

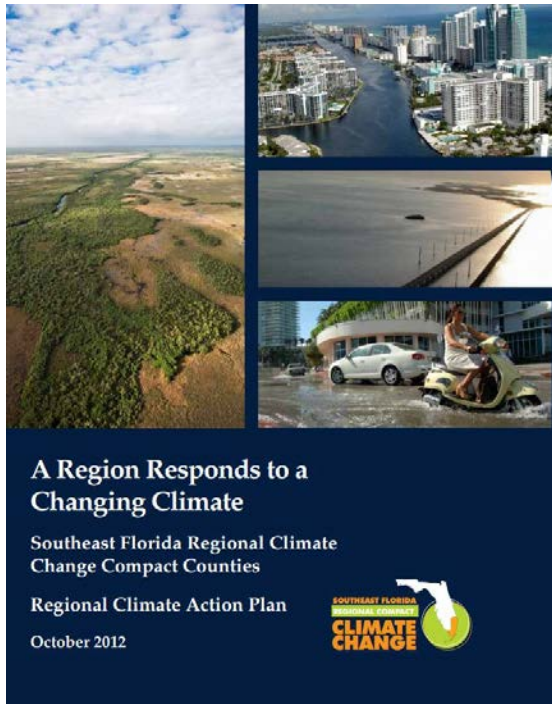


Winter 2017

Compact Currents is a quarterly newsletter from the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact highlighting the progress of the Compact, the counties and municipalities in Southeast Florida.

Regional Climate Action Plan:

2017 Revision

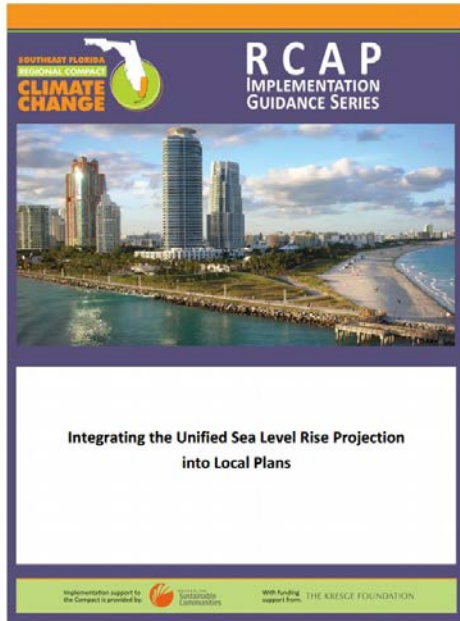


The Compact has begun the first phase of the [Regional Climate Action Plan \(RCAP\) 2017 revision](#). The [110 existing recommendations](#) are currently being evaluated and updated by topic experts, based on feedback from the 108 local municipalities on implemented RCAP 1.0 recommendations. The final version of the RCAP 2.0 will be presented in December at the [9th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit](#).

[Visit our website](#) to stay up-to-date with the RCAP revision process.

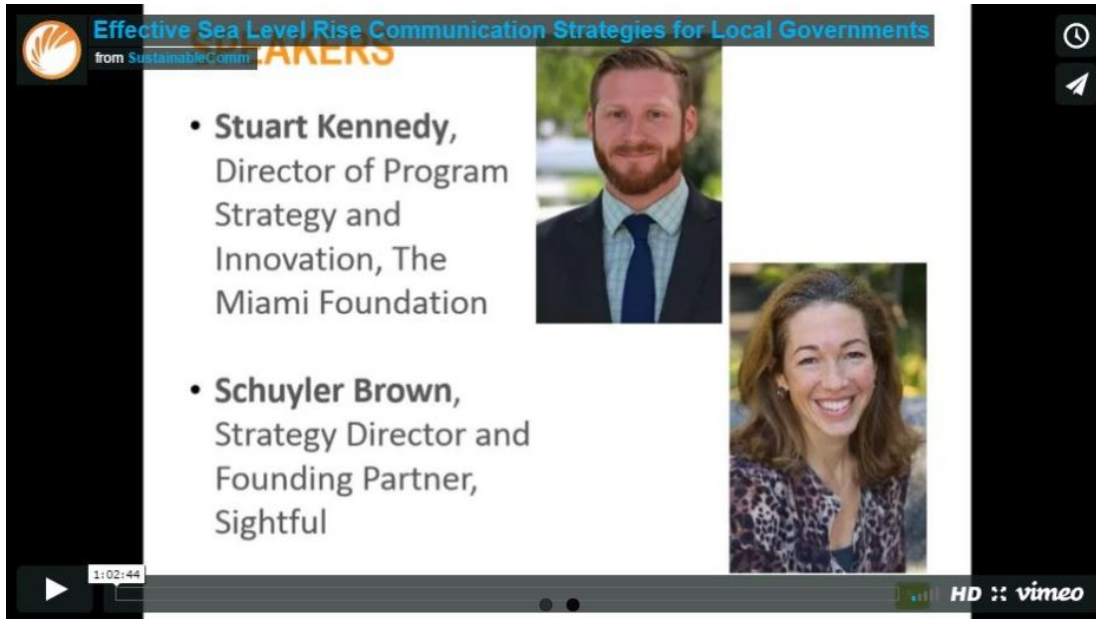
Compact Resources

Integrating Sea Level Rise Projections into Local Plans



We've recently published a guidance document titled [*Integrating the Unified Sea Level Rise Projection into Local Plans*](#). The document focuses on the increasing number of local governments that are independently planning for sea level rise compliance with state law. It also includes policy language and examples of how projections have been integrated into planning.

Effective Sea Level Rise Communication Strategies for Local Governments



Watch the latest Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact webinar, [*Effective Sea Level Rise Communication Strategies for Local Governments*](#). The webinar recording provides local government leaders with effective communication strategies for constituents, staff, electeds, businesses and other stakeholders.

The [webinar discussion](#) highlighted The Miami Foundation's 2016 research project [*We're All in This Together*](#), which reported on sea level rise (SLR) communications, how different stakeholders respond to the impacts of SLR and how messaging can empower these various groups to take positive action.

See our [Upcoming Events](#) for more information on a related webinar hosted by The Miami Foundation on March 1.

Partner Updates

Resilience Dialogues



Two Southeast Florida municipalities, Hallandale Beach and Boynton Beach, were chosen to receive technical assistance from [Resilience Dialogues](#), a public-private collaboration that works to build climate-resilient communities. The facilitated dialogues happen among scientists, practitioners and community leaders to help communities take concrete steps toward resilience by evaluating their risks from climate variability and change.

The program is coordinated by the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) and the American Geophysical Union’s Thriving Earth Exchange, and overseen by a leadership team. It was developed over the past year through a collaborative co-design process among federal agencies, local governments and civil society. The City of Coral Gables participated in the initial phase of Resilience Dialogues. The [Institute for Sustainable Communities](#) is helping to launch the Resilience Dialogues, recruit practitioners to engage in these critical conversations and work with communities who want to focus on resilience.

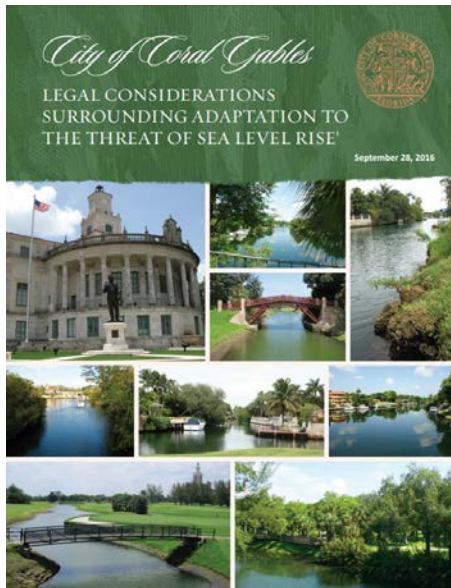
Monroe County Addresses Sea Level Rise in Road Projects

Monroe County is creating a framework to deal with county roads that need to be adapted to sea level rise, a continuation of the county's leadership in addressing climate change adaptation at the local level.

At its January monthly meeting, the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) adopted the [Monroe County Roads Demonstration Tidal Flooding Report February 2017](#), a framework to be piloted in The Sands and Twin Lakes communities. The BOCC also approved the design phase of road elevation and drainage projects in those two neighborhoods, implementing the report's recommendations to help prevent tidal flooding.

This paved the way for the BOCC to approve a resolution that sets an interim standard for determining the elevation of future county road improvement projects to account for future sea level rise.

Case Study: The City of Coral Gables



The City of Coral Gables is busy implementing policies to prepare the city for substantial sea level rise and other climate change effects. The white paper, [*Legal Considerations Surrounding Adaptation to the Threat of Sea Level Rise*](#), reviews the policy options for the city to adapt to sea level rise. It also provides an overview of legal issues surrounding each adaptation option.

News

Others Look to Southeast Florida Leadership

[Adaptation Action Areas \(AAA\)](#), a planning tool developed in Southeast Florida in response to rising sea levels, is being recommended by [New Jersey Future](#) as a tool for Jersey Shore communities. This legislation, passed in 2011 as part of the Community Planning Act (CPA), added the optional designation of Adaptation Action Areas within the coastal management element of a local government's comprehensive plans.

In a new [World Resource Institute](#) report, [Roadmap to Support Local Climate Resilience](#), key opportunities are identified for the federal government to assist local communities with climate resilience efforts. On page 14, the report highlights the work of the Compact as “a first-of-its-kind bipartisan collaboration” and “a key contributing factor in the decision of the Florida State Legislature to recognize local designation of Adaptation Action Areas, that is, areas identified as vulnerable to sea level rise and related climate impacts.”

Upcoming Events

[Effective Sea Level Rise Communications](#)

Wed. March 1 | 2:00-3:00 pm ET

The Miami Foundation, with support from the Knight Foundation, commissioned a study in the summer of 2016 to uncover core communication challenges on the topic of sea level rise, and to identify leverage points with key audiences. The Miami Foundation is hosting this webinar to share what they learned in their [report on effective sea level rise communication](#). [Register for the webinar here](#).

9th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit



Broward County will host this year's Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit on December 14-15 at the Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale.

The Climate Leadership Summit is a major regional event focused on facilitating climate-related collaboration and knowledge sharing. The summit attracts innovative thinkers and leaders from business, government, academia and the non-profit community to exchange ideas and dialogue at panel discussions and networking breaks.

More details will be shared soon.

The Compact Calendar

The [Compact Calendar](#) is the central location for climate change events happening in the Southeast Florida region. Submit your event information to the Compact Calendar through this [submit your event page](#).

National Adaptation Forum

We hope to see you at the [National Adaptation Forum \(NAF\)](#) on May 9-11 in Saint Paul, Minnesota!

Missed past issues of the *Compact Currents*?

[Visit our web archive](#)

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