

# City of Fort Lauderdale

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## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 23, 2025

1:30 PM

**Broward Center for the Performing Arts - Mary N. Porter Riverview  
Ballroom - 201 SW 5th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312**

## **City Commission Conference Meeting**

***FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION***

***DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor***

***JOHN C. HERBST Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District 1***

***STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District 2***

***PAM BEASLEY-PITTMAN Commissioner - District 3***

***BEN SORENSEN Commissioner - District 4***

***RICKELLE WILLIAMS, City Manager***

***DAVID R. SOLOMAN, City Clerk***

***D'WAYNE M. SPENCE, Interim City Attorney***

***PATRICK REILLY, City Auditor***

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trantalis called the meeting to order at 1:42 p.m.

## COMMISSION QUORUM ESTABLISHED

**Commission Members Present:** Commissioner Steven Glassman, Commissioner Pamela Beasley-Pittman, Commissioner Ben Sorensen, and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

**Commission Member Not Present:** Vice Mayor John C. Herbst,

**Also Present:** City Manager Rickelle Williams, City Clerk David R. Soloman, Interim City D'Wayne M. Spence, and City Auditor Patrick Reilly

## COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION

[25-0913](#)

Communications to the City Commission - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Two or more members of the Board of Adjustment may be present and participate in the discussion of this item at this meeting.

*Board of Adjustment (BOA)  
October 8, 2025*

*Communication to City Commission (Communication)*

***A copy of the Communication is part of the backup to this Agenda item.***

Mayor Trantalis provided an overview of the Communication. Commissioner Glassman commented on his recollection that the Commission had previously agreed to allow applicants to bypass the court system in the Board of Adjustment (BOA) appeal process.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Anthony Fajardo, Development Services Department Director. Mr. Fajardo explained that the intent of the Communication primarily relates to new construction. Mayor Trantalis asked whether there was interest in revisiting the proposed Ordinance amendment in light of the BOA's concerns.

Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence clarified that the related Ordinance scheduled for Second Reading includes revisions that

would permit BOA appeals to be heard directly by the City Commission, eliminating the requirement for applicants to file their appeals in circuit court. This change is intended to make the process more accessible and cost-effective for the public.

Mayor Trantalis remarked that the BOA's concerns appear to center on the potential for an increased volume of appeals the Commission may need to consider. He commented on the significant cost savings the change would provide homeowners and stated that additional discussion could occur during the Second Reading of the Ordinance.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Interim City Attorney Spence clarified that the amendment applies only to existing single-family residential dwellings and existing single-family accessory dwelling structures.

Commissioner Sorensen expressed support for making the BOA appeals process less burdensome and noted that based on conversations with staff, the number of appeals is expected to remain manageable. He noted that the Commission retains the ability to adjust the process in the future if needed.

In response to a follow-up question from Commissioner Glassman, Interim City Attorney Spence confirmed that the amendment also reduces the waiting period for reapplying to the BOA from two (2) years to one (1) year.

## CONFERENCE REPORTS

### CF-1 [25-0973](#)

Carr, Riggs & Ingram (CRI) - Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center Renovation Consulting Report - (Commission District 2)

Mayor Trantalis recognized City Auditor Patrick Reilly. City Auditor Reilly provided a summary of results of the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center Renovation Audit (Audit).

Mayor Trantalis recognized Robert L. Broline, Jr., Carr, Riggs & Ingram (CRI) Partner. Mr. Broline narrated a presentation entitled *FORT LAUDERDALE AQUATIC CENTER RENOVATION - CONSULTING REPORT*.

***A copy of the presentation is attached to these Meeting Minutes.***

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Broline confirmed that the expenditures incurred were appropriate and consistent with standard accounting principles. He also provided comments regarding

the negotiated settlement.

Mayor Trantalis highlighted the Aquatic Complex's exceptionally renovated facilities and its ongoing financial needs. He emphasized the importance of evaluating community utilization of the Complex's amenities and enhancing promotional efforts, including exploring potential sponsorship opportunities.

Mayor Trantalis requested that City Manager Rickelle Williams meet with Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation Department Director, to develop a plan addressing these concerns. City Manager Williams agreed, stating that a memorandum would be prepared for the Commission along with scheduling a Conference Agenda item to discuss.

Commissioner Glassman concurred with the Mayor's remarks and referenced related discussions during the District 2 Pre-Agenda Meeting. He requested that City Manager Williams provide information on the history of events at the Aquatic Complex, including attendance data and revenue figures, and noted the need to strengthen marketing and outreach efforts.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman also expressed support and emphasized the opportunity for City-wide initiatives to introduce and encourage resident participation. She elaborated on related opportunities and her perspective on expanding access. Mayor Trantalis concurred and asked that these considerations be incorporated into staff discussions.

Commissioner Glassman underscored the importance of collaborating with the International Swimming Hall of Fame's "Every Child a Swimmer" program. City Manager Williams commented on the City's contributions to the YMCA pool project in District 2 and confirmed that strategies to promote citywide swimming safety would be included in an upcoming memorandum to the Commission.

## **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

### **BUS-1** [25-0855](#)

Broward Regional Safety Action Plan Presentation - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ekaete Ekwere, Transportation and Mobility Department Deputy Director. Ms. Ekwere provided an overview of this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized James Cromar, Boward County

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Deputy Executive Director. Mr. Cromar commented on staff's active participation in this effort.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Cromar explained this Agenda item is not specifically related to the commuter rail program.

Mr. Cromar narrated a presentation entitled *BROWARD SAFETY ACTION PLAN (BSAP) PRIORITY CORRIDORS*.

***A copy of the presentation is part of the backup to this Agenda item.***

Mayor Trantalis remarked on violations of speed limits, the impact on traffic safety, and commented on related information. Mr. Cromar concurred and remarked on efforts to improve safe driving behavior, citing a reduction to existing speed limits.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Cromar explained efforts to move traffic in a smooth pattern that involves timing traffic lights and cited examples of related technology efforts. Mayor Trantalis cited related examples he experienced in other cities. Mr. Cromar confirmed.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Christine Fanchi, MPO BSAP Project Manager. Ms. Fanchi continued narrating the presentation.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the installation of brighter lighting along Sistrunk Boulevard a number of years ago. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Ms. Fanchi confirmed there are now higher national lighting standards and the BSAP recommends ensuring all City lighting aligns with those best practices.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman confirmed the need for improved lighting along Sistrunk Boulevard. Mayor Trantalis commented on his understanding of prior discussions regarding significant, high costs for improved lighting along Sistrunk Boulevard. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis requested Ms. Fanchi be sensitive to the lighting needs in this area. Ms. Fanchi confirmed and commented on a lower cost solution.

Mr. Cromar narrated the last portion of the presentation.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Mr. Cromar explained information regarding the painting of crosswalks, the recent

release of new standards in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), noted its clear definitions of what is appropriate on roadways, and noted related input from traffic engineers.

Mr. Cromar commented that the majority of crosswalk illustrations in the presentation meet those standards with the exception of the red crosswalk. Mayor Trantalis remarked that at the time the City's crosswalks were painted, they met Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) standards and commented on related changes to those standards. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Fazal Qureshi, PE, Broward MPO LEED Green Associate. Mr. Qureshi confirmed the review and concurrence of the BSAP designs by FDOT and Broward County on their respective roadways in the City with the exception of the red street markings noted earlier by Mr. Cromar and expounded on related information. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman noted that Sistrunk Boulevard is a major District 3 thoroughfare to the downtown area, and commented on related safety concerns. In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question, Mr. Cromar said the average daily traffic on Sistrunk Boulevard is 15,400 cars per day and the average speed of vehicles is thirty-seven (37) miles per hour and commented on safety concerns. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman remarked on her understanding that a higher number of vehicle accidents occur during daylight hours. Mr. Cromar confirmed and noted that Sistrunk Boulevard has the highest traffic accident rate in Broward County.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman discussed the long-awaited need to increase safety measures along Sistrunk Boulevard, including reinstallation of previously removed traffic signals, and expounded on her viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Cromar explained details of the anticipated BSAP timeline, noted that the federal funding process is lengthy, and pointed out the availability of existing MPO funding. Mr. Cromar described the typical timeline and sequence for programming the design phase and construction phase. Similar projects, such as Northwest 31st Avenue, are seeking federal grants to help accelerate the design and construction phase timelines and explained related information.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding the MPO

assisting the City with federal grant funding opportunities, Mr. Cromar confirmed their partnership with staff and remarked on MPO reporting responsibilities to the City, which will facilitate progress follow-up.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Cromar confirmed the need for a Commission Resolution in support of the MPO's efforts for the BSAP in order to move forward and explained related criteria.

Mayor Trantalis noted that it is incumbent on the City to move this effort forward.

**BUS-2** [25-0919](#)

Discussion of City Attorney Candidates – (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Jerome Post, Human Resources Department Director. Mr. Post provided an overview of this Agenda item. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized City of Lauderhill Commissioner Melissa P. Dunn. Commissioner Dunn spoke in support of City Attorney candidate Angela Rosenberg.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Earl Hill, Esq., former City Attorney for the City of Lauderhill. Mr. Hill spoke in support of City Attorney candidate Angela Rosenberg.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Marc Dickerman, 1417 SW 2nd Street. Mr. Dickerman spoke in support of City Attorney candidate Shari L. McCartney.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on a possible deferral of this Agenda item as a courtesy to Vice Mayor Herbst who is not in attendance. Mayor Trantalis noted the need for the Commission to move forward and discussed his viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence clarified that the purpose of this Agenda item is to discuss and identify which candidate the Commission wishes to move forward with. Formal Commission action will be taken tonight at the Regular Meeting via a motion to select a candidate for the position of City Attorney and designate a City official to negotiate the terms of an employment contract. Should those negotiations prove successful, the Commission would adopt a resolution appointing that individual at the November 4, 2025, Commission Regular Meeting. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding the process and possible scenarios.

Commissioner Sorensen remarked on his satisfaction with efforts to select a City Attorney and expounded on his perspective. Mayor Trantalis concurred with Commissioner Sorensen's comments, noted the qualifications of the three (3) candidates. Mayor Trantalis confirmed his support of Ms. McCartney as his selection for the City Attorney position, and expounded on his perspective. Further comment and discussion ensued.

**BUS-3** [25-0708](#)

**Presentation on the City of Fort Lauderdale Business Tax and Rate Recommendations - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Mayor Trantalis recognized Porshia Garcia, Community Services Department Director. Ms. Garcia narrated a presentation entitled *Business Tax Overview and Fee Options*.

***A copy of the presentation is part of the backup to this Agenda item.***

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Ms. Garcia remarked that business tax revenue goes into the General Fund. Interim City Attorney Spence clarified that business tax is permitted under Chapter 205 of the Florida Statutes for the privilege of engaging in business within the City and does not require a direct benefit rationale. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Manager Williams explained that the process associated with the business tax allows tracking where businesses operate in the City, what types of activities they conduct, and whether those activities are permitted within specific zoning districts. It helps the City maintain an accurate understanding of its business landscape and economic activity within municipal boundaries.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Ms. Garcia confirmed the total business tax revenue listed in the presentation. Commissioner Sorensen discussed his delta between the business tax revenue and staff costs to administer, and remarked on his understanding of staff's request for Commission feedback regarding adjustments to the business tax rate.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, City Manager Williams explained her commitment during the current fiscal year budget development process was to identify new revenue generating opportunities, review existing fees that had not been evaluated for many years, and noted that the business tax rate has remained unchanged since 2004. In response to Commissioner Sorensen's

question, City Manager Williams explained it is appropriate to reassess and possibly adjust the business tax rate to address economic conditions and service needs.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Commissioner Glassman remarked on Option 3 recommendation from staff to increase the business tax. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman agreed and noted it is a fair amount that would not be burdensome. Commissioner Sorensen concurred.

In response to City Manager Williams' question, Ms. Garcia discussed the next steps in the process.

**BUS-4** [25-1062](#)

Presentation by Fellowship Recovery Community Organization, Inc.  
- (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chris Cooper, Assistant City Manager. Mr. Cooper provided an overview of this Agenda item and emphasized the importance of recognizing and highlighting the community partners who support homelessness efforts.

Mr. Cooper introduced Sarah Barkley, Fellowship Recovery Community Organization (FRCO) Chief Executive Officer. Ms. Barkley introduced Dean Pascal, FRCO Peer Recovery Director. Ms. Barkley and Mr. Pascal narrated a presentation entitled *FELLOWSHIP RECOVERY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION*.

***A copy of the presentation is part of the backup to this Agenda item.***

Mayor Trantalis acknowledged the work of FRCO and Ms. Barkley and Mr. Pascal for addressing the needs of the homelessness. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Cooper explained the City's funding from the General Fund and grants to FRCO and confirmed positive results.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman discussed her support for the work of the FRCO and expounded on her positive perspective regarding the results achieved. Commissioner Glassman concurred and acknowledged FRCO for its work.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed his involvement with requesting this presentation, the importance of discussing this issue on a regular basis, and expounded on his viewpoint.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Cooper

confirmed the current agreement with FRCO will be extended for an additional year. Commissioner Sorensen discussed his perspective and efforts associated with homelessness initiatives and recommended tracking these efforts to ensure the Commission and the community have a comprehensive understanding. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Cooper confirmed the ability of staff to accommodate Commissioner Sorensen's recommendation and remarked on related information. Commissioner Sorensen commented on the related benefits and discussed examples of his homelessness efforts. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Ms. Barkley thanked the Commission for the opportunity to present their program.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding FRCO's Thanksgiving Holiday needs, Ms. Barkley discussed those needs and related efforts. Further comment and discussion ensued.

## **CITY COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

### ***Commission Members announced recent and upcoming community events and expounded on related information.***

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman noted the passing of Desorae Giles-Smith, wife of former State Senator Chris Smith, and former City of Lauderdale City Manager, and remarked on Ms. Giles-Smith's civic contributions.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on grant funding for signage in the Historic Sailboat Bend neighborhood and explained related information. Commissioner Glassman commented on the City's window into the past that both visitors and the community can experience at the Bonnet House and Birch State Park. Commissioner Glassman discussed the opening of *The Fort* at Snyder Park, the world's first dedicated pickleball stadium, and its additional amenities. He noted the Broward County Convention Center's (BCCC) expansion and the opening of the bypass connector road. Commissioner Glassman requested staff to address excessive construction activity in the Las Olas Isles area and discussed related issues.

Commissioner Glassman requested staff to address Airbnb vacation rental issues in Victoria Park, remarked on concerns witnessed by residents, and expounded on his viewpoint. Commissioner Glassman recommended scheduling a future Conference Agenda item to discuss

One Stop Shop parcel.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on the BCCC expansion and the opening of the bypass connector road, which will alleviate traffic congestion along SE 17th Street for those accessing the beach.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on waterway cleanliness and environmental conservation efforts by the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Florida and the Urban Farming Institute (UFI) who have collaborated to install vertical oyster gardens in waterways, expounded on his positive viewpoint regarding other waterway cleaning efforts, and cited examples.

Commissioner Sorensen acknowledged the efforts of the Strategic Communications Department, expounded on his positive viewpoint regarding the progress of the City, and cited related examples. Mayor Trantalis concurred, noted the importance of messaging to the community and expounded on his viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed the Special Obligation Bonds (Bonds) that were recently approved by the Commission and explained the relevance of their low interest rate, noting it is an objective measure of the City. In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, City Manager Williams explained information, plans, and details of the Bonds that will address roadway and sidewalk needs.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Yvette Matthews, Assistant City Manager. Ms. Matthews explained information and details regarding use of the Bond funds.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed new technologies available to address stormwater management and discussed examples of permeable materials for roadways and sidewalks. Mayor Trantalis remarked on the high cost and his recollection of a related pilot demonstration to staff in the past.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Talal Abi-Karam, Public Works Department - Utilities Assistant Director, confirmed the success of that pilot demonstration and said there are numerous types of permeable materials available. Mayor Trantalis concurred on the benefits of pursuing permeable materials for Bond projects and requested staff research and present findings to the Commission. City Manager Williams confirmed. Commissioner Sorensen recommended using these types of materials for the new City Hall project.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed having a drone show in lieu of fireworks at the Fourth of July celebration, noting the positive environmental impact. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman noted a drone show at a recent Carter Park Jamz event. Mayor Trantalis concurred with this recommendation.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation Department Director. Mr. Williams noted a drone show at a recent Starlight Musicals event in Holiday Park, discussed related costs, cited examples, and remarked on the significantly lower price compared to the annual Fourth of July fireworks display. City Manager Williams confirmed staff would provide a financial analysis to the Commission for consideration.

Commissioner Sorensen confirmed his support of the City being responsible for lateral sewer connections from the property line to the main line, with the exception of City rights-of-way. Mayor Trantalis recognized Albert Carbon, Utility Services Department Director. In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding who is responsible for lateral sewer lines connection costs under City rights-of-way to the main line, Mr. Carbon explained language in the Code stating it is the City's responsibility and remarked on related definitions in the Code that may cause uncertainty.

City Manager Williams confirmed staff will pursue efforts to clarify Code language. Mr. Carbon explained additional information, noting it is the financial responsibility of a homeowner to move an existing lateral line in situations involving new construction. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Carbon explained the homeowner's responsibility for the cost of a new lateral line associated with new construction. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Roberto Betancourt, Public Works Department Division Manager. Mr. Betancourt explained existing Code language related to an existing lateral and new construction. If an existing lateral is reused, it is the responsibility of the homeowner to inspect it and verify that it is in good condition to allow reconnection to the City's main sewer line. Mr. Betancourt confirmed that any deficiencies observed need to be corrected by the homeowner.

Mayor Trantalis noted the need to schedule this topic for discussion at

a future Conference Meeting to allow an understanding of the cost potential of clarifying Code language. City Manager Williams confirmed.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

### ***Mayor Trantalis announced recent and upcoming events and expounded on related information.***

Mayor Trantalis remarked on participating with a Florida Design and Construction organization panel discussing public private partnerships (P3) in the City that have resulted in significant improvements from private investment.

Mayor Trantalis discussed the positive impact of the expanded Broward County Convention Center, the upcoming opening of its OMNI Hotel, and the benefits of the connector bypass road and expounded on related information. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis confirmed he will be hosting a Townhall Meeting at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club at 6:00 p.m. on October 28, 2025, to discuss the planned Galleria Mall project and inform residents about the impact of the State's Live Local Act and receive their feedback. Further comment and discussion ensued.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **MGR-1 [25-1047](#)**

City Commission Follow up Action Items and Letters to the Commission (LTC) - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Manager Williams commented on the Community Redevelopment Agency's (CRA) receipt of two (2) awards at the recent Florida Redevelopment Association Annual Conference and discussed related information. City Manager Williams remarked on the eighth (8th) and final staff sandbag distribution event for the hurricane season.

City Manager Williams explained the new format of this Agenda item, which includes Letters to the Commission (LTC) addressing Commission priorities as Exhibits.

Commissioner Glassman discussed CAM 25-1047 Exhibit 4 - LTC No. 25-189 Fort Lauderdale Beach Park Update - Alternative 1A (Alternative 1A), explained his viewpoint and support. He remarked on the need for a buffer between the basketball and pickleball courts.

Commissioner Glassman recommended a minimum of three (3) pickleball courts at this location, remarked on the recommendation for their placement, and explained his reasoning. City Manager Williams noted possible coastal construction line limitations and permitting challenges involved in having numerous pickleball courts and discussed related information. Staff will work towards having a minimum of three (3) pickleball courts. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis noted the interlocal agreement (agreement) with the developer for two (2) pickleball courts and remarked on the need for additional funding for more pickleball courts. City Manager Williams discussed the developer's financial contribution for relocating the basketball courts and expounded on funding details for additional pickleball courts. She reiterated the agreement provides for two (2) pickleball courts. Commissioner Glassman said that this topic warrants additional discussion and reiterated his viewpoint regarding pickleball court placement.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question, City Manager Williams explained the financial contributions of the Bahia Mar Community Development District (BMCDD) for eligible improvements listed in the agreement with the City and remarked on related information. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding funding.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on adhering to the City's interlocal agreement with BMCDD. In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, City Manager Williams remarked that all current designs are conceptual at this point. The relocated basketball courts are expected to be similar in size as those in the original location and other amenity improvements at the site will be brought forward as the design process moves forward. Mayor Trantalis commented on the need to keep those amenities available for public use. Commissioner Glassman noted the pickleball courts at this location are for the public's use and expounded on his perspective. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen recommended additional separation between the pickleball courts and the basketball courts included in Alternative 1A and commented on related information.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Ben Rogers, Assistant City Manager, explained the next steps in the process. Mr. Rogers noted that based on today's Commission input, staff will begin discussions with AECOM and regulatory agencies to move Alternative

1A forward, which will include obtaining the necessary permits. Any modification or improvements to the relocated basketball courts will require staff's due diligence and regulatory permitting. Mr. Rogers remarked on the lengthy process and confirmed those efforts will be memorialized. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Manager Williams noted that the agreement with BMCDD requires completion of these amenities by January 2027 and discussed related details. Commissioner Sorensen noted his sensitivity to having concrete on the beach. City Manager Williams confirmed all design options will be considered and noted possible design modifications to Alternative 1A.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding whether the B Ocean Resort Hotel (Hotel) had been consulted about the impact Alternative 1A would have on its operations, Commissioner Sorensen said that he had not had that discussion but pointed out a buffer separation between the basketball courts and the Hotel. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding the ability to increase the number of pickleball courts on the site.

City Manager Williams provided an update on staff efforts for the new City Hall, requested Commission feedback regarding staff correspondence sent to the Commission earlier this week along with a supplemental information request package sent to the shortlist of developers.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his hesitation regarding having retail on the first floor of the new City Hall building. He remarked on related safety concerns, the need to maintain tight security, expounded on his viewpoint, and cited examples. City Manager Williams remarked on other first-floor options. Mayor Trantalis reiterated his concern regarding security risks.

Mr. Rogers narrated a presentation entitled *REQUEST PACKAGE OVERVIEW CITY HALL (Request Package)*

***A copy of the presentation is attached to these Meeting Minutes.***

Mr. Rogers outlined the proposed schedule for the City Hall solicitation process. At the December 2, 2025, Conference Meeting, the developers would present their visions for the new City Hall, with each team allotted 30 minutes. Following the presentations, the City Commission would rank the proposals at the December 2, 2025, Regular meeting. Staff would then prepare a resolution to advance the process on December 16, 2025. Mayor Trantalis requested Staff

present the resolution at the December 2, 2025, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on concerns regarding this discussion not being on today's Agenda, expounded on his viewpoint regarding the need for the Commission and the public to have this information in advance, and confirmed the need for transparency and disclosure regarding changes to the format of the City Manager's Report. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis requested the December 2, 2025, Commission Conference Agenda only include one (1) item, City Hall proposer presentations followed by Commission discussion. City Manager Williams confirmed.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions, Mr. Rogers reviewed the updated timeline, evaluation criteria, and cited examples included in the presentation. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on the existing City Hall parking garage and commented that an additional parking garage design element could alter the design and significantly increase costs. Mr. Rogers explained the parking garage element was included in the developer request package for staff to understand the impact of including a garage and noted past Commission conversations regarding the best use of both the City Hall parcel and the City Hall parking garage parcel.

Commissioner Sorensen requested feedback on additional criteria, including the developers' P3 experience. Mr. Rogers noted that developer P3 experience and qualifications were reviewed as part of the Jacobs Project Management Company (Jacobs) evaluation and said this could be an item for Commission discussion during the presentations. Mayor Trantalis agreed and confirmed the need to ensure P3 experience is a specific requirement. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Rogers explained that staff envisions presenting the summary of findings from both the development perspective from Jacobs and the financing perspective from PFM Financial Advisors. Mr. Rogers explained that the P3 financial analysis will be similar to those done in the past. Staff will put together a summary document of findings from both consulting teams memorializing all findings for Commission review and discussion.

Commissioner Sorensen requested a document listing the evaluation of key criteria and which developer meets that criteria. City Manager

Williams confirmed and noted the need to include additional explanation and context. Commissioner Sorensen discussed his understanding of summary findings and the process. City Manager Williams noted the extensive amount of documentation City staff and its consultants would be requesting from the developers. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen reviewed the importance of additional evaluation criteria and cited examples, including experience in the development of other government buildings in the State, safety records, facilities management experience, financial standing, and project delivery methods. Mr. Rogers confirmed that the Request Package sent to developers requested design/build/finance/operate/maintain and design/build/finance project delivery models, which staff will evaluate and recommend to the Commission. Commissioner Sorensen suggested that staff send these criteria to developers as a supplement to the Request Package, to be reviewed and considered by the Commission and the public, and he expounded on his viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

## **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence discussed two (2) litigation matters requiring Executive Closed-Door Sessions.

The first case involves a settlement offer related to the City of Fort Lauderdale v. Pierce Goodwin Alexander & Linville, Inc., et al. The case is scheduled for trial on November 3, 2025. Interim City Attorney Spence requested pursuant to Florida Statutes § 286.011(8), the Commission hold an Executive Closed-Door session at tonight's October 23, 2025, Commission Regular Meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m., or immediately thereafter, to present and consider the settlement offer. Interim City Attorney Spence explained Statute notice requirements and related case law. The Commission indicated its agreement.

Interim City Attorney Spence requested pursuant to Florida Statutes § 286.011(8), the Commission hold an Executive Closed-Door session during the November 4, 2025, Commission Conference Meeting at 4:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard on the following matter:

City of Fort Lauderdale v. Florida Department of Transportation  
Florida Division of Administrative Hearings  
Case No.: 25-004856RU

Interim City Attorney Spence explained that the Administrative Law Judge in this matter has directed the parties to engage in settlement discussions. The Executive Closed-Door Session will include updates on the related circuit court and district court cases: City of Fort Lauderdale v. Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Fourth District Court of Appeals Case No.: 4D2025-2783; and, City of Fort Lauderdale v. Florida Department of Transportation, Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida, Case No.: CACE25014235 (03).

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 5:29 p.m.