Anyone interested in Jacksonville topics related to climate change and resiliency to sea level rise should take the invitation of Council Members Randy DeFoor (District 14), Joyce Morgan (District 1), Michael Boylan (District 6), Garrett Dennis (District 9) and Matt Carlucci (At Large, Group 4) who are co-hosting a resiliency presentation by new City of Jacksonville Chief Resiliency Officer Anne Coglianese to past participants and members of the Special Committee on Resiliency on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 12:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Resiliency is a key aim for the Riverfront Parks Now group in Jacksonville which seeks to create a connected riverfront park for all along the city's north riverbank prioritizing green space, access and parks over development. Here is the group's latest newsletter.

LINK: https://us10.campaign-archive.com/?u=b1670c0b37e3d4afd81cda3f8&id=fa7ea185f9

How did Florida's two U.S. Senators vote on issues most important to conservationists?

No surprise here.

LINK: <a href="https://defenders.org/sites/default/files/2022-03/2021DofW%20ConScoreCard%20FIN%20NEW.pdf">https://defenders.org/sites/default/files/2022-03/2021DofW%20ConScoreCard%20FIN%20NEW.pdf</a>

The White House announced the largest ever investment of federal funds for Everglades restoration in January, followed by another historic presidential budget request to Congress in March.

Nearly \$1.1 billion will be provided to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Program to support projects this year. This funding comes from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill that was signed into law in November 2021 and represents a sweeping investment in the world's largest ecosystem restoration project – America's Everglades. Additionally, \$407 million in President Biden's budget proposal could be allocated to restoration projects.

"The Biden Administration's request for \$407 million is another record-breaking number for Everglades restoration," explains Kelly Cox, Audubon's Director of Everglades Policy. "This funding would primarily support the EAA reservoir – the single most important project for benefitting multiple parts of the Everglades. When complete, the EAA will provide an outlet to store and treat water before it is sent south to the Southern Everglades and Florida Bay where that clean fresh water is desperately needed. (This) marks an important milestone for the EAA reservoir and we are excited about the promise that this budget request holds. There has been historic bipartisan support of Everglades restoration and we are hopeful that, with the Florida delegation's continued leadership, Congress will meet the call and provide an additional surge of funding for the Everglades."

Tens of billions of dollars and decades has already been spent on Everglades restoration, with tens of billions of more needed to complete the decades of work left to go, illustration of how thoroughly wrecked that ecosystem had/has become.

What would a conservation newsletter be without a <u>developer trying to cram more needless roads</u> down the throats of Florida citizens. The latest effort comes from the Daytona Beach area where a massive proposed new interchange on I-95 would feed more cars and people to a proposed massive housing development in the area, ruining a protected wetland in the process.

The push is coming from one of Governor DeSantis' biggest donors/advisors and chair for the University of Florida Board of Trustees.

LINK: <a href="https://floridaphoenix.com/2022/04/07/new-interstate-95-interchange-hurts-creek-but-benefits-florida-governors-buddy/">https://floridaphoenix.com/2022/04/07/new-interstate-95-interchange-hurts-creek-but-benefits-florida-governors-buddy/</a>