Webinar

On the Frontline of Flooding

Date: April 15, 2021

00:00:00 --> 00:00:02: And welcome to this afternoon's webinar.
00:00:02 --> 00:00:05: I know people are in the process of joining,
00:00:05 --> 00:00:07: but we might as well get started.
00:00:07 --> 00:00:10: We appreciate you joining us on today's webinar on the
00:00:10 --> 00:00:12: topic of on the frontline of flooding,
00:00:12 --> 00:00:18: how resilient leadership is driving sustainable recovery for our cities
00:00:18 --> 00:00:19: next slide.
00:00:19 --> 00:00:22: I'm Julie Medley and I'm the executive director for the
00:00:22 --> 00:00:26: Urban Land Institute here in Southeast Florida and the Caribbean.
00:00:26 --> 00:00:28: Next slide, please.
00:00:28 --> 00:00:31: Today is not our average webinar.
00:00:31 --> 00:00:34: Today is actually part of our leadership institute,
00:00:34 --> 00:00:39: which is you allies immersive leadership development program were in
00:00:39 --> 00:00:40: the class of 2021,
00:00:40 --> 00:00:43: which is our 4th class and we are excited to
00:00:43 --> 00:00:46: announce that we have 30 midcareer leaders.
00:00:46 --> 00:00:48: As part of this program,
00:00:48 --> 00:00:53: an incredible group. There are multidisciplinary and group of leaders
00:00:53 --> 00:00:56: and today is their design and sustainability day.
00:00:56 --> 00:00:59: So this session is part of their full agenda that
00:00:59 --> 00:01:00: they have today.
00:01:00 --> 00:01:04: And if you know anyone interested in joining the Leadership
00:01:04 --> 00:01:06: Institute for future classes,
00:01:06 --> 00:01:10: the 2022 program will be open for application this summer.
00:01:10 --> 00:01:13: Next slide please.
00:01:13 --> 00:01:15: We want to take a moment to thank our District

00:01:15 --> 00:01:17: Council's annual sustaining sponsors.
00:01:17 --> 00:01:19: You will see their logos and names on the screen.
00:01:24 --> 00:01:25: We also are very excited.
00:01:25 --> 00:01:28: It's been a long time since I have said that
00:01:29 --> 00:01:31: we had an in person conference,
00:01:31 --> 00:01:34: so I can't tell you how good it feels to
00:01:34 --> 00:01:37: say that we will be holding an on line conference.
00:01:37 --> 00:01:40: The UI Florida Summit on September 21st,
00:01:40 --> 00:01:43: 2 to the 22nd in downtown Miami.
00:01:43 --> 00:01:46: The event will be in person with an on line
00:01:46 --> 00:01:46: option,
00:01:46 --> 00:01:50: so there's some flexibility there an you can visit our
00:01:50 --> 00:01:54: website florida.uli.org For more information about that event.
00:01:54 --> 00:01:57: Next slide please.
00:01:57 --> 00:01:59: Thank you so much to our sponsor today.
00:01:59 --> 00:02:02: The University of Miami's new program,
00:02:02 --> 00:02:07: the Master of Professional Science and Urban Sustainability and Resilience.
00:02:07 --> 00:02:09: Next slide.
00:02:09 --> 00:02:12: It is my privilege to introduce the Dean of the
00:02:12 --> 00:02:16: University of Miami School of Architecture Rudy Elkoury Dean.
00:02:16 --> 00:02:17: Thanks for being with us.
00:02:31 --> 00:02:34: Can you touch a provocative and timely session?
00:02:37 --> 00:02:42: Over the coming decades, climate change impacts will aggravate existing
00:02:42 --> 00:02:46: social and economic economic stressors and inequality's
00:02:46 --> 00:02:49: consequently, representing a mounting burden.
00:02:49 --> 00:02:50: As you know, on communities,
00:02:50 --> 00:02:53: especially in South Florida.
00:02:53 --> 00:02:58: The university pays a significant role in ensuring students are
00:02:58 --> 00:03:02: versed in the tools and expertise needed to tackle climate
00:03:02 --> 00:03:06: induced challenges for broad based community benefits.
00:03:06 --> 00:03:10: So it is with this in mind that the University
00:03:10 --> 00:03:14: of Miami created and is now offering a novel degree.
00:03:14 --> 00:03:20: The Masters offer sessional science in urban sustainability and resilience.
00:03:20 --> 00:03:25: The interdisciplinary program, which started this past fall is offered
00:03:25 --> 00:03:28: jointly by the College of Arts and Sciences.
00:03:28 --> 00:03:32: Department of geography and Regional Studies and the School of
00:03:32 --> 00:03:33: Architecture.

00:03:33 --> 00:03:38: We are excited about the partnership between our academic units

00:03:38 --> 00:03:42: and for the program's potential for setting a new model

00:03:42 --> 00:03:47: in interdisciplinary education and preparing the next generation of much

00:03:47 --> 00:03:52: needed climate leaders. At the School of Architecture we also

00:03:52 --> 00:03:57: welcome the this program because it aligns precisely with our

00:03:57 --> 00:04:00: strategic priorities as we now focus.

00:04:00 --> 00:04:04: Almost entirely on the challenges facing coastal urban environments,

00:04:04 --> 00:04:08: I mentioned this strategic focus because I want to encourage

00:04:08 --> 00:04:12: you all and especially our mayors to think of us

00:04:12 --> 00:04:14: as a partner in your future efforts.

00:04:14 --> 00:04:18: The program is open to students from all disciplines who

00:04:18 --> 00:04:21: wish to work in job related to climate mitigation and

00:04:21 --> 00:04:22: adaptation.

00:04:22 --> 00:04:25: So architecture, planning, law development,

00:04:25 --> 00:04:29: and engineering firms may find it beneficial to have their

00:04:29 --> 00:04:33: employees return to academia and attend this program for a

00:04:33 --> 00:04:33: year or so.

00:04:33 --> 00:04:37: In order to deepen their expertise in this area,

00:04:37 --> 00:04:38: which, as we all know,

00:04:38 --> 00:04:43: will be increasingly needed as climate change is also increase.

00:04:43 --> 00:04:47: And what better place to study climate change than Miami?

00:04:47 --> 00:04:50: We are Ground Zero for climate change impacts and also

00:04:50 --> 00:04:53: prime testing ground of climate action.

00:04:53 --> 00:04:55: As you will see in this panel.

00:04:55 --> 00:04:59: We are blessed to have many professionals.

00:04:59 --> 00:05:04: Government leaders and nonprofits participating in our MPs program,

00:05:04 --> 00:05:08: enriching the student experience and amplifying their learning.

00:05:08 --> 00:05:12: So, given the timely topic and visionary participants,

00:05:12 --> 00:05:16: the University of Miami is quite pleased to sponsor the

00:05:16 --> 00:05:21: session and we thank Jacqueline Tuesday for not only thoughtfully,

00:05:21 --> 00:05:24: always supporting our various programs,

00:05:24 --> 00:05:27: but for reaching out to us to alert us of

00:05:27 --> 00:05:30: this opportunity to partner again.

00:05:30 --> 00:05:33: With your lie and to contribute towards this event and

00:05:33 --> 00:05:35: now without further ado,

00:05:35 --> 00:05:38: I turn your attention to today's program,

00:05:38 --> 00:05:42: which amazingly brings to you three mayors who are leading
00:05:42 --> 00:05:44: South Florida's resilience efforts.
00:05:44 --> 00:05:47: Thank you again for joining us today.
00:05:47 --> 00:05:49: Thank you so much Dean.
00:05:49 --> 00:05:52: Next slide please.
00:05:52 --> 00:05:53: Before I cover this topic,
00:05:53 --> 00:05:56: I would be remiss if I did not thank our
00:05:56 --> 00:05:58: two program day Co chairs,
00:05:58 --> 00:06:02: dog Doctor Alec Bogdanoff and Jackie Tuesday gonzalas.
00:06:02 --> 00:06:06: Thank you so much for leading us through this program
00:06:06 --> 00:06:10: day and we appreciate all your assistance in the content
00:06:10 --> 00:06:11: for today.
00:06:11 --> 00:06:14: There was a report recently released by the Urban Land
00:06:14 --> 00:06:18: Institute that was commissioned by the Southeast Florida Climate Compact
00:06:18 --> 00:06:21: in partnership with a AECOM and a number of other
00:06:21 --> 00:06:25: partners, and it was a regional cost benefit analysis that
00:06:25 --> 00:06:28: examines the economic risk that sea level rise poses to
00:06:28 --> 00:06:31: the region and the benefits of adaptation.
00:06:31 --> 00:06:34: Next slide, please.
00:06:34 --> 00:06:36: In case you did not see the report,
00:06:36 --> 00:06:39: the study did find that there is a compelling business
00:06:40 --> 00:06:43: case for our region to make significant impacts,
00:06:43 --> 00:06:46: and in the short term and then over the long
00:06:46 --> 00:06:46: term,
00:06:46 --> 00:06:50: the benefits of investing in building level adaptation outweigh the
00:06:50 --> 00:06:51: cost.
00:06:51 --> 00:06:54: 4 to one and the benefits of investing in community
00:06:54 --> 00:06:55: wide.
00:06:55 --> 00:06:57: Investments outweigh 2 to one.
00:06:57 --> 00:07:01: The time for action is now and coordination between the
00:07:01 --> 00:07:05: private sector and the public sector is more important than
00:07:05 --> 00:07:05: ever.
00:07:05 --> 00:07:08: Next slide, please.
00:07:08 --> 00:07:11: I'm excited to announce that we are about to launch
00:07:11 --> 00:07:15: two additional documents to supplement this report.
00:07:15 --> 00:07:19: First is an executive summary which is a digestible and
00:07:19 --> 00:07:22: easy to understand version of the report.
00:07:22 --> 00:07:25: Second is a two page PDF which has talking points
00:07:25 --> 00:07:27: that help our business leaders,
00:07:27 --> 00:07:31: both public and private tackles and really hard questions on

00:07:32 --> 00:07:36: this incredibly complicated topic with specific points that come right
00:07:37 --> 00:07:38: out of this report.
00:07:38 --> 00:07:41: So these two documents will be ready in the coming
00:07:41 --> 00:07:43: hours or days and we will be sharing these on
00:07:43 --> 00:07:47: our website and also emailing them to all attendees after
00:07:47 --> 00:07:48: the fact.
00:07:48 --> 00:07:51: Next slide, please.
00:07:51 --> 00:07:55: It is now my privilege to welcome three esteemed mayors,
00:07:55 --> 00:07:58: Ann. I can't tell you how much we appreciate their
00:07:58 --> 00:08:01: time and know how busy their schedules are.
00:08:01 --> 00:08:05: We have Mayor Crystal Wagar with the village of Miami
00:08:05 --> 00:08:08: Shores Mayor Daniella Levine Cava with Miami,
00:08:08 --> 00:08:11: Dade County and Mayor Dan Gelber with the city of
00:08:11 --> 00:08:12: Miami Beach.
00:08:12 --> 00:08:15: Welcome so much Meyers.
00:08:15 --> 00:08:18: And we can take down the slides if you'd like,
00:08:18 --> 00:08:21: so we can see their faces.
00:08:21 --> 00:08:26: Excellent thank you for joining us here this afternoon to
00:08:26 --> 00:08:27: kick us off.
00:08:27 --> 00:08:30: As a mayor, what do you see your role in
00:08:30 --> 00:08:33: addressing flooding and sea level rise challenges?
00:08:36 --> 00:08:40: Maybe I'll start with Mayer Levine Cava.
00:08:40 --> 00:08:42: Well, thank you so very much Julie,
00:08:42 --> 00:08:45: very exciting to be with all of you today and
00:08:45 --> 00:08:47: two of my favorite mayors.
00:08:47 --> 00:08:50: Not to mention people. So and of course we are
00:08:50 --> 00:08:53: working closely together on these issues.
00:08:53 --> 00:08:57: So I did run for mayor precisely because of these
00:08:57 --> 00:08:57: issues.
00:08:57 --> 00:09:00: I know how critical they are to our future.
00:09:00 --> 00:09:03: I cannot wait to read the business case and I
00:09:03 --> 00:09:08: did not see another candidate who was squarely focused on
00:09:08 --> 00:09:10: these issues as I so I felt.
00:09:10 --> 00:09:15: I'm a very strong sense of responsibility to step up
00:09:15 --> 00:09:16: to God.
00:09:21 --> 00:09:24: I'm sorry so I am the strong mayor,
00:09:24 --> 00:09:28: which among other things means that there are 34 municipalities
00:09:28 --> 00:09:32: in Miami Dade County and it's my job to to
00:09:32 --> 00:09:36: help them move in One Direction on critical regional issues
00:09:36 --> 00:09:40: of infrastructure like what we're discussing today.

00:09:40 --> 00:09:43: And so I have worked really hard in my first
00:09:43 --> 00:09:48: five months in office to strengthen the cooperation through the
00:09:48 --> 00:09:52: cities through the League of cities through one on one
00:09:52 --> 00:09:56: meetings with. Both of these fine mayors and other mayors
00:09:56 --> 00:09:57: as well,
00:09:57 --> 00:10:01: and also to focus resources and in the unincorporated part
00:10:01 --> 00:10:03: of Miami Dade County,
00:10:03 --> 00:10:07: which is truly our city that were responsible for as
00:10:07 --> 00:10:08: as as a county.
00:10:08 --> 00:10:10: So that's that's my overview.
00:10:10 --> 00:10:14: Excellent mayor wagar.
00:10:14 --> 00:10:17: Hi everyone, I'm very honored to be with you all
00:10:17 --> 00:10:17: today.
00:10:17 --> 00:10:20: Anne Anne, my role as the mayor of a small
00:10:20 --> 00:10:24: municipality were only made up about maybe 12,000 people.
00:10:24 --> 00:10:27: You know we don't have the base and I'll get
00:10:27 --> 00:10:28: into that later.
00:10:28 --> 00:10:31: The business space. But finding partnerships,
00:10:31 --> 00:10:35: right? Finding partnerships through grant funding,
00:10:35 --> 00:10:40: finding partnerships through our county government and our state government,
00:10:40 --> 00:10:42: and finally our federal government,
00:10:42 --> 00:10:45: we have to be aware and continue to be.
00:10:45 --> 00:10:49: Keeping track of opportunities that we can benefit as a
00:10:49 --> 00:10:52: smaller minisa Paletti I think that's part of my job
00:10:53 --> 00:10:56: is to continue to be engaged in the resiliency conversation
00:10:56 --> 00:11:01: in order to find opportunities for community situated such as
00:11:01 --> 00:11:01: mine.
00:11:01 --> 00:11:04: And I'll get into why that's important later,
00:11:04 --> 00:11:08: but I have to continue to be engaged and provide
00:11:08 --> 00:11:13: feedback and and information to our village administration as well
00:11:13 --> 00:11:15: as our residents going forward.
00:11:15 --> 00:11:18: Excellent thank you Mayor Gilbert.
00:11:18 --> 00:11:22: Turn I'm always glad to be here with two of
00:11:22 --> 00:11:24: my favorite mayors.
00:11:24 --> 00:11:27: And it's nice to see you both.
00:11:27 --> 00:11:30: I also want to acknowledge our arciero is here.
00:11:30 --> 00:11:33: Amy Knowles, who is really does a wonderful job because
00:11:33 --> 00:11:35: our city has to have a CR.
00:11:35 --> 00:11:38: Oh, we don't have the advantage of talking about this
00:11:38 --> 00:11:39: theoretically,

00:11:39 --> 00:11:42: where a barrier island sitting on porous limestone,
00:11:42 --> 00:11:44: notorious for sunny day, flooding.
00:11:44 --> 00:11:47: So for us it wasn't a theoretical issue,
00:11:47 --> 00:11:48: it was an actual issue.
00:11:48 --> 00:11:50: And So what is the job of a mayor?
00:11:50 --> 00:11:53: Well, we have people like Amy and other experts.
00:11:53 --> 00:11:55: Many of you were on this zoom.
00:11:55 --> 00:11:58: It can tell us how to chart the way none
00:11:58 --> 00:11:59: of us are.
00:11:59 --> 00:12:01: Engineers or have any expertise in this,
00:12:01 --> 00:12:04: so we've gotta do what people run for office students
00:12:04 --> 00:12:07: in former selves and figure out a path.
00:12:07 --> 00:12:09: The challenge of resiliency issues,
00:12:09 --> 00:12:12: and especially this one, is that it's often.
00:12:12 --> 00:12:15: Not something that is a short term answer.
00:12:15 --> 00:12:16: It's a long term answer,
00:12:16 --> 00:12:19: which means it usually if you do your job and
00:12:19 --> 00:12:20: you do it well,
00:12:20 --> 00:12:23: it's going to be some other mayor who's going to
00:12:23 --> 00:12:25: get to cut the ribbon and get the benefit of
00:12:25 --> 00:12:25: it.
00:12:25 --> 00:12:27: So our job is to actually.
00:12:27 --> 00:12:30: And by the way, on the front end it's often
00:12:30 --> 00:12:31: costly and can be disruptive,
00:12:31 --> 00:12:34: so you know it's our job to sort of demonstrate
00:12:34 --> 00:12:37: the political courage to take something that has to be
00:12:38 --> 00:12:40: in the front of the inbox and deal with it
00:12:40 --> 00:12:44: instead of letting the next man or woman deal with
00:12:44 --> 00:12:44: it.
00:12:44 --> 00:12:47: But it's also our job to make sure that we
00:12:47 --> 00:12:50: explain it to people and lead and make sure they
00:12:50 --> 00:12:51: know that it's important.
00:12:51 --> 00:12:54: But we also have to get it right because you
00:12:54 --> 00:12:58: know they do anything approach doesn't necessarily mean make a
00:12:58 --> 00:13:02: lot of sense when you're dealing with engineering solutions,
00:13:02 --> 00:13:04: so for me I I want to begin this webinar
00:13:04 --> 00:13:08: by actually expressing my thanks to the Urban Land Institute
00:13:08 --> 00:13:09: when I ran for mayor,
00:13:09 --> 00:13:12: I said that I wanted to read team our approach,
00:13:12 --> 00:13:15: which is a raising of the Rose roads approach.
00:13:15 --> 00:13:18: Enter and a creating more porous areas and trying to

00:13:18 --> 00:13:21: trying to deal with it from an engineering perspective.
00:13:21 --> 00:13:24: But I actually wanted to do a red team of
00:13:24 --> 00:13:27: our approach which was at that point pretty mature and
00:13:27 --> 00:13:28: I wasn't quite sure.
00:13:28 --> 00:13:31: As a candidate how I was going to do that
00:13:31 --> 00:13:34: until somebody from Rockefeller tapped me on the shoulder and
00:13:34 --> 00:13:35: said,
00:13:35 --> 00:13:37: you know, we might be willing to help you put
00:13:37 --> 00:13:41: together an urban land institute of your program to see
00:13:41 --> 00:13:43: it really look under the hood to kick the tires
00:13:43 --> 00:13:45: and to pressure test it.
00:13:45 --> 00:13:48: And so we actually brought in uali to learn about
00:13:48 --> 00:13:49: our program and publish,
00:13:49 --> 00:13:52: I think was a very well received study of it
00:13:52 --> 00:13:55: because we wanted to know what we were getting right
00:13:55 --> 00:13:56: or wrong.
00:13:56 --> 00:13:58: And before I tell residents it's going to,
00:13:58 --> 00:14:01: they're going to have to spend the money and and
00:14:01 --> 00:14:02: be disrupted.
00:14:02 --> 00:14:05: I want to make sure they know it's it's worth
00:14:05 --> 00:14:05: it,
00:14:05 --> 00:14:08: and you will. I came back with a very substantial
00:14:08 --> 00:14:10: report said we are engineering solutions are.
00:14:10 --> 00:14:14: Our Gray solutions were very good and they were not
00:14:14 --> 00:14:15: particularly fond of our.
00:14:15 --> 00:14:18: Of our blue solutions and said we needed and green
00:14:18 --> 00:14:19: solutions,
00:14:19 --> 00:14:21: we need to do a better job.
00:14:21 --> 00:14:23: And you know in those areas so we actually hired
00:14:23 --> 00:14:27: a reputable engineering firm to go ahead and redo our
00:14:27 --> 00:14:28: and inform our approach.
00:14:28 --> 00:14:31: And then we went back and we're starting it up
00:14:31 --> 00:14:31: again.
00:14:31 --> 00:14:34: So I guess the answer your question is,
00:14:34 --> 00:14:37: it's up to the political leaders to make sure there's
00:14:37 --> 00:14:41: informed political will to do things and that the professional
00:14:41 --> 00:14:43: staff like Amy have the support to do the job
00:14:43 --> 00:14:46: they need to, but also to make sure that we're
00:14:46 --> 00:14:47: doing it right.
00:14:47 --> 00:14:49: So that the public supports it,
00:14:49 --> 00:14:52: because what I think often happens is that the professional

00:14:52 --> 00:14:56: side of this may not understand the political ramifications as
00:14:56 --> 00:14:58: much as some of us to run for office every
00:14:58 --> 00:15:00: couple of years does. So.
00:15:00 --> 00:15:02: It's really our job to get it done,
00:15:02 --> 00:15:04: but to make sure the public is is not just
00:15:04 --> 00:15:05: along for the ride,
00:15:05 --> 00:15:08: but informed and ready to go.
00:15:08 --> 00:15:10: Thank you and to this day I've been with you
00:15:10 --> 00:15:13: alive for 16 years and our panel with the City
00:15:13 --> 00:15:16: of Miami Beach was one of the most rewarding experiences
00:15:16 --> 00:15:19: of my. You like a reran being able to see
00:15:19 --> 00:15:20: the recommendations,
00:15:20 --> 00:15:23: you know, taking place so quickly the different variations of
00:15:23 --> 00:15:27: them and in different you know different different sequences and
00:15:27 --> 00:15:30: to be able to see that was really really amazing
00:15:30 --> 00:15:33: and we continue to watch and see what the city
00:15:33 --> 00:15:36: is doing because it's it's really fascinating to see how
00:15:36 --> 00:15:38: you're leading on this topic.
00:15:38 --> 00:15:40: So all of this to be said.
00:15:40 --> 00:15:43: You're working really hard on resiliency and then we get
00:15:43 --> 00:15:47: hit with the pandemic and coupled with the pandemic just
00:15:47 --> 00:15:50: a lot of chaos and turmoil in the world in
00:15:50 --> 00:15:54: our nation. And there's so many pressing priorities coming at
00:15:54 --> 00:15:54: you.
00:15:54 --> 00:15:58: What is your argument to keep resiliency at the forefront
00:15:58 --> 00:16:02: when it feels like there may be other things that
00:16:02 --> 00:16:05: you need to equally take a look at?
00:16:05 --> 00:16:06: I see Mayor Levine, Cava smiling.
00:16:06 --> 00:16:09: Would you like to answer that one?
00:16:09 --> 00:16:13: So definitely so. Julie as I first started running for
00:16:13 --> 00:16:13: office,
00:16:13 --> 00:16:18: there was no pandemic and nobody's wildest imagination.
00:16:18 --> 00:16:21: And of course we spent a lot of time talking
00:16:21 --> 00:16:23: about these resilience issues.
00:16:23 --> 00:16:27: Then came the pandemic and seemingly swept away focus on
00:16:27 --> 00:16:29: anything and anything else,
00:16:29 --> 00:16:33: but I spent a lot of time explaining to people
00:16:33 --> 00:16:36: that in fact these issues have not gone away at
00:16:36 --> 00:16:36: all.
00:16:36 --> 00:16:40: And if anything, the pandemic underscores.
00:16:40 --> 00:16:44: Some of the ways in which we're so interconnected globally

00:16:44 --> 00:16:47: and environment with our health and so on.
00:16:47 --> 00:16:51: So really clearly helping people to see that this is
00:16:51 --> 00:16:53: the existential threat,
00:16:53 --> 00:16:57: right? The pandemic is the immediate threat that we can
00:16:57 --> 00:16:57: overcome,
00:16:57 --> 00:17:01: although there will be other similar kinds of threats.
00:17:01 --> 00:17:05: But the existential one of climate change and the need
00:17:05 --> 00:17:09: to adapt and mitigate persists and is underscoring our very
00:17:09 --> 00:17:10: future.
00:17:10 --> 00:17:13: As as a Community, and I do want to say
00:17:13 --> 00:17:17: that it's resilience is something all encompassing,
00:17:17 --> 00:17:21: there was a lot of discussion when we created our
00:17:21 --> 00:17:23: first Chief Resilience Officer.
00:17:23 --> 00:17:27: And of course Miami Beach and Miami together.
00:17:27 --> 00:17:31: We accomplish the Rockefeller 100 Brazilian cities program,
00:17:31 --> 00:17:35: which was so fabulous, and in that we looked across
00:17:36 --> 00:17:37: the board at stresses,
00:17:37 --> 00:17:41: stressors, threats, not just sea level rise.
00:17:41 --> 00:17:43: Right, not just the temperature,
00:17:43 --> 00:17:47: warming all of the other things is as they are
00:17:47 --> 00:17:51: related and it was anticipated as the seminal report resilient
00:17:51 --> 00:17:56: 305 strategy prepared for the county with the 34 municipalities
00:17:56 --> 00:17:59: and Mayor Gelber was a leader in that as well.
00:17:59 --> 00:18:02: It was anticipated and pandemics,
00:18:02 --> 00:18:06: right? So somebody did look into Crystal Ball because I'm
00:18:06 --> 00:18:11: told advancing pandemics communications is actually item 34 in our.
00:18:11 --> 00:18:16: Resilient 305 strategies. So go figure somebody knew about it
00:18:16 --> 00:18:19: and a few other people we know did as well.
00:18:19 --> 00:18:22: So even as we emerge and we see the end
00:18:22 --> 00:18:24: of this particular pandemic,
00:18:24 --> 00:18:27: we need to have strategies in place on the drawing
00:18:28 --> 00:18:30: board for our future health,
00:18:30 --> 00:18:34: safety, and environmental challenges. I want to_that for the last
00:18:34 --> 00:18:35: month,
00:18:35 --> 00:18:40: I've been deeply engaged in a Community listening process called
00:18:40 --> 00:18:41: thrive 305 surveys.
00:18:41 --> 00:18:44: Were conducted and we had about 1%
00:18:44 --> 00:18:49: of our population respond, so almost 28,000 residents and at

00:18:49 --> 00:18:51: 2.8 million population,
00:18:51 --> 00:18:55: 1.2 million response is something that really struck me.
00:18:55 --> 00:18:58: There were very interesting key takeaways.
00:18:58 --> 00:19:03: One was that our community across every income level,
00:19:03 --> 00:19:08: ethnicity, neighborhood demographic knows that we have an issue with
00:19:08 --> 00:19:11: the environment with climate change.
00:19:11 --> 00:19:15: This is like. Somehow the word is out.
00:19:15 --> 00:19:17: We have to be more resilient.
00:19:17 --> 00:19:19: What we do about it.
00:19:19 --> 00:19:22: That's our next step, and I certainly agree with Mayor
00:19:22 --> 00:19:26: Gelber that it's persuading the public and I do believe
00:19:26 --> 00:19:29: especially now we're talking the BACKBASE study.
00:19:29 --> 00:19:32: I know Mayor Wagner and I are together thinking about
00:19:32 --> 00:19:35: what's what are the implications of dealing with the army
00:19:35 --> 00:19:39: core and what we could do from an engineering standpoint
00:19:39 --> 00:19:41: to help us avoid flooding in the future.
00:19:41 --> 00:19:44: And these are very, very complex and.
00:19:46 --> 00:19:48: Anxiety producing issues to be sure.
00:19:48 --> 00:19:52: And and yesterday I was meeting with the Army core
00:19:52 --> 00:19:53: and I said very squarely.
00:19:53 --> 00:19:57: It's the environmental community, the activists.
00:19:57 --> 00:20:00: They're the ones that have to be the messengers.
00:20:00 --> 00:20:04: So that includes architects and builders and people who get
00:20:04 --> 00:20:04: it.
00:20:04 --> 00:20:08: All of the people that are part of this resilience
00:20:08 --> 00:20:08: agenda.
00:20:08 --> 00:20:12: They are truly the ambassadors for helping the public to
00:20:12 --> 00:20:16: understand the necessity of focusing on this so.
00:20:16 --> 00:20:19: I loved the outcome that you have in your business
00:20:19 --> 00:20:20: case,
00:20:20 --> 00:20:24: that for every dollar of investment in Brazilian adaptation measures,
00:20:24 --> 00:20:28: we're going to generate $2.00 or more in benefits for
00:20:28 --> 00:20:31: the Community and a whopping $4 or more for buildings
00:20:31 --> 00:20:33: and infrastructure.
00:20:33 --> 00:20:36: So we have to really turn to an asset's perspective
00:20:36 --> 00:20:36: on it,
00:20:36 --> 00:20:39: and I'm ready to do that.
00:20:39 --> 00:20:42: Awesome. Do either of the other mayors want to comment
00:20:42 --> 00:20:43: on the pandemic,
00:20:43 --> 00:20:48: and why resiliency is still a focus?

00:20:48 --> 00:20:50: So I think we need to unmute.
00:20:50 --> 00:20:53: I think Mayor Glover probably has a wonderful answer to
00:20:53 --> 00:20:53: this.
00:20:53 --> 00:20:56: I mean, he's he's got a special case down there
00:20:56 --> 00:20:57: in Miami Beach.
00:20:57 --> 00:20:59: Yeah I I would say this.
00:20:59 --> 00:21:00: Thank you mayor and mayors.
00:21:00 --> 00:21:04: You know it's it's interesting if you I think we're
00:21:04 --> 00:21:07: going to look back at the last year.
00:21:07 --> 00:21:10: Presumably when the dust settles and look at sort of
00:21:10 --> 00:21:12: how we did and try to learn from it,
00:21:12 --> 00:21:15: 'cause that obviously is a element of resiliency is to
00:21:15 --> 00:21:17: learn we had an advantage going in.
00:21:17 --> 00:21:20: In a sense that we are a community that typically,
00:21:20 --> 00:21:24: even though I think there are other 34 municipalities mayor
00:21:25 --> 00:21:25: in our county.
00:21:25 --> 00:21:29: So we have 34 municipalities which typically would be a
00:21:29 --> 00:21:31: barrier to a unified response.
00:21:31 --> 00:21:35: But because we have experience with hurricanes and other Zika
00:21:35 --> 00:21:39: and other things we actually have learned how to work
00:21:39 --> 00:21:41: together notwithstanding that,
00:21:41 --> 00:21:44: and I think we have an advantage over on the
00:21:44 --> 00:21:45: resiliency issues.
00:21:45 --> 00:21:48: In a sense that we all have.
00:21:48 --> 00:21:52: Harmoniously and seamlessly. And I mean that all work together
00:21:52 --> 00:21:53: on all of these issues.
00:21:53 --> 00:21:57: And it's been really quite enjoyable because frankly,
00:21:57 --> 00:22:00: I get to work with mayors who maybe if we
00:22:00 --> 00:22:01: didn't have these issues,
00:22:01 --> 00:22:04: we feel competitive with. Instead,
00:22:04 --> 00:22:06: we we celebrate each others efforts.
00:22:06 --> 00:22:10: Now the pandemic was interesting because locally we still have
00:22:10 --> 00:22:13: that and I think we all were very much about
00:22:13 --> 00:22:17: messaging together and trying to make sure the public understood.
00:22:17 --> 00:22:20: Like a hurricane information system,
00:22:20 --> 00:22:21: we were all, I think,
00:22:21 --> 00:22:24: very much together, and in fact the previous county mayor.
00:22:24 --> 00:22:27: And obviously this mayor as well as Mayor,
00:22:27 --> 00:22:31: Suarez and others. We would have regular meetings with

experts
00:22:31 --> 00:22:34: and things like that and I felt very good about
00:22:34 --> 00:22:34: that.
00:22:34 --> 00:22:37: I. I think when we look back on this year
00:22:37 --> 00:22:40: you know every every every challenge reveals your fault lines
00:22:40 --> 00:22:42: and also reveals your virtues.
00:22:42 --> 00:22:45: So this one has revealed that the virtue of the
00:22:45 --> 00:22:49: fact that previous calamities have taught us how to work
00:22:49 --> 00:22:50: together locally.
00:22:50 --> 00:22:52: But I don't think we did a great job in
00:22:52 --> 00:22:55: the state and local level and have it being on
00:22:55 --> 00:22:56: the same message.
00:22:56 --> 00:22:58: And I think at the end of the day,
00:22:58 --> 00:23:01: one of the fault lines we're going to see is
00:23:01 --> 00:23:04: that our failure to have a harmonious message with the
00:23:04 --> 00:23:07: state has led to the kind of miss messaging that
00:23:07 --> 00:23:09: has a conflict in a time of challenge.
00:23:09 --> 00:23:11: Which is never a good thing.
00:23:11 --> 00:23:13: I can tell you in my own city,
00:23:13 --> 00:23:16: for instance, telling people to wear a mask and then
00:23:16 --> 00:23:19: being hearing that they don't need to hear that it's
00:23:19 --> 00:23:21: a political statement.
00:23:21 --> 00:23:23: Was one of the worst things that have happened over
00:23:24 --> 00:23:24: the last year,
00:23:24 --> 00:23:27: and that's simply a product of a failure of political
00:23:27 --> 00:23:30: leadership to get on the same page.
00:23:30 --> 00:23:32: So I hope we think about that going forward,
00:23:32 --> 00:23:35: but you gotta look at these moments as a pressure
00:23:35 --> 00:23:38: testing yourself and figure out what fault lines are now
00:23:38 --> 00:23:41: apparent to you and how they need to be addressed
00:23:41 --> 00:23:46: going forward. Excellent. I think you know Mayor Wagger this
00:23:46 --> 00:23:47: topic.
00:23:47 --> 00:23:49: You know for a smaller community,
00:23:49 --> 00:23:55: it's a different conversation. What are the obstacles and challenges
00:23:56 --> 00:23:57: that you run into?
00:23:57 --> 00:24:01: You're correct, you're 110% correct actually.
00:24:01 --> 00:24:04: So for us it's costs costs costs,
00:24:04 --> 00:24:09: right. How are we going to fund the projects that
00:24:09 --> 00:24:12: we need to mitigate going forward?
00:24:12 --> 00:24:16: We we, our tax base is largely residential,
00:24:16 --> 00:24:20: so we don't have the benefit of a large business

00:24:20 --> 00:24:21: community.
00:24:21 --> 00:24:23: We have a very small,
00:24:23 --> 00:24:27: almost Main Street Main Street downtown as far as.
00:24:27 --> 00:24:31: Businesses are concerned, so cost is our issue,
00:24:31 --> 00:24:33: right?
00:24:33 --> 00:24:34: How do we fund it?
00:24:34 --> 00:24:37: And lucky for us we have a grant writer that
00:24:37 --> 00:24:40: that seeks out grants on our behalf.
00:24:40 --> 00:24:43: Lucky for us that I think now we will have
00:24:43 --> 00:24:47: a great working relationship with the county and and Mayor
00:24:47 --> 00:24:47: Levine.
00:24:47 --> 00:24:51: Cava's leadership will be looking to her as well for
00:24:51 --> 00:24:51: help,
00:24:51 --> 00:24:55: but we don't have the benefit like Mayor Levine,
00:24:55 --> 00:24:59: Cava Anan Mayor Gelber, to have anyone in house specifically
00:24:59 --> 00:25:01: working on this issue.
00:25:01 --> 00:25:03: So it's incumbent upon us.
00:25:03 --> 00:25:07: As leaders mayor, the Council to track down information,
00:25:07 --> 00:25:11: track down ways to partner with not just the county,
00:25:11 --> 00:25:15: but with our adjoining municipalities with that Biscayne Park,
00:25:15 --> 00:25:19: we've got Elpert al we've got North Bay Village and
00:25:19 --> 00:25:23: to try to find corporate partnerships and then that's it?
00:25:23 --> 00:25:25: That's a tall task, right?
00:25:25 --> 00:25:27: For a community such as mine.
00:25:27 --> 00:25:30: Not to mention we have a coastal community,
00:25:30 --> 00:25:33: right? We have a coastal community.
00:25:33 --> 00:25:36: That exists, and how do we protect them right?
00:25:36 --> 00:25:39: How much costs are going to have to project onto
00:25:40 --> 00:25:43: them and their properties so it's a balance and it's
00:25:43 --> 00:25:46: going to be a delicate and difficult dance,
00:25:46 --> 00:25:48: but we cannot afford to ignore it.
00:25:48 --> 00:25:51: So somebody has to take the lead and we have
00:25:51 --> 00:25:56: to find as many partnerships and grant opportunities as possible
00:25:56 --> 00:25:59: because the threat to our Community is real.
00:25:59 --> 00:26:05: Yeah. Thank you, Mayor Levine Cava being the mayor of
00:26:06 --> 00:26:07: an entire county.
00:26:07 --> 00:26:11: I can only imagine the list of projects and priorities
00:26:11 --> 00:26:14: in the bucket of resiliency is huge,
00:26:14 --> 00:26:18: so can you share with us maybe one or two
00:26:18 --> 00:26:18: projects?
00:26:18 --> 00:26:22: That are, you know, extra important or you want us

00:26:22 --> 00:26:23: to know about.
00:26:23 --> 00:26:24: Yes, thank you so much.
00:26:24 --> 00:26:27: And like I said, this was really a key factor
00:26:27 --> 00:26:30: in my running for office and serving is near so
00:26:30 --> 00:26:34: I've obviously doubled down on this right away and my
00:26:34 --> 00:26:37: first five months we released a sea level rise strategy
00:26:37 --> 00:26:41: on February 26 that has a number of the actions
00:26:41 --> 00:26:43: that we need to take to build smarter and we
00:26:43 --> 00:26:47: are about to launch our climate action strategy so that
00:26:47 --> 00:26:50: will be in time for Earth Day next week.
00:26:50 --> 00:26:52: I'm pretty excited about that,
00:26:52 --> 00:26:55: as you can imagine. In my first 100 days we
00:26:55 --> 00:26:58: already had moved forward on a number of actions.
00:26:58 --> 00:27:01: In fact, 46 climate actions or accomplished,
00:27:01 --> 00:27:05: and we announced for my first 100 days and we
00:27:05 --> 00:27:08: have another 56 to be achieved by the end of
00:27:08 --> 00:27:08: 2022.
00:27:08 --> 00:27:11: But to see how these are being implemented,
00:27:11 --> 00:27:14: I'll give a couple of specific examples.
00:27:14 --> 00:27:18: One is the Little River Adaptation Action area and this
00:27:18 --> 00:27:22: is a community LED community engaged effort led by our
00:27:22 --> 00:27:23: Office of Resilience.
00:27:23 --> 00:27:27: We also hired our first ever Chief Bay Officer.
00:27:27 --> 00:27:29: That's the infamous irela Bagay,
00:27:29 --> 00:27:32: also known as the Water Princess.
00:27:32 --> 00:27:35: You may have heard on the water warrior,
00:27:35 --> 00:27:38: so she is our water Princess and we also exacted
00:27:38 --> 00:27:42: an agreement from our six major cruise lines and the
00:27:42 --> 00:27:46: port an Florida power and light to move forward with
00:27:46 --> 00:27:49: shore power at the port so that we could be
00:27:49 --> 00:27:52: plugging in rather than belching out.
00:27:52 --> 00:27:55: So I'm very excited. About that,
00:27:55 --> 00:27:58: and then I'm going to name a city effort North
00:27:58 --> 00:27:59: Bay Village,
00:27:59 --> 00:28:04: which is very forward looking on on these issues approved
00:28:04 --> 00:28:05: just this week,
00:28:05 --> 00:28:10: April 13th. A resolution creating an innovative new marine protected
00:28:10 --> 00:28:14: area that will combine the efforts of the local community
00:28:14 --> 00:28:19: and academic partners to restore the local natural coastline and
00:28:19 --> 00:28:24: and waterways. The treasure that is in their municipality.

00:28:24 --> 00:28:27: And will serve as a world class model for sustainable
00:28:27 --> 00:28:30: Brazilian education and and research.
00:28:30 --> 00:28:32: So we want to lift up the 34 municipalities I
00:28:32 --> 00:28:36: love what mere Gelber said about we've all learned to
00:28:36 --> 00:28:38: work together through the common adversity.
00:28:38 --> 00:28:43: And you know, I'll just tell a little story.
00:28:43 --> 00:28:47: Hurricane Andrew was what made me fall in love with
00:28:47 --> 00:28:48: Miami Dade County,
00:28:48 --> 00:28:51: and the reason for that is that it was the
00:28:51 --> 00:28:56: first time that I saw our community really working across
00:28:56 --> 00:28:58: neighborhoods divides.
00:28:58 --> 00:29:04: Municipalities agencies. Demographics to solve problems for the common good
00:29:04 --> 00:29:06: and ever since then,
00:29:06 --> 00:29:09: it's been my goal to find more ways to do
00:29:09 --> 00:29:09: that.
00:29:09 --> 00:29:13: So I do agree that the common challenges are what
00:29:14 --> 00:29:15: really build community.
00:29:15 --> 00:29:19: Excellent, I can only imagine if we wanted to dive
00:29:19 --> 00:29:21: into every single project in the county.
00:29:21 --> 00:29:24: In this category we could hold a few webinars on
00:29:24 --> 00:29:27: the topic and I love reading your newsletters.
00:29:27 --> 00:29:32: So Mayor Gilbert, your city is certainly been at this
00:29:32 --> 00:29:33: for a very long time.
00:29:33 --> 00:29:37: Is there anything you would say to encourage cities that
00:29:37 --> 00:29:39: are just starting or?
00:29:39 --> 00:29:42: You know, or leaders that are just starting out in
00:29:42 --> 00:29:44: their adaptation journey?
00:29:44 --> 00:29:46: Yeah, well first of all I think you have to
00:29:46 --> 00:29:49: have a process that makes sense 'cause it's both political
00:29:49 --> 00:29:50: and and substantive.
00:29:50 --> 00:29:54: Not that politics isn't substantive.
00:29:54 --> 00:29:56: You know, so for instance,
00:29:56 --> 00:30:00: we are obviously in the midst of an engineering solution.
00:30:00 --> 00:30:04: We are raising probably 50 or 60 miles of roads.
00:30:04 --> 00:30:06: If Amy goes no, I'll change the number,
00:30:06 --> 00:30:09: but it's where rate we're raising.
00:30:09 --> 00:30:13: Our roads were changing our water system from gravitational to
00:30:13 --> 00:30:15: to actually pumped,
00:30:15 --> 00:30:16: which is a big deal,
00:30:16 --> 00:30:20: and we've changed our code dramatically so that it sort

00:30:21 --> 00:30:25: of has different elevations based on this Southeast compacts.
00:30:25 --> 00:30:28: Projections, conservative projections I might add,
00:30:28 --> 00:30:31: and we've also sort of done other things that we're
00:30:31 --> 00:30:32: trying to create.
00:30:32 --> 00:30:35: A more porous areas. We have so many projects throughout
00:30:36 --> 00:30:36: our city,
00:30:36 --> 00:30:38: but I would say this to anyone,
00:30:38 --> 00:30:40: which is, I believe, with two things.
00:30:40 --> 00:30:43: First, in the areas that we've already completed,
00:30:43 --> 00:30:46: projects like Sunset Harbor and some other areas we do
00:30:46 --> 00:30:47: before and afters,
00:30:47 --> 00:30:50: and we can show when you look at exactly the
00:30:50 --> 00:30:53: same tide levels that before we did our work,
00:30:53 --> 00:30:57: there was substantial flooding. And after we completed our work
00:30:57 --> 00:30:58: there was not flooding.
00:30:58 --> 00:31:01: And so we know how many flood events we have.
00:31:01 --> 00:31:04: We have avoided and the reason we tell people that
00:31:04 --> 00:31:07: is people sort of assume there shouldn't be flooding.
00:31:07 --> 00:31:08: But you know when they are,
00:31:08 --> 00:31:11: but we have to remind them that there was flooding
00:31:11 --> 00:31:13: and that's why we did this.
00:31:13 --> 00:31:15: So the first thing is I would say is that
00:31:15 --> 00:31:19: the engineering solutions make this an entirely surmountable challenge.
00:31:19 --> 00:31:22: If you have the political will in the resources to
00:31:22 --> 00:31:22: do it.
00:31:22 --> 00:31:26: And that's really important for people to know that hey,
00:31:26 --> 00:31:28: we can solve this. People think a sea level rise
00:31:28 --> 00:31:29: is this,
00:31:29 --> 00:31:32: you know, you read these stories about.
00:31:32 --> 00:31:35: Communities 50 years. You know we're not going to be
00:31:35 --> 00:31:35: here.
00:31:35 --> 00:31:38: Well, we know that we can solve it if we
00:31:38 --> 00:31:41: if we put our nose to the grindstone and start
00:31:41 --> 00:31:43: doing it for the second thing,
00:31:43 --> 00:31:45: I would say is not simply does it solve the
00:31:45 --> 00:31:48: quality of life issue in the flooding issue,
00:31:48 --> 00:31:51: but it does have a bottom line advantage.
00:31:51 --> 00:31:55: We, the community, related the Community relation rating service has
00:31:55 --> 00:31:58: given us a better rating over the last year for

00:31:58 --> 00:31:59: flood for flood insurance,
00:31:59 --> 00:32:02: so we actually are getting discounts now.
00:32:02 --> 00:32:05: And our own business case analysis we had done shows
00:32:05 --> 00:32:09: that those communities which have done this work have higher
00:32:09 --> 00:32:12: real estate values because of it in the time period
00:32:12 --> 00:32:15: before and after. So we know that we can say
00:32:15 --> 00:32:16: to residents number one.
00:32:16 --> 00:32:19: It's worth the money because not only will it save
00:32:19 --> 00:32:20: your money,
00:32:20 --> 00:32:23: but for most people their home is their biggest asset
00:32:23 --> 00:32:25: or or or or or or the business asset.
00:32:25 --> 00:32:28: 'cause not all, not all buildings or homes.
00:32:28 --> 00:32:31: And and that this is going to preserve the value
00:32:31 --> 00:32:32: of that asset and.
00:32:32 --> 00:32:35: And people have to understand that so it's it's like
00:32:35 --> 00:32:38: I said at the very beginning of it's it's important
00:32:39 --> 00:32:41: to explain and we do view our role almost as
00:32:41 --> 00:32:43: the Canary in the mineshaft.
00:32:43 --> 00:32:47: We've we've had challenges honestly when you harmonize hundreds of
00:32:47 --> 00:32:50: of entryways to homes when you've raised the road,
00:32:50 --> 00:32:53: you're going to get a couple bad bounces where people
00:32:53 --> 00:32:56: will have trouble opening a garage door or a fence
00:32:56 --> 00:32:57: or something like that,
00:32:57 --> 00:33:00: and you gotta figure out how you solve those issues.
00:33:00 --> 00:33:02: How do you deal with the water going?
00:33:02 --> 00:33:07: In the other direction, because the road is raised and
00:33:07 --> 00:33:08: you and so.
00:33:08 --> 00:33:09: You know, as the UL I told us,
00:33:09 --> 00:33:12: we need to do a better job of interacting with
00:33:12 --> 00:33:15: our residents and we almost have a concierge service at
00:33:15 --> 00:33:18: this point to try to help them deal with it.
00:33:18 --> 00:33:20: But the point is that that's sort of the pathway.
00:33:20 --> 00:33:23: So we are the Canary in the mineshaft,
00:33:23 --> 00:33:26: because we're not. We're not projecting out.
00:33:26 --> 00:33:29: We're going to do. We're literally in the middle of
00:33:29 --> 00:33:30: a big,
00:33:30 --> 00:33:34: pretty aggressive program, but I'm really proud of our staff
00:33:34 --> 00:33:37: because I think we've drawn all of a group of
00:33:37 --> 00:33:40: people like Amy and others who realize that this is
00:33:40 --> 00:33:43: that being the Canary in the mineshaft is both of

00:33:43 --> 00:33:44: is a burden,
00:33:44 --> 00:33:48: but one day fully embraced because it's great to be
00:33:48 --> 00:33:51: the Canary in the mineshaft and West of the Canary,
00:33:51 --> 00:33:53: I think so.
00:33:53 --> 00:33:55: Need to have one, but you don't want to be,
00:33:55 --> 00:33:57: but we are in and I think we're doing a
00:33:58 --> 00:33:58: great job,
00:33:58 --> 00:34:01: but I am grateful to the folks making it that
00:34:01 --> 00:34:01: well,
00:34:01 --> 00:34:04: including you alive because their study of our work was
00:34:04 --> 00:34:05: very important for us.
00:34:05 --> 00:34:08: Jacobs Re imagined our program with their input and I
00:34:08 --> 00:34:12: think our residents probably have more confidence they're willing to
00:34:12 --> 00:34:14: spend the money 'cause they now know that at least
00:34:14 --> 00:34:17: two or three, and we also have Harvard and Columbia.
00:34:17 --> 00:34:18: Come and look at it,
00:34:18 --> 00:34:21: and I guess that's the point that when you're don't
00:34:21 --> 00:34:24: be afraid to reconsider your approach because.
00:34:24 --> 00:34:27: The worst thing that government does is continue to throw
00:34:27 --> 00:34:29: good money after bad money.
00:34:29 --> 00:34:32: You've got to constantly be challenging your own.
00:34:32 --> 00:34:37: You know pre-existing beliefs, because sometimes somebody else will have
00:34:37 --> 00:34:39: done it in a better way,
00:34:39 --> 00:34:42: and you want to use their their idea.
00:34:42 --> 00:34:45: Yeah, and you know out of that panel came that
00:34:45 --> 00:34:49: priority recommendation to really embrace the brand of what Miami
00:34:49 --> 00:34:51: Beach was doing.
00:34:51 --> 00:34:54: It's a vulnerability, but it's also an opportunity and an
00:34:54 --> 00:34:58: opportunity to be a model for other cities around the
00:34:58 --> 00:34:58: globe.
00:34:58 --> 00:35:02: And, you know, that was something that is really impressive
00:35:02 --> 00:35:07: when you hear other cities talking about our Miami communities.
00:35:07 --> 00:35:10: Certainly so with the release of resilient 305.
00:35:10 --> 00:35:13: Which lays out the case for why action is needed
00:35:13 --> 00:35:15: and what possible adaptation might look like.
00:35:15 --> 00:35:18: The focus seems to be on implementation.
00:35:18 --> 00:35:21: What can the public sector do and then what would
00:35:21 --> 00:35:24: the role of the private sector be?
00:35:24 --> 00:35:26: And I'd like to open that up to whoever likes

00:35:26 --> 00:35:27: that question.
00:35:31 --> 00:35:34: OK, I'll jump in really quickly.
00:35:34 --> 00:35:37: I mean, I think I've already articulated the role of
00:35:37 --> 00:35:38: the public sector,
00:35:38 --> 00:35:41: especially as it relates. I can only speak to my
00:35:41 --> 00:35:42: municipality,
00:35:42 --> 00:35:45: though I looked to the county and my friend Dan
00:35:45 --> 00:35:48: Gelber for leadership and ideas but.
00:35:48 --> 00:35:50: You know the private sector for us?
00:35:50 --> 00:35:54: Again, going back to our Main Street looking to those
00:35:54 --> 00:36:00: landlords looking through those building owners to implement mitigation strategies.
00:36:00 --> 00:36:03: Help us by implementing mitigation strategies,
00:36:03 --> 00:36:06: impact windows, changing their elevations,
00:36:06 --> 00:36:09: consideration to changing their elevations,
00:36:09 --> 00:36:13: pump stations, we pay for those ourselves.
00:36:13 --> 00:36:17: So anything they can do and then we can incentivize
00:36:17 --> 00:36:18: them to do that,
00:36:18 --> 00:36:21: which helps us because our Main Street is in our
00:36:21 --> 00:36:22: central shores.
00:36:22 --> 00:36:25: What's fascinating about that is the East shores,
00:36:25 --> 00:36:28: which sits directly on the Bay.
00:36:28 --> 00:36:31: Is several blocks east of our central shores.
00:36:31 --> 00:36:36: We now are experiencing rain pooling right in the middle
00:36:36 --> 00:36:37: of essential shores.
00:36:37 --> 00:36:42: Several inches of rain going into peoples homes.
00:36:42 --> 00:36:46: They're wondering where the water is coming from,
00:36:46 --> 00:36:49: so we've got to be able to address their concerns
00:36:49 --> 00:36:50: as well.
00:36:50 --> 00:36:54: So our Main Street sits in front of that area,
00:36:54 --> 00:36:56: so pump stations helping us with that.
00:36:56 --> 00:37:01: Partnering with Miami Shores to help those in central shores
00:37:01 --> 00:37:02: is imperative,
00:37:02 --> 00:37:06: and again, as we as a community as a municipality,
00:37:06 --> 00:37:08: look for.
00:37:08 --> 00:37:11: Funding. To have better drainage in our community,
00:37:11 --> 00:37:14: overall, we've got the septic to sewer issue we've got
00:37:14 --> 00:37:15: to deal with.
00:37:15 --> 00:37:18: We're going to work with the county on that as
00:37:18 --> 00:37:18: well,
00:37:18 --> 00:37:21: and the state, but how do we protect those folks
00:37:21 --> 00:37:22: who are having pooling issues?

00:37:22 --> 00:37:25: And I mean inches and inches of water going into
00:37:25 --> 00:37:26: their homes.
00:37:26 --> 00:37:31: Currently, that's the way our business community can help us.
00:37:31 --> 00:37:34: So if I could add a couple of things there.
00:37:34 --> 00:37:39: Julie, I want to_the importance of partnerships an I think
00:37:39 --> 00:37:42: that's been a theme here throughout and we had a
00:37:43 --> 00:37:47: session of thrive 305 deep dive into some of these.
00:37:47 --> 00:37:51: The answers from our surveys with members of the public
00:37:51 --> 00:37:55: Tuesday was an economy and housing and we had a
00:37:55 --> 00:37:59: lot of great examples that were shared from the public,
00:37:59 --> 00:38:04: both developers and. Residents and all different rules on how
00:38:04 --> 00:38:09: wise development can be critical for resilience when dealing with
00:38:09 --> 00:38:11: flooding and sea level rise.
00:38:11 --> 00:38:16: And I know that your Members especially know that exactly
00:38:16 --> 00:38:19: and so we want to showcase and highlight.
00:38:19 --> 00:38:23: We also have some of the nation's best code requirements
00:38:23 --> 00:38:28: that reflect the necessities and of course dating back to
00:38:28 --> 00:38:29: Hurricane Andrew.
00:38:29 --> 00:38:32: Once again. A Seminole. Event right when we did the
00:38:33 --> 00:38:37: windstorm changes and now we're doing other changes to survive
00:38:37 --> 00:38:38: flooding,
00:38:38 --> 00:38:41: and I know that a lot of smart architects and
00:38:41 --> 00:38:45: developers are doing way beyond what's required because they want
00:38:45 --> 00:38:46: to be sustainable,
00:38:46 --> 00:38:50: so the developers are playing a very critical part in
00:38:50 --> 00:38:52: the public private partnerships,
00:38:52 --> 00:38:56: and in the conversation, and we are working with private
00:38:56 --> 00:39:00: developers to make sure that we can fully leverage state
00:39:00 --> 00:39:01: and federal funds.
00:39:01 --> 00:39:04: Especially now with the American rescue plan.
00:39:04 --> 00:39:07: I'm hard at work with my 13 Commissioners coming up
00:39:07 --> 00:39:11: with priorities for the use of our substantial dollar investment
00:39:11 --> 00:39:12: from the federal government,
00:39:12 --> 00:39:14: as well as the state has created.
00:39:14 --> 00:39:17: Unfortunately, with Sadowsky act funds,
00:39:17 --> 00:39:21: but they're creating a fund for resilience and another one
00:39:21 --> 00:39:23: for septic to sewer and.
00:39:23 --> 00:39:27: And we're on track in Miami Dade County to produce
00:39:27 --> 00:39:33: 15,000 affordable units of housing through smart fight

financing options
00:39:33 --> 00:39:34: and and by the way,
00:39:34 --> 00:39:38: if you missed any of these sessions on the Thrive
00:39:38 --> 00:39:38: 305,
00:39:38 --> 00:39:42: there are all available at THRIVE 305 jet orgs.
00:39:42 --> 00:39:47: I think people will find it really fascinating to to
00:39:47 --> 00:39:48: watch.
00:39:48 --> 00:39:52: Director Michael Lew, of our public housing community Development Agency,
00:39:52 --> 00:39:55: was one of the great among the many great presenters.
00:39:55 --> 00:39:58: Awesome, I'll just add you know.
00:39:58 --> 00:40:01: Certainly in the sea level rise aspect of resiliency.
00:40:01 --> 00:40:05: You know there are certain things only government can do,
00:40:05 --> 00:40:09: like roads. Obviously you're not going to expect private asset
00:40:09 --> 00:40:10: to be doing that,
00:40:10 --> 00:40:13: although most of what we have in our city or
00:40:14 --> 00:40:16: all is owned by private folks.
00:40:16 --> 00:40:18: So there obviously has to be a buy in.
00:40:18 --> 00:40:21: There are some. It's up to government to set a
00:40:21 --> 00:40:24: template for elevations and things like that.
00:40:24 --> 00:40:27: For us, it's. Become a little bit of an interesting
00:40:27 --> 00:40:30: thing 'cause we have also a historic designations that make
00:40:31 --> 00:40:33: it difficult to do certain elevations.
00:40:33 --> 00:40:35: So we are in the midst of actually studying that
00:40:35 --> 00:40:38: and trying to come up with what seems to be
00:40:38 --> 00:40:39: a proper balancing.
00:40:39 --> 00:40:41: I will say that we're going to learn,
00:40:41 --> 00:40:43: I think pretty soon that there are things we can
00:40:43 --> 00:40:46: do to involve the private sector a little bit more.
00:40:46 --> 00:40:49: You know, although it's had some elements of fraud in
00:40:49 --> 00:40:49: it there.
00:40:49 --> 00:40:51: There has been in solar energy,
00:40:51 --> 00:40:54: at least, the ability to sort of put solar energy
00:40:54 --> 00:40:56: into your homes and tie it to your property.
00:40:56 --> 00:40:59: So that you know and and for the most part,
00:40:59 --> 00:41:01: that's been a successful program.
00:41:01 --> 00:41:03: We don't have anything really.
00:41:03 --> 00:41:06: I think like that pursuit for walls and most seawalls
00:41:06 --> 00:41:09: are in the are in the possession of private homeowners
00:41:09 --> 00:41:11: everywhere everywhere.
00:41:11 --> 00:41:14: I suspect it's 90% plus state you know county wide
00:41:14 --> 00:41:17: and seawalls are a big problem because when the water

00:41:17 --> 00:41:20: comes over them they don't usually stay in the parcel
00:41:20 --> 00:41:22: of land. So how do you get people to do
00:41:23 --> 00:41:23: that?
00:41:23 --> 00:41:27: Very expensive thing. I hope the government.
00:41:27 --> 00:41:29: State level or federal will comes up with a real
00:41:29 --> 00:41:32: program that allows in the same way solar energy panels
00:41:32 --> 00:41:33: can become,
00:41:33 --> 00:41:34: can run with the land,
00:41:34 --> 00:41:37: so to speak, that that somebody could fix their seawalls
00:41:37 --> 00:41:38: privately,
00:41:38 --> 00:41:40: but that would be something that every owner of the
00:41:40 --> 00:41:43: home would would have some payment for because it's spread
00:41:43 --> 00:41:46: over a number of years rather than just that particular
00:41:46 --> 00:41:48: moment in time.
00:41:48 --> 00:41:51: Yeah, and I think that seawalls have been one of
00:41:51 --> 00:41:54: those things we've been talking about for such a long
00:41:54 --> 00:41:56: time earlier in our session today,
00:41:56 --> 00:41:59: we talked to a developer in Fort Lauderdale who goes
00:41:59 --> 00:42:02: above and beyond builds his seawalls higher,
00:42:02 --> 00:42:04: but it doesn't do any good if the people his
00:42:04 --> 00:42:05: neighbors don't.
00:42:05 --> 00:42:08: So you know that that is a huge issue for
00:42:08 --> 00:42:09: our communities.
00:42:09 --> 00:42:12: I know that you guys have loved hearing from me
00:42:12 --> 00:42:14: this whole time with my questions,
00:42:14 --> 00:42:17: but we actually have a whole leadership institute in a
00:42:17 --> 00:42:18: class of 30 awesome leaders.
00:42:18 --> 00:42:21: So I wanted to see if some of our leadership
00:42:21 --> 00:42:24: institute members could ask some questions of the mayors and
00:42:24 --> 00:42:26: feel free to unmute yourselves.
00:42:30 --> 00:42:33: He good afternoon. Gardner
00:42:35 --> 00:42:39: OK, good afternoon. This is been voice first and foremost.
00:42:39 --> 00:42:42: Thank you all the mayors for joining us today really.
00:42:42 --> 00:42:46: Appreciate your time. You guys were touching on it,
00:42:46 --> 00:42:49: but I guess just a little further on that.
00:42:49 --> 00:42:54: In your minds, what role does the development community play
00:42:54 --> 00:42:59: in addressing these more and more frequent flooding and sea
00:42:59 --> 00:43:00: level rises?
00:43:00 --> 00:43:04: You know is it. Is it just enough to follow

00:43:04 --> 00:43:08: the code and zoning and policies or in your mind?
00:43:08 --> 00:43:13: Do you see that they need a more commitment to
00:43:13 --> 00:43:15: the future of the area?
00:43:15 --> 00:43:17: If I could step in,
00:43:17 --> 00:43:20: I kind of got religion in this process when I
00:43:20 --> 00:43:24: realized that builders and developers that are here for the
00:43:24 --> 00:43:27: long haul are the ones that we need to really
00:43:27 --> 00:43:30: lift up in partner because you know,
00:43:30 --> 00:43:33: if you're just here to flip a property or make
00:43:33 --> 00:43:34: a quick buck,
00:43:34 --> 00:43:38: then you're not thinking about how to build another resilient
00:43:38 --> 00:43:38: way.
00:43:38 --> 00:43:42: But if you're really looking for long term value,
00:43:42 --> 00:43:44: or if you're in a rental situation,
00:43:44 --> 00:43:48: then you know. You're you're not going to throw good
00:43:48 --> 00:43:49: money after bad.
00:43:49 --> 00:43:52: You're gonna try to make make the right choice.
00:43:52 --> 00:43:55: So I think we're looking for converts like that people
00:43:55 --> 00:43:58: that really recognize that resilient.
00:43:58 --> 00:44:03: Development is smart development. And I look to partner with
00:44:03 --> 00:44:06: those people to be spokespeople,
00:44:06 --> 00:44:10: and I've just pulled a major contract that was going
00:44:10 --> 00:44:15: to go to the airport contract capital Capital project.
00:44:18 --> 00:44:25: Program because it did not include enough about resilience or
00:44:25 --> 00:44:31: worker safeguards or COVID related changes in the world.
00:44:31 --> 00:44:34: And more of an approach on equity,
00:44:34 --> 00:44:36: so I'm looking for those values,
00:44:36 --> 00:44:40: propositions to be reflected in county contract ING an I
00:44:40 --> 00:44:43: want to lift up those that are doing the right
00:44:43 --> 00:44:47: thing and and also innovating showing us best practices.
00:44:47 --> 00:44:49: You know we don't only regulate we,
00:44:49 --> 00:44:52: we learn and we do have a number of ways
00:44:52 --> 00:44:56: that were listening and roundtables with with industry.
00:44:56 --> 00:44:59: And I'm going to continue to do that so we
00:45:00 --> 00:45:01: can work together too.
00:45:01 --> 00:45:06: Protect long term and build smart.
00:45:06 --> 00:45:10: Great, thank you Michelle. I believe you had a question.
00:45:10 --> 00:45:14: Sure, I do. Actually this is for Mayor mayor water.
00:45:14 --> 00:45:18: How do you balance addressing flood and sea level rise
00:45:18 --> 00:45:23: in conjunction with pressing needs such as as affordable housing

00:45:23 --> 00:45:25: and social equity in how do you?
00:45:25 --> 00:45:29: How do you face with that challenge?
00:45:29 --> 00:45:35: Thank you, good question. Fortunately for us we don't have
00:45:35 --> 00:45:36: any.
00:45:36 --> 00:45:39: Portable housing plots here in Miami Shores.
00:45:39 --> 00:45:41: But what we do have what we do have is
00:45:42 --> 00:45:45: we have a community on our Far West side that
00:45:45 --> 00:45:48: requires a lot more attention that requires.
00:45:51 --> 00:45:54: That doesn't have the wherewithal to.
00:45:54 --> 00:45:57: They're not going to be able to elevate their homes.
00:45:57 --> 00:46:01: They're not going to be able to afford to implement
00:46:01 --> 00:46:03: resiliency measures on their own.
00:46:03 --> 00:46:08: An those folks are of particular importance to me because
00:46:08 --> 00:46:12: we have to provide for them because they are experiencing
00:46:12 --> 00:46:16: just what I mentioned before they are experiencing flooding from
00:46:16 --> 00:46:20: rain events right now and there for this from the
00:46:20 --> 00:46:20: Bay.
00:46:20 --> 00:46:24: So how do we? Balance their knee.
00:46:24 --> 00:46:28: Just that I've I've through my counsel just been doing
00:46:28 --> 00:46:34: informational sessions with those guys and trying to find creative
00:46:34 --> 00:46:37: ways in which to help them accomplish.
00:46:37 --> 00:46:39: One example for you at a family you know they've
00:46:39 --> 00:46:42: been flooded and flooded in for that just got flooded
00:46:42 --> 00:46:43: last week when it was raining.
00:46:43 --> 00:46:46: Helping them create a burm in front of their house.
00:46:46 --> 00:46:48: Well, there are procedures to go through to create that
00:46:48 --> 00:46:49: burn.
00:46:49 --> 00:46:51: They couldn't do it on their own.
00:46:51 --> 00:46:53: So I was able to find them some money,
00:46:53 --> 00:46:55: but. It was a long process.
00:46:55 --> 00:46:59: Ann Ann helping them through that process one on one.
00:46:59 --> 00:47:02: 'cause again we don't have staff.
00:47:02 --> 00:47:05: So it's a. It's an interesting balance,
00:47:05 --> 00:47:08: right? For that part of our community and help helping
00:47:08 --> 00:47:12: them find economic assistance to mitigate the damages that they're
00:47:12 --> 00:47:13: experiencing.
00:47:13 --> 00:47:15: So we kind of have to do it in tranches,
00:47:15 --> 00:47:18: right? We have Easton middle and the far West in
00:47:18 --> 00:47:21: the far West is most pressing to me,
00:47:21 --> 00:47:23: so I try to say pay special attention to them

00:47:23 --> 00:47:25: and I try to give them ideas.
00:47:25 --> 00:47:29: I bring people to the neighborhood 'cause it's hard for
00:47:29 --> 00:47:30: me to explain.
00:47:30 --> 00:47:32: It's just a hands on approach and I don't.
00:47:32 --> 00:47:35: I can't balance it because their needs are different from
00:47:35 --> 00:47:37: the rest of the shores needs,
00:47:37 --> 00:47:40: so I you know, I just need to focus on.
00:47:40 --> 00:47:41: Yeah, and Julie if you allow.
00:47:41 --> 00:47:44: I would like also to see from mayor living cover.
00:47:44 --> 00:47:47: I know they do have a lot of affordable housing
00:47:47 --> 00:47:50: as well in the county and just to have some
00:47:50 --> 00:47:51: words on that too.
00:47:51 --> 00:47:55: Anne. Well, I believe that we need a lot more
00:47:55 --> 00:47:57: innovation in that realm,
00:47:57 --> 00:48:02: and we're actually organizing our first affordable Housing Roundtable,
00:48:02 --> 00:48:03: which will be, I think,
00:48:03 --> 00:48:07: April 28th. It will focus on faith based land owners
00:48:07 --> 00:48:11: 'cause there is a substantial amount of land available through
00:48:11 --> 00:48:13: the faith community.
00:48:13 --> 00:48:14: But we're going to continue.
00:48:14 --> 00:48:20: Will talk about. Permitting will talk about the.
00:48:20 --> 00:48:24: The building materials, how they can be more cost efficient.
00:48:24 --> 00:48:29: Looking at the timelines for approvals and streamlining things so
00:48:29 --> 00:48:29: many,
00:48:29 --> 00:48:32: many things that I want to do an again.
00:48:32 --> 00:48:36: Infrastructure creates good jobs, so it's a real kind of
00:48:36 --> 00:48:37: win win,
00:48:37 --> 00:48:41: win situation. The best kind again looking at the American
00:48:41 --> 00:48:46: rescue plan and hopefully the big infrastructure bill that will
00:48:46 --> 00:48:47: pass as well soon.
00:48:47 --> 00:48:52: Doing everything we can to aggressively put these things into
00:48:52 --> 00:48:55: the ground as quickly as possible to help deal with
00:48:55 --> 00:48:56: our huge gap.
00:48:56 --> 00:49:00: You know we're the least affordable place in the nation
00:49:00 --> 00:49:04: with the relatively low salaries and the increasing cost of
00:49:04 --> 00:49:05: living,
00:49:05 --> 00:49:09: and the fact that we're now a popular destination for
00:49:09 --> 00:49:09: relocation,
00:49:09 --> 00:49:12: which is great. We welcome the newcomers,
00:49:12 --> 00:49:16: also contributing to driving up the cost of living here.
00:49:16 --> 00:49:18: And so we just must do more.

00:49:18 --> 00:49:22: Both with subsidy and finding ways to get housing that
00:49:23 --> 00:49:25: people can afford built more quickly.
00:49:25 --> 00:49:27: Thank you and I think Korean.
00:49:27 --> 00:49:29: You had a question.
00:49:31 --> 00:49:34: Yes, I finished second. I'm trying to get out with
00:49:34 --> 00:49:35: elevator.
00:49:35 --> 00:49:39: No, OK, I think will will go to Glen.
00:49:39 --> 00:49:42: We can come back to you Glendale here.
00:49:42 --> 00:49:44: Oh yeah, OK yes yes.
00:49:44 --> 00:49:47: So this is a two prong question but I'll directly
00:49:48 --> 00:49:49: to Madam Mayor Carver.
00:49:49 --> 00:49:55: First of all, good afternoon and congratulations.
00:49:55 --> 00:49:59: What I want to ask is basically from your perspective.
00:49:59 --> 00:50:03: You know what projects would you say that you that
00:50:03 --> 00:50:04: you championed?
00:50:04 --> 00:50:08: Where would you say the progress is on those and
00:50:08 --> 00:50:11: well actually save it for the second part of my
00:50:11 --> 00:50:12: question.
00:50:12 --> 00:50:15: Basically the project that you've initiated,
00:50:15 --> 00:50:18: what would you say would be your?
00:50:18 --> 00:50:22: Crowning achievement to date, and you know how do you
00:50:22 --> 00:50:23: believe the progress is gone?
00:50:23 --> 00:50:27: No pressure as you've been mayor for such.
00:50:27 --> 00:50:29: Thank you, thank you. Well,
00:50:29 --> 00:50:32: of course it's been five months in office and we
00:50:32 --> 00:50:35: had to assemble our team and there's a lot going
00:50:35 --> 00:50:36: on the pandemic.
00:50:36 --> 00:50:39: I would say #1 getting people vaccinated.
00:50:39 --> 00:50:41: I just have to tell you,
00:50:41 --> 00:50:44: I think we've done a phenomenal job of pressing for
00:50:44 --> 00:50:45: the vaccine,
00:50:45 --> 00:50:48: getting people out to get the vaccine and turning the
00:50:48 --> 00:50:48: corner.
00:50:48 --> 00:50:52: I feel very, very proud and good about what we've
00:50:52 --> 00:50:53: done in a collaborative way.
00:50:53 --> 00:50:57: Once again, some of the very specific achievements I would
00:50:57 --> 00:51:01: say changing worker conditions at the airport with the Ulen
00:51:01 --> 00:51:02: contract.
00:51:02 --> 00:51:04: That is a game changer for us.
00:51:04 --> 00:51:06: It sets a higher standard.
00:51:06 --> 00:51:10: You know, we do not want our workers to be
00:51:10 --> 00:51:15: subjected to unfair labor practices or unhealthy working

conditions.
00:51:15 --> 00:51:19: They needed to be treated with dignity and now as
00:51:19 --> 00:51:21: a result of our actions,
00:51:21 --> 00:51:26: Uline has negotiated an agreement across all of the airports
00:51:26 --> 00:51:29: they serve to change how they address.
00:51:29 --> 00:51:33: Their their workforce. I'm very proud of that.
00:51:33 --> 00:51:37: Negotiating the naming rights for the arena is something that
00:51:38 --> 00:51:42: has bedevilled the County Commission for a few years,
00:51:42 --> 00:51:44: so I'm very happy to bring it in for a
00:51:44 --> 00:51:48: landing and creating out of it a significant fund to
00:51:48 --> 00:51:51: address violence and poverty.
00:51:51 --> 00:51:55: Now I'm calling it the peace and prosperity initiative.
00:51:55 --> 00:51:59: We're talking $90 million and we are working on a
00:51:59 --> 00:51:59: plan to to.
00:51:59 --> 00:52:01: Put that out so I could go on,
00:52:01 --> 00:52:03: but those are a few of the things that that
00:52:03 --> 00:52:04: come to mind,
00:52:04 --> 00:52:06: so thanks for the question.
00:52:06 --> 00:52:09: Of course, and then the second part is basically well
00:52:09 --> 00:52:11: and I will say will say we created the Office
00:52:11 --> 00:52:13: of Equity and Inclusion something very,
00:52:13 --> 00:52:16: very important to me and will is rolling out already
00:52:16 --> 00:52:19: a number of things to to change the way we
00:52:19 --> 00:52:22: do county contract excellent and very quickly the question was
00:52:22 --> 00:52:25: going to be if there was any pilot projects that
00:52:25 --> 00:52:26: you have in mind,
00:52:26 --> 00:52:29: but with mentioning throughout 305 you know.
00:52:29 --> 00:52:33: And that's something that I'm actually still getting some information
00:52:33 --> 00:52:35: on as being a part of the millennial board in
00:52:35 --> 00:52:36: the county.
00:52:36 --> 00:52:39: Actually, something else in email.
00:52:39 --> 00:52:43: That's something I'm really interested in finding out more information
00:52:43 --> 00:52:43: on,
00:52:43 --> 00:52:45: but pretty much you know from.
00:52:45 --> 00:52:47: A marketing standpoint and you know,
00:52:47 --> 00:52:51: getting the residents you know what is your current issue
00:52:51 --> 00:52:54: with outreach as well as you know as part of
00:52:54 --> 00:52:54: a board,
00:52:54 --> 00:52:56: but with the county you know.
00:52:56 --> 00:52:58: How can we help and assist?

00:52:58 --> 00:53:01: You know, make sure that we get the word out
00:53:01 --> 00:53:04: and make the program as vibrant as you know your
00:53:04 --> 00:53:05: business easily.
00:53:05 --> 00:53:09: Thank you. Well thanks. I am all about participatory government.
00:53:09 --> 00:53:13: I got into government to bring people inside government and
00:53:13 --> 00:53:13: thrive.
00:53:13 --> 00:53:16: 305 is a great great effort.
00:53:16 --> 00:53:19: To to do that and it will change the trajectory
00:53:19 --> 00:53:22: of how decisions are made in county government.
00:53:22 --> 00:53:25: So we have our last deep dive this this evening.
00:53:25 --> 00:53:28: 6 to 8 thrivethrough5.org and it will be on government
00:53:29 --> 00:53:33: transparency and responsiveness and I'll be leading that session,
00:53:33 --> 00:53:36: so I hope you'll join and learn more about the
00:53:36 --> 00:53:37: answer to your question,
00:53:37 --> 00:53:40: but I can just tell you that we are going
00:53:40 --> 00:53:43: to move towards participation in every level.
00:53:43 --> 00:53:46: We've already had roundtable on procurement.
00:53:46 --> 00:53:50: One on transit fares were having the one on affordable
00:53:50 --> 00:53:51: housing.
00:53:51 --> 00:53:55: I you know, my underlying message here is nothing about
00:53:55 --> 00:53:56: me without me.
00:53:56 --> 00:54:00: Government is trust that the people give by voting in
00:54:00 --> 00:54:04: their elected officials by paying their taxes and it's on
00:54:04 --> 00:54:08: us to help people see that they're getting value for
00:54:08 --> 00:54:13: that investment. Excellent, excellent thank you.
00:54:13 --> 00:54:16: Kind of an interesting question come from the audience.
00:54:16 --> 00:54:20: What efforts are being made to restore the natural environment.
00:54:20 --> 00:54:23: My understanding is that the glades reefs and natural sand
00:54:23 --> 00:54:25: dunes play a big role in resilience for Florida.
00:54:25 --> 00:54:29: Overall, that's a great question and not an easy one
00:54:30 --> 00:54:30: to answer.
00:54:30 --> 00:54:32: I like to jump in on this one.
00:54:32 --> 00:54:35: This was is of particular interest to me.
00:54:35 --> 00:54:38: I sat on the Everglades Boards Trust a number of
00:54:38 --> 00:54:39: years ago,
00:54:39 --> 00:54:43: so I'm very much familiar with what she's speaking about.
00:54:43 --> 00:54:46: So in our community, we have a huge movement here
00:54:46 --> 00:54:48: to do to plant natural plants.
00:54:48 --> 00:54:51: Plants that create a better run off system for water,
00:54:51 --> 00:54:55: and then we get some pushback right from our administration

00:54:55 --> 00:54:56: because it's not.
00:54:56 --> 00:54:59: It's not. They're not perfectly manicured yards,
00:54:59 --> 00:55:02: it's not. It doesn't have to look in.
00:55:02 --> 00:55:05: My argument has been and will continue to be.
00:55:05 --> 00:55:09: This is what we need to naturally fight and mitigate
00:55:09 --> 00:55:12: our flooding issues here in Miami shores.
00:55:12 --> 00:55:15: So in my case I'm having to rewrite codes and
00:55:15 --> 00:55:20: ordinances that allow for our residents to use natural elements
00:55:20 --> 00:55:24: to fight fight against the flooding that they're experiencing in
00:55:24 --> 00:55:29: their neighborhoods, and it's been a really interesting challenge because
00:55:29 --> 00:55:31: we've got as you know.
00:55:31 --> 00:55:33: Some folks don't agree with it,
00:55:33 --> 00:55:36: so and that's the challenge of leadership on this issue.
00:55:36 --> 00:55:39: We've tried to set out to prove that it does
00:55:39 --> 00:55:39: work,
00:55:39 --> 00:55:42: and so I've got codes and things to change with
00:55:42 --> 00:55:46: my colleagues to allow for this sort of natural environments
00:55:46 --> 00:55:46: to be created.
00:55:46 --> 00:55:50: If the homeowner wants to create that to protect their
00:55:50 --> 00:55:52: quality of life in their space,
00:55:52 --> 00:55:54: I think they should be able to do it in
00:55:54 --> 00:55:56: the overall impact of it is significant,
00:55:56 --> 00:55:59: so I think that's a great question.
00:55:59 --> 00:56:02: I just would add a couple things in our city
00:56:02 --> 00:56:06: has so many of these environmental issues because Beach and
00:56:06 --> 00:56:09: Bay on either side canals everywhere.
00:56:09 --> 00:56:12: We started a couple of years ago plastic free program
00:56:12 --> 00:56:14: with the business community.
00:56:14 --> 00:56:16: I urge you to go to our website.
00:56:16 --> 00:56:20: I think it's one of the best sort of although
00:56:20 --> 00:56:23: we require it at places to the extent we are
00:56:23 --> 00:56:26: allowed to because there's a state preemption,
00:56:26 --> 00:56:29: I would say wrong headed state preemption,
00:56:29 --> 00:56:31: but there is a state preemption we.
00:56:31 --> 00:56:32: We have a very good.
00:56:32 --> 00:56:34: It shows people how to do it.
00:56:34 --> 00:56:36: It tells them where to buy it.
00:56:36 --> 00:56:38: It gives some reasons. We gave a lot of our
00:56:38 --> 00:56:41: kids in the public school and the teachers curriculum and
00:56:41 --> 00:56:44: we gave them utensils that reusable utensils we try to

00:56:44 --> 00:56:46: do in a lot of ways so the plastic free
00:56:46 --> 00:56:47: program is great.
00:56:47 --> 00:56:50: We obviously, you know. We always tell a lot of
00:56:50 --> 00:56:53: businesses when at parties on the beach that we have
00:56:53 --> 00:56:56: a turtle season and they're out of luck.
00:56:56 --> 00:56:58: And I think the probably the you know we have
00:56:58 --> 00:57:00: a reef program we're doing now.
00:57:00 --> 00:57:03: You know, I. I think when it comes to the
00:57:03 --> 00:57:04: sea level rise,
00:57:04 --> 00:57:07: you know getting your your pores terrain is not only
00:57:07 --> 00:57:07: prettier,
00:57:07 --> 00:57:10: it's also smarter for the environment.
00:57:10 --> 00:57:12: So we've actually looked at the,
00:57:12 --> 00:57:15: you know, I always get criticized when we talk about
00:57:15 --> 00:57:16: height increases,
00:57:16 --> 00:57:19: but sometimes if if you're massing is really it's limited
00:57:19 --> 00:57:21: by your floor area ratio,
00:57:21 --> 00:57:22: which it is in our city,
00:57:22 --> 00:57:24: you might get a taller building,
00:57:24 --> 00:57:27: but will be skinnier and that allows for.
00:57:27 --> 00:57:30: You know, you know, room around it to have its
00:57:30 --> 00:57:31: absorption and such.
00:57:31 --> 00:57:34: We also, by the way in our in our recent
00:57:34 --> 00:57:38: Geo bond or residents supported our general obligation bond by
00:57:38 --> 00:57:39: about 70%,
00:57:39 --> 00:57:42: which is a pretty high amount when you consider its
00:57:42 --> 00:57:43: attacks on yourself,
00:57:43 --> 00:57:46: but included in that was 5000 new trees.
00:57:46 --> 00:57:49: Interesting, we now have it's become controversial.
00:57:49 --> 00:57:52: We have a Palm Tree caucus in our Commission.
00:57:52 --> 00:57:55: And then there's a Shade Tree caucus,
00:57:55 --> 00:57:57: and they're fighting over, really.
00:57:57 --> 00:58:00: What the proportion of palm trees to shade trees is
00:58:00 --> 00:58:03: going to be so wonderful fight to have.
00:58:03 --> 00:58:04: I always like to say that I my,
00:58:04 --> 00:58:07: my dogs don't think there should be a caucus for
00:58:07 --> 00:58:08: either.
00:58:08 --> 00:58:11: They like all trees and you know in the community,
00:58:11 --> 00:58:14: but it is actually something that's happening.
00:58:14 --> 00:58:17: But you know, we, we believe that the sort of.
00:58:17 --> 00:58:21: Restoring and preserving these natural elements are

incredibly important.
00:58:21 --> 00:58:24: Not only 'cause they're the right thing to do,
00:58:24 --> 00:58:28: but frankly a tourist like seeing them in our residents
00:58:28 --> 00:58:30: like walking under them so.
00:58:30 --> 00:58:33: So we are almost at the hour mark and I
00:58:33 --> 00:58:36: know there's a lot of really awesome paths that we
00:58:36 --> 00:58:38: could take in this conversation,
00:58:38 --> 00:58:39: but I was wondering if,
00:58:39 --> 00:58:43: for the benefit of our leadership institute class members who
00:58:43 --> 00:58:46: are proven leaders already and they're going to be nothing
00:58:46 --> 00:58:48: more but more dynamic in the future,
00:58:48 --> 00:58:51: as well as all of our attendees that are on
00:58:51 --> 00:58:51: the line,
00:58:51 --> 00:58:56: is there any lasting encouragement that you can give to
00:58:56 --> 00:58:59: us as we navigate through this topic as private and
00:58:59 --> 00:59:01: public sector leaders?
00:59:01 --> 00:59:03: Drop all say that we need you,
00:59:03 --> 00:59:07: so if you were thinking of going someplace else,
00:59:07 --> 00:59:09: don't stay stay we need you.
00:59:09 --> 00:59:13: We need your talent. We're working on talent pipelines.
00:59:13 --> 00:59:17: How to make sure to take advantage of the benefit
00:59:17 --> 00:59:21: of what you're learning and also the values that you
00:59:21 --> 00:59:22: bring to the work.
00:59:22 --> 00:59:26: So clearly there's a market for you here to be
00:59:26 --> 00:59:27: part of the solution,
00:59:27 --> 00:59:31: and I want to make a personal commitment to you.
00:59:31 --> 00:59:35: That I have a personal mission statement which is talent
00:59:35 --> 00:59:37: scouting for world benefit.
00:59:37 --> 00:59:41: So anyone that could feel part of that sisterhood and
00:59:41 --> 00:59:44: brotherhood of talent scouting for world benefit,
00:59:44 --> 00:59:48: I'd certainly love to hear from you and see how
00:59:48 --> 00:59:52: we can figure out how to best deploy your talents
00:59:52 --> 00:59:53: for world benefit.
00:59:53 --> 00:59:57: I would just say that and that's that was wonderful
00:59:57 --> 00:59:57: mayor,
00:59:57 --> 01:00:00: I would just add that if there's one thing that
01:00:01 --> 01:00:04: it's become clear in the last decade and certainly in
01:00:04 --> 01:00:05: the last year,
01:00:05 --> 01:00:09: it's that it is science and engineering and those kinds
01:00:09 --> 01:00:13: of stem approaches that are going to really like the
01:00:13 --> 01:00:14: way into the future.
01:00:14 --> 01:00:18: It might have been something that all along we should

01:00:18 --> 01:00:19: have focused more on.
01:00:19 --> 01:00:23: But now, as a matter of requirement and obligation we
01:00:23 --> 01:00:24: have to.
01:00:24 --> 01:00:27: Focus on we don't have the option anymore.
01:00:27 --> 01:00:32: These challenges are literally coming to our doorstep whether through
01:00:32 --> 01:00:32: sea level,
01:00:32 --> 01:00:35: rise or virus or anything else.
01:00:35 --> 01:00:38: Honestly. So for those of you that have picked this
01:00:38 --> 01:00:39: path in life,
01:00:39 --> 01:00:43: you're cool again. If for want of a better word,
01:00:43 --> 01:00:46: OK, you're cool again, bow ties are back as our
01:00:46 --> 01:00:51: engineers and city planners and urbanists and people who understand
01:00:51 --> 01:00:54: at a technical way how to solve the problems of.
01:00:54 --> 01:00:57: Of modern cities and and communities,
01:00:57 --> 01:01:00: so thank you for your commitment to it and and
01:01:01 --> 01:01:04: and keep it up because I for one will always
01:01:04 --> 01:01:06: listen and and and and marvel.
01:01:09 --> 01:01:11: I suppose I'll round it out.
01:01:11 --> 01:01:14: It's a tough act to follow.
01:01:14 --> 01:01:16: Let me say this to you all listen,
01:01:16 --> 01:01:20: I'm always open to ideas and creativity and thoughts.
01:01:20 --> 01:01:23: There are things that I certainly cannot think of,
01:01:23 --> 01:01:27: so I I give you this extent to this invitation.
01:01:27 --> 01:01:30: If you have ideas or thoughts that you think would
01:01:30 --> 01:01:34: be relevant and specific to a small community like my
01:01:34 --> 01:01:34: own,
01:01:34 --> 01:01:37: I encourage you to reach out to me with those
01:01:37 --> 01:01:40: ideas and I would urge you even more so to
01:01:40 --> 01:01:41: come.
01:01:41 --> 01:01:44: Make a presentation to our city village story.
01:01:44 --> 01:01:47: I would love for them to hear the wonderful ideas
01:01:47 --> 01:01:49: and thoughts that you all have,
01:01:49 --> 01:01:51: so it's not just I'm not always the one in
01:01:51 --> 01:01:55: the bullhorn with the hopes that perhaps we can implement
01:01:55 --> 01:01:57: if we feel like we can implement some one of
01:01:57 --> 01:01:59: the ideas that you present.
01:01:59 --> 01:02:02: So we are also open to presentations at our Council
01:02:02 --> 01:02:02: meetings.
01:02:02 --> 01:02:05: Reach out to me and I'll put you in touch
01:02:05 --> 01:02:07: with our clerk and get you on there,

01:02:07 --> 01:02:09: but we are open to ideas an any help we
01:02:09 --> 01:02:12: can get going forward on this critically important issue.
01:02:12 --> 01:02:14: Well, on behalf of you.
01:02:14 --> 01:02:17: Well, I I want to thank University of Miami for
01:02:17 --> 01:02:19: partnering with us today and I want to thank.
01:02:19 --> 01:02:23: All three of you mayors send your amazing leadership and
01:02:23 --> 01:02:26: I'm very hopeful to be working with you all on
01:02:26 --> 01:02:29: different UI engagements in the future,
01:02:29 --> 01:02:32: both the village, the county and your city.
01:02:32 --> 01:02:36: And we appreciate your leadership and we're watching and and
01:02:36 --> 01:02:39: paying attention to all the exciting things that are on
01:02:39 --> 01:02:40: the horizon.
01:02:40 --> 01:02:43: So all the best and see you soon.
01:02:43 --> 01:02:45: Thank you so much, been great.

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