



SUMMARY OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING #2
Florida Adaptation Technical Work Group (TWG)
March 6, 2008
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST

Attendance:

1. TWG Members: Camille Coley, Jim Murley, Diana Ferguson, Audrey Brown, Hilary Swain, Peter Merritt, Doug Shaw, Richard Owen, John Ogden, Matthew Alvarez, Ricardo Alvarez, Meg Lowman, Gary Appelson, Paul Johnson, and Secretary Tom Pelham.
2. Members of the Public: Karen Ladd and Jason Lichtenstein
3. Stephen Adams, Florida Department of Environment and Mitch Stripling, of Florida Department of Health
4. Center for Climate Strategies: Ken Colburn, Tom Peterson, Bill Dougherty, Joel Smith, and Linda Schade.

Background materials:

(Posted at www.flclimatechange.us)

- [Notice and Agenda](#)
- [PowerPoint Presentation for Call #2](#)
- [Draft Meeting Summary for Call #1](#)
- [FAU Murley-Bollman Framework](#)
- [Miami-Dade Climate Change Advisory Task Force Science Committee Statement on Sea Level Rise](#)

For background:

- [ICLEI GIP Guidebook](#)
- [Decision Matrix for Adaptation Options \(Veith-Colburn\)](#)
- ['Responding to Climate Change Report' Initial Report \(Washington State\)](#)
- [Draft Adaptation Work Plan \(Washington State\)](#)
- [Maryland Adaptation and Response Working Group Policy Options](#)

Discussion Items and Issues:

This was the second call of the Florida Adaptation TWG.

1. Ken Colburn of CCS called the meeting to order, called roll, and reviewed the agenda for the call.
2. Edits to Call #1 Draft Summary include: adding Theresa Mazutto and others to attendee list, including www.sfrestore.org for website correction. The Call #1 meeting summary will remain open until next call.

FAU Framework Presentation

Jim Murley presented the contents of the Bollman Report which is hoped to provide a framework for the Adaptation TWG to do its work. The framework includes six areas of focus:

- Climate adaptation science
- Public Sector Planning & Investment: Public Sector Planning & Investment includes comprehensive land use planning and building regulation, Water supply and delivery issues, Transportation and other infrastructure, conservation of natural lands and marine systems, Beaches and Beach Management, and emergency preparedness.
- Property and Casualty Insurance
- State funding and financing
- Economic development, health and social effects
- Organizing state government for the long haul

Florida has excellent planning regimes in place. The report recommends using existing institutions including non-profits, and universities.

Discussion of Framework:

1. Knowledge can be shared with Caribbean countries where impacts will be even greater.
2. A number of members commented that there is a need to look at coastal areas in terms of Sea Level Rise (SLR) and climate change. Water supply and delivery has been augmented; Water Resources Act should be reference point for this work.
3. Infrastructure investments and SLR need to be taken into account. The FL keys also need to be looked at with an awareness of climate change. A longer time frame for our efforts for what mitigation is working on, the year 2060 is suggested. Appalachicola in NW Florida also faces issues
4. Insurance CFO is very involved in climate issues. Audrey Brown offered to provide technical expertise on this topic for the TWG. The science advisor was also on the line offering participation.
5. Economic Development and social issues: Education is critically important here. Job creation opportunities are present here.
6. Organizing State Government: Report didn't aim to fully deal with this. It was noted that the Adaptation TWG is likely to take this topic area on as part of its work.
7. In the area of adaptation science, make mention of the engineering sector. Also there are building design criteria and community protection issues for both new and existing infrastructure. Science and data collection on storm surge needs a lot of work. Micro level data is needed, including on the direction and speed of surges and we are weak in

those areas. For land use and planning regulation, adaptation requires going beyond the building code. Also, Emergency Prep and Response does not view climate change as a hazard yet. The State Mitigation lists hazards and they need to add climate change as a hazard.

8. The focus should be on long term projects. Rather than talking about tax cuts and the like, a fund should be created to deal with these issues in the future. A longer time frame such as the year 2060 was suggested for efforts as mitigation planning is assuming.
9. The task at hand for the ADP TWG is to determine if this document represents a useful framework for us going forward. Jim Murley invited TWG members to submit comments on the FAU paper via email.
10. This framework report is coastal-centric. Interior areas and the rising number of master plan development waivers threaten to create interior sprawl and must be taken into account. Florida must prepare to cope with the need to move from coasts, and to be cognizant of climate change-induced relocation pressure when granting those waivers. Consideration must be given to loss of beach as habitat for turtles and other species.
11. From a health perspective, looking at last section of ‘Economic, social and health indicators’ please note that Howard Frumpkin at CDC has produced papers on this. Mitch said his organization would be willing to write sections on this area. He envisions economic policies that could provide revenues for dealing with some of these issues.
12. Given the scenario of people moving inland, the concept of retreat is controversial. There are strategies that would support retreat or ‘re-location to the interior’ might be alternative language.
13. The importance of private investment, and its role in land use and development was described as critical and that consciousness of the consequences of the TWG’s work and recommendations on private investment is paramount. Further comment: It is the loss of beach which would necessitate retreat. This will be a profoundly significant issue for the state of Florida.
14. Water supply and delivery are serious areas of concern. There needs to be a focus on water re-use and eliminating ocean outfalls. Billions of gallons of water are not being treated sufficient for re-use. There is a need to increase re-use capacity to protect aquifers. It was also noted that flood protection facilities will be affected by climate change and large areas that are protected by those facilities.
15. Maryland focused on four areas Existing Built Environment and Infrastructure, Future Built Environment, Resources and Resource-based Industries, and Health, Human Safety and Welfare.
16. Agriculture is going to receive the biggest impact, especially with increased climate variability.

17. Education is a critically important part of Adaptation work.

Scenarios: Focus on the Miami-Dade Task Force Statement on Sea Level Rise

From The Science and Technology Committee, Dr. Wanless builds off of the IPCC scenarios.

1. The take home message is that IPCC numbers understate what FL is likely to experience. As SLR and climate are incorporated, both major and minor SLR should be considered. In the Miami-Dade report, planners around the state were interviewed and the big obstacle that they identified is that they do not know what their SLR target is.
2. Regarding insurance issues, the CFO is also concerned about getting information out to local users of policy. An education blitz is needed.
3. SLR data must be carefully used. Impacts will be more significant at high tide so tide needs to be taken into account. Research is needed to take contingencies and uncertainties into account and that research needs to be funded so data can become information. It was noted that this data and research work is itself an adaptation strategy. A third TWG member noted that ‘lots of groups are doing data gathering but there is a lack of coordination. Further there are other factors affecting weather in addition to climate changes.’
4. If more profound drought is expected, the State of Florida will be more vulnerable to wild fires, as has happened.
5. TWG member requested that we include standard acronyms in all documents.

Next Meeting

The next Adaptation TWG calls will be held on the following:

4/4 10am to noon (Friday) EST

4/21 10am to noon (Monday)

5/ 12 1pm to 3pm (Monday)

Public Comments

Announcement of March 12 ‘Oceans Day’ at State Capital.

Participant offered to email draft legislation that deals with oceans outfalls.