

## **JAMES F. MURLEY**



Jim Murley has spent over four decades working on public policy issues important to Florida. He was the founding Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Florida, a statewide not-for-profit focused on sound community planning and protection of natural resources. Murley served as Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs under Governor Lawton Chiles working on comprehensive planning, economic development, energy and emergency management issues. He has served on various state commissions including the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, Florida Communities Trust and served three years as the Chair of the Florida Energy and Climate Commission. Murley spent over 10 years with Florida Atlantic University overseeing research on urban and environmental issues. Murley served as Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council and currently serves as the Chief Resilience Officer for Miami-Dade County. Murley works on the forefront of sustainability and climate change issues and has helped author sections of the 2014 National Climate Assessment. He is a graduate of Leadership Florida and a Fellow in the National Academy for Public Administration.

Murley was appointed the first Chief Resilience Officer by Mayor Carlos Gimenez of Miami-Dade County. In that position he coordinated with the Cities of Miami Beach and Miami to form the Greater Miami and the Beaches partnership enabling participation in the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities program. The partnership launched the Resilient305 Strategy in May 2019. In June 2019 Miami-Dade County became a community partner with the new Adrienne Arsht Rockefeller Foundation Center for Resilience. In his capacity as County Chief Resilience Officer, Murley oversees work on adaptation to sea level rise and instituting action to improve energy efficiency and conservation.

When Jim Murley served as the Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council, he formed the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership, a collaborative regional planning activity funded by a three-year, \$4.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and

Urban Development. The Partnership is a collaboration of the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils in cooperation with over 200 public, private, not-for-profit and civic organizations covering a geographic area from Key West to Vero Beach and representing a population of over 6.2 million people. The final Regional Prosperity Plan ([www.seven50report.org](http://www.seven50report.org)) identifies key urban and natural system priorities.

From 1999 to 2011, Murley served in various positions at Florida Atlantic University (FAU). In 2009, he was appointed Assistant Dean for External Relations for the College for Design and Social Inquiry at FAU. His responsibilities included working with the Dean, faculty and students to further their involvement in civic activities throughout the South Florida region and educating public and private leaders on the resources available at the College. In addition, he served as Senior Advisor for Energy and Climate Change with the Florida Center for Environmental Studies, College of Science. In that capacity he assisted the University's interdisciplinary initiatives in climate change adaptation and offshore renewable energy.

Murley first came to FAU in 1999 as Director of the University's Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions (CUES). With the support of the National Commission on Energy Policy (NCEP) the Center produced a study entitled "Florida Resilient Coasts: A Statewide Policy Framework for Adapting to Climate Change." The Center completed a sequel study entitled "Southeast Florida's Resilient Water Resources: Adaptation to Sea Level Rise and other impacts from Climate Change." The Center also conducted a five-year program of applied regional research with support of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Murley is a Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration. He has served on several study panels for the Academy including reviews of the National Marine Sanctuary Program and a three-year study for the Environmental Protection Agency on how issues of environmental justice are addressed at the federal, state and local government levels. Recently, Murley participated on an Academy panel requested by the United States Congress to review the proposed National Climate Service in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Department of Commerce.

Murley serves on a number of organizations focused on finding solutions to climate change challenges facing Florida. He served as Vice Chair of the Miami Dade County Sea Level Rise Task Force and was a member of the Broward County Climate Change Task Force. In 2008 he was appointed by Governor Charlie Crist as the first Chair of the Florida Energy and Climate Commission. The Commission was charged with

implementing over \$180 million in federal economic recovery funds from the United States Department of Energy.

Murley first joined the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in 1983 as its Director of Resource Planning and Management. In 1987, Murley left the Department to head 1000 Friends of Florida, a not-for-profit public interest group that works to promote sensible planning, economic development and environmental preservation. Murley was then appointed Secretary of DCA in 1995, by Governor Lawton Chiles. As Secretary, Murley oversaw the Department's growth management functions, including the Key West and Florida Keys Areas of Critical State Concern. He directed the state emergency management operations during the landfall of four hurricanes in 1998. He also directed the Department's housing and urban development programs and served on the Board of Directors for Florida Housing Finance Agency, Florida Communities Trust, the South Walton County Conservation and Development Trust, and the Conservation Land Advisory Committee.

Before coming to Florida, he worked for the National Atmospheric and Oceanographic Administration in coastal zone management. He continues his love for oceans and coasts by serving on the Board of Directors of the Florida Ocean Alliance (FOA). FOA published a July 2009 report, "Moving Ahead: The Next Step in Ocean Management in Florida", calling for improved management of Florida's ocean and coastal resources. In 2011, the FOA released a follow up report at their annual Florida Oceans Day entitled, "Oceans of Opportunity: Managing the Uses of Florida's Ocean Spaces." In 2001, Murley received FOA's initial Ocean Champion award presented by Jean-Michael Cousteau of the Ocean Futures Society. He also serves as Chair of the national Board of Directors of the Coastal States Stewardship Foundation (CSSF). The CSSF partners with the Coastal States Organization to provide coastal states with opportunities to engage in public private partnerships and secure nontraditional sources of funding and expertise for their endeavors.

Murley is a member the Steering Committee for the Miami-Dade County Beacon Council's One Community One Goal program. He is an alumnus of Leadership Florida, Class IX and named to both the Achievement and Athletic Halls of Fame of Chagrin Falls, Ohio High School Alumni organization. He graduated with a BA degree in history from Denison University in Ohio and a JD in land use and environmental law from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Murley received a Bronze Star for Service with the US Army in Vietnam.