

**ORANGE COUNTY
COMMISSION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

To: Board of County Commissioners
From: David Neal, Chair
Orange County Commission for the Environment
Date: January __, 2013
Re: The County's Membership to ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability

In early December the Commission for the Environment (CFE) was asked for a recommendation on whether Orange County should continue its membership with ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability. The annual membership is \$1,750, paid by the Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation (DEAPR).

CFE discussed this matter at its December 2012 and January 2013 meetings. Staff pointed out that ICLEI resources were used for developing the Orange County greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory (2005-06), but the County has not been able to utilize ICLEI services over the past two years. CFE members agreed that continuing the ICLEI membership would be beneficial only if the County and its advisory boards (including the CFE) took advantage of its resources.

The CFE discussed the potential use of ICLEI resources by its Energy Resources Committee and the proposed new Renewable Energy and Efficiency Work Group (REnEW Group). The CFE decided it would be beneficial to tap into those resources and services over the next year before canceling the County's membership.

The CFE recommends Orange County renew its membership for one more year (2013) during which the CFE and its staff will utilize ICLEI resources and assess whether it would be worthwhile to continue the membership in the future.