

City of Fort Lauderdale

<https://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

www.fortlauderdale.gov/fltv

www.youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale

Cable Television - Comcast Channel 78 and AT&T U-verse Channel 99



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

1:30 PM

City Hall - City Commission Chambers
100 North Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor

BEN SORENSEN Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District IV

HEATHER MORAITIS Commissioner - District I

STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District II

ROBERT L. McKINZIE Commissioner - District III

GREG CHAVARRIA, City Manager

DAVID R. SOLOMAN, City Clerk

ALAIN E. BOILEAU, City Attorney

PATRICK REILLY, Interim City Auditor

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trantalis called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commission Members Present: Commissioner Moraitis, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Commissioner Robert L. McKinzie (arrived at 1:38 p.m.), Vice Mayor Ben Sorensen and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Also Present: Assistant City Manager Greg Chavarria, City Clerk David R. Soloman, City Attorney Alain E. Boileau

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COMMISSION

[22-0368](#)

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

***CEMETERY SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES (CSBT)
MARCH 10, 2022***

Communication to the City Commission:

Motion made by Mr. Nesbitt, seconded by Mr. Van Rees, to send a Communication to the Commission to endorse or support the addition of two Family Service Coordinators and one Administrative position to the cemetery system and that the recommendation be forwarded to the Director of Parks and Recreation. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Phil Thornburg, Parks and Recreation Department Director. Mr. Thornburg explained this communication, commented on the CSBT's endorsement of this recommendation and confirmed related budget process discussions with the City Manager.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 [22-0178](#)

Medical Director Report from Fire Rescue - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Fire-Rescue Department Chief (Chief) Rhoda Mae Kerr provided background information on this Agenda item, the *Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue (FLFR) Support Services Division Medical Director Report (Report)*.

Fire-Rescue Department Assistant Chief (Assistant Chief) Stephen Shaw, provided a brief synopsis of the Report.

A copy of the revised Report is attached to the minutes.

Commissioner Glassman requested any future updates to Agenda backup information be highlighted for ease of reference. He discussed his recollection of discussions last year regarding the Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Department's change in Medical Directors.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Assistant Chief Shaw confirmed previous accreditations and current reaccreditations by the *Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS)*. Assistant Chief Shaw confirmed current and prior policy regarding the administration of *Narcan* in the field and commented on related details.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Assistant Chief Shaw said he would verify the wording of *Emergency Triage, Treatment, and Transport Model (ET3 Model)* initiatives in the Report. There will be a determination regarding the deployment of emergency treatment initiatives involving telemedicine, providing the advantage of not transporting patients to the hospital.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on concerns about insurance impacting a patient's level of care and noted emergency treatment is the priority. Assistant Chief Shaw confirmed the FLFR's primary focus is the treatment and care of patients and commented on related details.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding the *ET3 Model* applying to *Medicare* and *Medicaid* patients, Chief Kerr clarified it is an intensive federally funded pass-through program for emergency triage, treatment, and transport to the appropriate facility. The *ET3 Model* allows the treatment and transport agency payment when transporting patients to non-emergency room sites. Chief Kerr explained it is a collaborative program, and there is no liability to the City. She noted this type of integrated mobile health has a cost, expounded on details, and discussed ongoing efforts to include the *ET3 Model* in FLFR protocols. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's questions, Chief Kerr confirmed the relationship with Broward Health and FLFR Medical Director Dr. James Roach is stronger than ever. She remarked on positive feedback received about Dr. Roach from the CEO of Broward Health and confirmed FLFR is receiving more individual attention than before.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's questions, Dr. Roach confirmed a FLFR Paramedic Firefighter had fully recovered. Dr. Roach confirmed his satisfaction as the Medical Director and expounded on achievements and related details.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's questions regarding the role and interaction of Dr. Roach with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD), City Attorney Boileau commented on items included in Dr. Roach's contract and cited examples. Dr. Roach said specialty units such as *SWAT* would be trained to handle traumatic injuries and the administration of *Narcan*. Dr. Roach cited related examples and remarked on details.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Jacquelyn Scott, 1626 SE 1st Street. Ms. Scott commented on her positive view of the FLFR, its history and concerns related to *Broward County's 911 Emergency Dispatch Services (County 911 Services)*.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on previous discussions and costs related to initiating City 911 Emergency Dispatch Services (City 911 Services) and commented on the opportunity for Staff to research a different approach. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on concerns about emergency response times raised at the District 2 Pre-Agenda Meeting. In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding a strategy to address, Chief Kerr said FLFR has little control over *County 911 Services* response timeline. She explained the FLFR's use of mapping systems to aid in response times and remarked on other ongoing efforts.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's question regarding obtaining an analysis of the response timeline of *County 911 Services*, Chief Kerr explained that information would need to be provided by Broward County. Staff is preparing a report for the City Manager and requesting emergency purchases that include a data warehouse. It would provide FLFR and FLPD access to all computer assisted design (CAD) data to generate City-wide reports regarding response times and other information.

Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on the importance of improving *911 Service* response times. Chief Kerr concurred and commented on the numerous ways to operate a public safety answering point and her experience. Further comment and discussion ensued on the City having its own *911 Emergency Dispatch Center (City 911 Center)*.

Mayor Trantalis recognized William Brown, 112 N. Birch Road, and *Central Beach Alliance (CBA)* President. Mr. Brown discussed positive feedback received from FLFR firefighters. He remarked on the cost-benefit of integrated mobile health and his viewpoint of 911 Services. He encouraged the Commission to consider establishing a Fire Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Board to guide and support FLFR in programs included in the Report.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's questions, Police Chief Patrick Lynn commented on challenges related to establishing a *City 911 Emergency Dispatch Center*. Police Chief Lynn confirmed he would prepare a list of pros, cons, and cost for the Commission. He remarked it will be a significant undertaking from a cost perspective and the ability to ensure consistent staffing. Chief Lynn commented on experiences related to *911 Service* and noted that only two (2) Broward County cities have an independent *Emergency Dispatch Center*, Coral Springs and Plantation.

Commissioner McKinzie remarked on the need for new data before making a decision and a possible opportunity to coordinate a *City 911 Emergency Dispatch Center* with the new Public Safety Facility. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding investigating all options.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [22-0398](#)

Discussion Regarding the Appointment of Interim City Auditor - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Patrick Reilly, CPA, 184 N.W. 114th Lane, Coral Springs. Mr. Reilly provided introductory comments and reviewed his resume and qualifications.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' questions, Mr. Reilly confirmed his twenty (20) years of management experience, managing between twenty (20) and twenty-five (25) staff members. Mr. Reilly confirmed the ability to work in person full-time.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's questions, Mr. Reilly explained his involvement with bonds and audits of various types of contracts related to materials and maintenance operations.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's question regarding interaction with or knowing any current City audit team members, Mr. Reilly commented on the prior City Auditor being a prior Broward County School Board Audit Committee Member. Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on the role of Interim City Auditor. Mr. Reilly explained details of his professional audit experience and cited examples. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Moises D. Ariza, *Marcum, LLP (Marcum)* Partner. Mr. Ariza introduced Scott Montgomery, who would serve as Interim City Auditor. Mr. Ariza commented on the history, qualifications and experience of *Marcum* and Mr. Montgomery's anticipated work schedule overseeing the Office of the City Auditor.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, Mr. Ariza explained similar work assignments for other Florida municipalities requiring less than a five (5) day work week. Mr. Montgomery confirmed the anticipated two (2) day work week schedule. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding *Marcum's* hourly rate and related details.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his viewpoint and the need for a full-time Interim City Auditor. Commissioner Moraitis concurred. She expounded on her viewpoint regarding the Office of the City Auditor and Staff working in person. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Moraitis remarked on the need for the Interim City Auditor to hire and fire personnel in conjunction with Tarlesha Smith, Assistant City Manager and Human Resources Director. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis concurred with Commissioner Moraitis' recommendation and explained his viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued on moving forward. There was a consensus for Audit Staff to return to the office for a forty (40) hour work week. Ms. Smith concurred and remarked on the reasons for needing a full time person in the position of Interim City Auditor with the proper authority and leadership to oversee Audit Staff. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Attorney Boileau provided his legal perspective and cautioned the Commission on getting involved in personnel issues. Ms. Smith

confirmed she would work with the Interim City Auditor to ensure they are familiar with the City's policies and procedures.

Commissioner McKinzie noted the need to provide the Interim City Attorney with the necessary authority. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Moraitis recommended offering the Interim City Auditor position to Mr. Reilly. Vice Mayor Sorensen, Commissioner Glassman, Commissioner McKinzie and Mayor Trantalis concurred.

BUS-2 [22-0024](#)

Street Light Master Plan Presentation - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Enrique Sanchez, Parks and Recreation Department Deputy Director, introduced consultants from *Kimley-Horn and Associates (Kimley-Horn)*, who prepared the Master Lighting Plan Report and narrated the presentation entitled *City of Fort Lauderdale Lighting Master Plan*.

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

Matthew Fursetzer, *Kimley-Horn*, confirmed they are seeking input and comments from the Commission to finalize the Lighting Master Plan and start implementing these improvements.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' questions regarding requiring *Florida Power and Light (FPL)* to have the same light and color. Mr. Fursetzer confirmed the recommendation for consistent, standardized lighting is included in the FPL catalog and are similar to the roadway lights on corridors maintained by the City. He remarked on related details.

Commissioner Moraitis commented on the need for lighting consistency in District 1 and the ability to address small areas and include in the Lighting Master Plan.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding pilot programs and jurisdiction, Mr. Fursetzer explained corridors identified as lighting pilot projects are high-volume corridors with a higher likelihood of accidents. The City receives reimbursement for lighting maintenance following roadway construction projects. Part of upgrading lighting corridors along *Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)* facilities would involve the City coordinating with *FDOT* to upgrade, and City recommendations are

in the *Lighting Master Plan* based on the color type and consistency.

Commissioner McKinzie commented on his viewpoint regarding consistency and neighborhoods that provided lighting input and made recommendations to meet criteria. He explained his perspective regarding lighting concerns, including pedestrian lighting safety on the beach. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding the best options moving forward.

Mr. Fursetzer reiterated the concept and explained that during FDOT corridor lighting installation studies, the City will coordinate with FDOT Staff to ensure it is aware of *Lighting Master Plan* criteria and request upgraded lighting as part of FDOT's reimbursement to the City for maintenance. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mr. Sanchez commented on the \$9,100,000 cost, half of which is for FDOT roadways, and the other half of lighting is owned by the City or FPL. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's questions regarding pilot programs in neighborhoods, Mr. Fursetzer noted *Melrose Park*, and *Tarpon River* neighborhoods. Mr. Sanchez commented on existing neighborhood lighting that is not consistent enough to comply with lighting standards and explained related recommendations. The *Lighting Master Plan* is to guide future development initiatives. The pilot program is based on crime data and crash data to create standards for appropriate lighting levels based on traffic and the size and features of roadways. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner McKinzie confirmed his positive view of the *Lighting Master Plan* and suggested directing City Manager Lagerbloom to return with complete information for a Commission decision.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's question, Mr. Fursetzer said there is an active Public Works Department (Public Works) project in *Melrose Park* to add lighting, and Public Works has been working with FPL. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner McKinzie expounded on funding, the need for lighting in *Melrose Park* and the need for the Commission to revisit.

Commissioner Glassman noted the importance of the *Lighting Master Plan*. In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Mr. Fursetzer explained the *Lighting Master Plan Executive Summary* goals were

developed using community input, including a virtual public outreach meeting in September 2021. Mr. Fursetzer expounded on recommendations and details.

Commissioner Glassman commented on neighbor input regarding lighting outages and explained safety concerns related to beach lighting on the barrier island. Mr. Fursetzer confirmed working with *FDOT* and the *Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)* to install lighting along the entire west side of State Road A1A (A1A) and explained related details. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Mr. Fursetzer confirmed the planned A1A lighting project is part of the *A1A Streetscape Improvement Project* and is anticipated to be completed by the end of the year.

BUS-3 [22-0246](#)

Use of Glufosinate (Roundup) - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Phil Thornburg, Parks and Recreation Department Director, provided an overview of this Agenda item and related history. Mr. Thornburg recommended the Commission revisit its previous position to not use *Glyphosate (Roundup)* to assist with weed control when required. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, City Attorney Boileau provided his legal viewpoint regarding *Roundup* usage. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Mr. Thornburg explained *Roundup/Prosecutor* would not be used on a broad basis. He remarked on efforts to provide notice on areas treated by other means. Sidewalks treated for weeds with *Roundup* do not have signage.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding *Roundup* usage in dog parks, Mr. Thornburg confirmed sidewalk treatment, but not the entire dog park. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Assistant City Manager Greg Chavarria explained related EPA certifications, licenses, and safety standards of the Parks and Recreation Department Staff, which also applies to City contractors.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Troy Liggett, 707 NE 17th Court. Mr. Liggett spoke in opposition to *Roundup* usage.

Mayor Trantalis noted a consensus to direct Staff to resume use of *Roundup*.

BUS-4 [22-0399](#)

Redistricting Report and Map Options Prepared by Florida Atlantic University - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized James Gammack-Clark, *Florida Atlantic University (FAU)*. Mr. Gammack-Clark narrated a slide presentation and provided an overview of the redistricting map alternatives.

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

The Commission requested at least one (1) new map that created alternatives using the *U.S. 2020 Census (2020 Census)* data. Based on the *2020 Census* data, the population on April 1, 2020 was 182,760, which calculates to an average population of 45,690 for each District. He confirmed efforts to follow Commission direction to not split neighborhoods where possible and explained the current district deviation is twenty point twenty-five percent (20.25%) between all four (4) districts with a spread of twelve-point ninety-nine percent (12.99%), which exceeds the maximum ten percent (10%) standard legal protocol. Each revised map alternative meets standard district guidelines and Charter requirements, improves population equity, and does not arbitrarily dilute minority populations, and is consistent with the *1965 Voting Rights Act*. Consideration was given to comments received from communities, neighbors, and the Commission.

In response to Commission Glassman's question, Mr. Gammack-Clark remarked on goals to ensure district boundaries align with main roadways where possible and achieving compactness. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's question, Mayor Trantalis confirmed Commissioner McKinzie would have the same opportunity to point out ideas and recommendations for redistricting map alternatives.

Mr. Gammack-Clark reviewed each redistricting map alternative and explained related calculations, adjustments, community outreach, and Commission feedback. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding district boundaries, compactness and neighborhood feedback.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Mary Peloquin, 2510 NE 10th Court, *Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations* President. Ms. Peloquin

confirmed outreach to neighborhood civic associations and a consensus to select Redistricting Map Alternative Six (6). She explained her viewpoint as a *Coral Ridge Association* Board Member.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Fred Nesbitt, 3900 Galt Ocean Mile, *Galt Mile Community Association* President. Mr. Nesbitt commented on his viewpoint regarding this Agenda item and explained related details.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Troy Liggett, 707 NE 17th Court, and *Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association (MRTNA)* President. Mr. Liggett commented on *MRTNA*'s preference for Redistricting Map Alternative Seven (7).

Mayor Trantalis recognized Joanne Robinson, *Harbor Inlet Association* President. Ms. Robinson confirmed support for remaining in District 4 and explained related details. She noted that Annette Ross, who had to leave the meeting, was in support of Redistricting Map Alternative Six (6).

Mayor Trantalis remarked that the Commission would vote on the selection of a redistricting map at tonight's Regular Meeting.

Each member of the Commission provided their perspective and comments. Commissioner Moraitis confirmed her support of Redistricting Map Alternative Nine (9). Commissioner McKinzie confirmed his support of Redistricting Map Alternatives eight (8) or nine (9). Commissioner Glassman confirmed his support of Redistricting Map Alternative Six (6) and requested a slight adjustment of a small portion east of Federal Highway. Vice Mayor Sorensen confirmed his support of Redistricting Map Alternative Six (6). Further comment and discussion ensued of possible Redistricting Map adjustments.

City Attorney Boileau commented on his legal perspective on this topic.

Mr. Gammack-Clark recommended the Commission select one of the alternatives presented by *FAU*. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis requested *FAU* present a Redistricting Map Alternative Six A (6A). Mr. Gammack-Clark confirmed and commented on the need for related details, information, and sufficient time to generate that Redistricting Map Alternative. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding proposed changes and options related to a Commission vote at tonight's Regular Meeting.

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, City Attorney Boileau explained redistricting takes effect upon Commission adoption of the Ordinance at the Second Reading.

Commissioner Moraitis discussed the possibility of instituting informal neighbor advisory boards to address community center programming opportunities. City Attorney Boileau explained the options. Neighbors could voluntarily meet and communicate with the Parks and Recreation Department Staff but would not be an entity formally created by the City.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's questions, Ben Rogers, Transportation and Mobility Department Director, provided an update regarding the redesign of *Las Olas Boulevard* and *Stantec's* financial analysis report, which is anticipated to be received in the next few weeks and followed by meetings with the City Manager to determine the next steps.

Mr. Rogers provided an update on the new federal courthouse. He explained ongoing work and coordination with *AT&T* and the *General Services Administration (GSA)* regarding easements and vacation of one of the roadways where *AT&T* has a major utility line. Efforts are ongoing with *GSA* to relocate the utility line around the site perimeter, allowing the roadway to be vacated and allowing the project to advance. Mr. Rogers expounded on related details.

Assistant City Manager Greg Chavarria provided an update regarding the Noise Ordinance. The *Noise Ordinance Committee (NOC)* will meet next week to discuss how Police Officers handle noise-related matters and the special events process. The *NOC* will meet to review Request for Proposals (RFP) solicitations for a consultant when received. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Alan Dodd, Public Works Department Director, provided an update on the *Edgewood and River Oaks* neighborhood stormwater systems. He explained both are ahead of schedule and explained related details.

Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Public Works Department Director - Sustainability, provided an update on *Tarpon River* dredging. Staff

issued a notice to proceed, and the vendor is onsite. Staff is working with various property owners to resolve issues within the navigable waterway, the relocation of boats, to allow access for the vendor's barge from the dredging location to its operating area. Total mobilization is anticipated within two (2) weeks.

Vice Mayor Sorensen discussed positive discussions and coordination with neighbors regarding the *Tree Ordinance*.

Vice Mayor Sorensen remarked on the upcoming *Fort Lauderdale Air Show* and *Fleet Week*. Further comment and discussion ensued on details related to *Fleet Week*.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's question regarding an update on waterway cleanup efforts, Dr. Gassman explained the funds for the *Protein Skimmer Pilot Program* were spent. The staff report indicated it did not provide the level of cleanliness expected. Mayor Trantalis explained his understanding of the staff report. Dr. Gassman explained details related to protein skimming technology. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor Sorensen recommended keeping the protein skimming technology as an option. Mayor Trantalis confirmed bringing this topic back for discussion at a future Conference Meeting.

Mayor Trantalis commented on requests for available equipment for the City to send to Ukraine, i.e., bulletproof vests, helmets, first aid supplies, and requested Commission feedback. Commission Members concurred. Mayor Trantalis requested Assistant City Manager Chavarria follow up. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis updated the Commission on the proposed *Joint Government Campus* with the *Broward County (County) Commission* and remarked on related details. He commented on concerns, including costs and the timeline, options moving forward, and the need for Commission feedback and a decision. Mayor Trantalis remarked on his understanding of the County's plans to disperse its operations throughout the County and the City's plans to consolidate its operations at one (1) location. Commissioner Glassman confirmed the City's plans. Further comment and discussion ensued.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

Assistant City Manager Greg Chavarria said a Commission *Shade*

Meeting will be held on the 8th Floor of the City Hall Building.

Mayor Trantalis confirmed the *Shade Meeting* will occur following the *Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board Meeting*.

ADJOURN

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.