

# City of Fort Lauderdale

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## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

1:35 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*

*RICKELLE WILLIAMS, City Manager*

*DAVID R. SOLOMAN, City Clerk*

*SHARI L. McCARTNEY, City Attorney*

*PATRICK REILLY, City Auditor*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Trantalis called the meeting to order at 1:43 p.m.

**COMMISSION QUORUM ESTABLISHED**

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

**Also Present:** City Manager Rickelle Williams, City Clerk David R. Soloman, City Attorney Shari L. McCartney, and City Auditor Patrick Reilly

**NEIGHBOR PRESENTATIONS**

**NP-1 26-0114** Chuck Hansen - Basketball Courts removal at Beach near Bahia Mar

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chuck Hansen, 545 S. Fort Lauderdale Beach Boulevard. Mr. Hansen gave a Neighbor Presentation urging the City to delay adding pickleball courts on the beach until a noise impact study is conducted, expounded on related concerns, and cited examples.

**NP-2 26-0190** Juliet Gray-Williams - Rock Island Homeowner's Association - Our Caring Community

Mayor Trantalis recognized Juliet Gray-Williams, 3021 NW 21st Street, on behalf of Rock Island Homeowners' Association. Ms. Gray-Williams asked the City to address community concerns, cited examples, and requested use of Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) resources to improve conditions in the community.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman discussed her support for addressing the community's concerns and expounded on her viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

**CONFERENCE REPORTS**

**CF-1 26-0184** Presentation on the Preparation of City of Fort Lauderdale Operations During Spring Break 2026 - City Manager's Office (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Manager Williams provided an overview and summary of staff efforts

regarding this Agenda item.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chris Cooper, Deputy City Manager. Mr. Cooper narrated a presentation entitled *Spring Break 2026 Operational Highlights*.

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding how the suspension of sidewalk café permits would be implemented, Mr. Cooper explained that the City could modify or suspend sidewalk café operations depending on circumstances, cited examples, and expounded on related details. Mayor Trantalis noted that business owners need clarity, clear guidelines, and predictability about when and how these suspensions would occur. Mr. Cooper confirmed and commented on related information. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions regarding specific Spring Break geographic boundaries where operational changes would apply, Mr. Cooper explained that the primary focus area on the beach typically runs from Sunrise Boulevard south to Harbor Beach. Staff is focusing on crowd management and enforcement efforts primarily in the beach corridor, while also evaluating measures for the Himmarshee Special Entertainment District.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Pat Hart, Assistant Police Chief. Assistant Chief Hart narrated the next portion of the presentation focused on Police Department efforts.

In response to Commissioner Beasley-Pittman's questions, Assistant Police Chief Hart confirmed emergency response includes equipping First Responders with Narcan to address drug overdoses and noted that the Florida Highway Patrol is an annual partner during Spring Break.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Assistant Police Chief Hart confirmed a phased staffing strategy and that Spring Break staffing levels would further increase during mid-March followed by a gradual reduction as crowds decline. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Lesly St. Fleur, Assistant Fire-Rescue Chief. Assistant Chief St. Fleur reiterated that Narcan is available and announced an upcoming seminar at the W Fort Lauderdale focused on

administrating Narcan and emergency response training to better prepare the public for emergencies during high-visitor periods.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding strategies to detect fake identification cards (IDs) to prevent underage drinking, Police Chief William Schultz said that fake IDs are becoming increasingly sophisticated, and while advanced multi-verification ID scanners are the most effective detection tool, the City does not currently mandate them but encourages businesses to use them voluntarily. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, City Manager Williams confirmed that Code Enforcement staff will be deployed seven (7) days per week until 3:30 a.m. during peak Spring Break periods to address issues such as problematic vacation rentals.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Milos Majstorovic, Transportation and Mobility Department (TAM) Director. Mr. Majstorovic continued the presentation and reviewed the implementation of TAM's comprehensive transportation plan to manage Spring Break visitor movement and reduce congestion.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions regarding whether additional micro transit vehicles would operate along State Road A1A during Spring Break or if the City would rely on the existing fleet, Mr. Majstorovic said that micro transit vehicles may be increased or repositioned during Spring Break based on demand, prioritizing routes that move larger numbers of people efficiently rather than short-distance trips.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Katrina Johnson, Community Services Department Assistant Director. Ms. Johnson continued the presentation. Mayor Trantalis remarked on gaps in Code Enforcement. In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, Ms. Johnson explained noise and similar code violation fines are issued to the property owner. Further comment and discussion ensued. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Attorney McCartney confirmed that if those fines remain unpaid, the City can place and enforce a lien on the property, including potential foreclosure.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' concerns about a lack of Code enforcement after 3:30 a.m. in Special Entertainment Districts, City Manager Williams said that those calls for service can be handled by the Police Department and overtime funding was appropriated to increase police and code enforcement coverage during late-night hours.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Kevin Pulido, Office of Strategic Communications Director. Mr. Pulido continued the presentation.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation Department Director. Mr. Williams continued the presentation.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Troy Gies, Public Works Department Assistant Director-Engineering. Mr. Gies continued the presentation. In response to Mayor Trantalis' concerns regarding trash removal in the beach area throughout the day and overnight, Mr. Gies confirmed there will be adequate staffing to empty trash receptacles.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on trash and litter pickup in additional areas, including curbs and medians in other areas of the barrier island, that require increased clean-up efforts. Commissioner Glassman discussed the need to ensure light poles are in working order. Mr. Williams confirmed staff would perform an assessment to ensure streetlights are in working order. Further comment and discussion ensued.

## OLD/NEW BUSINESS

### **BUS-1 26-0039**

Draft Fiscal Year 2027 City Commission Priorities - Office of Management and Budget (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Aricka Johnson, Office of Management and Budget - Strategy and Innovation Manager. Ms. Johnson reviewed details of the document entitled *City of Fort Lauderdale DRAFT FY 2027 City Commission Priorities and Themes*.

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

Commissioner Sorensen discussed the need to incentivize businesses to provide essential neighborhood amenities such as grocery stores and similar services, not only in Flagler Village, but in other underserved neighborhoods throughout the City. City Manager Williams said that staff could incorporate this initiative into the 2027 priorities and expounded on related information. Commissioner Beasley-Pittman concurred with Commissioner Sorensen and highlighted similar needs within District 3. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis discussed his viewpoint and requested progress updates and planning details related to the six (6) Commission priorities included in the Commission Agenda Memorandum (CAM). Further

comment and discussion ensued.

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

City Manager Williams provided the following updates:

City-wide Broadband:

Staff will advance the four (4) potential strategies discussed at the Commission Prioritization Workshop (Workshop) during the upcoming budget development process, noting possible requests to the Commission for funding or policy direction.

Federal Courthouse:

Staff is coordinating with the United States General Services Administration and preparing a draft letter regarding the potential transfer of the old Federal Courthouse property. Additional details will be provided to the Commission, and the matter will be returned for further discussion at a future Conference Meeting.

One Stop Shop:

Staff plans to pursue a solicited public-private partnership (P3) proposal process for the One Stop Shop site (Site) with active and passive public space, allowing developers to propose creative mixed-use ideas. This effort will include input from the Flagler Village neighborhood.

Commissioner Glassman discussed his viewpoint, noted the opportunity for the Downtown Development Authority to offer input based on their efforts to redevelop Huizenga Park. He commented on input from Flagler Village and expounded on related information.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Manager Williams said that the next step is for staff to draft a solicited P3 proposal for the Site, ensuring it includes active and passive public uses as directed by the Commission during the Workshop. The proposal will be brought back to the Commission for review and feedback before being released to the market. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding having a Joint Workshop with the Flagler Village Civic Association, Commissioner Glassman recommended he engage with the Association to gather community input and report back to the Commission. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor Herbst said that the Site would also serve downtown

workers, visitors, and nearby communities. He suggested holding community charrettes to engage a broader group of stakeholders to provide their recommendations for the Site, followed by a Commission workshop to provide staff with clear direction. City Manager Williams confirmed staff could organize community engagement. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis emphasized the need to begin moving the project forward.

City Hall:

City Manager Williams confirmed that staff conducts weekly meetings with the selected City Hall project development team. Staff will present a draft term sheet with costs, financing, construction, and operations at the February 17, 2026, Commission Meeting.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions regarding staff's prior discussions with the building owners of Tower 101 and their proposal for the City to purchase Tower 101 for use as City Hall, the reason the Commission was not informed earlier, and how it aligns with the previously approved City Hall plan, City Manager Williams commented on the current leasehold with Tower 101 for staff offices. She explained the timeline and what transpired with owners of the Tower 101 building. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on his concerns. City Manager Williams confirmed that staff followed the direction given by the Commission, focused on advancing the P3 City Hall project, and clarified that there was no attempt to bypass or deviate from Commission direction. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions, City Manager Williams confirmed staff had begun a preliminary analysis of the Tower 101 proposal following a Commission Member's request and discussed related information. The due diligence required to provide the Commission with an analysis of the Tower 101 building is estimated to take thirty (30) to forty-five (45) days and expounded on related details. Commissioner Sorensen noted the need to obtain that information as quickly as possible and explained his reasoning. City Manager Williams discussed efforts to expedite the process. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on his uneasiness with owners of both Tower 101 and One E. Broward offering their properties for sale as a location for a new City Hall. Vice Mayor Herbst confirmed the need to explore them as viable options, remarked on cost savings, and noted the

opportunity to lease out a portion of One E. Broward Boulevard as a revenue stream for the City. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis remarked on his concerns regarding investing in older buildings and expounded on his viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman explained that reviewing the Tower 101 proposal was meant to be due diligence to explore potential opportunities, not as an effort to replace or deviate from the existing City Hall development plan approved by the Commission.

Vice Mayor Herbst noted that the appeal of the buildings is that both have a direct connection to the existing City Hall parking garage. Vice Mayor Herbst suggested that if the City were to consider either building, the current development partners involved in the new City Hall proposal could participate with building reconfiguration, building management, or partnering in redevelopment.

Mayor Trantalis noted that most of the Commission Members support continuing with the approved City Hall development proposal. While staff may still provide a brief or cursory analysis of the buildings to evaluate potential opportunities, the primary focus should remain on moving forward with the existing plan. Mayor Trantalis said that the Commission will await the draft term sheet from the approved City Hall development proposer before further discussion.

Vice Mayor Herbst asked staff to evaluate whether either building could include owner-provided financing. He noted the related financial benefits, discussed related occupancy and leasing information, expounded on the importance of making the correct decision, and cited concerns regarding future financial circumstances the City could face. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman discussed his opposition to Vice Mayor Herbst's recommendations to consider the buildings as a future City Hall, expounded on his viewpoint, cited examples, and recommended moving forward with the development team selected to construct a new City Hall.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed completing a low-cost preliminary analysis of the buildings within two (2) weeks, while continuing work on the new City Hall and reviewing all options at the next meeting. City Manager Williams confirmed and expounded on related details. Further comment and discussion ensued. In response to Commissioner

Sorensen's question regarding the costs of those analyses, Ben Rogers, Assistant City Manager, provided an estimate of costs.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, City Manager Williams explained that an analysis involving all nine (9) requested deliverables for the buildings would cost approximately \$240,000.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding the goal, Vice Mayor Herbst noted the importance of considering the significant cost savings, lower taxpayer costs, and expounded on his viewpoint. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Glassman said that the owners of the buildings should bear the costs of the analyses and explained his viewpoint.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman commented on her support to move forward with the selected developer and expressed concern with the costs of conducting detailed analyses of the buildings, remarked on their lack of needed amenities, and discussed her perspective.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mayor Trantalis confirmed consensus not to move forward with the analysis of the buildings.

Vice Mayor Herbst remarked on his absence from the Commission Prioritization Workshop due to a personal matter and shared his recommendation regarding the future use of the Courthouse property. He expressed opposition to converting the building into a charter school or affordable housing, noting that the structure is not suited for those uses and that retrofitting would likely be costly. Vice Mayor Herbst proposed repurposing the Courthouse as a museum and cultural arts center. Vice Mayor Herbst suggested that the existing courtroom and interior spaces could function as gallery areas and expounded on his vision. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Manager Williams said that the idea of repurposing the Courthouse could return to the Commission for discussion at a future Conference Meeting and noted that a draft letter to the Commission is being prepared to provide additional clarification and updates received since the Commission Prioritization Workshop. Further comment and discussion ensued.

**BUS-2 26-0118**

Presentation of the City of Fort Lauderdale Grant Program Update - Office of Management and Budget (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Laura Reece, Office of Management and Budget Director. Ms. Reece provided an overview of the presentation entitled *Grant Program Update February 2026*.

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

Mayor Trantalis recognized Tamiaka McGibbon, Office of Management and Budget Principal Management Analyst. Ms. McGibbon presented the results of the City's 2025 grant awards.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Majstorovic explained funding details of the Breakers Avenue Resiliency Project (Project), which has received \$3,000,000 in grant funding. The Project appears to be fully funded with additional City resources, is nearing completion of the design phase, and explained related funding information. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Glassman noted tweaks requested by the Florida Department of Transportation.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Quentin Pough, Assistant City Manager. In response to Commissioner Glassman's questions, Mr. Pough explained details of the procurement and contract award in early 2026. Construction on the Project is expected to start in October 2026 and take approximately ten (10) months to complete. Further comment and discussion ensued.

### **BUS-3 26-0182**

New River Crossing Initiative Update - Transportation and Mobility Department (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Manager Williams said that the City received a deadline extension of February 13, 2026, from Broward County (County) to respond to its request for additional information regarding the City's Locally Preferred Alternative for the New River Crossing. Staff is preparing a formal response to the County and is requesting related feedback from the Commission.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Milos Majstorovic, Transportation and Mobility Department Director. Mr. Majstorovic narrated a presentation entitled *NEW RIVER CROSSING INITIATIVE UPDATE February 3, 2026* (Project).

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

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding an accurate cost

estimate for the Project, Mr. Majstorovic discussed the preliminary estimate and said that a more accurate cost would require further engineering studies and competitive procurement.

Ben Rogers, Assistant City Manager, continued the presentation focused on financial strategies. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding the ability to respond to the County without a firm cost commitment, Mr. Rogers said staff refined internal cost estimates and design elements but does not have a developer commitment or a proposal confirming the funding amount. City staff can provide updated estimates but cannot present a defined financial proposal. Mr. Rogers requested Commission direction on how to respond to the County, whether to submit current cost estimates, request more time, or reconsider moving forward with the Project.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed ongoing discussions with the Federal Railroad Administration regarding potential federal funding for the proposed Project, who have expressed continued interest in the concept. He noted continuing discussions with federal agencies, the County, and potential tunnel builders to pursue the Project and remarked on requesting additional time to develop a formal proposal.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Majstorovic explained the proposed tunnel would run from approximately SW 7th Street to just south of Sistrunk Boulevard.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding grant opportunities for the Project, Mr. Rogers said that grant funding may be possible, but the Project is not yet developed to the point necessary to compete for major construction grants, and the County would likely need to serve as the Project sponsor.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding consideration of requesting a loan from Broward County's transportation surtax (Surtax) funds as a potential financing option for the Project, Mr. Rogers said that while the County has discussed using Surtax funds as a grant or contribution, using those funds as a loan to the City has not been discussed.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions regarding staff's recommendations for a response to the County and contingency costs, City Manager Williams suggested responding with a summary of the work completed to date, documenting the City's progress and current findings, and requesting additional time. Further comment and

discussion ensued.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' request for an update regarding the status of a feasibility study examining potential railroad underpasses (Study) previously discussed as part of the County's bridge concepts for the New River Crossing, Mr. Rogers explained that the funding came from the Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization and the City. The Study, which is currently underway, is evaluating underpass options at several major railway crossings, including Andrews Avenue, Sistrunk Boulevard, Broward Boulevard, and Davie Boulevard. A public meeting was recently held for the Davie Boulevard crossing, and additional meetings are planned through fiscal year 2026. Recommendations are expected at the end of the year, but no funding currently exists for design or construction of the underpasses. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis remarked on costs for a bridge versus a tunnel for the New River Crossing.

Vice Mayor Herbst expressed skepticism with continuing to pursue the Project, citing a lack of funding from the State, federal government, and County. He noted that the Project lacks a realistic funding path, may not be viable, and questioned the value of continuing to pursue the Project.

Mayor Trantalis recommended complying with the County's request for information, staff respond to the County by updating Project cost estimates and clearly outlining related assumptions and limitations. Mayor Trantalis confirmed a consensus on this direction to staff. Vice Mayor Herbst remarked on financial issues related to commuter rail service operators. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis announced the commencement of the Executive Closed-Door Session at 4:31 p.m.

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

Mayor Trantalis convened the Executive Closed-Door Session at 4:31 p.m.

**26-0188**

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

Jane Grazioso v. City of Fort Lauderdale Case No.: CACE 24-011198 (11)

Mayor Trantalis announced the start of the Executive Closed-Door

Session at 4:31 p.m. The City Commission shall meet privately to conduct discussions between the City Manager, the City Attorney, and the City Commission relative to pending litigation pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes, in connection with the following matter(s):

Jane Grazioso v. City of Fort Lauderdale  
Case No.: CACE 24-011198 (11)

Present at the attorney-client session will be:

Mayor Dean J. Trantalis  
Vice Mayor/Commissioner John C. Herbst  
Commissioner Steven Glassman  
Commissioner Pamela Beasley-Pittman  
Commissioner Ben Sorensen  
City Manager Rickelle Williams  
City Attorney Shari L. McCartney  
Assistant City Attorney Robert M. Oldershaw  
Outside Counsel Scott D. Alexander, Esq., Johnson, Anselmo, *et al.*, and  
Certified Court Reporter from Bailey-Entin Court Reporting

The estimated length of this session will be approximately 30 minutes.

Mayor Trantalis announced the termination of the Executive Closed-Door Session at 6:09 p.m. and recessed the Conference Meeting.

Mayor Trantalis reconvened the Conference Meeting at 10:23 p.m.

## **CITY COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

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

Vice Mayor Herbst raised concerns about a State funding request for license plate readers (LPRs) in certain neighborhoods, stating that the issue has caused frustration among other neighborhoods who have previously requested financial assistance but were told none was available. Vice Mayor Herbst called for the City to establish a consistent policy for license plate reader funding and equal treatment of neighborhoods.

Mayor Trantalis said that he was unaware of State funding for LPRs. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Daphnee Sainvil, Intergovernmental Affairs Manager, explained it was a request from State House of Representatives Member Chip LaMarca for the Rio Vista

neighborhood. Vice Mayor Herbst expounded on his perspective regarding the need for a uniform LPR funding policy.

Commissioner Sorensen made a motion to extend this meeting until 10:40 p.m. and was seconded by Vice Mayor Herbst.

**APPROVED**

**Yea:** 5 - Commissioner Glassman, Commissioner Beasley-Pittman, Commissioner Sorensen, Vice Mayor Herbst and Mayor Trantalis

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman highlighted the success of the 2026 Infinite Scholars Fair held at the YMCA that awarded scholarships to more than 2,000 students and encouraged the City to be involved in this initiative.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman remarked on the initiation of the Smart Water Meter Program, presented to residents in the Dorsey-Riverbend community, which illustrated real-time water usage monitoring, installation details, and customer support options for residents who need assistance.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman raised concerns from residents regarding violations of the dog waste ordinance, noting that some dog owners are not picking up after their pets. Chris Cooper, Deputy City Manager, said that Code Enforcement handles enforcement and will provide guidance on reporting the issue.

Commissioner Beasley-Pittman made a motion to extend this meeting until 11:00 p.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Sorensen.

**APPROVED**

**Yea:** 5 - Commissioner Glassman, Commissioner Beasley-Pittman, Commissioner Sorensen, Vice Mayor Herbst and Mayor Trantalis

Commissioner Glassman praised the arts-driven revitalization of the Avenue of the Arts and Thrive Art District and urged the City to invest in streetscape, parking, lighting, and infrastructure improvements to support the growing arts corridor. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis suggested that the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) could assist with funding for streetscape design and related improvements. Commissioner Glassman concurred. City Manager

Williams said she would assign this effort to Mr. Cooper and explained related information.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on the Downtown Development Authority's (DDA) revitalization of Huizenga Park and expounded on details of that effort.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed his meeting with State representatives in Tallahassee to advocate for funding key Fort Lauderdale projects, remarked on discussions related to the impacts of the Live Local Act, and concurred with Commissioner Glassman's comments regarding the successful revitalization of Huizenga Park.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

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

Mayor Trantalis remarked on the success of the Visit Lauderdale Food & Wine Festival, noted its growth and expansion, and invited the public to attend the upcoming Firefighters Remembrance Ceremony on February 14, 2026, at the Fire and Safety Museum in Sailboat Bend.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### **MGR-1 26-0139**

City Commission Follow-up Action Items and Letters to the Commission (LTC) - City Manager's Office (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Manager Williams commented on updates included in her Letter to the Commission No. 26-028, listing accomplishments during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2026 and outlines upcoming initiatives.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

City Attorney McCartney recognized Assistant City Attorney Gabrielle Bush for her effective handling of multiple event agreements included in the Consent Agenda.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 10:53 p.m.

Submitted by: A. Hilmer  
1.20.26, BOS-1

From: mary fertig marycfertig@gmail.com  
Subject: Las Olas Mobility Discussion  
Date: Jan 19, 2026 at 2:57:03 PM  
To: Dean Trantalis dean@trantalis.com, John Herbst  
jherbst@fortlauderdale.gov,  
pbeasleypittman@fortlauderdale.gov, Steven Glassman  
SGlassman@fortlauderdale.gov, Ben Sorensen  
BSorensen@fortlauderdale.gov,  
RickelleWilliams@fortlauderdale.gov, Milos Majstorovic  
mmajstorovic@fortlauderdale.gov  
Cc: Karen Owen maowen6@aol.com, Karen Elgidely  
kelgidely@gmail.com, karin Gillette  
gillettekarin@bellsouth.net, Mary Jo Herhold  
fherhold@gmail.com, Anne Hilmer  
annehilmer@hotmail.com, Mindy Sturgis  
sturgismindy@gmail.com, Matt Bertanzetti  
matt@mattbertanzetti.com, Marcus Hagnesten  
marcus.hagnesten@pancapital.com, Geary Cotton  
gearywcotton@aol.com, Barbara Thomas  
bdt411@gmail.com

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**Idlewyld Improvement Association  
Established 1926**

Dear Mayor Trantalis, Vice Mayor Herbst, Commissioner Beasley-Pittman,  
Commissioner Glassman and Commissioner Sorensen,

In 1916, as the Las Olas Causeway and bridge were being built, the developers of Idlewyld met to discuss an idea. Within a few years, M.A. Hottt, R.E. Dye and Tom Stilwell began construction on our neighborhood. They built homes for their families and lived there. Just as we depend on Las Olas Boulevard for mobility today, so did they. Today, over 100 years later, we still love our community!

Around 2013, representatives from Idlewyld began meeting with representatives from other Las Olas neighborhoods to discuss growing issues with mobility. We joined the Las Olas Mobility Group in 2018 and continued to work with neighbors. Over the years, we proposed many ideas, some of which were originally met with skepticism such as the dedicated right hand turn on westbound Las Olas at the intersection with 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the dual left turn on southbound 15<sup>th</sup> at Las Olas.

On January 15, 2026, at the monthly meeting of the Idlewyld Improvement Association we reviewed the plan brought forward for your consideration. Our primary concern, as has been true for the past 13 years (indeed, the past 100 years), is safety and mobility. To that end, the Board voted unanimously to:

1. Oppose curbing/bump outs/pinch points which will permanently narrow the

evacuation efforts.

2. Oppose on-street parking.
3. Support a parking study to determine the availability of parking in the area, particularly in light of the proposed Parking Garage on Second Court.
4. Oppose removing the median, particularly until further studies have determined the impact on infrastructure underneath.
5. Update the Traffic Study completed in 2019.
6. Oppose the designation of SE 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue rather than Las Olas Boulevard as the evacuation route for the Isles, Beach and other Las Olas neighborhoods. SE 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue is a two-lane road in a residential neighborhood which is backed up on a regular basis, causing frequent back-ups on Las Olas and Broward Boulevard. The Commission decided in 2021 against any widening of this road.

We would request the Commission complete the parking study and update the traffic study prior to moving forward on the plan before you. We also request that the Commission move forward with a plan which prioritizes safety and mobility for the region while incorporating flexibility for future needs

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary C. Fertig   Karen Owen   Karen Elgidely   Karin Gillette   Mary Jo Hernhold

Mindy Sturgis   Anne Hilmer   Matt Bertanzetti   Marcus Hagnesten   Geary  
Cotton   Barbara Thomas

Submitted by: A. Hilmer

From: Marilyn Mammano mmammano@comcast.net 1.20.26, BUS-1  
Subject: LAUDERDALE TOMORROW COMMENTS ONLAS  
OLAS MOBILITY

Date: Jan 19, 2026 at 11:26:07 AM

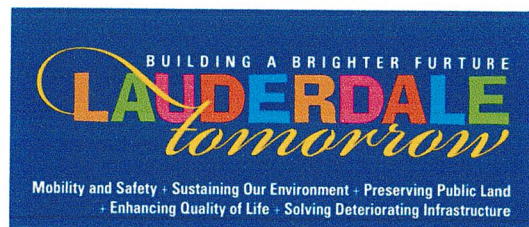
To: Dean Trantalis Dtrantalis@fortlauderdale.gov, John Herbst  
jherbst@fortlauderdale.gov, Pamela Beasley-Pittman  
PBeasleyPittman@fortlauderdale.gov, Steven Glassman  
SGlassman@fortlauderdale.gov, Ben Sorenson  
BSorensen@fortlauderdale.gov

Cc: Mary Fertig marycfertig@gmail.com, Anne Hilmer  
annehilmer@hotmail.com, John Burns  
john.burns217@gmail.com, John Roth  
john.roth.fl@gmail.com, Nancy Thomas  
thomasnk5@aol.com, Martha Steinkamp  
Martha.Steinkamp@outlook.com, Maggie Hunt  
tennismonsterr@gmail.com, Steve Weber  
nsweber@bellsouth.net, Barbie Pearson  
Barbie.Pearson@att.net, Marilyn Mammano  
mmammano@comcast.net

Hello Mayor and Commissioners.

Attached is the Lauderdale Tomorrow comments on the Las Olas  
Mobility Project for your January 20 Conference Meeting.

Thank you for your attention.



Lauderdale Tomorrow's

To Mayor Dean Trantalis and City Commissioners. As you continue to refine the Las Olas Mobility Project we urge you to consider the following:

1. Do an updated traffic study as the current one is from 2019. Circumstances have changed on both the beach and downtown since then.
2. Do a parking study to validate that the on-street parking is no longer needed as we believe.
3. Keep the entire ROW flexible There should be no permanent installations of curbs or bump outs that would preclude opening two traffic lanes in both directions for emergencies, hurricanes, and street fairs.

Mary Fertig      Marilyn Mammano    , Maggie Hunt   John Roth  
Michaela Conca,      Steve Weber      Anne Hilmer      Martha  
Steinkamp.      John Burns      Barbie Pearson   Nancy Thomas

Submitted by: Chuck Hansen  
2.3.26, NP-1

Chuck Hansen  
545 S. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd. #1103  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
January 9, 2026

Dean J. Trantalis, Mayor  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission  
1 East Broward Blvd. #444  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Mayor Trantalis:

My name is Chuck Hansen and I've been a resident, on A1A, of this beautiful city for the past 56 years. I've seen more changes to this city's landscape than most anyone in this building.

It is because of one of these new proposals that I am ~~writing~~ <sup>speaking</sup> to you today. The proposal that I am referencing is the removal of the basketball courts on the beach across from the Bahia Mar Hotel and replacing them with pickleball courts. On the surface that sounds like a good idea, considering the popularity of the activity. However, my concern is the noise factor.

The pickleballs used today are made of a hard compound that is inflexible, unlike tennis balls and other air-filled balls. So, when these pickle balls are struck by a ~~wooden~~ <sup>composite</sup> paddle, it results in a very loud thwack. That's an awful lot of thwacking when you have eight courts or so going all day and night.

The noise is all well and good provided that the residents living in the area cannot hear it. If the residents had to endure it, it would be comparable to the infamous Chinese Water Torture.

Besides the residents of the Illini Condominium located at 545 South Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd., that could be affected you would also have the guests of the Maren Hotel, people aboard their yachts in the marina and all of the people on the beach adjacent to the courts, who just want to relax or read, none of which want to be disturbed by the constant noise of thwack, thwack, thwack, all day long and perhaps evenings as well.

Just a few months ago in Carmel, California, the city had to remove their pickleball courts for the same reason, disturbing the peace of the nearby residents.

Here in Fort Lauderdale, we have an additional problem to deal with and that is the prevailing wind coming off the beach. It comes off the beach from the southeast and will

carry the noise from the courts toward the northwest, which will directly impact the Illini Condominium, as well as the Maren Hotel.

To not repeat what happened in Carmel, CA, I am asking you decision-makers to appoint a committee to do a noise impact study, which I would volunteer to be part of, before you make any final decision.

My contact information is myfriendchuck@gmail.com. Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Hansen

# ROCK ISLAND HOA

PHOTOS





Lady Bird Esq

OPEN  
REGULAR  
HOURS









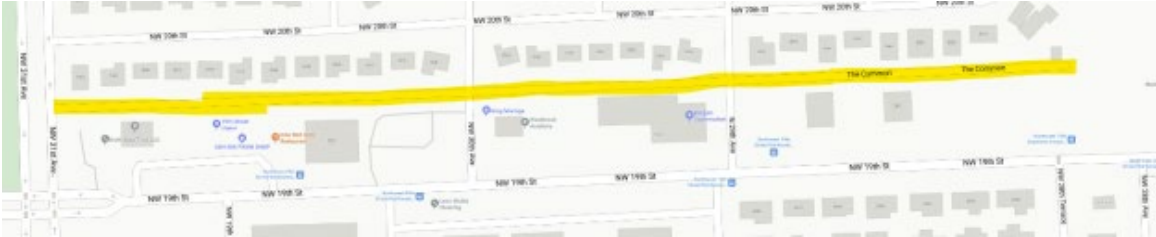


- Abandoned building / property: Westbrook Academy at 2941 NW 19th St (Across from Family Dollar)



- Rock Island HOA was advised this abandoned building would become a police sub-station but has not.
- At time there's illegal dumping behind the building BUT recently a gate was installed so may not need to bring up this point

•Alleyway/The Common behind Kwik Stop Tires LLC at 3091 NW 19th St (Located on the NE Corner of NW 19th St. & NW 31st Ave.)



- Illegal dumping problems persists from NW 31st Ave. to the end of the alleyway
- I think there was a death within the past 2 years in the alley; we discussed it in the meeting a lady was killed I believed. May have been some type of car accident

### 3) Industrialization along NW 19<sup>th</sup> St.

a. Zoning issues/Concerns regarding the upkeep, maintenance, commercial vehicles (transport carrier(s)), overflow (blocking of the roads), of these businesses and others, listed below:

i. KarBar BMW Performance, Inc., - 2373 NW 19th St

ii. Sky Auto / Boston Motors Collision Repair, Inc., - 2709 NW 19th St,

iii. South Florida Auto - 2731 NW 19th St,

iv. Bowla Motor Works -2165 NW 19th St,

v. A&R Mobile Mechanic Service - 2765 NW 19th St.

vi. All County Auto, Inc. - 2401 NW 19th St