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Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

1:30 PM

The Parker

707 Northeast 8th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor

PAM BEASLEY-PITTMAN Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District III

JOHN C. HERBST Commissioner - District I

STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District II

WARREN STURMAN Commissioner - District IV

GREG CHAVARRIA, City Manager

DAVID R. SOLOMAN, City Clerk

THOMAS J. ANSBRO, City Attorney

PATRICK REILLY, City Auditor

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trantalis called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

COMMISSION QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Commission Members Present: Commissioner John C. Herbst, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Vice Mayor Pamela Beasley-Pittman, Commissioner Warren Sturman, and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

Also Present: City Manager Greg Chavarria, City Clerk David R. Soloman, City Attorney Thomas J. Ansbro, and City Auditor Patrick Reilly

AGENDA ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Trantalis announced updates to the Agenda. BUS-1 is removed from the Agenda. Communications to the City Commission would be the last Agenda item heard.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [23-0701](#)

Broward County Traffic Engineering Division Presentation on Traffic Signalization - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Removed from Agenda.

BUS-2 [23-1070](#)

New River Crossing Update - (Commission District 4)

Mayor Trantalis provided an overview of this Agenda item, which will provide an opportunity for thorough Commission Member discussion of alternatives for the planned commuter rail crossing over the New River (New River Crossing) to determine how to move forward. He remarked on the impact of a bridge over the New River Crossing. Mayor Trantalis discussed a tunnel being the locally preferred alternative (LPA) for the New River Crossing (Project), expounded on his perspective, and commented on related information and history.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ben Rogers, Transportation and Mobility Department Director. Mr. Rogers noted Staff provided the Commission with an updated presentation after the Agenda was published. Commission Members confirmed receipt of the update. Mr. Rogers narrated a presentation entitled *New River Crossing Update*.

A copy of the revised presentation has been made part of the backup to this Agenda item.

Commissioner Herbst noted prior work with the firm BDO USA. P.C. (BDO) in the past. In response to Commissioner Herbst's questions, Mr. Rogers explained that BDO assisted with defining the Project and its parameters and cited examples that will assist with the City pursuing available grants to fund the Project. BDO representatives are present and will provide related information. Mr. Rogers explained how BDO's analysis would differ from an engineering analysis.

In response to Commissioner Herbst's questions, City Manager Chavarria commented on BDO's expertise and explained related information. The City is piggybacking on a contract with the City of West Palm Beach for BDO consulting services. City Manager Chavarria confirmed he would send Commissioner Herbst all related information.

In response to Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman's questions, Mr. Rogers explained that the City's portion of costs for the Whitehouse Report, \$250,000, was shared equally with Broward County. City Manager Chavarria confirmed Daphnee Sainvil, Public Affairs Manager, is responsible for researching grant opportunities. He explained the need for BDO assistance with defining, qualifying, and grant writing. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mr. Rogers noted the significant costs associated with the Project and the need to coordinate numerous grant funding opportunities. He explained costs to date for various reports related to the Project.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on the Project's magnitude, emphasized related details, and commented on his review of reports containing numerous opinions. He discussed the Mooney Report, and its correspondence discussing other available for options for the Project. Commissioner Glassman remarked on differing Project construction cost options and cited examples. He commented on related concerns and recommended a review of projects located in Barcelona and Toronto. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sturman reviewed the presentation timeline and costs. In response to Commissioner Sturman's questions, Mr. Rogers explained the costs of each of the reports.

In response to Commissioner Sturman's question, Mr. Rogers explained the details associated with contracting the services of Dr. Mooney, who provided a peer review assessing the validity and quality of the Reports. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sturman's question, City Manager Chavarria explained that Staff did not present the \$5,000 cost for Dr. Mooney's services because the cost was within the threshold of administrative authority. Mr. Rogers said Staff issued the purchase order for Dr. Mooney's services in May 2023. Commissioner Sturman commented that Staff should have informed the Commission of its plans to contract with Dr. Mooney to allow Commission direction. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis commented on discussions with prior City Management and meetings with stakeholders to understand facets of the Project, including various reports, funding opportunities, processes, and related information. He remarked on his viewpoint regarding previous input from the City's library of consultants, cited examples, and expounded on related details. When initially proposed, the beginning and end points of the tunnel were from north of Sunrise Boulevard to south of Davie Boulevard to address traffic concerns on those major east-west corridors.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the need for discussions with stakeholders regarding costs associated with building a bridge over the New River, its impact on neighborhoods, and plans for vehicle traffic underpasses on major east-west corridors. He remarked on a meeting with stakeholders about building a bridge at a lower height of twenty-five feet (25'), which the Marine Industries Association of South Florida opposed due to the impact on marine traffic.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on the design of the Project and related costs. Reconnecting communities is a goal of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs (IIJA), and related grant funding opportunities could be a source of Project funding. Mayor Trantalis commented on favorable discussions with the U.S. Department of Transportation. He expounded on related information, including the Project addressing railway crossing safety concerns and minimizing the negative impact of increased commuter rail traffic. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mr. Rogers continued narrating the presentation.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, Mr. Roger explained his understanding that the FDOT Studies included the land needed to be taken for a bridge but did not include a valuation. The Project's contingency costs are included in FDOT's information.

In response to Commissioner Herbst's question, Mr. Rogers said the

first FDOT Study was for a single tunnel tube, and the second FDOT Study was for twin tunnel tubes. Mr. Rogers explained the difference between the FDOT Study and the Mooney Report is associated with the Project's railway stations. He expounded on associated details and costs included in the first FDOT Study.

In response to Commissioner Sturman's questions regarding the costs included in the FDOT Studies, Mr. Rogers explained the cost difference is due to different construction approaches and Project attributes.

In response to Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman's questions, Mayor Trantalis explained one (1) of the purposes of IIJA funding is to reconnect communities historically disadvantaged by previous transportation infrastructure. The related grant application will illustrate how the Project would address those concerns and will be presented to the Commission.

Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman commented on her viewpoint regarding the northwest area's lack of funds for economic development. She noted that a tunnel or a bridge would only provide some things needed for economic development in the northwest area. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Herbst remarked on bridges in Jacksonville not having a negative effect on surrounding economic development. Mayor Trantalis noted that other municipalities across the country and globe are eliminating bridges. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Herbst remarked on other major east-west corridors in the City's northern area impacted by commuter rail. Freight line railway operations would continue to operate above ground due to hazmat issues. He noted that this project would only benefit the downtown area. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Umer Yaqub, BDO Director. Mr. Yaqub provided background information and an overview of BDO's role in assisting clients with the development of projects from a broad concept to financing to implementation. He expounded on related information, including current and future transportation plans in Broward County that will increase crossings over the New River. Mr. Yaqub discussed the Project's impact on numerous other aspects of the City and the economy. He remarked on the varying perspectives of each Report and Study, expounded on his viewpoint, and BDO's objective.

In response to Commissioner Herbst's questions, Mr. Yaqub explained aspects of BDO's advisory role. BDO would determine and cost of the best Project plan, which will include discussions with Brightline, to assess its requirements and coordinate with the City regarding its recommendations for the starting points of the Project. BDO would also ensure contracting adequate resources for the Project.

Commissioner Herbst explained his understanding regarding the priority positions of Brightline and Florida East Coast Railway (FECR) for the railway line. He commented on FDOT's role and the need to identify the owner of the Project. Mr. Yaqub explained that the primary objective of BDO is to identify innovative funding opportunities for the Project and remarked on similar projects in other cities.

City Manager Chavarria said the owner-operator for the Project has not been defined. Commissioner Herbst noted the Project could only be defined if the owner-operator is identified. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding determining the owner-operator to define the Project.

Mayor Trantalis clarified that FECR owns the right-of-way, and Brightline has an easement to use the tracks. Fortress Investment Group, LLC (Fortress) owns Brightline. Conversations with Fortress indicated it would like the City to define the Project. He remarked on the details of those preliminary discussions. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mr. Yaqub continued discussing the role of BDO in the development of the Project and remarked on federal funding opportunities over the next several years. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding available funding for railway infrastructure projects.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on the need for clarification regarding ownership of the Project.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Nasri Munfah, Gall Zeidler Consultants. Mr. Munfah discussed his background, experience, and qualifications as a tunnel engineer. He commented on his viewpoint of the Reports and Studies. Mr. Munfah explained aspects of a tunnel that would determine cost estimates, expounded on related details, cited examples, and said costs per linear foot could vary widely. He remarked on the benefits of a tunnel, the comparative nature of the Port of Miami Tunnel and expounded on related information. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Herbst commented that the Mooney Report noted

substantially differing ground conditions in the City versus the Port of Miami Tunnel. In response to Commissioner Herbst's question, Mr. Munfah explained the differences and commented on related information.

Mr. Rogers explained the FDOT Report lists details related to the estimated cost and amount of land needed for rights-of-way associated with the options for a New River Crossing. A tunnel would require six (6) acres. A mid-level bascule bridge would require seven (7) acres.

Commissioner Herbst remarked on acquiring this acreage through eminent domain, the lengthy timeline involved, and cited the example of a small parcel associated with the New Police Headquarters, noting the excessive cost involved. Mayor Trantalis remarked on his viewpoint regarding acquiring property through eminent domain and noted the benefits of a tunnel versus a bridge. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Herbst commented on his involvement with securing funding for the new Federal Courthouse and the lengthy timeline. In response to Commissioner Herbst's question, Mayor Trantalis said the USDOT is anxious to begin funding IIJA grant programs and noted they are looking for shovel-worthy projects versus shovel-ready projects. He expounded on related information and the need for multiple funding sources.

City Manager Chavarria requested Commission direction regarding scheduling a joint meeting with the Broward County (County) Commission.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Russ Klenet, 2427 Sea Island Drive, and Broward Workshop Urban Corridor Committee Chair. Mr. Klenet spoke on the importance of this Project, its benefits to the community, and efforts with the County to move the Project forward.

Commissioner Herbst remarked on an example of elevated costs associated with a delayed project in western Broward County. He noted that a forty-foot (40') bascule bridge would meet the needs of the marine industry. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Herbst discussed his support of a tunnel as the LPA and expounded on his viewpoint, including the importance of regional transportation. Mr. Klenet remarked on the significant support of the business community for this Project, his efforts with the County towards supporting the Project, and the County being the Project owner.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Peter Partington, 1521 NE 53rd Street. Mr. Partington concurred with Mr. Klenet's comments. He discussed his perspective regarding this Agenda item, including the FDOT Studies and the other Reports, and recommended consideration of all Project options. In response to Commissioner Herbst's question, Mr. Partington discussed different approaches for a tunnel and explained related information.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ted Inserra, 912 SW 19th Street. Mr. Inserra discussed his perspective regarding this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Mary Fertig, 511 Poinciana Drive. Ms. Fertig commented on concerns regarding the information included in this Agenda item and the need to provide the community with precise information. Mayor Trantalis clarified that determining the LPA for the New River Crossing is a joint effort by the City, County, MPO, and FDOT. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Herbst remarked on concerns about differing viewpoints of the consultants and their respective Reports, the need to determine the correct answers, and cited examples. He recommended a Commission Workshop to understand and question the consultants and information in their Reports. Mayor Trantalis said that would be scheduled as part two of Project discussions. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Herbst discussed his perspective regarding the need to address regional transportation needs in the City and the State, cited examples, and expounded on his viewpoint regarding the need to plan for the future and move forward.

Commissioner Glassman concurred on the need for the Commission to plan and set the groundwork for future transportation needs. Mayor Trantalis discussed the need to weigh the Project's costs versus benefits.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Kevin Kelleher, Broward County Assistant County Administrator. Mr. Kelleher clarified Broward Mayor Lamar Fisher was not agreeable to delaying a joint meeting between the City, the County, and the MPO on this topic until February 2024. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Mr. Kelleher explained previous efforts to coordinate a meeting with the City and the County, hosted and facilitated by the MPO. Further comment and

discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman explained her preference for a Commission Meeting with the Consultants followed by a workshop with the County, the MPO, and the Consultants. Further comment and discussion ensued on scheduling. Mayor Trantalis confirmed part two of discussions on this topic would occur at the Commission Conference Meeting on November 21, 2023.

Commissioner Sturman discussed feedback from the MPO regarding coordinating meetings on this topic.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Bryan Caletka, 100 W. Cypress Creek Road, Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Mr. Caletka confirmed the MPO could attend the Commission Meeting on November 21, 2023.

Mr. Kelleher noted he could not commit to the County attending the November 21, 2023, Commission Meeting and would advise.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Todd Brauer, Whitehouse Group President/COO. Mr. Brauer remarked on the Whitehouse Group's background and qualifications as a transportation planning consultant.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Brandy Creed, 560 W. Cypress Creed Road, on behalf of Jacobs Engineering. She introduced members of the Jacobs Engineering team in attendance.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Nick Chen, 560 W. Cypress Creed Road, on behalf of Jacobs Engineering. Mr. Chen discussed his background, experience, and qualifications of Jacobs Engineering and confirmed that he is the Engineer of Record for the Port of Miami Tunnel.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, Mr. Chen confirmed the Port of Miami Tunnel price was \$1,100,000,000, which was lower than the initial estimated cost. Mr. Chen expounded on information related to costs and inflation, including a forty percent (40%) contingency. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis acknowledged the need for credible, consistent information from consultants. He requested all consultants return with a collective cost estimate range and explained his perspective. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ben Kampf, 560 W. Cypress Creed Road,

on behalf of Jacobs Engineering. Mr. Kampf confirmed the next step in the process is to refine cost estimates. He commented on related information.

Mr. Brauer explained that the Whitehouse Study was intended to provide information related to the Project's scope and remarked on related meetings with City Manager Chavarria. The Whitehouse Study does not include recommendations for a tunnel or a bridge.

In response to Commissioner Sturman's questions, Mr. Brauer explained aspects of the Whitehouse Study and information about grant funding opportunities. The USDOT Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant funding was expanded under the IIJA to support community infrastructure. Mr. Brauer explained the challenges of obtaining RAISE grant funding due to competition from other areas of the country and noted a ten percent (10%) chance of receiving RAISE grant funding. He commented on related challenges, confirmed the importance of meeting all criteria, and expounded on details, including the analysis of RAISE grant funding. Mr. Brauer confirmed the need for input from stakeholders, including the community, FDOT, FECR, and Brightline, and expounded on related information.

Commissioner Sturman discussed his perspective and the Commission's commitment to commuter rail. He recommended a Walk-On Agenda item at tonight's Commission Regular Meeting stating the Commission's support of commuter rail and New River Crossing options.

A copy of the proposed Walk-On Agenda item has been made part of the backup to this Agenda item.

Commissioner Glassman and Mayor Trantalis remarked that the Walk-On Agenda item does not reflect the Commission's support of a tunnel as the LPA. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis recommended further Commission discussion on this topic following the November 21, 2023, meeting.

Commissioner Glassman discussed the deadline for IIJA grant submissions and the importance of stakeholders being on the same page. Further comment and discussion ensued.

BUS-3 [23-0978](#)

Fortify Lauderdale Presentation - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Alan Dodd, Public Works Department Director, provided an overview of this Agenda item. Mr. Dodd explained related goals, including

assessing the impact of climate change on neighborhoods and determining how to mitigate. He narrated a presentation entitled *Fortify Lauderdale, Building a Resilient Future in Fort Lauderdale*.

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Dodd confirmed the seventeen (17) neighborhoods identified for stormwater improvements in the presentation are in addition to the first tranche of neighborhoods previously identified.

Mr. Dodd continued narrating the presentation.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Robert Taylor, Hazen and Sawyer. Mr. Taylor narrated the second portion of the presentation focusing on the steps involved with the second tranche of stormwater management funding.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Taylor explained the anticipated sea level rise by 2070 is expected to be approximately three feet (3') and explained related information.

In response to Commissioner Sturman's questions, Mr. Taylor explained details of rain events statistically expected to occur once every ten (10) years. He expounded on related information listed in the presentation is based on historical data. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question about the stormwater projects accommodating ten (10) inches of rain in a twenty-four (24) hour period, Mr. Taylor explained details of stormwater assets intended to maintain an acceptable level of roadway flooding on roadways when a one (1) in five (5) year or a one (1) in ten (10) year rain event occurs, and discussed information related to the appropriate level of service.

Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman commented on the need to ensure that NW 30th Avenue and NW 17th Court is addressed and explained related information. City Manager Chavarria confirmed Staff is addressing. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sturman's questions, Mr. Dodd explained details regarding the stormwater management funding tranches. The first \$200,000,000 of funding is in progress. Mr. Dodd commented on financing mechanisms to make the next tranche of funding available earlier to support a more aggressive approach to

stormwater resilience and expounded on related information. Mr. Dodd confirmed current flood mitigation inventory and explained plans for increasing capacity. He expounded on related information.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Mary Fertig, 511 Poinciana Drive, on behalf of the Idlewyld Improvement Association. Ms. Fertig supported this Agenda item and expounded on her viewpoint.

City Manager Chavarria confirmed Staff would provide a report regarding the number of grants the City receives. Further comment and discussion ensued.

BUS-4 [23-1041](#)

Presentation - NW 30th Ave and NW 17th Ct Stormwater Improvements FY25 CIP - (Commission District 3)

Alan Dodd, Public Works Department Director, narrated a presentation of Staff's efforts to address NW 30th Avenue and NW 17th Court Stormwater Improvements.

A copy of the presentation is attached to this Agenda item.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Dodd confirmed a swale is an aspect of the exfiltration trench system at this location and explained related details. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Manager Chavarria commented on having a future Commission discussion regarding accelerating the procurement process for certain infrastructure projects.

RECESS

Mayor Trantalis recessed the meeting at 5:23 p.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Trantalis reconvened the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

BUS-5 [23-1010](#)

Las Olas Parking Garage Facade Lighting Update - (Commission District 2)

Removed from Agenda

BUS-6 [23-1083](#)

Update on City Hall Relocation Solutions - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4)

Removed from Agenda

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COMMISSION

[23-1050](#)

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

***Historic Preservation Board (HPB)
October 2, 2023***

Communication to the City Commission

A copy of the HPB Communication to the City Commission is part of the backup to this Agenda item.

Commissioner Glassman concurred with the HPB's recommendation. Mayor Trantalis concurred and commented on the importance of transparency.

In response to Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman's question, Mayor Trantalis explained the details of this recommendation and remarked on information being in a homeowner's title policy related to the City's Ordinance, indicating that the property is in a historic district. The HPB recommendation would provide an additional opportunity to inform potential purchasers of historic designation. Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman confirmed her support of the HPB recommendation. Chris Cooper, Development Services Department Director, discussed historic areas of the City that would be included with this recommendation. He explained the HPB recommendation could be facilitated by a letter from the City Manager to the Property Appraiser.

***Central City Redevelopment Advisory (CCRA) Board
October 9, 2023***

Communication to the City Commission

A copy of the CCRA Communication to the City Commission is part of the backup to this Agenda item.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on his support of the CCRA recommendation and noted the lengthy rezoning process. In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Chris Cooper, Development Services Department Director, explained the impact of the CCRA recommendation.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Clarence

Woods, Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Manager, said the second phase of the CCRA rezoning should be completed in the second quarter of 2024. The third phase is a Land Use Plan Amendment planned for the second or third quarter of 2024.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Woods explained the lengthy process involved in a Land Use Plan Amendment.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Deputy City Attorney D'Wayne Spence explained a Zoning in Progress (ZIP) is a legal and planning concept that allows a municipality to pause applications during the period of active rezoning planning or when the ordinance is being developed. Deputy City Attorney Spence noted the only concern would be related to an extended period of time that would be considered a moratorium, which would require formal action.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on his support of the CCRA's recommendation and noted the need to complete this rezoning effort.

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

Members of the Commission announced recent and upcoming events.

Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman commented on the *Family Promise* organization's mission to empower families and assist with their transition from homelessness to sustainable independence. *Family Promise* is in Palm Beach County and hopes to expand into Broward County.

Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman remarked on conversations during a *Community Health Think Tank* event to provide services to assist with transitioning individuals discharged from jail or the hospital.

Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman noted efforts to move forward with the federal grant-funded *Good Jobs, Great Cities Academy* initiative and discussed related information.

Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman expounded on details regarding the *Infinite Scholarship Fair* scheduled for January 23 and 24, 2024, at the *L.A. Lee YMCA/Mizell Community Center* and requested Staff communicate this opportunity to City high school students.

Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman noted the need for consistency regarding pressure cleaning sidewalks on Sistrunk Boulevard and requested a report on the maintenance schedule.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on upcoming discussions at a planned open house where stakeholders will discuss efforts to reactivate Himmarshee Village, which was a topic at the Commission's 2023 Goal Setting Session.

Commissioner Glassman noted Mayor Trantalis would be hosting a summit on ways to address anti-Semitism that mayors from across the nation would attend on November 15 and 16, 2023. Mayor Trantalis confirmed, explained related information, and invited Commission Members to attend. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman requested that Staff address concerns discussed by District 2 residents related to groups of bicycle riders on State Road A1A and Las Olas Boulevard displaying dangerous behaviors and commented on related details.

Commissioner Glassman discussed concerns related to the Charter Revision Board (CRB), which the Commission previously discussed. City Clerk David Soloman distributed information to each Commission Member, including a video clip and transcripts of the October 5, 2023 CRB Meeting. The CRB video was shown.

A copy of the video clip and transcripts have been made part of the backup to this Meeting.

Motion to Extend the Commission Meeting to 10:15 p.m.

Commissioner Sturman made a motion to extend the Commission Meeting until 10:15 p.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Herbst.

APPROVED

Yea: 5 - Commissioner Sturman, Commissioner Herbst, Commissioner Glassman, Vice Mayor Beasley-Pittman, Mayor Trantalis

Commissioner Glassman reiterated his previous comments regarding his viewpoint of the inappropriate behavior of certain members of the CRB, expounded on his viewpoint, and cited examples. He noted his disappointment that the Commission could not meet with the CRB on November 21, 2023. Mayor Trantalis concurred on the need for a Commission Joint Workshop with the CRB and remarked on his perspective.

In response to Commissioner Sturman's question, City Manager Chavarria confirmed the *2024 Commission Goal Setting Session* would be on

January 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Sturman confirmed that a District 4 Town Hall Meeting would be scheduled before the *2024 Commission Goal Setting Session* to obtain community input.

Commissioner Sturman requested City Manager Chavarria and City Attorney Ansbro provide the Commission with a comprehensive update on all information related to the City's existing and planned bond issuances, including the City's capacity, current debt and financing information.

Mayor Trantalis discussed his attendance at a *White House Conference on Building a Better Florida*. He explained related information, which included an overview of federal funding allocations to the State from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

Mayor Trantalis acknowledged and thanked all sponsors of the *Boat Show* for their contributions and expounded on the economic benefits realized by the City. He remarked on the national notoriety received by the City's *Day of the Dead Celebration*, recognized as the largest in the nation, and acknowledged the event planning efforts of Jim Hammond.

Mayor Trantalis announced the groundbreaking ceremony for the Federal Courthouse on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, and remarked on the lengthy funding process. Mayor Trantalis commented on the departure of Kelley Shanley, Broward Center for the Performing Arts Director.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Commissioner Herbst confirmed numerous complaints regarding a dance club in District 1. Commissioner Herbst discussed meetings with Staff and commented on efforts to rectify neighbor concerns, including meetings with the dance club owner to address issues raised by the community. He noted challenges related to this residential area backing up to a commercially zoned area and expounded on related information. City Manager Chavarria discussed Code Enforcement efforts to address related noise issues.

Mayor Trantalis acknowledged the retirement of Scott Vanlew, a Development Services Department Engineering Inspector, after thirty-eight (38) years of service to the City and thanked Mr. Vanlew for his contributions to the City.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 10:15 p.m.