

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, August 19, 2025

1:30 PM

**Broward Center for the Performing Arts - Mary N. Porter Riverview
Ballroom - 201 SW 5th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312**

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor

JOHN C. HERBST Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District 1

STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District 2

PAM BEASLEY-PITTMAN Commissioner - District 3

BEN SORENSEN Commissioner - District 4

RICHELLE WILLIAMS, City Manager

DAVID R. SOLOMAN, City Clerk

D'WAYNE M. SPENCE, Interim City Attorney

PATRICK REILLY, City Auditor

CALL TO ORDER

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

COMMISSION QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Commission Members Present: Commissioner Steven Glassman, Commissioner Pamela Beasley-Pittman, Commissioner Ben Sorensen, and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

Commission Member Not Present: Vice Mayor John C. Herbst

Also Present: City Manager Rickelle Williams, City Clerk David R. Soloman, Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence, and City Auditor Patrick Reilly

COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION

[25-0689](#)

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

*Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board (PRAB)
May 28, 2025*

Communication to the Commission

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

Mayor Trantalis recognized Joy Oglesby, PRAB Chair. Chair Oglesby explained details of the PRAB's Communication advocating to retain the two (2) South Beach basketball courts (basketball courts) at their existing location. She expounded on the reasoning and the unanimous position of the PRAB.

Commissioner Glassman clarified the City's position regarding this topic, noting that the basketball courts would not be eliminated but would be relocated due to the City's Interlocal Agreement (Agreement) with the Bahia Mar Community Development District (BMCDD).

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the PRAB's discussion on this topic in January 2024, when the Commission was considering the Agreement, Ms. Oglesby reiterated the PRAB's

position. She noted the need to review the PRAB's January 2024 Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Glassman commented that the BMCDD has indicated it would not agree to keeping the basketball courts at their current location. He expounded on his understanding of the BMCDD's recent position to amend the Agreement that would fund numerous improvements at the site, including the relocation of the basketball courts, installation of four (4) pickleball courts, new picnic benches and grills, and new fitness equipment at this location (Improvements). Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question, City Manager Rickelle Williams confirmed her attendance at a recent BMCDD Board Meeting and confirmed the intent of the BMCDD Board, as expressed via a motion agreeing to fund the Improvements. City Manager Williams remarked potentially using Parks Bond funding to supplement Improvements.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, City Manager Williams confirmed BMCDD's commitment to fund up to \$1,000,000 of Improvements. Commissioner Sorensen commented on the additional \$1,300,000 in Parks Bond Funding to augment the entire beach.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question, City Manager Williams confirmed staff's preliminary work and the availability of a presentation to identify some possible alternate sites for the basketball courts. City Manager Williams said that they would need to proceed through regulatory and environmental permitting to finalize the location.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, City Manager Williams estimated an approximate two (2) month timeline to develop the concept plan for relocation of the basketball courts that would be based upon Commission direction. Commissioner Glassman said he is ready to move forward and expounded on his viewpoint. City Manager Williams confirmed that with Commission direction, staff will move forward. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question, Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence clarified information associated with an amendment to the Agreement. The City and BMCDD must mutually agree to amend the Agreement to authorize and fund relocation of the new basketball courts and other Improvements.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Manager Williams reiterated details of the BMCDD Board's agreement to fund the Improvements.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Interim City Attorney Spence clarified details regarding the process moving forward. Commissioner Sorensen commented on his understanding of the options going forward that would maintain basketball courts in the beach area. Ms. Oglesby commented on the need to determine the feasibility of related matters and cited examples.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his understanding and confirmed Commission consensus for staff to pursue an amendment to the Agreement and expounded on related details.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ben Rogers, Assistant City Manager. Mr. Rogers clarified and explained details related to this discussion during his attendance, along with City Manager Williams, at the recent BMCDD Board Meeting, which included discussions regarding the current Agreement and BMCDD's motion in favor of amending it. Mr. Rogers noted that the BMCDD is not obliged to fund the relocation of the two (2) basketball courts. Mayor Trantalis discussed that request and memorializing all other Improvements in an amendment to the Agreement, confirming the goal is to enhance the experience in the area.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman confirmed the large number of neighbor emails that her office received regarding the relocation of the basketball courts. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Mr. Rogers explained staff's understanding and perspective, noting that the motion the BMCDD Board put forward at its recent meeting was to allow additional uses of the BMCDD's \$1,000,000, which includes the basketball courts and other Improvements. Staff needs to work through the process to amend the Agreement to include Improvements and possible extension of the timeline.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, City Manager Williams confirmed that the BMCDD Board confirmed its willingness to memorialize the Improvements in an amendment to the Agreement.

Commissioner Sorensen reiterated details to be included in the amended Agreement. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, City Manager Williams confirmed that staff will expedite an amendment to the Agreement, anticipated to be completed within the next few months.

*Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB)
June 11, 2025*

Communication to the Commission

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

Mayor Trantalis recognized Daphnee Sainvil, Public Affairs Manager. Ms. Sainvil explained details of the Communication, and noted the recommendations were included in the backup information.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman discussed her support of the recommendations and emphasized the need for in-person, paper-based guidance for residents who are less comfortable with online processes. Ms. Sainvil confirmed the availability of staff business coordinators to provide one-on-one assistance to residents and cited related options. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair's votes against the Communication, Ms. Sainvil explained that it was due to concerns related to redundancy, as many recommendations are already being implemented. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding efforts to focus on economic development in the City, Ms. Sainvil commented on outreach to businesses that are considering relocating to the area. She explained how the City differentiates itself, provides unique economic development offerings, and cited examples.

City Manager Williams confirmed that if the FY 2026 Budget is approved, the Economic Development Division will be established within Community Services, with a stronger City-specific focus. Commissioner Glassman expounded on the importance and support of that initiative. Commissioner Sorensen concurred, commenting on his efforts in this regard and citing examples.

Mayor Trantalis agreed with Commissioner Glassman's perspective,

discussed the importance of staff's proactive efforts to focus on businesses considering relocation to the area, ensuring they choose the City, and expounded on his perspective. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis confirmed the Commission's support of establishing the Economic Development Division.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed stakeholder support to establish a Downtown Business Improvement District (BID). Mayor Trantalis concurred, provided an overview of BIDs, cited examples, and commented on related information. Commissioner Sorensen said he would work with City Manager Williams toward establishing a Downtown BID.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman requested consideration of a Citywide approach to ensure equitable investment across all Districts and expounded on her viewpoint.

Commissioner Glassman commented on his viewpoint and noted that the intent of the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and establishment of Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc., is to drive and support economic development in their respective areas of the City. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis confirmed Commission support for implementing EDAB's recommendations to strengthen City-specific economic development efforts, exploring a Downtown BID, and ensuring equitable opportunities Citywide.

Homeless Advisory Committee (HAC)
July 7, 2025

Communication to the Commission

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

Mayor Trantalis recognized Paula Yukna, HAC Chair. Ms. Yukna explained the details of the Communication. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chris Cooper, Assistant City Manager. In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Mr. Cooper confirmed that the current ordinance limits the number of beds for the

homeless and must be amended to expand the capacity. Staff is working with the Broward Partnership to increase bed capacity to three hundred (300) as requested by the HAC. Mr. Cooper explained staff efforts for the opportunity to establish a *GoFundMe* page to alleviate panhandling at City intersections. Mr. Cooper will update the Commission when research regarding a path forward is determined.

Commissioner Sorensen noted that the *Safe Parking Program* will be operated at provider sites in partnership with and funded with the assistance of Broward County.

Mayor Trantalis requested that City Manager Williams continue the momentum and efforts associated with obtaining additional temporary and supportive housing solutions for the homeless. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on the positive engagement with stakeholders to explore opportunities with developers and nonprofits to repurpose properties such as older hotels and apartments into homelessness housing along with case management services. He also discussed the importance of overcoming resident opposition and engaging residents Citywide in supporting homelessness solutions. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman commented on the need to obtain neighbor cooperation across the City to find solutions to homelessness and said that no area of the City should be exempt from providing opportunities to house unsheltered residents.

Commissioner Sorensen concurred and emphasized that it is more cost-effective to house people with case management than to leave them unhoused, and remarked on the rationale of both economic and community value.

Mayor Trantalis directed staff to amend an existing Ordinance to expand bed capacity, move forward with the Safe Parking Program, and continue pursuit of innovative housing solutions in collaboration with Broward County, nonprofits, and private partners.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [25-0698](#)

Outdoor Event Ordinance Presentation - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Carl Williams, Parks & Recreation

Department Director. Mr. Williams provided an overview of the process and information, as well as previous Commission feedback related to the current Outdoor Event Ordinance included in the Agenda backup. Mr. Williams narrated a presentation entitled *Outdoor Event Ordinance Presentation*.

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

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question, Mr. Williams explained that nineteen (19) street closures would be allowed over a period of one (1) year.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the rationale for the Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Advisory Board's (PRAB) position on not favoring fees for ticketed events or a fee reduction for large-scale outdoor special events (Events), Mr. Williams explained a fee increase would hinder ticketed events, specifically, those involving walks and runs. The PRAB's rationale for not supporting a fee reduction for Events was due to the need for consistency. Commissioner Glassman commented on his viewpoint and said that he was not in agreement.

Commissioner Glassman expressed concern about reducing the number of Events on the barrier island, elaborated on his viewpoint, including acknowledging the concerns of residents and recognizing the need to maintain economic benefits. He confirmed his opposition to another layer of approval, an Events Review Board, and noted his satisfaction with the current process. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman requested a comparative analysis of Event fees from peer cities in South Florida and expounded on his perspective regarding the viewpoint of barrier island residents, the matrix included in the presentation, and the need to find a balance. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen remarked on the negative impact of Events on residents in the southern area of the barrier island, confirmed his viewpoint regarding the need to reduce the number of Events with road closures, cited examples, and expounded on his viewpoint. He discussed limiting the number of Events with road closures and the method of selection.

Commissioner Glassman reiterated his opposition to creating an Events

Review Board and remarked that the current Event review process is sufficient. He commented on the consideration of limiting the number of Events, expressed a preference for a balanced approach that recognizes the positive economic impact of Events held in the slow season, and noted concerns about squeezing out smaller events and inadvertently creating more large-scale Events. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis discussed his perspective and noted the value of the City's identity as a family-friendly beach destination with activities. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding the City's consistency in Event permit fees.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Lisa Namour, Beach Business Improvement District (BBID) Chair. Chair Namour discussed the BBID's mission and highlighted its significant investment in Events this year, citing the positive economic impact and providing examples. Chair Namour expounded on the BBID's perspective on increased outdoor event costs, regulatory hurdles, capping the number of Events on the barrier island, and the need to ensure that Events with positive and high economic impacts on BBID businesses remain.

Mayor Trantalis recognized William Brown, Central Beach Alliance (CBA) President. Mr. Brown discussed the viewpoint of the CBA and acknowledged the impact of Events on other areas. Chair Brown suggested a joint workshop among the Budget Advisory Board, the BBID, and the Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Board to discuss ticket surcharges and price-related distinctions associated with Events to achieve balanced policy recommendations. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Count LF Chudzikiewicz Chodkiewicz, 1141 Bailey Avenue, Macon, GA. He discussed his viewpoint regarding this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Von Freeman, Audacy Communications/Riptide Event promoter. Mr. Freeman discussed his viewpoint regarding this Agenda item related to profit and loss factors of Events and expounded on related information.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chris Stacey, Rock the Ocean Foundation, and Tortuga Music Festival Event promoter. Mr. Stacey discussed his viewpoint regarding this Agenda item, requested careful consideration when considering increasing Event fees, and noted the positive

economic, environmental, and social benefits associated with Events.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Jim Reid, Tortuga Music Festival (Tortuga) promoter. Mr. Reid discussed his viewpoint regarding this Agenda item and expounded on related information.

Mayor Trantalis noted the positive partnerships with prominent Events. He noted City-borne costs, bed tax revenue received by the County, and sales tax received by the State associated with Events. Mayor Trantalis remarked on the nationwide reduction in large Event ticket sales, noted that now may not be the time to raise Event fees, and expounded on his perspective.

Commissioner Sorensen acknowledged Mayor Trantalis' comments, noted the City is experiencing economic strain, commented on the need to find a middle ground, and expounded on his viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions, Mr. Stacey commented on his staff's ability to determine the economic impact of Tortuga and confirmed he would share that information with stakeholders. Commissioner Sorensen noted that City staff would evaluate that information and include it in a matrix. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding a proposed cap on Events and reasonable fees, Mr. Stacey said his team would work with City Manager Williams to determine a reasonable proposal and discussed his viewpoint, noting both an economic and environmental component. Commissioner Sorensen confirmed his support and expounded on his viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Williams recommended a workshop involving all stakeholders and discussed additional information. City Manager Williams concurred and explained the need to weigh all factors to arrive at a reasonable cap.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed staff recommendations included in the presentation and remarked on related impacts, including his support for beginning with limiting road closures on the barrier island to one (1) per month. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding limiting Event road-closures, including related implementation of Event approval on a first-come, first-served basis with priority given to legacy events.

Commissioner Glassman requested that staff provide the Commission with a list of the nineteen (19) large Events and commented on related details, including information regarding the best and worst-case scenarios.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman questioned scheduling and achieving a balance for nineteen (19) large Events throughout the year. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mr. Williams commented on staff's efforts to work with Event promoters to determine a balanced schedule.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Williams discussed staff's recommendation for a Civic Association Acknowledgement Form from areas impacted by an event to be submitted by the promoter. Commissioner Sorensen concurred with that recommendation and Commissioner Glassman's earlier comments that an additional Events Review Board is an unnecessary approval layer.

Commissioner Sorensen confirmed his support of limiting road closures, later consideration of the quiet weekend recommendation, and expounded on his viewpoint regarding strategic consideration of placing a cap on the number of events. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding weighing the impacts of all special event applications. Commissioner Sorensen reiterated his viewpoint regarding the large number of events on the barrier island and the negative traffic impact on the southern area of the barrier island.

BUS-2 [25-0699](#)

City-Produced Events: Sponsorships & Hospitality Areas -
(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Carl Williams, Parks & Recreation Department Director, narrated a presentation entitled *City-Produced Events: Sponsorships & Hospitality Areas*.

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

Mayor Trantalis concurred with staff's recommendations and confirmed the need to enhance City-sponsored events, elaborating on his perspective and citing examples, including the opportunity to collaborate with Inter Miami to relocate the venue for the New Year's Eve Celebration and the Centennial Anniversary to the stadium. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman concurred with staff's recommendations.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question about why the Great American Beach Party Event was not included in the recommendations, Mr. Williams explained that it has never had a hospitality area.

Commissioner Glassman concurred with the staff's recommendations. In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding unsuccessful efforts when seeking outside sponsorships, Mr. Williams explained that the six (6) City-sponsored event hospitality areas would have a standardized funding amount based on the Commission's decision to add or remove an event. Mayor Trantalis commented on the opportunity for sponsorships to enhance that funding. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman reiterated his support and commented on the need for a uniform approach. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed his viewpoint that tax dollars should not fund hospitality areas of City-sponsored events, but supports outside sponsorships of the hospitality areas. Mr. Williams noted efforts to standardize all City-sponsored events. Mayor Trantalis recommended the Commission consider this on a case-by-case basis.

Ben Rogers, Assistant City Manager, reviewed his understanding that the City would budget \$2,000 for each of the six (6) City-sponsored event hospitality areas while concurrently seeking sponsorships. Should a sponsorship opportunity not arise, staff would present a related agenda item for Commission approval. Mayor Trantalis confirmed. Mr. Rogers recommended that upcoming City-sponsored event plans be included in the City Manager's Report thirty (30) days before the event advising the Commission whether a sponsor has been identified. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman recommended a sixty (60) day window and commented on her viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mr. Williams' question regarding serving alcohol, Mayor Trantalis confirmed there would be a cash bar at City-sponsored events unless a sponsor funds those costs. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman remarked on liability-related concerns. Mr. Williams explained that a concessionaire would provide that alcohol beverage service in either scenario.

BUS-3 [25-0823](#)

Review of the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Needs Assessment Survey - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chris Cooper, Assistant City Manager. Mr. Cooper provided an overview of this Agenda item and confirmed the need for Commission feedback.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Rachel Williams, Housing & Community Development Manager. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Ms. Williams explained that the citizen survey is a requirement for the City to receive Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for unmet needs and mitigation activities related to disasters.

Mayor Trantalis discussed the community survey, noting its narrow focus on impacted residents. Ms. Williams explained this is a requirement of the process, expounded on survey outreach efforts that will include staff assistance, and confirmed the October 2, 2025, survey submission deadline. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding utilizing information gathered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency following the 2023 and 2024 disaster events, Ms. Williams confirmed the use of all available data and commented on related details. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman noted the use of additional local periodicals and other options, including *the Westside Gazette* publication, as well as community and faith-based publications, to inform impacted residents about the survey. Ms. Williams confirmed that staff will address those opportunities and said that all available databases are being accessed for neighbor outreach, citing examples.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions, Ms. Williams explained details and efforts to differentiate between property owners and property renters to determine the correct party to participate in programs and explained related information.

Commissioner Sorensen made a recommendation to include the caveat *resulting from the 2023 or 2024 flooding events* in survey questions. Ms. Williams concurred, explained there is an opening survey statement referencing that information, and said that the recommended language would be added to survey questions. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ashley Doussard, Strategic Communications Director. Ms. Doussard provided additional context and confirmed that

Strategic Communications staff will be working closely with Ms. Williams to ensure all available avenues and resources will be used for the required survey and public engagement.

BUS-4 [25-0805](#)

Invest Fort Lauderdale Overview and Next Steps - (Commission Districts 2 and 3)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Clarence Woods, Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Manager. Mr. Woods provided an overview of this Agenda item and narrated a presentation entitled *INVEST FORT LAUDERDALE*.

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

Mayor Trantalis discussed the need to establish a methodology for determining the Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. (IFL) Board of Directors (Board) as a 501 (c) (3) entity under Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requirements. Mr. Woods discussed the parameters and sources of IFL Board members, cited examples, and discussed related information. Interim City Attorney Spence clarified details of the IFL Board structure and representation. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis noted the challenges related to finding individuals with the appropriate background and the willingness to serve on the IFL Board. He confirmed the need to give preference to District Commission Member nominees whose District is most impacted by IFL. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Woods confirmed the need for an additional six (6) appointments to the IFL Board.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman requested that additional District 3 neighborhoods be included in the pool of potential IFL Board nominees, including the Historic Durrs Community Association, Home Beautiful Park Civic Association, Historic Dorsey-Riverbend, and Sweeting Estates.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Lynn Solomon, Assistant City Attorney III, Office of the City Attorney. Ms. Solomon explained aspects of IFL Board appointments by the City Commission functioning as the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Directors (Board). The CRA Board will have the power to appoint three (3) individuals to the IFL Board. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Ms. Solomon confirmed that the three (3) IFL Board Members would make the six (6) remaining IFL Board appointments. Further comment and discussion ensued.

BUS-5 [25-0778](#)

Discussion - Draft Ordinance Amending Section 2-281 - Method of Procurement to Add Provisions Governing the Public-Private Partnership Evaluation Process of the City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, staff indicated that this Agenda item is not time sensitive and would be deferred to a future Conference Meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

MGR-1 [25-0716](#)

City Commission Follow up Action Items - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Manager Rickelle Williams discussed her purchasing authority during the Commission's summer recess, which was not utilized, and confirmed that she will prepare a related written memorandum.

City Manager Williams introduced recently hired staff members, Brad Kane, Public Works Department Director, and Ronald McKinzie, Information Technology Services Department Director.

City Manager Williams updated the Commission on the City Attorney search process and the timeline. The timeline begins with the application deadline on August 22, 2025, and concludes on September 16, 2025, when the Commission will consider the City Attorney Search Committee's (CASC) recommended candidates. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Sorensen confirmed that Commission Members would conduct private interviews with the CASC's recommended candidates.

City Manager Williams discussed her June 16, 2025, memorandum outlining the potential acquisition of the federal courthouse property. Commission Members confirmed their interest in pursuing related discussions with GSA beginning in September 2025.

City Manager Williams commented on the August 22, 2025, deadline for submittals for the Holiday Park parking garage. A related memorandum will be provided to the Commission following the submittal deadline.

City Manager Williams discussed staff's efforts regarding the six (6) proposals received for the City Hall Project and expounded on details associated with the process.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the

Commission receiving a matrix for the six (6) unsolicited proposals before preparing a shortlist, City Manager Williams confirmed.

City Manager Williams discussed a recent Commission memorandum outlining aspects resulting from the July 28, 2025, *Industry Day Event* (Event) associated with the New River Crossing project (NRC Project) and expounded on related information.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ben Rogers, Assistant City Manager. Mr. Rogers discussed details of the Event, explained related follow-up efforts and commented on the next steps in the process.

City Manager Williams remarked on external factors that could impact the NRC Project, including the availability of State and federal funding and ongoing Brightline/FEC litigation.

In response to City Manager Williams' question, Mayor Trantalis and Commissioner Sorensen reaffirmed their support to continue prioritizing the NRC Project. Commissioner Sorensen commented on his ongoing efforts and discussions.

Mayor Trantalis discussed conversations with State Representative Chip LaMarca regarding potential State funding. State Representative LaMarca indicated he would provide an update to Mayor Trantalis. Mayor Trantalis noted concerns related to federal funding for the NRC Project.

City Manager Williams noted the County's upcoming October 1, 2025, deadline related to the NRC Project. Commissioner Sorensen pointed out that discussions with the County stakeholders have indicated an amenability to a deadline extension. Mayor Trantalis confirmed that staff should continue to move forward and seek an extension beyond the October 1, 2025, deadline.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the importance and need for a local consensus on the NRC Project before discussions on federal funding opportunities.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence discussed Senate Bill 180, Land Development Regulations Statute. The Statute prohibits local governments from adopting ordinances that would impose stricter comprehensive plans or land development regulations retroactively from August 1, 2024, through October 1, 2027. He expressed concern about the impact on Central City rezonings and other local initiatives and

discussed opposition efforts. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis confirmed a consensus that the City participates in a lawsuit with other municipalities in opposing the Statute and expounded on his viewpoint. Interim City Attorney Spence confirmed staff will bring forward a resolution in the lawsuit.

Interim City Attorney Spence discussed his interim appointment, which reaches one (1) year in October, 2025, and remarked on return to the role of Deputy City Attorney.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Interim City Attorney Spence suggested allowing another qualified attorney from the City Attorney's Office to step into the role of Interim City Attorney.

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

[25-0814](#)

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

City of Fort Lauderdale v. Pierce Goodwin Alexander & Linville, Inc., et al. Case No.: CACE24000625 (12)

Mayor Trantalis announced the commencement and details regarding the Executive Closed-Door Session.

Mayor Trantalis recessed the meeting at 4:37 p.m.

Mayor Trantalis reconvened the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

CITY COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

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

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman commented on the success of the *Sistrunk Empowerment Summit*, coordinated by staff, and its connection to the *I Am Sistrunk/We Are Sistrunk* initiative. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman remarked on her optimistic viewpoint regarding the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale's recent launch of a *Homeless Bus Project* offering free transportation to appointments in the City and County. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman discussed the success of

Summer Jamz 2025 at Mills Pond Park, and acknowledged the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on attending the Florida Intracoastal Navigation District (FIND) event, commenting on the District's important work and financial contributions to the City.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed the School Board of Broward County's (School Board) funding to City schools for a Sports Academy Program aimed at developing athletes, creating jobs in the sports industry, and improvements to athletic facilities at Sunrise Middle School. Mayor Trantalis acknowledged the efforts of School Board Member Dr. Allen Zeman in that funding effort.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on the need to address delayed payments from event promoters to Police and Fire personnel working special events. City Manager Williams confirmed that staff would address.

MAYOR'S REPORT

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Manager Williams explained the next steps in the procurement process for the City Hall Project that will include working with the City's Owners Representative to develop an evaluation matrix comparing the qualifications and experience of the six (6) entities that submitted proposals. Simultaneously, the Office of the City Attorney will be engaging outside counsel to facilitate negotiations with the selected entity.

Mayor Trantalis confirmed the need to accelerate the process, commented on his review of the six (6) submitted proposals and his viewpoint. He noted the significant increases in costs associated with delays, reiterating those financial implications. Further comment and discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.