

Cutler Bay Green Master Plan

2018 - 2022

Taking Community Sustainability to the Next Level



IV. Public Involvement and Ideas

On February 13, 2017, a public workshop on the Town's green programs and future direction was held at Town Hall. After a presentation by staff and general question period, the participants selected the following Green Mission Statement:

“To protect and improve the Town’s built and natural environment through the use of land in a manner that enhances existing neighborhoods, conserves resources, ensures the availability of public facilities and services, and realized the community’s vision for its future.”



The workshop discussion also focused on four (4) primary sustainability objectives as presented below.

GOAL #1: AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

As a Town, we will work to reduce and eventually eliminate the contribution we make to unsustainable practices.

Goal #1 Objectives

1. Reduce the Town's carbon footprint by encouraging local shopping for local products.
2. Reduce vehicle miles travelled through alternative mechanisms.
3. Promote land use patterns that reduce automobile dependence.
4. Encourage Farmer's Market.
5. Create 'sense of place' at Town Center Plaza.
6. Increase walkability and pedestrian signage.
7. Increase service level of transit circulator.
8. Increase tree canopy along sidewalks and bikeways.
9. Create 'dual purpose' bus shelters.
10. Create a trail map.
11. Economic incentives for small businesses.
12. Seek the FGBC 'Gold' level certification for the Town in 2021.

GOAL #2: INCREASE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS OF THE COMMUNITY

Increase opportunities for the community to learn about and participate in decision making processes regarding climate change.

Goal #2 Objectives

1. Create an incentive for residents and businesses through an Environmental Award program sponsored by the Town.
2. Continue to provide meaningful and attractive green incentives for the private development sector.
3. Partner with local businesses to host environmentally friendly events to promote community education and involvement.
4. Continue to support public education and outreach programs addressing energy efficiency, water conservation, solid waste reduction and recycling, landscaping, air quality and greenhouse gas reduction.
5. Establish a database of priority green projects.
6. Train residents in native plants.
7. Permit rain barrels.
8. Maintain and increase community gardens.
9. Engage in partnerships with schools such as the COAST Program.
10. Encourage school gardens and competitions.

GOAL #3: PROMOTE ALTERNATIVE MODES OF TRANSPORTATION

As a Town, we will change the way people and goods move.

Goal #3 Objectives

1. Enhance and expand public transportation services including MetroBus and the Town Circulator.
2. Create a better environment for bicycling such as more bike lanes and a bike sharing program.
3. Make Cutler Bay more walkable.
4. Encourage ridesharing.
5. Provide for golf cart parking and charging stations.
6. Add bus shelters and improve them to be more weather-resistant and night-lighted (solar).
7. Provide incentives for bicycle usage, businesses and schools.



GOAL #4: INCREASE PARTNERSHIPS

Goal #4 Objectives

1. Provide local business incentives for green initiatives.
2. Investigate research partnerships with local universities.
3. Investigate partnership opportunities with Miami-Dade Transit, Miami-Dade Parks & Recreation (eco-tourism), and Miami-Dade Public Schools (environmental weekend classes).
4. Work with the local Florida State Agricultural Extension office.
5. Take action to reduce Styrofoam and plastics in the community.
6. Highlight green businesses in local newspapers.
7. Work with HOA's to promote use of electric vehicles for security, water conservation and Florida-friendly landscaping.
8. Consider producing biodegradable/reusable Town bags.