

City of Fort Lauderdale

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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 19, 2026

1:35 PM

Broward Center for the Performing Arts - Abdo Room - 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
SHARI L. McCARTNEY, City Attorney
PATRICK REILLY, City Auditor
DAVID R. SOLOMAN, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

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

COMMISSION QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Commission Members Present: Vice Mayor John C. Herbst (appeared via communications technology), Commissioner Steven Glassman, Commissioner Pamela Beasley-Pittman (appeared via communications technology), Commissioner Ben Sorensen, and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

Also Present: City Manager Rickelle Williams, City Clerk David R. Soloman, City Attorney Shari L. McCartney, and City Auditor Patrick Reilly

CITY COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

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

In response to Vice Mayor Herbst's question regarding an update on the Inter Miami's Lockhart Park design plan, Mayor Trantalis confirmed he would provide an update during his Mayor's Report.

Commissioner Glassman commented on the success of The Thrive Art District redevelopment, reflecting strong demand that is emerging as a high-performing cultural hub and a model for revitalization.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on his recent tour of the new Fort Lauderdale Police Headquarters, which represents a significant investment in public safety infrastructure and an asset for the City as a whole.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding clarification on the City's future role in relation to the St. Patrick Day parade celebration, noting that it is not an official federal or state holiday, City Attorney McCartney responded that staff is still preparing a more comprehensive legal analysis and noted that there is a possibility that future City involvement could be limited based on the strict legal interpretation of recent State legislative action.

Commissioner Glassman discussed a meeting coordinated at the Commission's direction with the Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the Flagler Village Civic Association

to discuss next steps for the One Stop Shop site. The DDA delivered a comprehensive presentation outlining the history and evolution of the Huizenga Park site, as well as potential development scenarios and upcoming steps for the One Stop Shop site. The meeting was well attended, and attendees expressed strong support for moving a project forward.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding a recent incident on the barrier island, Police Department Chief William Schultz explained that proactive intelligence, coordination, and resource deployment allowed police to manage a widely publicized large unsanctioned beach gathering that had circulated on social media with minimal issues, demonstrating effective preparation and significantly improved outcomes compared to past incidents. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding preparation for the upcoming IPW Conference, one (1) of the largest global tourism conferences, City Manager Williams explained that the City is actively coordinating the event at the Broward County Convention Center that includes collaboration with the *Beach Business Improvement District* and *Visit Lauderdale* relative to branding, beautification, and coordinated activations to showcase the City as a global tourism leader.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding whether the Mayor and Commission would have a formal role in welcoming attendees to the IPW Conference, City Manager Williams said Commission Member participation would be coordinated with *Visit Lauderdale* and explained related details.

Commissioner Sorensen remarked on Allied Kitchen and Bath receiving recognition for significant community contributions, particularly its volunteer support of the Edgewood neighborhood and clubhouse.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions regarding traffic concerns in the vicinity of Port Everglades, Milos Majstorovic, Transportation and Mobility Department Director, explained that the City has formed a multi-agency task force to address congestion around Port Everglades and the Broward County Convention Center along SE 17th Street. The task force includes coordination with local police, the Broward Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Transportation, County agencies, and Port and Convention Center representatives. Short-term efforts focus on active traffic management, including police directing traffic on key corridors such as

Eisenhower Boulevard, SE 17th Street, US-1, and State Road 84, as well as improved coordination within the Port. Additional improvements include enhanced signage, pavement markings, and targeted roadway upgrades to improve traffic flow. Long-term strategies emphasize expanding parking capacity at the Port and Convention Center and improving transit connections to better accommodate increasing cruise and convention activity.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions about traffic stacking along SE 17th Street approaching Port Everglades, Mr. Majstorovic stated that the City has implemented message signs to direct drivers to appropriate lanes in advance to reduce last-minute lane changes and congestion. Mr. Majstorovic emphasized the importance of police traffic control and acknowledged that the City's ability to further mitigate traffic stacking is constrained by current roadway capacity. Mr. Majstorovic highlighted the need to increase parking capacity within the Port and reduce vehicle demand, and indicated that substantial relief from traffic stacking will depend on strategies such as park-and-ride solutions and expanded Port capacity. Commissioner Sorensen noted this is a top concern that needs continued support. City Manager Williams confirmed.

Mayor Trantalis stated that while growth at Port Everglades is economically beneficial, rising traffic congestion is creating serious concerns, particularly for Emergency Medical Service (EMS) response times, underscoring the need for interim solutions. In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, Fire-Rescue Department Chief Stephen Gollan explained that modern EMS units function as mobile emergency rooms and are capable of delivering advanced, life-saving care in the field. Chief Gollan highlighted protocols that prioritize on-scene treatment and described the use of signal pre-emption technology and specialized training that enables crews to navigate congested conditions using alternative routes. Traffic congestion remains a legitimate concern for EMS response, but advanced field care and operational strategies are helping mitigate risks while longer-term traffic solutions are pursued. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's inquiry about staggering cruise ship arrival and departure times, Mr. Majstorovic explained that although the Port has maintained a cap of approximately eight (8) ships per day, the increasing size of ships contributes to congestion issues. Staggering cruise ship schedules may alleviate congestion; however, operational constraints present challenges. The City will continue to investigate this approach along with enhanced real-time traffic monitoring.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding an update on traffic signal improvements along SE 17th Street and the barrier island, Mr. Majstorovic explained that, in coordination with FDOT and the County, adaptive (smart) traffic signal technology has been installed along key corridors, including Sunrise Boulevard, A1A, and SE 17th Street to monitor traffic conditions in real time, and adjust signal timing to improve traffic flow. The County has conducted field observations and implemented optimized signal timing, with additional fine-tuning still ongoing.

Mr. Majstorovic also noted that external factors, including bridge openings, continue to disrupt traffic flow and limit the effectiveness of signal coordination, as they interrupt traffic patterns and reduce the system's ability to respond.

MAYOR'S REPORT

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Commissioner Glassman discussed information regarding the Broward County (County) Solid Waste Working Group (SWWG) and the seven (7) year effort to secure enough participation from County municipalities to reach a quorum to advance a Solid Waste Authority (SWA) Master Plan (Master Plan). Commissioner Glassman provided background information, shared his perspective on the proposed Master Plan, noted the City's strong performance in solid waste and recycling, and highlighted SWA governance concerns related to the failure of the SWA's Executive Board to select the City as a member.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Brad Kaine, Public Works Department Director, said that the Commission will receive detailed SWA presentations in May 2026, when City staff will bring forward two (2) key items: 1) the County consultant's outline of the proposed future structure and operations for participating cities; and 2) a separate presentation reviewing the Master Plan and the amended Facilities Agreement. County municipalities are not required to make a formal commitment to join the SWA until July 2026. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman offered his perspective on the SWA, provided examples, noted that the Master Plan lacks comprehensiveness, and reiterated concerns, including the SWA's decision not to select the City for membership on the Executive Board.

Commissioner Glassman said that Melissa Doyle, Public Works Department Program Manager, has attended every SWA meeting and supplied executive summaries. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding a Commission Member attending the next SWA meeting.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Kaine outlined the scope and implications of the upcoming SWA meeting. He clarified that the forthcoming vote is procedural and non-binding. The City has not adopted a formal position, and the vote only concerns the governing board's acceptance of the Master Plan. This action does not obligate the City to join or participate in the SWA. Staff is reviewing recent revisions to the Master Plan, particularly those affecting cost structures. Mr. Kaine reiterated that a comprehensive analysis of the Master Plan will be presented to the Commission in May 2026. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding Commission Member attendance at tomorrow's SWA Meeting.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman shared her perspective on a Commission Member attending tomorrow's SWA meeting and related information. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Sorensen remarked on his ability to attend the meeting. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Kaine explained that any Commission Member's vote at the SWA carries no obligation and would require a return to the Commission for formal approval. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding the City's lack of representation on the SWA Executive Board.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on attending the SWA meeting, casting a procedural vote to keep the process moving, and advocating Fort Lauderdale's inclusion on the Executive Board. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Manager Williams noted the need for a Walk-On Agenda item at tonight's Regular Meeting, appointing Commissioner Sorensen as an alternate Commission representative to the SWA.

Mayor Trantalis discussed a policy consideration regarding the Walk of Fame Recognition Program (Program), noting that the current practice of selecting approximately five (5) inductees per year may not be sustainable due to limited physical space along the sidewalk. Mayor Trantalis noted that many of the most prominent and significant individuals have been recognized and suggested that the Commission consider reducing the number of annual inductees to two (2) or three

(3) to preserve the longevity of the Program. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding previous recommendations on this topic at both the Commission and committee levels.

Enrique Sanchez, Parks and Recreation Department Deputy Director, said that the Walk of Fame Advisory Committee selected four (4) inductees for the current year and had also discussed the possibility of reducing the number to two (2) in the future. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding Commission action to limit the number of inductees.

Mayor Trantalis presented a video documenting an incident that occurred on Himmarshee Street in the Himmarshee Street Special Entertainment District (HSSSED) and expressed significant concern regarding the conduct depicted and its broader implications for the City. Mayor Trantalis discussed previous Commission initiatives to improve conditions in the HSSSED but noted that those measures appear insufficient.

Mayor Trantalis highlighted the reputational harm caused by the video's widespread dissemination by national media outlets. Further comment and discussion ensued. He discussed bar owners' responsibility to manage activity around their establishments and called for greater accountability. Mayor Trantalis urged the City to implement stronger enforcement strategies to prevent future incidents, safeguard public safety, and protect the City's reputation.

City Manager Williams noted that the Commission had previously directed staff at the January 20, 2026, Conference Meeting to update the Special Entertainment District (SED) Ordinance to address issues within ninety (90) days, including measures to formalize SED participation requirements and expectations for businesses operating within those districts. Staff has been actively working on these updates and remains committed to improving conditions in the area.

Mayor Trantalis expressed concern with the pace of progress, stating that recent incidents demonstrate that conditions are not improving, that the City cannot afford to wait for longer-term solutions, and that more immediate, proactive enforcement and stronger, visible consequences are needed to maintain safety and protect the City's reputation.

Commissioner Glassman reviewed prior commitments made by HSSSED bar owners, emphasizing the need for accountability and requesting evidence regarding the implementation of promised improvements, such as enhanced security and funding.

City Manager Williams stated that feedback from ongoing engagement with HSSSED business owners is being incorporated into forthcoming ordinance revisions, which will formalize these commitments as enforceable requirements. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding the implementation of broad, Citywide restrictions.

Commissioner Glassman noted that these challenges are localized to specific areas rather than prevalent across all SEDs and emphasized the importance of avoiding penalties for compliant businesses.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman discussed her viewpoint regarding the video shown and expressed concern that expectations regarding business-funded security details may not align with observed conditions. She remarked that hiring additional security is typically focused on monitoring entrances and interior areas rather than activity in adjacent roadways or along the broader corridor. She noted her observations in the video that most of the activity involved individuals moving along the street rather than congregating around or originating from any single establishment, suggesting that some of the perceived issues may not be directly tied to business operations.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman emphasized the need for a more nuanced analysis to better understand the source of concerning activity and avoid unfairly penalizing compliant businesses. She expounded on her viewpoint and urged a targeted, evidence-based approach that distinguishes between general pedestrian activity and business-specific concerns before imposing additional requirements or restrictions.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Manager Williams said staff will return with coordinated recommendations developed with business owners and the Police Department to strengthen enforcement in the HSSSED.

Mayor Trantalis shared an update on mediation discussions with Inter Miami CF regarding the Lockhart Park (Park) site plan redesign. The new Park design now features a multi-purpose playing field. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor Herbst explained that the community requested multi-purpose fields for youth activities. He requested additional time to review the new Park design, emphasized the need for a community workshop before the Commission votes on the redesign, and questioned whether it aligns with earlier community feedback, citing examples. Vice Mayor Herbst noted possible technical issues, such as

FAA rules. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor Herbst requested adequate time to reach out to the community, which would move the Commission's vote to May. Mayor Trantalis agreed. City Manager Williams said the updated Park design will be presented to the Commission for approval in May 2026.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

MGR-1 [26-0273](#)

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

City Manager Williams commended staff for receiving the *Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget*. She highlighted multiple additional achievements across City departments, including the reaccreditation of the Fire-Rescue Department by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International for the third consecutive year, and an environmental award received by the Parks and Recreation Department for its work at Riverside Park. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Manager Williams announced an upcoming community engagement initiative through the Group Violence Intervention program at Provident Park, aimed at reducing gun violence through outreach and coordination with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [26-0267](#)

A-5 Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Presentation - Public Works Department (Commission Districts 2 and 4)

City Manager Williams provided an overview of this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Otniel Rodriguez, Public Works Department Assistant Director - Engineering. Mr. Rodriguez narrated a presentation entitled *Sanitary Sewer Lift Station A-5* (Lift Station A-5).

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' inquiry about whether developers are required to construct their own sewer lift stations as part of their projects, Mr. Rodriguez clarified that developers contribute financially to sewer infrastructure through impact fees. Major lift stations are typically City-owned, public assets that serve the broader system rather than individual private developments. Chris Cooper, Deputy City Manager, confirmed that new developments contribute to shared infrastructure that supports their project and the surrounding system. Mayor Trantalis expressed his viewpoint that large developments should be required to build their own lift stations.

City Manager Williams clarified that the four (4) proposed lift-station sites, City Hall, City Hall Garage, the former One Stop Shop, and the current Community Court site, represent the most feasible options. Mayor Trantalis discussed his understanding regarding space availability at the new City Hall site. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding other viable sites.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question about why the City Hall garage should be considered viable, given the required loss of parking spaces and potential structural modifications, Mr. Rodriguez explained that all four (4) sites are technically feasible from a construction standpoint, but each carries trade-offs. For the City Hall Garage site, drawbacks include the need for structural analysis, possible retrofitting, and reinforcement of the existing garage to support the lift station, and the loss of parking spaces.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question about why the southern or southwestern portion of the One Stop Shop site was being prioritized, Mr. Rodriguez explained that the area is closest to Broward Boulevard, which is the primary source of incoming sewer flow, and provided related information.

Commissioner Glassman noted the availability of a nearby building close to the One Stop Shop as a possible alternative site. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding the availability of that building and staff providing renderings of what the Lift Station A-5 building would look like located on the southern portion of the One Stop Shop site.

Mayor Trantalis remarked that several parties have expressed interest in transforming the One Stop Shop site into a public park. He encouraged staff to collaborate with these parties and integrate Lift Station A-5 into a comprehensive park design that enhances the public space. Mayor Trantalis elaborated on his perspective and

recommendations for incorporating infrastructure to enhance aesthetics. In response to Mayor Trantalis' concerns about the negative impacts of a lift station, Mr. Rodriguez explained that modern lift station design can largely mitigate odor and visual impacts through technology and landscaping, and said that a lift station can be integrated without undermining future park or public space plans. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Mr. Rodriguez discussed aspects of the Las Olas Marina / Beach Place lift station included in the presentation and confirmed that similar mitigation strategies would be incorporated into the Lift Station A-1.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding whether the lift station timeline would precede any broader redevelopment of the One Stop Shop site, Mr. Rodriguez confirmed that preliminary design work for Lift Station A-5 is underway and said that, due to other projects in the area, it will likely need to move forward ahead of any comprehensive One Stop Shop site redevelopment. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the timeline, City Manager Williams explained that the procurement, design, and construction of Lift Station A-5 is expected to take approximately two and one-half (2.5) to three (3) years.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding the actual construction timeline of Lift Station A-5, Mr. Rodriguez stated approximately one and one-half years (1.5) to two (2) years, subject to underground conditions.

Commissioner Glassman requested clarification on how the three (3) year timeline affects the 2028 opening of the new City Hall Commission Chambers, City Manager Williams confirmed that negotiations with the City Hall developer are ongoing. The City Hall project timeline is not yet finalized, and more clarity is expected in April 2026 when the interim agreement is presented to the Commission. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis suggested that opening only the Commission Chambers at the new City Hall may not significantly strain the existing system, noting that the prior City Hall accommodated a much larger workforce without issue. In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding whether the Commission Chambers could open by fall 2028 even if the new lift station is not yet completed, City Manager Williams acknowledged that point but explained that Lift Station A-5 is

not solely tied to City Hall. Other approved and anticipated private developments in the area are also dependent on its capacity.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Deputy City Manager Chris Cooper. Mr. Cooper explained that while the Commission Chambers may not require immediate increased capacity, broader development in the area depends on it.

Vice Mayor Herbst recommended the existing City Hall garage as the least disruptive location for Lift Station A-5, noted that placing the lift station in a park setting would conflict with recreational uses where families and children would spend extended periods of time, and expounded on his viewpoint.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding concerns associated with placing the lift station within the City Hall garage, Mr. Rodriguez explained that the City Hall garage option faces notable challenges, including insufficient clearance requiring structural modifications, difficult maintenance access, and costly, complex sewer rerouting despite its lower public visibility.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding standard practice for lift stations, Mr. Rodriguez explained that the industry favors outdoor, open-space lift stations, and placing one in a garage or enclosed structure is uncommon and introduces additional complexities.

Mayor Trantalis discussed purchasing the Community Court property and utilizing a portion of the building for Lift Station A-5. Mr. Cooper said that repurposing part of the Community Court building may be possible, but it would introduce structural, utility, and site coordination issues that would require thorough evaluation before it could be considered a viable solution. Mayor Trantalis expounded on his perspective regarding acquiring and using the Community Court building. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor Herbst confirmed his opposition to the high cost of acquiring and demolishing the Community Court building to construct a lift station.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding next steps, City Manager Williams indicated that the next step is to obtain consensus from the Commission on a preferred site for Lift Station A-5.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding costs,

Mr. Rodriguez explained comparative engineering cost estimates for sewer rerouting across the potential lift station sites. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the Community Court site offers the lowest infrastructure cost due to its proximity to Broward Boulevard but acknowledged that it would require property acquisition. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on the need to avoid unnecessary infrastructure costs associated with the City Hall garage option.

Mayor Trantalis remarked that the acquisition of the Community Court property had been previously discussed for broader City purposes and noted the Commission's previous hesitation regarding the use of Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) funds to purchase the building and expounded on his viewpoint.

Commissioner Glassman discussed his recollection of previous Commission discussions on using CRA funds to purchase the Community Court building and explained related opposition input from the Flagler Village Civic Association. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding infrastructure and construction costs associated with each potential site.

Vice Mayor Herbst discussed his opposition to purchasing the Community Court site property.

Commissioner Glassman clarified that, aside from earlier discussions with the Flagler Civic Association stakeholders, there have been no recent efforts to pursue acquisition or redevelopment of the Community Court site.

Mayor Trantalis discussed alternative solutions and suggested exploring coordination with Broward County (County) to potentially use a portion of the County bus station. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions about estimated costs to construct a lift station at each site, Mr. Rodriguez explained the "all-in" costs for each option, highlighting trade-offs among infrastructure, acquisition, and unknown variables. The One Stop Shop site is currently the lowest. Costs for the City Hall site would be higher due to the longer route for the infrastructure. The City Hall garage site is more expensive due to additional infrastructure required for routing and other factors. The Community Court site is the most expensive when acquisition costs are factored in. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the costs for the options discussed, including the Broward County

bus station, remain speculative.

Commissioner Sorensen said that, given budget uncertainty, the City should prioritize the most cost-effective lift station option.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman remarked on a recent email she received from Jenni Morejon, Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Authority (DDA), President and Chief Executive Officer. Mayor Trantalis recognized Ms. Morejon. Ms. Morejon emphasized the lift station's critical role to infrastructure and said that proposed site options may not reflect the full range of possibilities. Several DDA Board Members believe that additional outreach and coordination could uncover alternative sites near Broward Boulevard. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Manager Williams confirmed that staff can prioritize and convene a meeting with the DDA and other stakeholders to explore additional site options and provide a follow-up presentation to the Commission within forty-five (45) days.

BUS-2 [26-0307](#)

Presentation of the Evaluation of the Unsolicited Proposal Submitted by IKE Smart City for the Interactive Digital Kiosk Program - Development Services Department (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Manager Williams provided an overview of this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chris Cooper, Deputy City Manager. Mr. Cooper narrated a presentation entitled *IKE SMART CITY KIOSKS DIGITAL KIOSK PROGRAM* (Program).

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding his recollection of an initial pilot Program, Mr. Cooper said that although the proposal refers to a large rollout, staff supports a phased, pilot-style implementation to test impacts and avoid oversaturation. Mayor Trantalis noted that the proposer's model is based on a thirty (30) unit smart kiosk deployment, commented that reducing that number of units could impact profitability, and said that the Commission has an understanding of those trade-offs before deciding. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding the appropriate number of kiosks based on corridor needs and policy preferences. Mr. Cooper noted that the program may require changes to signage and advertising regulations, as well as Code amendments.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the features and benefits of the kiosks compared to cell phones, Anna Baerman, IKE Smart City (IKE), explained what makes the kiosks unique and gave examples such as unbiased local discovery, direct City communication safety features, Wi-Fi, and advertising revenue.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding kiosk deployment, Ms. Baerman discussed kiosk deployment in other South Florida cities and how the proposed number for Fort Lauderdale was determined. She said the proposed number of kiosks for Fort Lauderdale is flexible and can be adjusted, noted that a phased rollout is common, and recommended that the initial deployment of roughly ten (10) to fifteen (15) kiosks represents the minimum scale needed for the program to be financially viable and operationally effective.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding permitting, coordination between different agencies, and possible liability for kiosk installations, especially on State and Broward County rights-of-ways, Ms. Baerman explained the how the process was handled in Miami, Miami Beach, and Aventura, managed through a master memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the municipalities, Miami-Dade County and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). IKE was the municipalities' agent for permitting, installation, and expounded on related information.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding possible driver distraction from the kiosks, Ms. Baerman explained that the units are relatively small and designed primarily for pedestrian interaction and said that there is no documented evidence linking the kiosks to traffic safety issues or accidents.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding technical and operational details, utilities, and maintenance questions, Ms. Baerman confirmed that each kiosk location would be evaluated by a licensed civil engineer to ensure Code compliance. The kiosks are connected to underground electrical service through Florida Power & Light. All costs associated with electricity, installation, operation, and maintenance would be borne by the vendor.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding updates to Code signage requirements, Ms. Baerman explained that other cities have implemented targeted, narrowly tailored Code updates, or avoided major amendments altogether, and IKE would provide examples to assist staff in adopting a controlled approach.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on input from planning staff that kiosk placements could create physical and visual distractions for pedestrians and emphasized the importance of ensuring that proposed locations are not fixed and remain flexible. Commissioner Glassman noted that multiple neighborhood and civic organizations have expressed support for the concept. Ms. Baerman said that kiosk placement is not finalized, and IKEA will work collaboratively with staff and neighborhood groups to refine placement and content, including addressing concerns regarding pedestrian impacts. Commissioner Glassman remarked on the importance of kiosk placement across different neighborhoods.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's comment regarding staff input on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Ms. Baerman confirmed that IKEA kiosks are designed to meet ADA standards. Commissioner Glassman noted the positive input from District 2 constituents.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question regarding the impact of this Agenda item on the existing agreement with Boys and Girls Club's advertising revenue generation on bus stops and trash receptacles, Milos Majstorovic, Transportation and Mobility Department Director, provided additional details on the City's long-standing agreement with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, which generates over \$200,000 annually and is set to expire on December 31, 2028. Mr. Majstorovic explained that the extent to which the two revenue streams might overlap or compete would need to be evaluated. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman requested staff to proactively assess how a future transition after the expiration of the current agreement might impact the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Majstorovic confirmed.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's questions regarding the long-term viability of the Program and whether the kiosks could eventually become obsolete, Ms. Baerman said that the IKEA kiosks would receive continuous software upgrades and commented on the City's ability to terminate the program if it becomes outdated or fails to deliver value over time.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Melinda Bowker, Downtown Fort Lauderdale Civic Association (DFLCA) President. Ms. Bowker spoke in support of the proposed Program and read from the DFLCA's letter of support and its related recommendations.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding the ability of the digital kiosks to support additional security features to enhance crime

prevention and public safety, Ms. Baerman said that the kiosks are equipped with integrated camera systems and expounded on related information. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' request for Commission Member input, Commissioner Sorensen confirmed his support of moving forward with a phased rollout, flexible unit allocation, and a twenty-one (21) day competitive bid process.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman expressed concern regarding the proposed twenty (20) year contract duration for the Program, given the rapid pace of technological change, and expounded on her viewpoint. Mayor Trantalis acknowledged that concern and directed staff to explore ways to build flexibility into any future agreement.

City Manager Williams confirmed that staff will return to the Commission with a resolution establishing a formal competition period for the proposed qualifying project, allowing other potential vendors to submit proposals.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION - 4:30 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE

Mayor Trantalis announced the commencement of the Executive Closed-Door Session at 5:00 p.m.

[26-0316](#)

The City Commission shall meet privately to discuss pending litigation, pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes, concerning the following matter(s):

City of Fort Lauderdale v. Florida Department of Transportation -
Florida Fourth District Court of Appeal Case No.: 4D2025-2783

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

City of Fort Lauderdale v. Florida Department of Transportation -
Florida Fourth District Court of Appeal Case No.: 4D2026-0271

Present at the attorney-client sessions will be:

Mayor Dean J. Trantalis
Vice Mayor/Commissioner John C. Herbst
Commissioner Steven Glassman
Commissioner Pamela Beasley-Pittman
Commissioner Ben Sorensen
City Manager Rickelle Williams

City Attorney Shari L. McCartney
Deputy City Attorney D'Wayne Spence
Assistant City Attorney Shaun N. Amarnani
Outside Counsel Howard D. DuBosar, Esq., Weiss Serota, et al.,
Outside Counsel Jeremy S. Rosner, Esq., Weiss Serota, et al., and
Certified Court Reporter from Bailey-Entin Court Reporting

The estimated length of this session will be approximately 15 minutes for a cumulative length of 45 minutes.

Mayor Trantalis terminated the Executive Closed-Door Session at 6:16 p.m.

Mayor Trantalis recessed the Conference Meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Mayor Trantalis reconvened the Conference Meeting at 6:46 p.m.

BUS-3 [26-0308](#)

Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) Lease Policy Follow-up with Aviation Advisory Board Recommendations - Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (Commission District 1)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chris Cooper, Deputy City Manager. Mr. Cooper explained that, based on direction from the Commission at the January 20, 2026, Conference Meeting, staff presented details regarding Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport's (FXE) leasing policy to the Aviation Advisory Board (AAB) to obtain feedback for Commission consideration.

Mr. Cooper narrated a presentation entitled *Airport History, Economic Impact, Revenue, Capital Improvement Plan, and Leasing Policy - Airport Advisory Board Recommendations*.

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

Mr. Cooper explained input from the AAB: 1) recommended creation of a formal stakeholder group to study the leasing policy and provide recommendations to the AAB for subsequent submission to the City Commission; and 2) does not support the inclusion of a transaction fee in the FXE airport leasing policy and advised the Commission to exclude a lease transaction fee.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding AAB motions included in the presentation, Mr. Cooper confirmed that AAB supports continuing work on a formal lease policy but definitively rejected inclusion of a transaction fee in FXE leases.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question regarding the AAB's recommendation to create a formal FXE leasing policy stakeholder group, Mr. Cooper said that the proposed stakeholder group is intended to be a small, mixed working group, separate from the AAB, but its structure is not yet defined and would require further development.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on his perspective and suggested that the Commission proceed with forming the stakeholder group, including the City as a stakeholder, and delaying a decision on the transaction fee until stakeholder recommendations are developed. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman expressed his viewpoint, noting that the AAB unanimously opposed including a transaction fee and that further study is unlikely to change their position. Commissioner Glassman confirmed his support of both AAB motions simultaneously and move forward with the stakeholder group to refine a broader lease policy while also accepting the Board's recommendation to eliminate the transaction fee from consideration.

Vice Mayor Herbst noted his attendance at that AAB Meeting and clarified that the AAB recommends a long-term stakeholder group for broader airport issues, while firmly rejecting the transaction fee. Mayor Trantalis thanked Vice Mayor Herbst for the clarification.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding the makeup of a stakeholder group, City Manager Williams confirmed that the proposed stakeholder group would consist of city staff, AAB members, airport tenants, and other stakeholders.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding financial implications of not including a transaction fee, City Manager Williams clarified that the fee would have applied to future leases. She further explained that only two leases were completed in 2023, with two additional leases pending, and that in these instances, the transaction fee was not applied. Commissioner Sorensen recommended moving forward with both AAB recommendations.

Mayor Trantalis discussed concerns with potential revenue loss to the City as a result of eliminating the lease transaction fee. He noted that this action would forfeit possible income, especially considering a previous offer from Sheltair Aviation (tenant) to pay a substantial sum to facilitate a lease transfer and advance its delayed expansion project. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor Herbst explained that the tenant's willingness to pay was motivated by specific circumstances, including extended delays and rising construction costs. Vice Mayor Herbst noted that accepting such a payment from a single tenant would violate Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations, which require airports to treat similarly situated tenants consistently.

Mayor Trantalis confirmed a consensus regarding the AAB's recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.