

Media Contact:

Megan Brewster
AVP, PR
First Home Bank
(617) 285-0771
Megan.Brewster@firsthomebank.com

Anna Sampson
Director
We Are Neutral
(352) 580-0441
anna@weareneutral.com

**First Home Bank Achieves 100% Carbon Neutrality at
All Seven of Its Retail Banking Centers
*Community Bank Reaches Goal Through Partnership with Local
Environmental Non-Profit We Are Neutral***

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (March 8, 2022) – As part of its ongoing commitment to adhering to the highest Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards in all aspects of its operations, St. Petersburg-based community bank First Home Bank today announced that all seven of its retail banking centers are officially carbon neutral – a goal that was achieved through a partnership with the Florida environmental non-profit, We Are Neutral.

First Home Bank began the effort to mitigate the environmental impact of its utility use, supplies and business travel to better offset its carbon footprint in June of 2021, utilizing We Are Neutral to help identify and deploy these and additional carbon-reduction initiatives.

“At First Home, we are dedicated to doing our part to protect the planet and recognize that climate change presents the greatest challenge,” said First Home Bank’s Facilities Support Specialist Alex Hagush. “We are proud to be 100% carbon neutral at all seven of our retail banking centers and remain committed to meeting this standard at every banking center we build as we continue our expansion throughout the Tampa Bay area.”

“By setting a commitment to carbon neutrality, leaders such as First Home Bank help to restore balance to the planet and mitigate climate change while benefiting local communities,” added Anna Grace Sampson, director of We Are Neutral.

This is just one of the many ways First Home is focusing on energy efficiency and sustainability to ensure it is the best steward of the environment. The Bank is also in the process of obtaining LEED certification of its banking centers through the United States Green Business Council (USGBC) and incorporating free electric vehicle charging stations into the plans for future locations. In 2021, it also made substantial investments in infrastructure and leveraged technological advancements in an effort to reduce paper usage.

We Are Neutral

We Are Neutral has 14 years of experience helping businesses and individuals understand, track, reduce, and offset their comprehensive carbon footprints, giving them the opportunity to take responsibility for their environmental impact and achieve carbon neutrality and/or Net Zero. We Are Neutral’s carbon offset and reduction projects include providing energy upgrades for low-income families, native tree plantings, invasive species removals, urban agriculture, landfill diversion, landfill methane capture, vehicle fuel efficiency tune-ups, soil regeneration, and massive amounts of environmental education.

About First Home Bank

Headquartered in St. Petersburg, First Home Bank operates seven banking centers in the Tampa Bay area and originates residential mortgages through 23 loan production offices nationwide. In addition to residential mortgages, First Home Bank offers a broad range of retail and business banking services, including small business loans through its SBA loan division, CreditBench, and is one of the top producing SBA lenders in the country. Since it opened in 1999, First Home Bank has grown exponentially without losing sight of its commitment to making an impact in the community and being there for what's next in the lives of its customers. For more information visit: www.firsthomebank.com.

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