

# City of Fort Lauderdale

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## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

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*

*WARREN STURMAN Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District IV*

*JOHN C. HERBST Commissioner - District I*

*STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District II*

*PAM BEASLEY-PITTMAN Commissioner - District III*

*GREG CHAVARRIA, 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 1:40 p.m.

## QUORUM ESTABLISHED

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

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

## OLD/NEW BUSINESS

### BUS-1 [23-0202](#)

Discussion on Extending the Duration of the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (NPF CRA) and Providing Direction to the Executive Director - (Commission Districts 2 and 3)

City Manager Chavarria provided an overview of this Agenda item.

Clarence Woods, Community Redevelopment Agency Manager, reviewed and commented on extending the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (NWPFH CRA) and discussed related details.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions regarding redundant efforts associated with the establishment of the City's non-profit Economic Development Corporation (EDC), Mr. Woods discussed the status of the EDC, which will carry on redevelopment activities following the sunset of the NWPFH CRA. Mr. Woods explained details of how the EDC will operate.

Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence clarified funding details associated with the NWPFH CRA and the governing State Statute. At the sunset of the NWPFH CRA, any redevelopment trust funds not expended in redevelopment activity must be returned to the various tax increment finance funding (TIFF) authorities and are not available to transfer to another entity, i.e., the EDC.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his viewpoint and remarked on the need for updates on approved projects that have yet to move forward and reallocating those funds. Mayor Trantalis commented on the success of the NWPFH CRA and the continued need to incentivize development and construction in the NWPFH CRA. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman confirmed the need to continue to address blight in the NWPFH CRA and remarked on the need for ongoing funding.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions regarding prior discussions regarding relying on TIFF funding to be put back in the General Fund, Commissioner Herbst remarked on past conversations with Broward County (County) during his tenure as City Auditor and as the Beach CRA sunset date was approaching. At that time, most of the blight in the Beach CRA had been redeveloped and is dissimilar to the NWPFH CRA. Commissioner Herbst discussed maintaining the County's NWPFH CRA TIFF funding and the need to keep the NWPFH CRA and its commitment to the community.

Mayor Trantalis discussed the annual budgeting of City tax revenue as a contribution to the EDC keeping the NWPFH CRA in place. Mayor Trantalis remarked the EDC would provide an opportunity to expand boundaries. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Laura Reece, Office of Management and Budget Department, narrated a slide presentation entitled *Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Area Tax Increment Financing Overview*.

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Ms. Reece confirmed the inflow of funds from CRA taxable values is part of future funding projections of the City beginning in 2025.

Commissioner Herbst remarked on the importance of the Commission having these conversations several years before the sunset date. Should there be a need for Staff to update their long-range planning, the earlier the Commission provides policy direction, the earlier Staff can build that direction into future assumptions. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on his understanding of the information in the presentation spreadsheet. Ms. Reece confirmed a conservative approach and said that information in the spreadsheet is based on various assumptions. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Herbst's question, Ms. Reece confirmed the assumptions included in the spreadsheet maintain the current millage rate with no increase.

Commissioner Herbst commented on the history of the NWPFH CRA and early funding efforts concentrated in Flagler Village, which will benefit projects in the NWPFH CRA area west of the railroad tracks. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Manager Chavarria confirmed Staff would follow up and request a formal response from Broward County about continuing to receive TIFF funding for the NWPFH CRA.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on the need for quarterly reports listing approved NWPFH CRA projects that have yet to move forward. City Manager Chavarria confirmed.

Commissioner Glassman discussed being more aggressive before the NWPFH CRA sunsets in November 2025 and the CRA Board receiving reports more frequently than once per quarter.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Interim City Attorney Spence confirmed he would research and advise about the ability to transfer remaining NWPFH CRA funds to the EDC.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman confirmed support of aggressively requesting an extension of the NWPFH CRA sunset date.

**BUS-2** [23-0134](#)

Discussion - Alarm Response Fee Revenue Allocations -  
(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis noted that Commissioner Beasley-Pittman requested this Agenda item.

Laura Reece narrated a presentation entitled *Discussion of Alarm Response Fee Revenue Allocations*.

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

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question regarding the lowered fee for more than six (6) Police Department alarm fee responses, Commissioner Herbst explained that when Staff developed this fee structure, it reached a point of diminishing returns because of occasional excessive malfunctioning alarms. Staff did not want this amount to become high and punitive. Fines were structured to encourage people to address and fix their alarms.

In response to Vice Mayor Sturman's questions, Ms. Reece explained alarm response fine details listed in the presentation. Staff developed a partial cost-of-service methodology, allowing escalation for unaddressed alarm issues. Initial fines are not full cost recovery, and the costs associated with multiple offenses reach full cost recovery.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question regarding how the Police Department and Fire-Rescue Department generate revenue, Ms. Reece explained it is limited as to what is authorized by State Statute and cited examples, including Police Department traffic citations, Fire Assessment fees for properties, Fire Inspection fees for large businesses, and billing insurance companies, Medicare and Medicaid for Emergency Rescue Services.

Commissioner Herbst provided additional background information regarding Staff's determination of alarm response fees. The fee schedule cannot exceed the reasonable cost of providing the service and is appropriate only up to the level of the cost of alarm response service. Charges above the cost of alarm response service would be punitive. It was recommended that the alarm response fee schedule be frequently revisited to account for increasing costs. Staff determined using a graduated fee was appropriate, and fees are capped at actual cost recovery.

In response to Vice Mayor Sturman's questions, Stephen Gollan, Fire-Rescue Department Chief, explained details regarding emergency medical service transport fees charged across the board, which differ from the levels of emergency medical service provided. Chief Gollan remarked that reimbursement of transport fees from private insurers is not as successful as Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement.

Chief Gollan explained that homeowners who cancel a residential alarm while Fire-Rescue is en route would not be charged. The Fire-Rescue Department will send a response unit for every commercial alarm to investigate and reset the alarm.

Police Chief Patrick Lynn clarified details related to 911 Emergency Services (911) response versus an automatic alarm response. In most cases, if a person calls and cancels an automatic alarm, there would not be a response or an alarm response fee. If a person calls 911 and cancels without a cancellation code or should the 911 Supervisor believe there are inappropriate circumstances, a Police Officer will respond.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on improved alarm company technology that hastens the process by using text messages to verify alarms.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman recommended allocating these fees to a specific fund versus the General Fund. In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's questions, Ms. Reece commented on the concept that costs for providing the alarm response service would go to a specific fund. She noted alarm response fees do not equal one hundred percent (100%) cost recovery.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman commented on the use of alarm response fees to fund increased staffing for Police Department and Fire-Rescue Department training (training).

City Manager Chavarria remarked on his understanding and explained alarm response fees are placed in the General Fund, which funds the Police Department and Fire-Rescue Departments. Staff will ensure funding is in place for ample training in the Police and Fire-Rescue departments when developing the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget.

Commissioner Herbst said should the Commission direct Staff, alarm response fees could be explicitly appropriated for training and explained related details. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding this revenue not being placed in the General Fund, Commissioner Herbst noted the multiple sources of revenue going into the General Fund. Staff would find other revenue sources or reduce expenses in other areas to balance the budget. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Interim City Attorney D'Wayne Spence discussed his legal perspective regarding appropriate alarm response fees. Further comment and discussion ensued.

**BUS-3** [23-0194](#)

Discussion - Melrose Park Neighborhood Streetlighting Project -  
(Commission District 3)

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman confirmed her request for this Melrose Park Neighborhood Streetlighting Project (Project) to be placed on a Conference Agenda.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Staff confirmed the presentation content is the same as the initial presentation on this topic, and only the dates were updated.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Omar Castellon, Public Works Department Assistant Director - Engineering. Mr. Castellon narrated a presentation entitled *New Streetlights Melrose Park*.

In response to Vice Mayor Sturman's question, Mayor Trantalis explained the reason this Project did not move forward when initially presented was due to neighborhood opposition and concerns related to the initial neighborhood survey.

Mr. Castellon continued the narration of the presentation.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's request for clarification, Mr. Castellon confirmed the proposed design of the streetlights would include concrete poles with aluminum masts.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Commissioner Beasley-Pittman commented on feedback from a portion of Melrose Park residents who indicated a desire for streetlights.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman noted her request to City Manager Chavarria for information regarding the initial neighborhood survey and its results, a catalog of Florida Power and Light (FPL) streetlighting, and whether the recommended streetlight poles are the type installed in other areas of the City.

Irina Tokar, Public Works Department Senior Project Manager, explained the design of the proposed streetlights, and confirmed that custom designs are cost-prohibitive.

In response to Vice Mayor Sturman's questions regarding the results of the initial neighborhood survey, Commissioner Beasley-Pittman remarked on feedback received from the neighborhood.

Commissioner Glassman commented on concerns regarding the initial Melrose Park neighborhood survey and the aesthetics of the proposed streetlights.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman remarked on two (2) differing amounts of streetlights proposed for the Project.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Linda Dawkins, 31 Berkeley Boulevard. Ms. Dawkins spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Craig Kamp, 711 Arizona Avenue. Mr. Kamp spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Cheryl Clayton, 650 Arizona Avenue. Ms. Clayton spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Christopher Persaud, 550 E. Campus Circle. Mr. Persaud spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Mr. Mohamed, 550 E. Campus Circle. Mr. Mohamed spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Anide Metellus-Thompson, 661 W. Melrose Circle. Ms. Metellus-Thompson spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Donna Guthrie, 401 SW 31st Avenue. Ms. Guthrie spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Yolanda Spence, 208 Utah Avenue. Ms. Spence spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Bevon Petit, 600 W. Melrose Circle. Ms. Petit spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Lezlye Williams, 466 E. Evanston Circle. Ms. Williams spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Godfrey Johnson, 600 Arizona Avenue. Mr. Johnson spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized George Johnson, 570 E. Campus Circle. Mr. Johnson spoke in opposition to this Agenda item.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman noted the need for a decision to align with the neighborhood's requests. She invited all Melrose Park and District 3 residents to attend and provide feedback at the District 3 Pre-Agenda Meeting at Riverland Park. Further comment and discussion



ensued.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman confirmed going forward, she will review related information requested from City Manager Chavarria and requested Staff move forward with another Melrose Park neighborhood streetlight survey to accurately gauge the position of the Melrose Park community. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Ms. Guthrie remarked on her understanding that Melrose Park was grandfathered in under Broward County Code following its annexation. Interim City Attorney Spence clarified Melrose Park was not grandfathered in. When this area was annexed, the City agreed to adopt a zoning ordinance maintaining the character of the Melrose Park neighborhood. It is included in sections of the Unified Land Development Regulations entitled Melrose Park Zoning. Previous Broward County Codes are not applicable.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Ms. Guthrie explained her understanding that an approval vote from the Melrose Park residents for changes to the neighborhood requires fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) homeowner approval. Commissioner Glassman asked this be researched and verified. Interim City Attorney Spence confirmed.

Commissioner Glassman requested City Manager Chavarria ensure the new survey contains clear, precise information about what is being proposed. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman concurred on the survey information being clear and concise. Further comment and discussion ensued.

**BUS-4** [23-0225](#)

Discussion - Water Treatment Plant Grant Opportunities Under Review - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis provided background information regarding this Agenda item and possible federal infrastructure legislation providing grant funding opportunities for costs associated with the new water treatment plant.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Daphnee Sainvil, Government Affairs & Economic Development Manager, confirmed the City's public-private partnership (P3) for construction of the new water treatment plant should not impact the ability to apply for federal grant funding opportunities, providing the City is the entity applying for the grant funding and maintains ownership of the water treatment plant.

Ms. Sainvil narrated a slide presentation entitled *Water Treatment Plant*

*Federal Grant Opportunities.*

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

There were no questions from Commission Members.

**BUS-5 [23-0248](#)**

Discussion - Water Treatment Plant Next Steps - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Commissioner Herbst suggested that discussions regarding the funding for the water treatment plant should have occurred before Commission approval of the project and recommended funding be determined before commitment to project delivery.

City Manager Chavarria noted previous funding discussions and expounded on related details. Mayor Trantalis commented on his perspective and noted new federal grant funding program opportunities were not previously available. Commissioner Herbst expounded on his viewpoint. Commissioner Glassman remarked that the City is in an improved position to apply for grant funding due to the City's readiness to move forward with the project.

Alan Dodd, Public Works Department Director, narrated a slide presentation entitled *Prospect Lake Clean Water Center* (Project).

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Dodd confirmed that water treated at the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant (Fiveash) and the Peele Dixie Water Treatment Plant utilize the same infrastructure pipes to deliver water to residential homes and businesses. The color of the water from Fiveash is a result of the type of water treatment process.

Mr. Dodd explained Staff anticipates that the federal government will issue draft water regulation guidance in early March 2023, that will establish a proposed federal water regulation standard for all water plants to be met by 2026.

Susan Grant, Assistant City Manager, provided an overview of next steps and timeline associated with Project financing and efforts regarding water rate schedules that will be shared with the Infrastructure Task Force Advisory Committee and the Budget Advisory Board.

Staff will place notices in the July 2023 water bills advising the community of ongoing efforts to determine future rate increases and September 2023 public hearing dates for the First and Second Readings of the Ordinance increasing water rates.

Mayor Trantalis recommended water rate increase notices to the community include the anticipated dollar amount increase and the percentage rate increases. He discussed his perspective. Ms. Grant confirmed.

Ms. Grant explained this would be followed by Staff presenting a master bond resolution to the Commission. Water rate increases would go into effect in October 2023, followed by bond closings and the pursuit of grant opportunities. Ms. Grant confirmed that Staff is pursuing every opportunity to reduce the impact on ratepayers.

### **CITY COMMISSION REPORTS**

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

Commissioner Herbst provided an update on two (2) recent meetings with Inter Miami regarding the status of the City's park area portion of Lockhart Park. The four (4) concerns include 1) Inter Miami's request that the City fund demolition of the High School stadium at an estimated cost of \$6,000,000; 2) the City fund the cost of building permits for Inter Miami's stadium, estimated at approximately \$1,300,000; 3) construction of the City's park portion of Lockhart Park; and 4) Inter Miami's need for parking until its new Miami-Dade stadium location is completed.

Commissioner Herbst remarked on his understanding and review of the Inter Miami Comprehensive Agreement with City Manager Chavarria and Interim City Attorney Spence and explained that Inter Miami is responsible for the cost of demolition and building permits.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on discussions with former City Manager Chris Lagerbloom. He recommended scheduling this topic as an Agenda item for dialogue with all parties about how to move forward.

Commissioner Herbst said that items discussed between the former City Manager and Inter Miami were not brought before the Commission for a vote and occurred after the approval and signing of the Comprehensive Agreement. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Herbst commented on Inter Miami's need to utilize the

City's south park area for game-day parking, which is preventing completion of the City's portion of Lockhart Park and is not an acceptable long-term solution. He remarked on ongoing discussions with Rufus James, Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) Director, in an effort to accommodate Inter Miami game-day parking on airport property. Those discussions are ongoing.

Commissioner Herbst commented on the inability of the City to offset Inter Miami's building permit fees and said that doing so would require the City fund those building fees with a transfer from the General Fund.

Mayor Trantalis reiterated his request for City Manager Chavarria to schedule a meeting with Inter Miami representatives at the next Commission Conference Meeting that should include former City Manager Lagerbloom.

Commissioner Herbst discussed his viewpoint and the need to honor the Comprehensive Agreement.

City Manager Chavarria noted Commissioner Herbst had requested the south portion of the park not be used for parking at Inter Miami games. Commissioner Herbst commented on the need to leverage negotiation efforts. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Herbst recommended the Commission direct City Manager Chavarria to agree to one (1) month of game-day parking tied to monthly deliverables that would encourage all parties to move forward. Alternatively, the Commission could fund the costs requested by Inter Miami for building permit fees and demolition costs. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's request for clarification, Mayor Trantalis said the current parking arrangement would continue for another month.

Commissioner Herbst explained the details of available parking at Lockhart Park. City Manager Chavarria confirmed an agreement is in place through February 28, 2023, for game-day parking in the City's park area at Lockhart Park.

Commissioner Herbst explained that Inter Miami currently has a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) awaiting payment of building permit fees. The TCO is in effect until February 28, 2023. Commissioner Herbst commented on setting a precedent with other public-private

partnership (P3) entities should the City agree to pay Inter Miami's building permit fees and cited examples. Mayor Trantalis said he would never support waiving building permit fees and explained his understanding that it would offset demolition fees.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on the need for a Commission consensus on these issues.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman questioned Inter Miami's delays of building the park and inquired about the City's options to prompt Inter Miami to move forward. Vice Mayor Sturman remarked on his understanding, and said that following conversations with an Inter Miami representative, Inter Miami indicated it would be increasing the amount of bleacher seating to three thousand (3,000), adding a press box and a possible flag pole. He opposes restricting parking during Inter Miami's opening game day.

In response to City Manager Chavarria's question, Mayor Trantalis confirmed parking for Inter Miami games would be available through March 2023.

Commissioner Herbst remarked on discussions with the Broward Health President and CEO Shane Strum regarding the need for an Emergency Room Medical Service (ERMS) facility east of the Intracoastal Waterway. Commissioner Herbst proposed the Beach Community Center in District 1 (BCC). He explained prior community discussions to create a park amenity on a second level above the BCC's existing parking area, which received little neighbor support. Commissioner Herbst explained conversations with Mr. Strum included building an ERMS facility in the area immediately south of the parking area and directly in front of the BCC that would accommodate approximately twelve (12) ERMS beds. There would be parking on top of the ERMS to ensure no loss of parking for the NE 33rd Street commercial area.

Mayor Trantalis concurred on the need for an ERMS facility in this area and directed City Manager Chavarria to work with Commissioner Herbst to bring this forward. Commissioner Herbst remarked that Broward Health has the capital funding for the ERMS facility.

Vice Mayor Sturman confirmed his support and expounded on related discussions with Mr. Strum.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman urged the Commission to move forward with a resolution addressing the Commission's opposition to recent

actions at the state level regarding the African American Studies Advanced Placement Course (AP Course).

Mayor Trantalis explained the Commission previously tabled this resolution because the topic was in transition, and the College Board agreed to water down the AP Course.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Commissioner Beasley-Pittman explained her viewpoint regarding the need for the Commission to move forward with a resolution illustrating the City's position on this subject and in support of the AP Course.

Mayor Trantalis discussed how the resolution would reflect the City's position and commented on the City of Miramar's related resolution.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman said the Commission's resolution should recommend rescinding the state's rejection of the AP Course.

Commissioner Glassman confirmed his support of Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's recommendation and discussed incorporating language from both the Broward County (County) Commission and the City of Miramar's resolutions into the City's resolution. He remarked on the County Commission's resolution, which supports the principle of academic freedom and opposes all legislative and executive attempts to erode or diminish academic freedom in public education.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on the need for the City's resolution to make specific references to all marginalized groups.

Daphnee Sainvil, Government Affairs and Economic Development Manager, clarified the AP Course entitled African American Studies came into question with the College Board and is still being reviewed. She recommended the Commission be cautious concerning the resolution wording. Ms. Sainvil remarked on the need to maintain political leverage during the State Legislative Session (Session) for policies and appropriations included in the City's legislative goals.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman confirmed her understanding of Ms. Sainvil's remarks but noted the need for the City to take a stand.

Mayor Trantalis requested Interim City Attorney Spence draft a resolution. Interim City Attorney Spence requested clarification regarding the resolution wording and remarked on the language included in the City of Miramar and County Commission's resolutions. Further comment and

discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman provided documents from the College Board and the Urban Libraries Council that could assist with drafting the resolution.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman requested Staff pursue federal grants to address and put an end to gun violence and cited examples.

Commissioner Glassman requested that City Manager Chavarria and Staff work towards more incentives for residents who own historically designated properties in the City, specifically tax incentives.

Commissioner Glassman discussed the architectural work of Francis Abreu, known for Mediterranean structures, and commented on examples. He remarked on the loss of the historical Anheuser-Busch Estate, located at 1000 Riviera Isle Drive, and showed a short slide presentation.

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

Commissioner Glassman noted better protection of significant historic structures is needed, including addressing their deteriorating conditions. He expounded on his perspective and cited other examples throughout the City. Commissioner Glassman discussed costs associated with preserving historical structures and the need to extend financial incentives for residents.

Mayor Trantalis discussed the transfer of development rights program in the Building Code. Chris Cooper, Development Services Department Director, confirmed there is a Transfer of Development Rights Program (Program) for any designated landmark in the City. The limitation relates to where it can be transferred to.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Cooper explained the Program is market-driven, based upon private transactions to achieve height and density. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on challenges related to educating owners of historically designated properties aware of how the Program works and to simplify and assist with receiving a tax incentive.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's question, Mr. Cooper

explained there is a list of historic properties on the City's website, and Staff is completing a City-wide architectural resource survey. If a development proposal comes forward for a historically designated property, Staff sends a memorandum to the Commission advising them of proposed redevelopment.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on the need for a mechanism to address situations like the Riviera Isles property before demolition. Mr. Cooper confirmed there is a map of historically designated buildings. Efforts of the neighborhood related to the Riviera Isles property did not progress. The Riviera Isles neighborhood had yet to be surveyed.

Commissioner Glassman reiterated the need to work harder towards identifying historical properties for preservation. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mr. Cooper commented on a strategic plan for a historic preservation state grant that had been presented to the Historic Preservation Board and is planned for presentation at an April 2023 Commission Meeting.

In response to Vice Mayor Sturman's questions, Mr. Cooper explained the transfer of development rights associated with a historically designated structure and cited the Stranahan House as an example.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, City Manager Chavarria confirmed he would send Commission Members and members of the Charter Revision Board the list of Charter Revision items in need of revision maintained in the Office of the City Attorney. Interim City Attorney Spence received the list and will send to the Commission.

Vice Mayor Sturman commented on successful Staff efforts with the Florida Department of Transportation to reach a favorable decision to the City with language in an agreement associated with the term park-like space.

Vice Mayor Sturman thanked attendees for participating in the recent Las Olas Mobility Plan Town Hall and noted future grant funding opportunities. He thanked City Manager Chavarria and Interim City Attorney Spence for efforts associated with plans to mitigate traffic concerns related to upcoming large construction projects in District 4. Vice Mayor Sturman thanked Interim City Attorney Spence for the tutorial regarding public-private partnerships (P3) and the Vacation Rental Ordinance.



## CITY MANAGER REPORTS

City Manager Chavarria clarified that Inter Miami's Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) is in effect until March 12, 2023.

City Manager Chavarria confirmed Employee Recognition Day would be held on Friday, March 3, 2023, with a lunch for Staff in the north area of the City Hall parking lot.

City Manager Chavarria announced additional expenses associated with the upcoming Sistrunk Festival, which will be funded with savings from other previous events.

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

[23-0239](#)

The City Commission will meet privately pursuant to Florida Statute, Section 286.011(8) concerning:

Anthony Ewell v. City of Fort Lauderdale, et al.  
Case No.: 20-60826-CIV-RNS

Mayor Trantalis announced the commencement of the Executive Closed-Door Session.

Those present at the attorney-client session will include:

Mayor Dean J. Trantalis  
Vice Mayor Warren Sturman  
Commissioner John C. Herbst  
Commissioner Steven Glassman  
Commissioner Pam Beasley-Pittman  
City Manager Greg Chavarria  
Interim City Attorney D'Wayne M. Spence  
Outside Counsel Michael T. Burke, Esq., Johnson, Anselmo, et al., and  
Certified Court Reporter from Bailey-Entin Court Reporting

The estimated length of this attorney-client session is approximately twenty (20) minutes.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 4:46 p.m.