, state, nor Federal funds. Perhaps the local garden clubs would be a good resource for tackling this issue. I also oppose any additional ordinances. We have far too many regulations right now - and they are costly to enforce. Let's keep government entities out of as many areas as possible - we already are inundated with regulations and they are inhibiting our ability to grow the economy. | By Antonia S



Comment 4: Good idea. Thanks for your thoughts Midge. | By Erin D

Comment 5: Ordinance preventing use of identified invasive exotics and grants to help landholders to eradicate same. | By Midge J



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Working together for a more sustainable Keys

Idea Title: Use the schools as community centers

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Raise awareness around how residents can incorporate sustainability into their everyday life

Number of votes: 3

Idea Title: Collaborate to provide adult education opportunities

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Other, please let us know!

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Address transportation challenges during school hours

Number of votes: 0

Comments

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: What does "sustainability" mean in the context of this questionnaire? It is used for many different purposes. I vote to focus on recycling. Not enough people participate. Some educational efforts may be needed but perhaps incentives as well. Recycling requires some effort on everyone's part but saves money and reduces land fill. I would also like to see more regular efforts at cleaning up the garbage on our coast line and in the water. | By Antonia S



Topic Name (Instant Poll): Climate Adaptation Strategies

Idea Title: Construct artificial reefs, breakwaters or mangrove islands to protect against storms

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Provide us another idea that you might have by commenting

Number of votes: 2

Idea Title: Elevate and flood proof buildings in certain flood zones that aren't protected already

Number of votes: 1

Idea Title: Create a VOLUNTARY buyout program to pay people today but leave at a later date

Number of votes: 0

Comments

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Upper Keys: Storms (wind and waves) no threat. Sea level rise (Bay & Ocean) whether rain or moon are a threat: raise roads and PUBLIC buildings; private buildings - provide County-sponsored loan program for the owners to raise/flood-proof. | By william A



Topic Name: Submit Photographs for Consideration in the GreenKeys! Plan

Idea Title: Good Times with Mr. Lobster!

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Thankful | By Michael S

Comment 2: Excited | By Rhonda H

Idea Title: Hens and Chickens Reef off Islamorada.

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Excited | By Alicia B

Idea Title: Key West Airport Salt Water Next to runway

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Key West Airport Saltwater Rising Out Of Storm Drains

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Key West 11th St. Flooding

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Key West Salt Water from Drain on Tarmac

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Girl and Extension leader Fishing

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: Alligator Reef

Number of Comments 1



Comment 1: Beautiful photo! | By Rhonda H

Idea Title: Islamorada Sandbar

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: young buck on Upper Sugarloaf Key

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: mating horseshoe crabs on Upper Sugarloaf Key

Number of Comments 0

Idea Title: west view over the Great White Heron Wildlife Refuge - Upper Sugarloaf Key

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Always the beautiful blue, clean skies over the Keys! | By Michael S

Comment 2: Inspired , Thankful | By Michael S

Comment 3: Inspired | By Rhonda H

Idea Title: Big Pine Key Sunset on Narcissus Drive in Eden Pines Colony

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Inspired , Thankful | By Kim G

Idea Title: Low tide at Anne's beach Lower Matecumbe Key

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Inspired , Thankful | By Kim G

Idea Title: Aerial view Jewfish Bridge(?) with 18 mile stretch in the background and Key Largo in the forefront. I have left the mainland.



Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Inspired | By Michael S

Comment 2: Inspired , Thankful , Excited | By Kim G

Idea Title: At Ft. Zach-Key West, the pristine waters & horizon define the qualities that have attracted us all to love the Keys

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: This is a great photo! Thanks for posting... | By Erin D

Comment 2: Simply beautiful, the ocean is where we live and gives us everything. | By Michael S

Comment 3: Proactive , Inspired , Thankful | By Michael S



Topic Name: 'Tis the Season! For Big High Tides... King Tides that Is!

Idea Title: Great picture of King Tides impacting roads!

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Challenged | By Michael S

Comment 2: Here's a great article on the City of Delray Beach's efforts to call attention to King Tides with some good photos!

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/local/broward/fl-october-king-tides-20141008-story.html> | By Erin D

Idea Title: King Tide Oct 8-Key West, corner of Vivian St, at 1st Street, one block off N. Roosevelt Blvd

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Uneasy, Challenged, Motivated | By Michael S

Idea Title: King Tide Oct 8-Key West, on 1st Street and Vivian St, one block off N. Roosevelt Blvd.

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Uneasy, Challenged, Motivated | By Michael S

Idea Title: 1st Street & Vivian St. one block off N. Roosevelt Blvd in Key West, Wednesday Oct 9, late morning.

Number of Comments 0



Survey: Health and Safety

Question: How would you rate your feeling of safety day to day?

I feel very safe : 10

I feel reasonably safe most of the time : 2

I sometimes feel unsafe : 1

I often feel unsafe : 1

Question: Do you feel that you have adequate access to the health services you need?

Yes : 7

Comment: : 5

Conventional medical care is disease management, not health care. Should be much more focus on prevention, nutrition, alternatives.

More specialists needed and geriatric services

need higher quality services

The choice of providers that take my insurance is low in addition to the fact that they are not competitively priced. There is a greater selection of healthcare providers on the mainland (Dade & Broward) and their costs of care are lower. I travel to Dade/Broward for some of my healthcare needs.

The State must expand access to Medicare. The Governor's failure to offer this, and the Legislature's compliance is irresponsible, at best.

For the most part, but there could be improvements (please describe) : 0

No : 2

Question: Do you feel well-prepared for emergency situations, such as storms and other natural disasters?



I have a plan in place and am familiar with resources available to me : 10

I feel mostly prepared, but worry about speed or availability of emergency services : 4

I don't have a plan, but am confident that services will be available to me : 0

I never worry about this : 0

Question: What is the biggest obstacle for living a healthier life in the Keys?

Access to gyms/fitness centers : 1

Safety/quality of bike and pedestrian paths : 4

Access to quality, healthy foods : 5

I don't think there are any obstacles to living healthy in the Keys : 4

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Survey: Reducing our Trash Stream

Question: Which of the following steps would you like to see local government undertake first in order to reduce the local waste stream?

Ensure the County's solid waste is recycled, composted or made into energy, not landfilled. : 4

Enter into a coalition with other South Florida cities and counties to cohesively manage regional solid waste. : 0

Create an official "Green Recycler" designation for businesses that meet targets, thereby giving them a marketing boost. : 1

Implement product bans, if legal, on harmful and avoidable items (e.g. plastic bags or Styrofoam food containers). : 7

Increase locations and drop-off dates for household hazardous waste disposal. : 0

Provide tax incentives or offer reduced fees to businesses that hit recycling targets. : 0

Charge residences according to how much garbage they dispose in order to incentivize recycling. : 3

Question: Which of the following steps would you like to see local governments undertake second?

Ensure the County's solid waste is recycled, composted or made into energy, not landfilled. : 5

Enter into a coalition with other South Florida cities and counties to cohesively manage regional solid waste. : 3

Create an official "Green Recycler" designation for businesses that meet targets, thereby giving them a marketing boost. : 0

Implement product bans, if legal, on harmful and avoidable items (e.g. plastic bags or Styrofoam food containers). : 4

Increase locations and drop-off dates for household hazardous waste disposal. : 1



Provide tax incentives or offer reduced fees to businesses that hit recycling targets. : 1

Charge residences according to how much garbage they dispose in order to incentivize recycling. : 1

Question: Which of the following steps would you like to see local governments undertake third?

Ensure the County's solid waste is recycled, composted or made into energy, not landfilled. : 3

Enter into a coalition with other South Florida cities and counties to cohesively manage regional solid waste. : 3

Create an official "Green Recycler" designation for businesses that meet targets, thereby giving them a marketing boost. : 1

Implement product bans, if legal, on harmful and avoidable items (e.g. plastic bags or Styrofoam food containers). : 3

Increase locations and drop-off dates for household hazardous waste disposal. : 0

Provide tax incentives or offer reduced fees to businesses that hit recycling targets. : 3

Charge residences according to how much garbage they dispose in order to incentivize recycling. : 2

Question: Which of the following steps do you think local governments should undertake fourth?

Ensure the County's solid waste is recycled, composted or made into energy, not landfilled. : 1

Enter into a coalition with other South Florida cities and counties to cohesively manage regional solid waste. : 3

Create an official "Green Recycler" designation for businesses that meet targets, thereby giving them a marketing boost. : 3

Implement product bans, if legal, on harmful and avoidable items (e.g. plastic bags or Styrofoam food containers). : 1



Increase locations and drop-off dates for household hazardous waste disposal. : 3

Provide tax incentives or offer reduced fees to businesses that hit recycling targets. : 3

Charge residences according to how much garbage they dispose in order to incentivize recycling. : 1

Question: Which of the following steps do you think local governments should undertake fifth?

Ensure the County's solid waste is recycled, composted or made into energy, not landfilled. : 0

Enter into a coalition with other South Florida cities and counties to cohesively manage regional solid waste. : 1

Create an official “Green Recycler” designation for businesses that meet targets, thereby giving them a marketing boost. : 2

Implement product bans, if legal, on harmful and avoidable items (e.g. plastic bags or Styrofoam food containers). : 4

Increase locations and drop-off dates for household hazardous waste disposal. : 3

Provide tax incentives or offer reduced fees to businesses that hit recycling targets. : 3

Charge residences according to how much garbage they dispose in order to incentivize recycling. : 2

Question: Which of the following steps do you think local governments should undertake sixth?

Ensure the County's solid waste is recycled, composted or made into energy, not landfilled. : 0

Enter into a coalition with other South Florida cities and counties to cohesively manage regional solid waste. : 1

Create an official “Green Recycler” designation for businesses that meet targets, thereby giving them a marketing boost. : 4



Implement product bans, if legal, on harmful and avoidable items (e.g. plastic bags or Styrofoam food containers). : 1

Increase locations and drop-off dates for household hazardous waste disposal. : 2

Provide tax incentives or offer reduced fees to businesses that hit recycling targets. : 4

Charge residences according to how much garbage they dispose in order to incentivize recycling. : 3

Question: Which of the following steps are you least interested in seeing local governments undertake?

Ensure the County's solid waste is recycled, composted or made into energy, not landfilled. : 0

Enter into a coalition with other South Florida cities and counties to cohesively manage regional solid waste. : 4

Create an official "Green Recycler" designation for businesses that meet targets, thereby giving them a marketing boost. : 3

Implement product bans, if legal, on harmful and avoidable items (e.g. plastic bags or Styrofoam food containers). : 1

Increase locations and drop-off dates for household hazardous waste disposal. : 3

Provide tax incentives or offer reduced fees to businesses that hit recycling targets. : 0

Charge residences according to how much garbage they dispose in order to incentivize recycling. : 4

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Survey: Sustainability and Climate Survey

Question: In what area should we begin our efforts with implementing our Climate Action Plan?

Revise Monroe County Comprehensive Plan to address strategic planning related to climate change mitigation and adaptation needs. : 0

Please let us know of any other suggestions where we should get to work! : 1

these are all good ideas, but it is important to first-raise awareness with the right people (policy makers) THEN create the maps and gather the info (you'll have more people to help with this after you network) THEN start implementing changes and laws etc...

Develop an implementation strategy for the Monroe County Community Climate Action Plan : 3

Create policies for future development to incorporate sea level rise inundation vulnerabilities for the life expectancy of the infrastructure. : 1

Use improved inundation mapping to identify the sections of roadways, critical structures and natural areas that will be affected by sea level rise projections. : 3

Provide advocacy and leadership for adoption of climate change policies and legislation with local, state, and federal entities. : 0

Incorporate "Adaptation Action Area" designation into local comprehensive plans and regional planning documents to identify those areas deemed most vulnerable to sea level rise and other climate change impacts. : 0

Question: Which areas in our community are in need of more sustainable / green features and what are those features?

All county buildings and vehicles.

better public transportation- It's hot out there! please don't make us wait 30 min to an hour for a bus. I suggest a recycle program initiative! Weigh our recycles and give us incentives for the weight, also create better recycling programs for businesses! Every office I work at refuses to pay for a recycle dumpster and all the paper and plastic gets thrown out.



bio-diesel buses, more solar energy use, mandatory recycling, ban damaging fertilizers, less toxic mosquito spraying, more bike paths and sidewalks, more native landscaping, community vegetable gardens

County facilities

Events, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, alternative energy and energy efficiency

improved and enhanced public transport

Land Development Regulations need more greening ;)

Public transportation - introduce a more frequent reliable schedule up & down the Keys. Enforce fines and penalties for dumping, nearshore pollution on land and in the water. All County properties should use native plants, water conservation, energy conservation, car pool hybrid vehicles, waste reduction strategies.

Question: Do you recycle at your home? Why or why not?

Yes, very extensively and I never throw anything away that I can recycle. : 5

Yes, I am pretty good about recycling and I think its a good habit. : 3

So-so, I could stand to improve my recycling rates. : 0

I'm not very good at all and I am happy this is an anonymous poll. : 0

Question: What forms of alternative energy do you think our community and the County should prioritize? Please pick the top thwo.

Solar : 8

Wind : 0

Bio-fuels : 3

Co-generation : 0



Question: Would you be in favor of using public funds to implement green features / climate adaptation features?

Yes : 6

Maybe, but it depends on the projects and costs : 2

Not sure : 0

No : 0

Comments

Number of Comments 0



Survey: Transportation Priorities

Question: Which of these steps would you like local and state agencies to undertake first?

Continue the construction of bike paths and sidewalks, but at a faster pace. : 7

Establish formal bike share programs in Key West and other appropriate areas within the Keys. : 1

Begin a targeted enforcement program to make sure drivers are observing crosswalk right-of-ways. : 0

Beef up enforcement on bicyclists who do not observe stoplights, stop signs and other traffic laws. : 1

Adopt a complete streets policy requiring that roadways be designed for the safety and comfort of motorists, transit riders, cyclists and pedestrians alike. : 4

Provide elevated trams. : 0

Question: Which of these steps would you like local and state agencies to undertake second?

Continue the construction of bike paths and sidewalks, but at a faster pace. : 4

Establish formal bike share programs in Key West and other appropriate areas within the Keys. : 1

Begin a targeted enforcement program to make sure drivers are observing crosswalk right-of-ways. : 1

Beef up enforcement on bicyclists who do not observe stoplights, stop signs and other traffic laws. : 0

Adopt a complete streets policy requiring that roadways be designed for the safety and comfort of motorists, transit riders, cyclists and pedestrians alike. : 7

Provide elevated trams. : 0

Question: Which of these steps would you like local and state agencies to undertake



third?

Continue the construction of bike paths and sidewalks, but at a faster pace. : 1

Establish formal bike share programs in Key West and other appropriate areas within the Keys. : 3

Begin a targeted enforcement program to make sure drivers are observing crosswalk right-of-ways. : 2

Beef up enforcement on bicyclists who do not observe stoplights, stop signs and other traffic laws. : 3

Adopt a complete streets policy requiring that roadways be designed for the safety and comfort of motorists, transit riders, cyclists and pedestrians alike. : 3

Provide elevated trams. : 1

Question: Which of these steps would you like local and state agencies to undertake fourth?

Continue the construction of bike paths and sidewalks, but at a faster pace. : 1

Establish formal bike share programs in Key West and other appropriate areas within the Keys. : 5

Begin a targeted enforcement program to make sure drivers are observing crosswalk right-of-ways. : 4

Beef up enforcement on bicyclists who do not observe stoplights, stop signs and other traffic laws. : 2

Adopt a complete streets policy requiring that roadways be designed for the safety and comfort of motorists, transit riders, cyclists and pedestrians alike. : 0

Provide elevated trams. : 1

Question: Which among these steps should be the second to last priority of local and state agencies?

Continue the construction of bike paths and sidewalks, but at a faster pace. : 1



Establish formal bike share programs in Key West and other appropriate areas within the Keys. : 1

Begin a targeted enforcement program to make sure drivers are observing crosswalk right-of-ways. : 4

Beef up enforcement on bicyclists who do not observe stoplights, stop signs and other traffic laws. : 3

Adopt a complete streets policy requiring that roadways be designed for the safety and comfort of motorists, transit riders, cyclists and pedestrians alike. : 0

Provide elevated trams. : 4

Question: Which of these steps do you think local and state agencies should make their lowest priority?

Continue the construction of bike paths and sidewalks, but at a faster pace. : 0

Establish formal bike share programs in Key West and other appropriate areas within the Keys. : 1

Begin a targeted enforcement program to make sure drivers are observing crosswalk right-of-ways. : 1

Beef up enforcement on bicyclists who do not observe stoplights, stop signs and other traffic laws. : 5

Adopt a complete streets policy requiring that roadways be designed for the safety and comfort of motorists, transit riders, cyclists and pedestrians alike. : 1

Provide elevated trams. : 5

Comments

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Kim, what width do you think would be reasonable for the Big Pine lane? | By Erin D



Comment 2: I am distressed by the extremely slow pace in completing the Overseas Heritage Trail. And that future additions, such as Big Pine Key prepare a large area for the bike path then narrow it down to a 4 foot wide path. this will not allow for me to ride my recumbent trikes and to pass any other bicyclist without one cyclist has to pull in the grass to pass. I consider cyclist to be considered as third class citizens. | By Kim G

Comment 3: Clear road signage for cyclists, so that motor vehicles can also clearly see for safety. White striping of road, bike icon symbols. Some city streets are way too narrow for a dedicated bike lane or for sidewalk usage, so cyclists should be given wide enough berth for passing. | By Michael S