



18TH ANNUAL SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CLIMATE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

**CAPITALIZING ON CLIMATE :
ACTION THROUGH INNOVATION**

November 4 - 6, 2026
Broward County, FL



S I G N A T U R E S P O N S O R S



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

**School of Environmental, Coastal,
and Ocean Sustainability**

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners proudly hosts and welcomes all participants to the 18th Annual Southeast Florida Climate Leadership Summit.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4

9:00am - 9:10am

OPENING REMARKS

MICHAEL UDINE

Commissioner, District 3, Broward County

DR. HARRY MOON

President and CEO, Nova Southeastern University

9:10am - 10:10am

THE EYES & EARS OF TOMORROW

This session will provide expert insights into the ways sensors, robots, and drones are being used in our region and across the US to make cities more efficient and build resilience. From digital photos to water use snapshots, the panel will share their work and ideas for the future.

Panelists:

DR. TODD CROWL

*Director, Institute of Environment, Florida International University
(moderator)*

ANTHONY ABRAHAO

Research Scientist, Florida International University

ERIC COREY

Senior Smart Utility Specialist, Core and Main Smart Utilities

KATHERINE HENDRICKSON

Executive Director, Wahoo Bay & Shipwreck Park

DR. SUDHAGAR NAGARAJAN

Associate Professor and Associate Chair, Florida Atlantic University

10:10am - 11:15am**THINKING BEYOND THE NOW**

AI is quickly becoming a part of our everyday life, and the use cases for this technology have exploded in the past year. Our panelists will share their expertise to understand how these digital tools support government missions, infrastructure, and broader resilience efforts.

Panelists:**JEREMY MATHURIN**

Director, AI Business Solution Engineers, Microsoft (moderator)

ANNE COGLIANESE

Chief Resilience Officer, City of Jacksonville

MIHO MAZEREEUW

Director, Urban Risk Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

DR. GEORGE SKLIVANITIS

Charles E. Schmidt Associate Research Professor, Center for Connected Autonomy and AI, Florida Atlantic University

KYLE SPENCER

Chief Resilience Officer, City of Norfolk, Virginia

11:15am - 12:00pm**COLLEGIATE COMPANY SHOWCASE**

12:00pm - 1:00pm**LUNCH**

1:00pm - 3:30pm**EMERGING COMPANY SHOWCASE**

3:30pm - 3:50pm**KEYNOTE: RESILIENT BUSINESS PRACTICES****Introduction****ALEXANDRA P. DAVIS***Commissioner, District 7, Broward County***MIKE PRAIRIE**

Senior Director of Sustainability and Business Optimization, Florida Panthers & Amerant Bank Arena

3:50pm - 4:50pm**NEW WAYS TO LIVE, WORK, AND MOVE**

This panel will look at how increasingly automated societies will change the way we manage systems and move people and goods. From futuristic high rises to food delivery robots and flying cars, the future is here.

Panelists:**DR. LYNETTE CARDOCH***Director, Resilience & Adaptation, Moffatt and Nichol (moderator)***DR. KEVIN ADKINS***Professor, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University***JEAN CARLOS ASENCIO***Senior Manager, Commercial Integration, Wisk Aero***YARIEL DIAZ***Director of Government Relations, Serve Robotics***SCOTT YATES***Chief Data and AI Officer, VDCO Data***4:50pm - 5:15pm****CLOSING**

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5

Event Emcee

DR. JENNIFER JURADO

Chief Resilience Officer; Deputy Director, Public Works and Environmental Services Department, Broward County

8:45am - 9:05am

Welcome

MARK D. BOGEN

Mayor, Broward County

DR. STEVE VOLLMER

Director, School of Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sustainability, Florida Atlantic University

9:05am - 9:35am

Keynote: State Of The Climate

CHASE CAIN

Meteorologist, YouTube

9:35am - 10:00am

AM BREAK

10:00am - 10:50am**REGIONAL WATER RESILIENCE: A TALE IN TENACITY**

Regional water resilience isn't built overnight—it is forged through sustained commitment and the collective efforts of partners working toward a shared future. This session highlights the real progress agencies and local partners are making, and the obstacles overcome, to advance resilience through coordinated strategies that bridge and align jurisdictional approaches to water management.

Panelists:**HON. SHANNON ESTENOZ**

Chief Policy Officer, The Everglades Foundation (moderator)

DREW BARTLETT

Executive Director, South Florida Water Management District

MAJ. CORY BELL

*Deputy Commander for South Florida,
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

SENATOR STEVE GELLER

Commissioner, District 5, Broward County

10:50am - 11:45am**UNDER PRESSURE:****EXTREME HEAT, COMMUNITY RESPONSE, AND THE ESCALATING PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT**

Extreme heat can turn routine activities into life-threatening experiences. Now the deadliest weather-related hazard in the United States, extreme heat is changing daily life and reshaping how local governments safeguard residents. In this session, frontline communities share their adaptation strategies and the urgent actions needed to protect communities as extreme heat becomes an increasingly dangerous public health emergency.

Panelists:**DR. TIFFANY TROXLER**

Associate Professor, Department of Earth and Environment; Director of Science, Sea Level Solutions Center, Florida International University (moderator)

MARIANNA BABBONI

Senior Project Manager, USC Public Exchange - ShadeLA

DR. DAVID HONDULA

Director of Heat Response and Mitigation, City of Phoenix

DR. REBECCA MACDOUGALL

Chief Medical Examiner, Broward County

DR. JESSE SPEARO

Assistant Director, Department of Emergency Management, Miami-Dade County

11:45am - 11:50am PITCH #1

11:50am - 12:45pm

LUNCH

12:50pm - 1:50pm

FROM POWER TO POSSIBILITY: TRANSFORMING ENERGY SYSTEMS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Utility-grade battery storage, factory-built micro-modular nuclear reactors, and next-generation energy information systems are transforming the future of energy generation and management. For both new and experienced practitioners, this discussion will enhance understanding of the complex technologies driving a new era in energy.

Introduction

LAMAR P. FISHER

Commissioner, District 4, Broward County

Panelists:

JULIE DICK

Environmental Policy Advisor, Department of Environmental Resources Management, Miami-Dade County (moderator)

LISA JACOBSON

President, The Business Council for Sustainable Energy

ROB KORNAHRENS

President, Thermal Energy HQ & Advanced Green Technologies

TIMOTHY OLIVER

Vice President, Development, Florida Power & Light Company

SCOTT YATES

Chief Data and AI Officer, VDCO Data

1:50pm - 2:45pm

**CHANGE IS ON THE HORIZON:
WHY WASTE - AND CLIMATE - SOLUTIONS START
WITH LOCAL LEADERSHIP**

Waste may be a global challenge, but its sources and solutions are inherently local. This session highlights how recycling, waste diversion, facility planning, and energy recovery can serve as powerful levers for climate action, driving emissions reductions and accelerating the transition toward a more sustainable, climate-ready future.

Panelists:

NOTOSHA AUSTIN

*Director, Solid Waste and Recycling Services, Broward County
(Moderator)*

DR. ANEISHA DANIEL

Director, Department of Solid Waste Management, Miami-Dade County

DUSTIN DUBOIS

President, Filthy Organics LLC

BEAM FURR

Commissioner, District 6, Broward County

RAMANA KARI

Executive Director, Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County

2:45pm - 2:50pm

PITCH #2

2:50pm - 3:10pm

PM BREAK

3:10pm - 4:10pm

DRIVING THE TRANSITION: HOW REGIONAL INDUSTRIES ARCHITECT RESILIENCE

Climate action isn't just happening in offices — it's happening on the factory floor, in the arena, and on the water. This session highlights how regional economic anchors are leading the climate transition, not waiting for it. Panelists from the marine, sports, and heavy manufacturing industries will share how they are driving change through sustainable business overhauls, innovative technology solutions, and pioneering circular-economy practices. From large-scale waste diversion to advanced low-carbon materials, attendees will leave with a clearer picture of how cross-industry innovation is redefining regional business resilience.

Panelists:

DR. ALEC BOGDANOFF

CEO and Co-Founder, Brizaga (moderator)

GUILLERMO HABERER

Senior Vice President, Marketing; Vice President, Sales, Florida, Titan America

PHIL PURCELL

President and CEO, Marine Industries Association of South Florida

MIKE PRAIRIE

Senior Director of Sustainability and Business Optimization, Florida Panthers & Amerant Bank Arena

4:10 - 5:00pm

STEADY PROGRESS MAKES FOR GIANT STRIDES: A RECAP OF COLLECTIVE WORK FROM THE GROUND

Hear directly from the Compact's resilience leaders as they share the region's operational progress report, including practical and technical advancements achieved on the ground over the past year. The discussion will highlight the critical programs, projects, and partnerships fueling this momentum, while candidly addressing persistent challenges, upcoming goals, and collaborative opportunities for the year ahead.

Panelists:

LAUREN EVANS

Independent Consultant, Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (moderator)

STESSY COCEREZ

Director, Built Environment Risk Reduction Division, Palm Beach County

DR. JENNIFER JURADO

Chief Resilience Officer; Deputy Director, Public Works and Environmental Services Department, Broward County

LOREN PARRA

Chief Resilience Officer; Director, Department of Environmental Resources Management, Miami-Dade County

MICHAEL ROBERTS

Assistant Director, Environmental Resources, Monroe County

5:00pm - 6:45pm

COCKTAIL RECEPTION

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6

8:15am - 8:20am

WELCOMING REMARKS

ROBERT MCKINZIE

Vice Mayor, Broward County

8:20am - 9:10am

NOW MORE THAN EVER: THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COMPACT COLLABORATIVE

In 2009, the Southeast Florida region emerged as a national leader in climate policy, sparking climate action across the United States. Today, elected officials from the Compact's partner counties discuss the enduring significance of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact. Panelists will address both present and looming challenges, emphasizing how deep political willpower and regional engagement are key to sustaining collaboration under shifting economic landscapes and accelerating climate trends. Building upon the historic foundations of the Compact, these leaders will share their long-term vision for the region's shared future.

Panelists:

ALEX HARRIS

Lead Climate Reporter, Miami Herald (moderator)

BEAM FURR

Commissioner, District 6, Broward County

DANIELLA LEVINE CAVA

Mayor, Miami-Dade County

GREGG K. WEISS

Commissioner, District 2, Palm Beach County

9:10am - 9:40am

Introduction

SENATOR NAN H. RICH

Commissioner, District 1, Broward County

Keynote: JEFF GOODELL

Author and Journalist, Rolling Stone

9:40am - 10:00am

AM BREAK

10:00am - 10:25am

A LANDSCAPE OF OPPORTUNITY HIDDEN IN LAND USE

Redefining local zoning laws and land-use policies can unlock immense opportunities for regional climate resilience and sustainable economic growth. Drawing upon real-world models, panelists will examine actionable strategies including climate-informed zoning, development incentives, overlay districts, performance-based codes, and creative implementations of green infrastructure.

Panelists:

KIMBERLY BROWN

Chief, Long Range and Neighborhood Planning, Miami-Dade County (moderator)

ERIN DEADY

President, Erin L. Deady, P.A.

RICHARD GROSSO

President, Richard Grosso, P.A.

10:25am - 11:25am**FROM PROJECTS TO PORTFOLIOS: SCALING UP ADAPTATION AND FINANCE**

Forward-thinking regions are shifting from isolated, one-off resilience projects toward comprehensive, long-term investment strategies. Featuring experts and city officials from across the Resilient Cities Network, panelists will discuss the real-world mechanics of a portfolio-based approach to capital planning and adaptation finance. Attendees will learn how peer communities are approaching large-scale infrastructure initiatives to move past piecemeal funding and secure the sustained capital necessary to protect entire regions.

Panelists:**NATHANIEL ECHEVERRIA**

Lead, Finance and Engagement, Resilient Cities Network (moderator)

KYLE SPENCER

Chief Resilience Officer, City of Norfolk, Virginia

JACKIE RIGLEY

Senior Water Policy Advisor, City of Chicago

ALEXIS TAYLOR

Vice President for Climate Resilience, New York City Economic Development Corporation

REBECCA TOMASOVIC

Chief of Staff, Planning Department, City of Boston

11:25am - 12:25pm**UNLOCKING THE CAPITAL STACK: FINANCING THE NEXT GENERATION OF RESILIENCE**

The biggest barrier to climate resilience isn't will — it's capital. This session bridges the gap between infrastructure needs, technological innovation, and the private and public funding markets required to finance them. Panelists will share insights into how blended finance, technology incubators, and strategic fiscal advising can work together to deploy the large-scale capital necessary to grow the resilience economy and accelerate regional climate adaptation — and why now is the moment to act.

Panelists:**MICHAEL BERKOWITZ**

Executive Director, Climate Resilience Institute, University of Miami (moderator)

ERIC AARONSON

Attorney, Mark Cuban Companies

RYAN JEFFERY

Vice President, Sustainability, gener8tor

SERGIO MASVIDAL

Managing Director, PFM Financial Advisors LLC

SAM WHITE

Co-founder, Greentown Labs

12:25pm - 1:20pm**LUNCH**

1:25pm - 2:15pm**MANAGING THE FRONTLINES WHILE BALANCING THE LEDGER**

County administrators face difficult choices as they juggle rising fiscal pressures alongside growing infrastructure, housing, community, and climate challenges. Panelists will explain how their organizations navigate these competing yet interconnected priorities amid this field of constraints. Reflecting on the value of Compact collaboration and Summit program goals, the session closes on strategic opportunities emerging over the next several years.

Panelists:**DR. STEVE VOLLMER**

Director, School of Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sustainability, Florida Atlantic University (moderator)

MONICA CEPERO

County Administrator, Broward County

CHRISTOPHER HUDTWALCKER

Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Miami-Dade County

PATRICK RUTTER

Chief Deputy County Administrator, Palm Beach County

2:15pm - 3:05pm

**ANCHORING THE BLUE AND OCEAN ECONOMY:
HIGHER EDUCATION AT THE HELM**

Colleges and universities play a critical role as drivers of innovation and essential partners in strengthening the region's blue and ocean economy. Featuring the FAU and NSU presidents, the conversation explores how higher education institutions actively accelerate technological development, commercial deployment, and specialized skill-building. Discussion will illustrate the importance of deep collaboration with academic partners as essential to securing Southeast Florida's position as a hub for blue and ocean economy innovation.

Panelists:

KATHERINE O'FALLON

Executive Director, Marine Research Hub (moderator)

ADAM HASNER

President, Florida Atlantic University

DR. HARRY MOON

President and CEO, Nova Southeastern University

3:10pm - 3:15pm

PITCH #3

3:15pm - 3:25pm

PM BREAK

3:25pm - 4:15pm**INVESTING IN RESILIENCE: THE ROLE OF INDUSTRY AND INNOVATION**

Proactive resilience spending is no longer just a safe choice; it's a business necessity. This session brings together private sector leaders to explore resilience as both a statewide economic imperative and a smart business practice. Panelists will discuss how resilience is shaping infrastructure investment, building and development standards, career opportunities, and housing affordability. Reputational performance will demand a strong public-private commitment and prominent partnership. This conversation will make the case why forward-looking development and corporate profitability are not mutually exclusive, but in fact interwoven.

Panelists:**IRELA BAGUÉ**

*Director of Governments & Water Resilience, Black & Veatch
(moderator)*

JAMES DONNELLY

Founder and Chairman, Crown Residential LLC

TYLER KITSON

Senior Vice President of Communities, Kitson & Partners

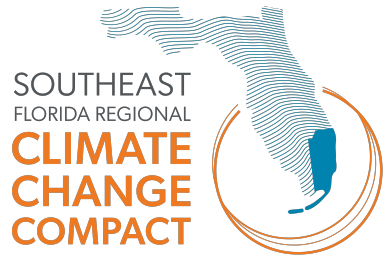
HON. PATRICK MURPHY

Managing Director, RENCO USA

4:15pm - 4:20pm**CLOSING KEYNOTE**

Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact

The Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (the Compact) is a partnership between Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach Counties, to work collaboratively address shared climate mitigation and adaptation challenges, and build climate resilience across the Southeast Florida region.



The Compact emerged in late 2009 through the leadership of local government officials in Southeast Florida who came together to recognize the shared challenge and significant opportunity to position Southeast Florida as a leader on climate resilience. Their call to action solidified a coordinated regional response in the form of the Compact, which aims to ensure that the region continues to thrive.

For over a decade, the Compact counties have successfully collaborated on mitigation and adaptation strategies, built bipartisan support for climate action, and forged partnerships with key stakeholders. We partner with federal, state, and municipal governments and agencies, the business community, economic development entities, community-based organizations, and the academic community, to enable the development of a regional voice and vision to ensure the continued prosperity of Southeast Florida.

SoutheastFloridaClimateCompact.org

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CHANGE
COMPACT**

