

City of Fort Lauderdale

*City Hall
100 North Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
www.fortlauderdale.gov*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

1:30 PM

City Commission Conference Room

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

***JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER Mayor - Commissioner
BRUCE G. ROBERTS Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District I
DEAN J. TRANTALIS Commissioner - District II
ROBERT L. McKINZIE Commissioner - District III
ROMNEY ROGERS Commissioner - District IV***

***LEE R. FELDMAN, City Manager
JOHN HERBST, City Auditor
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI, City Clerk
CYNTHIA A. EVERETT, City Attorney***

ROLL CALL

Present 5 - Commissioner Robert L. McKinzie, Commissioner Romney Rogers, Vice Mayor Bruce G. Roberts, Commissioner Dean J. Trantalis and Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Also Present: City Manager Lee R. Feldman, City Clerk Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Attorney Cynthia A. Everett, City Auditor John Herbst, and Sergeant at Arms Francisco Vetancourt

No e-comments were submitted for this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seiler called the Conference Meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

Members of the Commission announced recent and upcoming events and matters of interest.

Vice Mayor Roberts discussed two recent Commission Joint Workshops:

- The Blue Ribbon Fire Bond Committee, confirming a decision was made regarding Fire Station 8
- The Planning and Zoning Board that focused on the issue of Affordable Housing

Mayor Seiler announced for those viewing the Conference Meeting online that the Internet was currently down. He recommended internet viewers watch the Conference Meeting on Channel 78.

Vice Mayor Roberts discussed the Telephone Town Hall Meeting he hosted on the evening of June 14th, stating it was an excellent opportunity to address neighbor issues and present initiatives to remedy areas of public concern.

Vice Mayor Roberts discussed the State's initiative regarding the Marijuana Statute and his concern about its impact on the City's Ordinance. City Attorney Cynthia Everett said she did not think any

adjustments were necessary to the Ordinance. Mayor Seiler concurred, commenting on conversations he had with members of the State Legislature prior to the vote. He stated assurances were given that it would not preempt the City's Ordinance. City Attorney Everett stated she would look into this matter and will advise as necessary.

Vice Mayor Roberts discussed Sunrise Mayor Michael J. Ryan's request for a Resolution of Support for a County Public Safety Advisory Council to oversee the operations of the County Consolidated 911 Emergency System. Those in support include County Administrator Bertha Henry, Broward Police Chiefs and Fire Chiefs. He passed Mayor Ryan's request to City Manager Feldman to handle. Further comments continued on this topic.

Vice Mayor Roberts discussed the canal-dredging project. Commissioner Rogers commented on the negative feedback received from neighbors, noting the large number opposed. City Manager Feldman explained the genesis of the project. He confirmed, through meetings with neighbors, there is no need to have an ongoing program to dredge canals. As such, there is no need to have a dedicated funding source.

Commissioner Trantalis commented on stakeholder's opposition to paying an additional tax for canal dredging because they currently pay higher taxes for their locations on the water. He confirmed dredging needs remain in certain areas. However, the need for dredging does not exist in all canals. Discussions continued on this topic. There was a consensus to do necessary dredging on an as needed basis.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed his attendance at the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Financial Summit where lenders met to discuss funding sources for the gap between developer contributions and to encourage lender participation. Mayor Seiler commented on lenders who contacted him who said they were not invited, though having CRA requirements. Commissioner McKinzie confirmed the need to cast a wider net to invite additional lenders. Discussions continued on the purpose of the event.

Commissioner McKinzie thanked the Police Department for their drug enforcement efforts in Lincoln Park, noting offenders were removed from the area.

Discussions on drainage issues during heavy rains were discussed. Commissioner McKinzie stated Staff did a good job in addressing these issues in District III, commenting on the opportunity to learn and the need to be more proactive. City Manager Feldman confirmed Staff's

development of a door-hanger to give adequate notice to residents concerning these types of situations. Commissioner Trantalis discussed drainage issues occurring in District II due to heavy rains. City Manager Feldman stated in situations involving condominiums, the condominium association would be notified. Further discussions continued on procedures for these types of situations.

Commissioner Rogers discussed the Stormwater Master Plan Meeting at the Edgewood and River Oaks Homeowners Associations, noting both areas are prone to flooding. Items of concern included the lack of pipes for stormwater drainage. He said work has begun in this area to address this need and the completion date is scheduled for 2029.

Commissioner Rogers also commented on the productive meeting between the Edgewood Homeowners Association and legal counsel for the pawnshop located nearby, stating they are working towards a good neighbor relationship. Changing the color of the pawnshop building was discussed though they have not decided on the color. Commissioner Rogers confirmed the lead person from the Edgewood Homeowners Association and the proper email address for notification.

Commissioner Trantalis asked City Attorney Cynthia Everett about a recent Florida Supreme Court decision regarding municipalities paying property taxes on its public properties used for nonpublic purposes. He cited the Bahia Mar Marina and the Las Olas Marina as examples. He stated this is something the Commission needs to be informed about to be able to respond appropriately. City Attorney Everett commented on the threshold for public purposes, saying she will investigate this issue further based on that recent Florida Supreme Court decision. City Manager Feldman confirmed Bahia Mar currently pays tax based on the leasehold interest as calculated by the property appraiser. Further comments and questions on this topic continued. City Attorney Everett reconfirmed she will address all questions and concerns on this issue.

Commissioner Trantalis raised the topic of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the recent incident at Stranahan Park. Further discussions on this topic continued including the actions taken and programs that could be initiated to address the needs of the homeless.

Mayor Seiler discussed the possibility of an ordinance relating to belongings. Assistant City Attorney Alain Boileau confirmed a proposal is feasible under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments, stating a sign would need to be posted to provide sufficient notice. Further discussions ensued on this topic. Commissioner McKinzie

discussed the need to enforce existing Ordinances.

[17-0763](#)

Communications to the City Commission

***Innovative Development District Advisory
Committee
Friday, May 26, 2017***

Committee is requesting a six-month extension to January 2018 in order to conduct a public outreach meeting in October 2017. The Committee is requesting the additional time to adequately prepare for the additional time to meet and assess the results in order to develop recommendations to the ID ordinance.

Motion was made by Chair Maus to request an extension from the City Commission, seconded by Mr. Crush. In a voice the motion passed unanimously.

There was a consensus that the Commission had no objection to an extension. City Manager Feldman recommended sun-setting the Innovative Development District Advisory Committee sixty days following the submission of their report to the Commission. City Attorney Everett recommended reexamining that issue, stating she would research the proper procedure and present a resolution to the Commission at the July 11, 2017 Regular Commission Meeting.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 [17-0729](#)

Emergency Purchases - Pump Station C-26 Wet Well Repair - Luna Development Corporation - \$311,847

There were no questions or comments on this item.

CF-2 [17-0746](#)

South Side School Update

Vice Mayor Roberts discussed planned programming, asking if there had been outreach to area art galleries, Funding for the Arts in Broward County and other agencies to maximize the programming. Further discussions continued on emailing contacts for organizations such as the Arts Council, Art Serve, the Museum of Art and other art-related entities. Commissioner Rogers commented there should be a good choice of programs. City Manager Feldman confirmed Staff would report back on proposed programming. He confirmed the management of the downstairs of South Side School will be in cooperation with Friends of South Side, confirming the City will staff the facility.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [17-0620](#)

Operation Lift HOPE Crisis Bridge Housing Pilot Program Presentation

City Manager Feldman confirmed this presentation was requested by Andrew (Andy) Mitchell, suggesting Mr. Mitchell present to the Commission first.

Mayor Seiler recognized Mr. Mitchell, Vice Chair of the Fairwinds Group and Chairman and Founder of Operation Life Hope, a 501(c)3 non-profit formed to address homeless issues in the City. Mr. Mitchell presented the program entitled Operation Life Hope (OLH). He gave a brief background of OLH's efforts to date, stating the organization is not a service provider but a facilitator of groups to address homelessness. It works towards influencing the goal of creative thinking to address homeless issues. They offer Challenge Grants to meet collective goals. Their objective is to take all of the homeless programs in Broward County and work to engage, empower, educate, and employ the homeless, including veterans. Mr. Mitchell explained and elaborated on those involved attaining goals by thinking "outside the square." Mr. Mitchell recognized those in attendance in support of these efforts.

Sandi Downs-Keesling, Fort Lauderdale Police Department Officer, addressed the Commission explaining the steps law enforcement take to engage and talk with the homeless. Their information is inputted into the Homeless Management Incident System (HMIS) to determine the assistance for which they qualify. Officer Downs-Keesling explained the data inputted into HMIS system includes confidential health information and other information such as dates and history of interaction and program participation.

Ed Rafailovic, Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) Sergeant, confirmed the BSO commitment to supporting Operation Lift Hope, commenting on its success working with providers in the County. The BSO Deputies involved are skilled in homeless outreach efforts and crisis intervention with mental health issues, working closing with County resources. Sergeant Rafailovic expounded on each of these areas of outreach and the goal of keeping individuals focused through consistent case management. Mr. Mitchell followed up by giving an example of the steps involved in assisting the homeless.

Kevin Axe, Senior Director Field Sales, Extended Stay America South Florida, addressed the Commission, providing a brief overview of the

history and explained the details of their involvement and role in Operation Lift Hope to assist the homeless. Mr. Mitchell expounded further on the details of participation of Extended Stay America.

Ted Grear, CEO, Hope South Florida (HSF), addressed the Commission explaining their role to get people into housing as soon as possible and participates with Continuum of Care through the rapid rehousing process. HSF's role is to provide triage, case management, address health assessments, drug issues, and meals. Their response would engage the client the day following housing at Extended Stay America. Mr. Grear discussed and expounded on the 72 churches that partner with HSF to assist the homeless in many ways.

Fred Scarbrough, Board Chair of Hope South Florida, addressed the Commission explaining the rapid re-housing at independent hotels outside the City, relieving the City of the social service demands of the homeless.

Mr. Mitchell confirmed all those placed in housing are linked to one of the partner churches. He discussed the empowerment aspect of the program, getting people into their own homes and the sources of funding as noted in the presentation. Mr. Mitchell asked the Commission to endorse Operation Lift Hope.

Dan Lindblade, CEO Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), addressed the Commission stating the Chamber will do all it can to support Operation Lift Hope, stating they are about solutions.

Ed Smoker, 912 E. Broward Boulevard, addressed the Commission thanking all involved and confirming his support of Operation Lift Hope. He confirmed Operation Lift Hope is a great thing, especially for homeless veterans. Mr. Smoker asked the Commission to support this pilot program.

Sean McCaffrey, Chief of Staff, Florida Panthers, confirmed their financial support of Operation Lift Hope and its efforts to assist veterans and other homeless individuals in the community. Mr. McCaffrey commented that he is looking forward to seeing the impact of this program.

Ken Meares, Great Health Works, commented on his previous experience in dealing with homeless issues in Santa Monica, California. He discussed Santa Monica's ordinances he submitted that deals with homeless issues. He encouraged the Commission to enforce the types of laws that worked in Santa Monica, expounding on the specific measures used.

Doug Coolman, on behalf of the Broward Workshop as Co-Chair of the Urban Core, encouraged the Commission to participate and match the grant, stating this is a great place to begin.

Vice Mayor Roberts thanked Mr. Mitchell for stepping up and addressing this important issue. Mayor Seiler commented on his support of Operation Lift Hope, stating it is one of the best proposals seen in years to address this issue.

Mayor Seiler voiced concern and clarification about the protocols for data management when gathering client information. Officer Downs-Keesling confirmed intake information would be used to ensure they meet the criteria and would not be shared with Extended Stay America. Scott Russell, Captain, Broward County Sheriff's Office, stated there is no reason to be concerned about this issue, confirming law enforcement can input information, it is self-reported, and confirmed the levels of access for licensed clinicians to retrieve this information. This ensures no violation of HIPPA laws regarding the release of personal information.

Commissioner Trantalis applauded this effort for all the work and involvement by stakeholders, confirming his desire to enhance the program as it moves forward. In response to Commissioner Trantalis's question, Mr. Mitchell stated the initial outreach would be towards homeless veterans, families with children, and episodic individuals. Officer Sandi Downs-Keesling confirmed no one would be left on the street and all homeless would be offered the opportunity for shelter and provided transportation to an assessment point. However, if they do not wish to participate, they cannot be forced. Contact will be made on a daily basis until they change their mind. Mr. Mitchell confirmed the procedure of the outreach team to assist individuals with completing paperwork. Emergency services will be provided by a triage center located at Holy Cross Hospital. Food services will be provided at various churches and transportation will be provided.

In response to Commissioner Trantalis's questions about any damages to the Extended Stay America rooms, Jeri Pryor, Division of Neighbor Support, confirmed details of the state grant for hotel stays, housing stays and rapid rehousing. Damage to hotels will be paid out of the City's state grant as part of the partnership with Operation Lift Hope. City Manager Feldman noted the need for a detailed agreement among all funding sources and Extended Stay America regarding payments for any damages. This would come before the Commission. Further discussions continued on liability and other insurance matters.

Ms. Pryor explained funding would come through the Division of Neighbor Support and would be managed by the City. This is in addition to managing all aspects of the programs steps and the transition to the appropriate housing solution, stabilizing a crisis family or individual. Ms. Pryor confirmed the County would be addressing chronic homeless individuals. Commissioner Trantalis noted his concern about the administrative management of County and City funding. Mr. Grear confirmed an upcoming meeting with the CEO of the United Way to discuss their contribution to the program. Commissioner Trantalis noted the availability of funds from the United Way for veteran outreach.

In response to Commissioner Trantalis's question, Mr. Mitchell explained the Challenge Grant's purpose is to leverage funds and community involvement.

Commissioner Rogers acknowledged the genesis of the project and efforts to bring the additional community together for involvement through the efforts of Mr. Mitchell, thanking and commending him for his work and involvement. Mayor Seiler thanked all involved for their hard work and persistence in achieving a great project to address this important issue. Mayor Seiler requested City Manager to make funds available for participation in Operation Lift Hope's Challenge Grants.

A copy of Mr. Mitchell's presentation is attached to these minutes.

BUS-2 [17-0543](#)

Stormwater Rate Study Presentation

City Manager Feldman gave a brief overview, putting the discussion and presentation into context. Previously, the two alternatives for Commission consideration included:

1. Put a surcharge on coastal areas to address the issue of sea level rise and the needed drainage
2. Changing the structure of the current rate system from a pervious/impervious based rate structure to a rate structure based on trips.

As requested by the Commission at their Goal Setting Session, this presentation is an in-depth review of future funding for storm water management based upon a trip rate structure.

Michael Burton, Stantec (formerly Burton and Associates), presented

the Commission with the requested trip report update.

A copy of the Stantec presentation is attached to these minutes.

In response to Commissioner Trantalis's question, Mr. Burton confirmed multi-family units of 10 or more would see a substantial increase in storm water rate charges due to trip calculations based upon multiple dwelling units, as opposed to current storm water rate charges based upon on the multifamily building footprint.

The methodologies for calculating trips were clarified as a trip that begins or ends at a property. The connection between trips and storm water was explained. City Manager Feldman explained the primary objective regarding storm water is to keep the roadways clear of storm water runoff. This per trip analysis is the basis for calculating charges for storm water utility fees and are tied to the sources of those road trips, i.e., shopping centers, multi-family dwelling units, single family homes, etc., (illustrated on slide 8). It apportions the costs based on the number of trips generated. City Manager Feldman stated that following the completion of the Storm Water Master Plan in December 2017, he anticipates having a capital program to fund between \$140,000,000 - \$240,000,000 that a rate structure will need to support, perhaps utilizing a 30-year bond.

Discussion continued on rates over the past several years and the need for an extensive capital program to address storm water needs as a result of sea level rise. City Manager Feldman confirmed that the Return on Investment (ROI) is no longer part of the equation. Vice Mayor Roberts noted his concerns using the trip based calculations to fund the storm water utility, recommending the data be turned over to the Infrastructure Task Force and the Budget Advisory Board to receive their input and recommendations on the methodology. A brief discussion ensued on issues concerning the Galt Ocean Mile.

Commissioner Trantalis commented on funding for infrastructure through increased storm water rates requires the assurance that the revenue would go into a separate fund, not the General Fund. He stated his preferred way of funding is through a bond issue. Discussions continued on ways of supporting a general obligation bond and fairly allocating infrastructure costs. Vice Mayor Roberts and Commissioner Trantalis agreed any storm water funding should not be used for any other purpose, only storm water infrastructure.

Discussions continued on the possible methods and aspects of funding revenue requirements. Mr. Burton stated a combination of rate structures could be used. City Manager Feldman stated for the

record that slide eight of the presentation should list the current rate charge for Single Family Dwellings as \$8.00 rather than \$6.00.

There was consensus to send this to the Budget Advisory Board for analysis.

Craig Fisher, 725 Poinciana Drive, commented on this topic, discussing storm water runoff at his place of business and payments made to Broward County for storm water that is calculated by the square footage of his property. Mr. Fisher commented that neighbors are not getting what they pay for, noting the need to do the right thing.

City Manager Feldman confirmed the Budget Advisory Board had seen this rate proposal. This rate plan will also be presented to the Infrastructure Task Force.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

BD-1 [17-0762](#)

Board and Committee Vacancies

Commissioner Trantalis discussed his consensus appointments as noted below:

CENTRAL CITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD:

Michael Vonder Meulen, Mark Antonelli, Andrew Segaloff and Jeff Sullivan (all are reappointments)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD:

Lonnie Maier

City Clerk Modarelli confirmed the above appointees would be in the July 11, 2017, Resolution for Board and Committee member appointments.

City Clerk Modarelli read the names of the Board and Committee appointments for tonight's resolution R-1, item 17-0761 as noted in the back-up to these minutes.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business before the City Commission at this Commission Conference Meeting, Mayor Seiler adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.