



**City of Palm Coast**  
**Agenda**  
**BEAUTIFICATION AND**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

City Hall  
160 Lake Avenue  
Palm Coast, FL 32164  
[www.palmcoastgov.com](http://www.palmcoastgov.com)

*Chairman Jeffery Seib*  
*Committee Member Edward Beier*  
*Committee Member Robert Knapp*  
*Committee Member Glenn Partelow*

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**Thursday, September 26, 2019**

**5:00 PM**

**COMMUNITY WING OF CITY HALL**

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>In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk's Office at 386-986-3713 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

>Public comment on issues on the agenda or public participation shall be limited to 3 minutes.

>The City of Palm Coast is not responsible for any mechanical failure of recording equipment

>All pagers and cell phones are to remain OFF during the Committee meeting.

>Other matters of concern may be discussed as determined by Committee during the meeting.

>If you wish to obtain more information regarding the agenda, please contact the City Clerk's office at 386-986-3713.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**MINUTES**

- 1 MEETING MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 22, 2019 BEAUTIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 2 REVIEW OF DRAFT OF "CLIMATE CHANGE AND SEA LEVEL RISE" FOR CITY COUNCIL**
- 3 UPDATE ON MONARCH CITY USA WITH THE PALM COAST GARDEN CLUB**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 4 DISCUSSION REGARDING ARTISTS AND THE PALM COAST ARTS COMMISSION**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**DISCUSSION OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

**ADJOURNMENT**

## City of Palm Coast, Florida Agenda Item

Agenda Date: SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

|  |  |                |
|--|--|----------------|
| <b>Department</b>                                    | PLANNING   | <b>Amount</b>  |
| <b>Item Key</b>                                      | 7088   | <b>Account</b> |
|  |  | <b>#</b>       |
| <b>Subject</b>                                       | MEETING MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 22, 2019 BEAUTIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING |                |
| <b>Background :</b>                                  |  |                |
| <b>Recommended Action :</b><br>Approve as presented. |  |                |
|  |  |                |



**City of Palm Coast  
Minutes  
BEAUTIFICATION AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

City Hall  
160 Lake Avenue  
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**Thursday, August 22, 2019**

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**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Chair Seib called the August 22, 2019 meeting of the Beautification and Environmental Advisory Committee (BEAC) to order @ 5:00PM.*

**ROLL CALL**

*Present and responding to the roll call were:*

*Chair Seib*

*Mr. Beier*

*Mr. Partelow*

*Mr. Knapp*

*City staff present were:*

*Beth Dawson - Landscape Architect*

*Jordan Myers - Environmental Planning Technical*

*Doug Akins - Director of Information Technology*

**MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 25, 2019 BEAUTIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve as presented made by Committee Member Knapp and seconded by Committee Member Beier**

**Approved - 4 - Committee Member Edward Beier, Chairman Jeffery Seib, Committee Member Glenn Partelow, Committee Member Robert Knapp**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **2 CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES**

*Chair Seib discussed the rough draft of a proposed letter to City Council (which is attached to the agenda) requesting action on the climate change and sea rise issues that may affect the City of Palm Coast. Chair Seib asked the BEAC members to review the draft and make corrections/updates for their next meeting. Discussion ensued among the BEAC members regarding the draft and possible reaction to the document.*

*Ms. Dawson to follow up on the City's Green incentive program to determine whether or not it includes solar installations.*

**Received and Filed**

### **3 CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CITY OF PALM COAST BECOMING A MONARCH CITY**

*Chair Seib informed the BEAC members that he did meet with 20 members of the Executive Committee of the Palm Coast Garden Club at the Palm Coast Library, regarding the City of Palm Coast joining with the Palm Coast Garden Club to have Palm Coast become a Monarch City. Chair Seib discussed the steps involved in the City becoming a Monarch City, including a discussion he had with Ms. Dawson about 3 possible locations for the City to plant wildflower gardens. He also discussed the cost of joining with the BEAC members, which would include the application fee to join, the signs located at the gardens, any site preparation for the wildflower gardens, and the wildflowers, themselves.*

*Ms. Myers, speaking as the head of the City's Green team, informed the BEAC members that the Green Team would pay the membership fee and that they would purchase 5 signs (to be located at the wildflower gardens). Ms. Dawson informed the BEAC members that potentially the Public Works staff may be available to prepare the site for planting of the wildflowers. She also explained that Holland Park would be a preferred site since there is currently space available due to recent renovations where playground equipment was removed and new plantings are needed. Ms. Dawson discussed potentially working with the Palm Coast Garden Club to do a fund raiser for the City Hall site along with discussions with the the Club to maintain the sites in the future.*

*Discussion between the BEAC members ensued regarding possible source of plantings. Chair Seib discussed the requirements for the wildflower gardens, which he retrieved from the Monarch Society website, with the BEAC members.*

*Ms. Dawson discussed next steps that are needed, including tie-in to the 5 Tree City existing signage for the proposed Monarch signage, a map of the proposed garden sites, and a request to Public Works to prep the sites, which she would need from the BEAC members to get approval from the City Management. She requested this information be provided as soon as possible.*

**Received and Filed**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1 PALM COAST CONNECT PRESENTATION**

*Chair Seib informed the BEAC members that this agenda item would be addressed out of order due to staff being present to give a presentation. Mr. Beier addressed the BEAC members regarding his request to add this item to this agenda, which was based on a previous presentation he saw for the Palm Coast Connect while at the American Legion. Mr. Doug Akins, Information Technology Director, gave a presentation to the BEAC members on this website and mobile application available to the Citizenry.*

**Received and Filed**

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*Chair Seib opened the meeting to public comment @ 6:17PM and seeing no one approach the podium he closed the meeting to public comment @ 6:18PM*

## **DISCUSSION OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*Ms. Dawson updated the BEAC members on the resignation of Ms. Marcia Foltz, BEAC Vice Chair, due to her accepting a full-time position which would require travel and therefore she would not be able to make the BEAC meetings.*

*An ad has been placed to solicit new members. Ms. Dawson informed the members that a vote on a new Vice Chair person would be delayed until the new member is installed.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion made that the meeting be adjourned by Mr. Beier and the motion was seconded by Mr. Knapp. The meeting was adjourned at 6:19PM.*

*Respectfully Submitted by: Irene Schaefer, Recording Secretary*

## City of Palm Coast, Florida Agenda Item

Agenda Date: SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

|                             |   |                |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------|
| <b>Department</b>           | PLANNING  | <b>Amount</b>  |
| <b>Item Key</b>             | 7127  | <b>Account</b> |
|                             |   | <b>#</b>       |
| <b>Subject</b>              | REVIEW OF DRAFT OF "CLIMATE CHANGE AND SEA LEVEL RISE" FOR CITY COUNCIL |                |
| <b>Background:</b>          | Continued discussion of the next steps.                                 |                |
| <b>Recommended Action :</b> | For review and comment  |                |
|                             |   |                |



Hon. Mayor Holland and the Palm Coast City Council,

The Beautification and Environmental Advisory Committee (BEAC) was created on February 21, 2006 by city council resolution 2006-07. Section 2 of the resolution specifies our objectives, operations and responsibilities. As one aspect of the committee's responsibilities we have initiated an 'Environmental Agenda' each year. The subject of the agenda for 2019 has been the very important, timely, and relevant subject of 'Climate Change and Sea Level Rise' (CCSLR).

The BEAC has studied this issue and believes that its' importance warrants us presenting a written report to the Mayor and City Council as specified by our resolution. The report included here entitled 'The Threat of climate Change and Sea Level Rise for Palm Coast' contains the data and information we have gathered and makes recommendations that we state are to "minimize negative impacts".

The BEAC holds that CCSLR is an issue of increasing importance, especially to coastal communities like ours, and that a proactive approach is better than a 'wait and see' what develops attitude. Therefore, it is our hope this report will begin a community-wide discussion on CCSLR that will result in guidelines we all commit to taking into consideration as the City of Palm Coast, our city, moves forward.

\_\_\_\_\_ Jeffery C. Seib, Chairman BEAC

\_\_\_\_\_ Glenn Partelow

\_\_\_\_\_ Edward Beier

\_\_\_\_\_ Robert Knapp

# The Threat of Climate Change and Sea Level Rise for Palm Coast Recommendations to Minimize Negative Impacts

A Report to the Palm Coast City Council  
By the Beautification and Environmental Advisory Committee (BEAC)

## Introduction

Climate change and sea level rise (CCSLR) is now recognized as a phenomenon that has the long term potential to threaten our very civilization. It is prudent to immediately begin the process of incorporating CCSLR planning into our mechanisms of community management at all levels. According to our charter it is the responsibility of the BEAC to provide the city of Palm Coast with information and present recommendations on environmental issues that are of importance to the people of Palm Coast. This report will present the current knowledge of CCSLR, future trends, present a background of causative factors of CCSLR, and make recommendations for policies to be included into the Palm Coast Comprehensive Plan to be taken into account whenever amendments or other actions are brought before the city council. This report will ‘pull no punches’. The conclusions and recommendations could be seen as controversial or as too little or too much, but the fact remains that we are in it now and doing nothing is not an option.

## Background

CCSLR is no longer a futuristic prediction of what may happen. It is happening now. From melting Northern Hemisphere arctic ice caps to the warmest months ever, the all time records keep falling. Statistical probability calculations, the same methods that determine political polling trends, advertising concepts, and insurance rates, paint a worsening picture of a world rapidly falling into decline with the latest data showing a possible future food crisis as long-term droughts and extremely high growing season temperatures limit crops and livestock production. The projected time frame has shortened; major to catastrophic climatological effects could begin as soon as the next ten years. We now have annual increases in the number and intensity of forest fires, and more ‘super’ intense tropical storms and hurricanes. Experts predict that warm season temperatures in many southern cities will rise to uninhabitable, life-ceasing levels that may result in a world-wide refuge crisis as millions try to escape.

At one time the achievements of scientific research were highly praised all over the world. However, in our lifetimes peoples attitudes towards science have changed from a deep belief in the many discoveries and advances in agriculture, medicine, communications, space, and other fields, to a cynical doubting and disbelief even as the pace of new scientific advances and benefits increases every day. This science doubting has resulted in negative attitudes towards many current research achievements, such as the determination of the exact causes of CCSLR and the methods required to repair the damage already done. The common belief many people have is that CCSLR is just a hoax and before long all will return to a state of 'normalcy'. There are elements in our community, some very powerful, that see CCSLR as a factor that will somehow inhibit their vision of Palm Coast's future. The time is now that we all come together and recognize that 'business as usual' is not an option and agreeing on a framework to go forward taking all our values into consideration equally is the best way to go. But the fact remains that the scientific community overwhelmingly is calling for attention to CCSLR as the primary issue of our time. Research and development organizations such as NASA, NOAA, and The United Nations, and many others (see Appendix 1), have studied this and published their results in peer-reviewed journals and are in agreement of the conclusions that are reported within this report.

According to the experts the currently rapidly rising temperature of the earth is due to the "greenhouse effect" -that is, the increased concentration of certain heat trapping gases in the atmosphere that prevent heat dissipation and cause world-wide temperature increases.

The primary greenhouse gases are Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) that have been measured using radioactive isotope technology that are now at the highest level in 800,000 years (see Figure 1). In the historic record previous times of higher levels of these gases occurred over a period of 10,000 to 100,000 years. The present steep rise of atmospheric greenhouse gases began with the onset of the Industrial Revolution when huge world-wide increases in the burning of fossil fuels occurred and are continuing today (Figure 2).

World-wide temperature has already increased by 1.0 degree Celsius during this time period. To avoid catastrophic climate changes scientists have called for a cap on temperature increases of 1.5 degree Celsius by the end of this century (Figure 3). Accepted scientific research evidence shows that the temperature increases of the last one thousand years and especially the previous approximately 220 years are not due to historic reasons of

increased solar and/or volcanic activity, but rather, to the increased burning of fossil fuels.

In the area of the natural environment world-wide biodiversity is in the midst of a massive loss of entire populations of species that has been estimated to rival the mass extinctions of asteroid strikes or times of extreme volcanic eruptions. Insect pollinators are now experiencing huge population losses due to CCSLR events. These extinctions are equivalent to the loss of the dinosaurs that occurred 65 million years ago. Statistical analysis of the rates of species declines show that mass extinctions will increase in numbers as CCSLR increases. Oceans polluted with tons of plastic waste and the Amazon rain forest burned to the ground are events that are happening now and continuing into the future.

## Conclusions

Coastal cities including Palm Coast should begin preparing now for the impacts of CCSLR in order to safeguard their communities' social, cultural, environmental, and economic resources. The entire state of Florida will be impacted more severely by any CCSLR events. Local government's involvement and action are needed in any number of areas. Our changing climate along with population increases makes water supply planning and management one of the top critical challenges for Palm Coast. The probability of the super storm with intensities and storm surge will continue as we are currently seeing increases in both flooding and major property damages. This type of flooding is both an inland and a coastal issue that leads to a lower capacity of the soil to absorb precipitation because aquifers are full and groundwater has no place to go. As the water table rises water and sewage delivery and retrieval systems may be operating under water. Salt water intrusion may contaminate water well systems.

The transportation system also needs attention in the CCSLR environment. Roadway infrastructure may be damaged by flooding and higher water table levels. Road bases can become saturated causing premature base failure. More frequent flooding and higher water table levels may increase the frequency of waterborne illnesses, and lead to contaminated water supply systems.

Home and building infrastructure is an area that requires another 'look' by city officials with the purpose of incorporating new and innovative technologies in order to achieve resilience in the CCSLR environment. New building construction (both public and private) should include some level of

‘hardening’ as protection for the increasing intensity and number of higher storm surge, and more extensive flooding and wind events. Building construction is almost always financed by loans and the banks and other lending agencies financing these very expensive developments will ultimately seek relief from the state if these properties go bankrupt or default on their loans due to these climate change impacts. Home construction will need to develop a set of standards that take into account adequate current and future CCSLR conditions.

The natural environment is an area where climate change scientists call for communities to maintain areas of undeveloped lands, especially wetlands and surrounding overflow drainage areas that can serve as holding places where floodwaters and storm surge can soak into aquifers. The elevation of Palm Coast is very low thus making the drainage system of utmost importance. This additional reservoir system can alleviate potential extreme water events and help to lower water tables ultimately relieving some of the damage to structures and roadways and channel water away from developed areas. To further insure the well-being of our community (both people and property) we need to address this sooner rather than later.

### Recommendations

- Incorporate CCSLR into the “2035 Vision for the City of Palm Coast” Comprehensive Plan.
- The city of Palm Coast commit to reducing the carbon footprint by becoming recognized for energy efficiency green technology and proactive planning for CCSLR.
- Insure the water supply and sewage retrieval systems are capable of operating in an environment of rising water tables’
- Enact and include in the Comprehensive Plan policies that follow a ‘resiliency approach’ toward CCSLR that focuses on ‘adaptive capacity’ which builds into the system the ability to positively react and deal with issues and retain city services at peak levels.

- Declare in the downtown ‘Innovation District’ all development will take advantage of incentives for energy efficient ‘green’ technology, and provide commercial building construction in all of Palm Coast the option to receive ‘green’ incentives. Residential home construction also should take advantage of new energy saving technologies.
- All building and home construction in any flood, storm surge, or wind damage prone areas will have infrastructure hardening standards to prevent losses.
- All new roadways and any reconditioning of older roadways in flood prone areas will have a water table analysis that takes into account possible CCSLR negative effects.
- The Comprehensive Plan will protect all the remaining wetlands in the City and require that developers in flood and storm surge areas retain more undeveloped forests and wetlands in order to serve as sea level rise and flooding ‘horizontal levees’; that is, retain floodwaters as in a large reservoir.

Some years ago, former Palm Coast Mayor Jon Netts when urging other council members to approve building the new city hall at Towne Center in the face of overwhelming public opposition in a referendum spoke of “being bold” and going forward with the construction. Now is the time for the Mayor and city council to again be bold and recognize CCSLR and begin to do something about it.

Only by adopting some, all, or an entire palette of similar ideas can the City of Palm Coast truly move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and insure Palm Coast will be here for us into the 22<sup>nd</sup> century and beyond.

Figure 1. Amount of Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide Over 800,000 Years.

CO<sub>2</sub> during ice ages and warm periods for the past 800,000 years

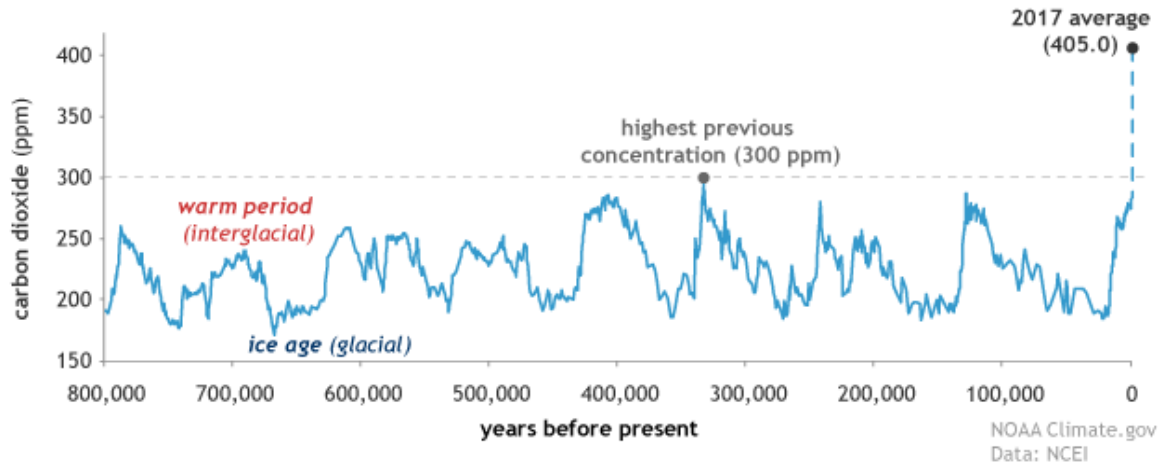


Figure 2. Atmospheric Greenhouse Gas Levels for the Previous 2000 Years.

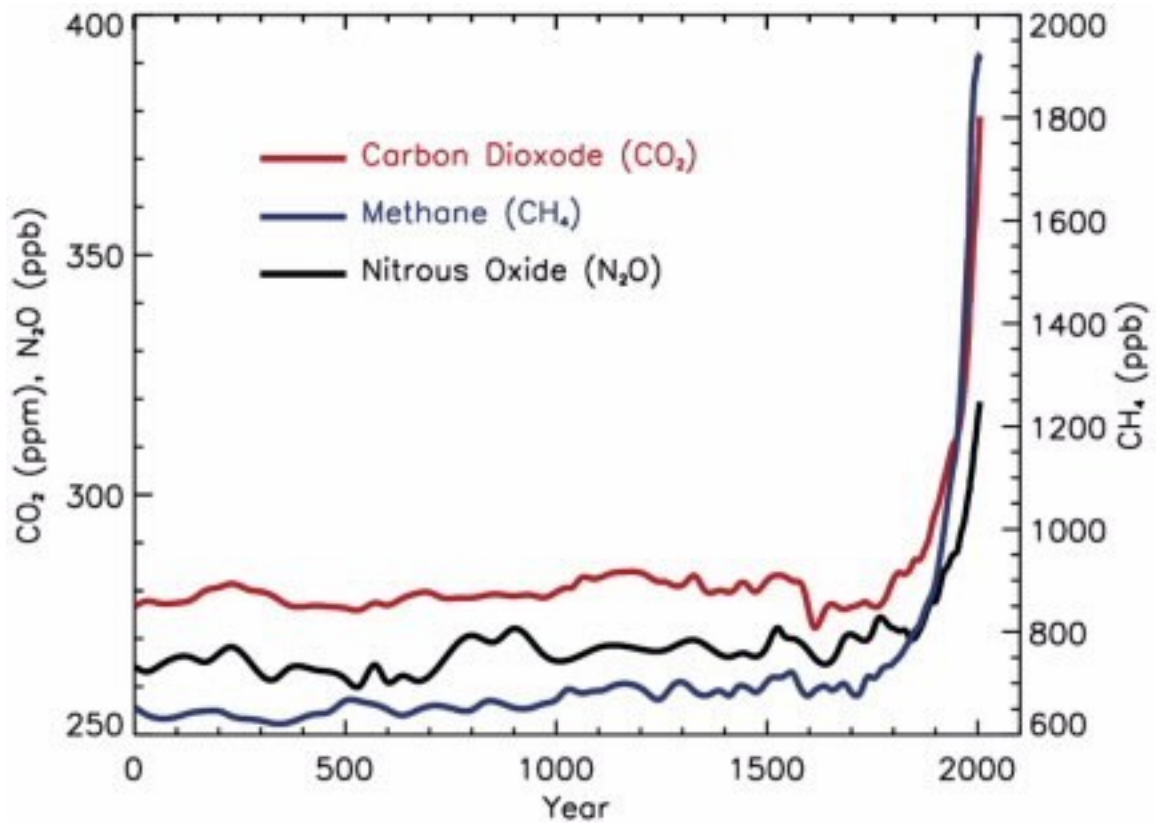
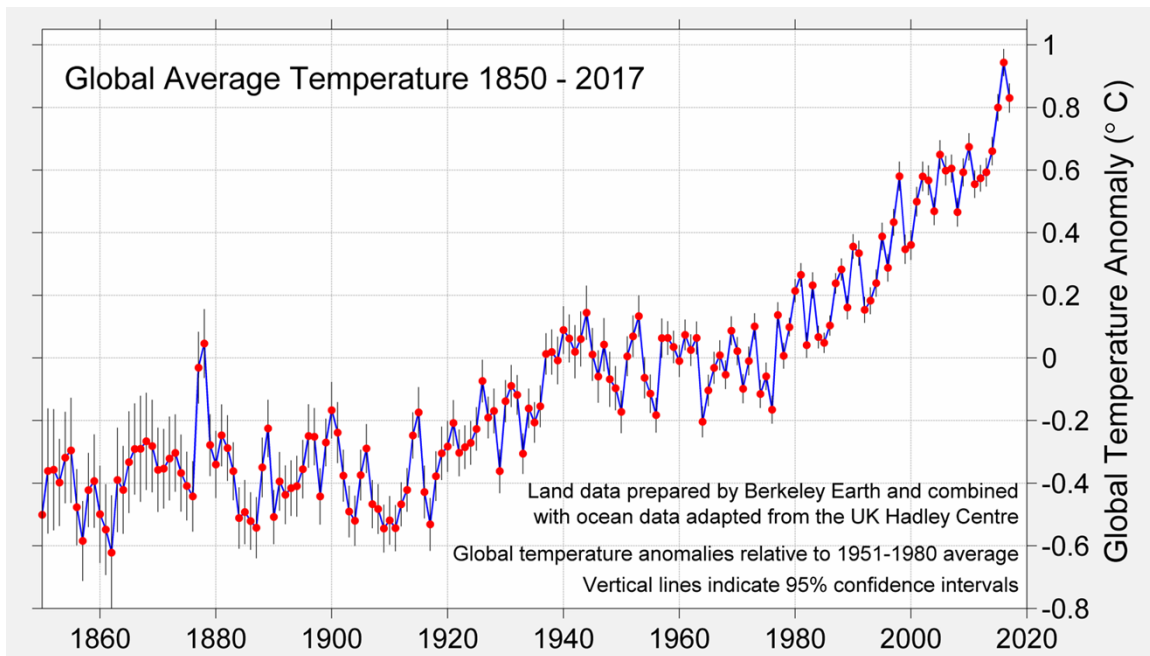


Figure 3. Earth Temperature Increases 1850 - 2017.



## Appendix 1. Partial List of Agencies Supporting CCSLR Studies and



## Results.

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

American Chemical Society (ACS)

American Medical Association (AMA)

American Metrological Society (AMS)

US National Academy of Sciences

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

American Society of Agronomy (ASA)

World Health Organization (WHO)

International Union of Concerned Scientists

United Nations (UN)

National Wildlife Federation (NWF)

Audubon Society

World-Wildlife Fund (WWF)

## City of Palm Coast, Florida Agenda Item

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|                            |   |                |
|----------------------------|---|----------------|
| <b>Department</b>          | PLANNING  | <b>Amount</b>  |
| <b>Item Key</b>            | 7128  | <b>Account</b> |
|                            |   | <b>#</b>       |
| <b>Subject</b>             | UPDATE ON MONARCH CITY USA WITH THE PALM COAST GARDEN CLUB      |                |
| <b>Background :</b>        |   |                |
| <b>Recommended Action:</b> | Update from Chair Seib on the Monarch City application process. |                |
|                            |   |                |

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| <b>Department</b>           | PLANNING  | <b>Amount</b>  |
| <b>Item Key</b>             | 7129  | <b>Account</b> |
|                             |   | <b>#</b>       |
| <b>Subject</b>              | DISCUSSION REGARDING ARTISTS AND THE PALM COAST ARTS COMMISSION |                |
| <b>Background:</b>          | Chair Seib has requested this item be added to the agenda.      |                |
| <b>Recommended Action :</b> | Discussion purposes   |                |
|                             |   |                |