



Interoffice Memorandum

December 2, 2020

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

FROM: **Jeff Benavides, Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer**
County Administrator's Office

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Benavides", located to the right of the "FROM:" field.

CONTACT: (407) 836-7389

SUBJECT: December 15, 2020 – Work Session Item
Orange County Sustainable Operations & Resilience Action Plan

In 2019-2020, Orange County developed a phased approach to become a top-ranked and recognized community for sustainability. The first phase prioritizes leading by example through the implementation of internal actions and practices throughout our operations, assets, and day-to-day procedures. The second phase will focus on aligning and updating Orange County's community-wide initiatives to benefit all residents and businesses in our community.

A concise, measurable, and collaborative Sustainable Operations & Resilience Action Plan has been developed in this first phase that focuses on County operations to lead by example. Outcomes of the Action Plan include:

- Lead-by-example strategy to measure performance and become a top-ranked and recognized County in sustainability and resilience.
- Reduce infrastructure risks and operational costs to continue to fund critical programs and services.
- Position the county for innovative grant funding opportunities and public-private partnerships.
- Develop data-driven goals and recommended actions to enhance the county's sustainability and resilience programs.
- Cross-departmental collaboration around the themes of resilience, inclusion, and innovation.

The Action Plan has been aligned with recommendations from the 2018 Mayor Demings Transition Team Report, the 2014 Our Home for Life Community Sustainability Plan, and the 2007 Orange County Climate Protection Plan. The Action Plan outlines a strategy to achieve 17 goals among six focus areas including:

- Energy & Climate Action
- Buildings & Infrastructure
- Water Use & Quality
- Supply Chain & Materials Management
- Mobility & Fleet
- Trees & Lands

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The goals are specifically aligned with national initiatives that are measurable against other peer communities. The goals are time based and data driven with a collection of 100 short- and long-term actions that drive cross-department implementation and goal achievement.

Each of the sections of the Action Plan contains a narrative stating the importance and purpose of the goal, an assessment of the county's current position (baseline), an analysis of the benefits, and potential fiscal impacts. Each of the goals contain actions that drive performance and progress using a time-based schedule during a five-year horizon.

Staff will provide a presentation to the Board highlighting key goals, and a summary of effective actions for success.

This item is for informational purposes only; no action is required. Request for acceptance of the plan will follow on the January 12, 2021 Agenda.

JAB/es

c: Byron W. Brooks, AICP, County Administrator
Chris Testerman, AICP, Deputy County Administrator
Darren Gray, Deputy County Administrator
Danny Banks, Deputy County Administrator
Carla Bell Johnson, AICP, Assistant County Administrator
Lori Forsman, Program Manager