

# City of Fort Lauderdale

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



## Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, May 1, 2018**

**1:30 PM**

**City Commission Conference Room**

## **City Commission Conference Meeting**

***FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION***

***DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor - Commissioner  
BEN SORENSEN Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District IV  
HEATHER MORAITIS Commissioner - District I  
STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District II  
ROBERT L. McKINZIE Commissioner - District III***

***LEE R. FELDMAN, City Manager  
JOHN HERBST, City Auditor  
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI, City Clerk  
ALAIN E. BOILEAU, Interim City Attorney***

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trantalis called the Commission Conference Meeting of May 1, 2018 to order at 1:37 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

Commissioner Heather Moraitis, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Commissioner Robert L. McKinzie, Vice Mayor Ben Sorensen and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

## QUORUM ESTABLISHED

**Also Present:** City Manager Lee R. Feldman, City Clerk Jeffrey A. Modarelli, Interim City Attorney Alain Boileau, City Auditor John Herbst and Sergeant at Arms Keven Dupree

**No e-comments were submitted for this meeting.**

## CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

Commissioner Glassman discussed the need to monitor Suntex's changes to the approved redevelopment of Las Olas Marina. He also discussed replicating the 17th Street Mobility Group for issues and concerns relating to Las Olas Boulevard. Commissioner Glassman recommends neighborhood associations come together to determine a cohesive plan to address the portion of Las Olas Boulevard from the river to A1A. Mayor Trantalis requested a Workshop on this topic. City Manager Feldman confirmed.

Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on the District IV meeting addressing Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport (Airport) noise concerns. He also noted the positive meeting with Broward County Administrator Bertha Henry working towards continued City and County cooperation. It was a productive meeting that included transportation, homelessness and Airport concerns. Mayor Trantalis recommended that each Commissioner meet with County Administrator Henry to foster City and County relationships.

Vice Mayor Sorensen suggested that the Florida State Flag be included

with the other flags in Commission Chambers and made visible behind the Dais. Comments and discussion ensued on this topic.

Mayor Trantalis discussed meetings with various Counsel Generals from several countries. He also commented on Fleet Week, its ability to bring attention and focus to the City, recommending work towards to increasing the number of City-wide activities and reintegration with the Air Show.

Mayor Trantalis discussed working with Broward County (County) towards the possibility of a joint City/County Government Campus. He reviewed the 16 acre location from NE 4th Street south to the County Building at SE 2nd Avenue. These discussions included having private developers involved to augment and repurpose land owned by the County and the City. This area could be the gateway to the City. Further comments and discussions ensued on this topic.

Mayor Trantalis noted the importance and need for the Commission to develop an action plan that addresses both climate change and rising sea levels. He recommended a Town Hall meeting that would allow Staff to educate the Commission and neighbors about necessary actions, costs and a timetable for a long-term plan. City Manager Feldman confirmed he would coordinate this effort, commenting on an upcoming Tri-County Meeting on the subject.

Mayor Trantalis expounded on Commission and Staff involvement and format of the Las Olas Community Workshop, confirming that the primary purpose is for neighbors to identify needs and share input. Further examples and comments ensued on having a Staff person or member of the Commission guiding this workshop meeting. Mayor Trantalis confirmed he would work with City Manager Feldman on developing a format for the Las Olas Boulevard Community Workshop. Discussions ensued on Commissioner Glassman and Vice Mayor Sorensen's involvement and the possibility of co-hosting,

[18-0455](#)

Communications to the City Commission

*MARINE ADVISORY BOARD  
APRIL 5, 2018*

*COMMUNICATION TO THE CITY COMMISSION*

***A copy of this Communication is attached to these minutes.***

City Manager Feldman explained the MAB's definition of a Marine

Master Plan. City Manager Feldman said that this topic can be addressed at the Commission's upcoming Goal Setting Session. Mayor Trantalis concurred.

## CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 [18-0458](#)

### Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Projects Update

Commissioner Glassman shared comments received on the Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Project at the District II Meeting, including the blocking of Las Olas Circle. City Manager Feldman deferred to Thomas Green, Senior CRA Project Manager, who expounded on the current construction projects causing concerns. He discussed the timetable and allowing a limited amount of traffic in that area. Further comments ensued on this topic.

Mayor Trantalis noted the importance of alleviating these traffic concerns prior to the July 4th holiday. Mr. Green discussed the action plan to address the Memorial Day and 4th of July holidays. Further discussions and comments ensued. City Manager Feldman commented on the detours which will be in place during construction and the need to keep traffic circulation open.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question about streetscape improvement projects on A1A, Don Morris, Economic and Beach Redevelopment Area Manager of the Beach Area Community Redevelopment Agency, confirmed an upcoming meeting on May 2, 2018 with the Beach Redevelopment Board. Recommendations and details discussed will be brought before the Community Redevelopment Agency Board.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question about including infrastructure issues with A1A improvements, Mr. Morris said they are not. It only includes sidewalk treatments and relocating sidewalk impediments. He confirmed that the water main near the curb on A1A cannot be relocated. City Manager Feldman commented on the need to discourage jay-walking and efforts to address pedestrian safety.

Commissioner Glassman discussed the Las Olas Marina Expansion Project and the need to inform Suntex that more public outreach is needed. City Manager Feldman confirmed that any changes to what the previous Commission approved, must come before the current Commission prior to submittal to the Development Review Committee (DRC). He also confirmed the need to advise Suntex of the importance of continuing to meet with surrounding condominium residents and other

interested parties.

Mayor Trantalis gave a brief review of the history involving the selection of Suntex. City Manager Feldman discussed his conversations with Suntex, commenting on project changes. Further comments and discussions ensued on this topic. City Manager Feldman confirmed Suntex is currently in the permitting process.

Commissioner Glassman commented on the DC Alexander Park (Project) public meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm on May 21, 2018 at the Beach Community Center. In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Mr. Morris discussed the process for public input on the 15 percent design phase for the Project, stating that afterwards it will be brought back before the Commission for direction. Brief discussions ensued on the Beach Advisory Board's desire to continue exploring the Ferris wheel concept. In response to Mr. Morris, the Commission confirmed it does not wish to pursue a Ferris wheel.

Commissioner Glassman discussed the manner in which the public participation meeting on Aquatic Center bids was cancelled due to lack of an evaluation. City Manager Feldman confirmed non-City Staff serve on the Selection Committee, stating that the Beach Redevelopment Board requested additional time to review bids. Mayor Trantalis confirmed the need for a final report by the next Commission Conference Meeting on May 15, 2018. Further comments and discussions ensued.

Commissioner Glassman discussed event space on the top floor of the new Las Olas Boulevard parking garage. Mr. Morris noted it is two-thirds parking and one-third event space. An additional part of the amenity will include benches for the public to sit and overlook the Intercoastal waterway. There will be no shade due to height limitation issues.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question about facade improvements from the Elbow Room west, Mr. Morris confirmed Staff will approach the owners to address.

**CF-2**    [18-0472](#)

Summary of Follow-Up Audits as of December 31, 2017

City Auditor John Herbst gave a summary of reporting procedures for follow-up audits given to the Commission and Audit Advisory Board.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question about the progress of City-owned properties to date. City Auditor Herbst explained the two

components, City owned property and Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) owned property. He explained the manner in which each are disposed.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question about CRA properties, City Manager Feldman explained details and procedures to address the disposition of properties located in the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights (NWPFH) CRA. City Manager Feldman deferred to D'Wayne Spence, Esq., Manager of the NWPFH CRA for further explanation. Mr. Spence expounded on buildable residential lots throughout the NWPFH CRA, confirming those that are currently out for bid. Those lots that will be closing in June 2018 will be put out for bid at the rate of ten residential lots each quarter.

Mr. Spence explained the manner in which the lots will be put on the market, confirming that they will be purchased individually. He noted that some are more desirable and others will need to be incentivized. Commissioner McKinzie confirmed the participation of local residents. Mayor Trantalis asked if there was a way to incentivize these lots for local residents. Mr. Spence deferred to the City Attorney's Office to address this question.

Mr. Spence expounded on the NWPFH CRA's Purchasing Assistance Program and required public process to sell CRA lots at less than market rate or give them away. Mayor Trantalis discussed the ability to pursue other alternatives for local residents. Mr. Spence discussed the plan to have a finished product available for purchase. Commissioner McKinzie gave his perspective on this issue.

Commissioner Glassman commented on the Audit Report's lengthy duration of items, harsh comments and findings that are in need of correction. City Manager Feldman responded, stating some items are tied to funding and others are tied to ongoing studies.

Mr. Herbst confirmed that at the request of the Audit Advisory Board, these audit items will be ranked according to "low", "medium" and "high" risk which will be included going forward. He expounded on audit "findings" and "observations", confirming they will be separated out in the future. Further comments and discussions ensued.

Averill Dorsett, Director of Human Resources, addressed Commissioner Glassman's concerns, explaining aspects of Civil Service and Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) which impact the Human Resources Department and succession planning. Ms. Dorsett explained efforts to

address these concerns. Further comments and discussions ensued on the topic of a Policy and Standards Manuals versus an Employee Handbook and additional audit concerns.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**BUS-1** [18-0230](#)

Annual Neighbor Survey Presentation

Mayor Trantalis recognized Kristin Tigner, Structural Innovation Manager. Ms. Tigner gave a brief overview of the 2017 Annual Neighbor Survey (Survey), commenting on various items included in the Survey. She introduced Mr. Chris Tatham of ETC Institute. Mr. Tatham gave a brief historic overview of work with the City. He reviewed and outlined the main priorities identified by Neighbors in the Survey.

***A copy of the 2017 Neighbor Survey is attached to these minutes.***

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's questions, Mr. Tatham expounded on neighbor concerns about the need for vision in various areas. Mr. Tatham said that half of households with school age children are enrolled in private schools. Those with children in public schools tend to rate public schools higher.

**BUS-2** [18-0471](#)

City Attorney Recruitment Status Update

City Manager Feldman gave a status update on this item, confirming that Staff is in the process of hiring the legal recruiting firm Colin Baenziger & Associates. He said that the approximate cost will be \$28,000 and expounded on vendor review and selection. In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question about the timeline for candidate interviews, City Manager Feldman said August 2018 is projected for interviews with the Commission. In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's question, City Manager Feldman confirmed three to five candidates will be interviewed.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's question, Mayor Trantalis said that compensation for the Interim City Attorney will be addressed at tonight's Commission Regular Meeting.

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

[18-0475](#)

The City Commission will meet privately pursuant to Florida Statute,

Section 286.011(8) concerning:

Anthony Stone, et al. v. City of Fort Lauderdale  
Case No. 17-61211-CIV-DIMITROULEAS/SNOW

### **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the Commission Conference Meeting at 3:30  
p.m.