

# City of Fort Lauderdale

*City Hall  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
[www.fortlauderdale.gov](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov)*



## Meeting Minutes - Draft

**Tuesday, December 15, 2015**

**1:30 PM**

**City Commission Conference Room**

## **City Commission Conference Meeting**

### ***FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION***

**JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER Mayor - Commissioner**  
**ROBERT L. McKINZIE Vice Mayor-Commissioner - District III**  
**BRUCE G. ROBERTS Commissioner - District I**  
**DEAN J. TRANTALIS Commissioner - District II**  
**ROMNEY ROGERS Commissioner - District IV**

**LEE R. FELDMAN, City Manager**  
**JOHN HERBST, City Auditor**  
**JEFFREY A. MODARELLI, City Clerk**

**CYNTHIA A. EVERETT, City Attorney**

Meeting was called to order at 1:38 p.m. by Mayor Seiler on December 15, 2015.

**ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler, Vice-Mayor Robert L. McKinzie, Commissioner Bruce G. Roberts, Commissioner Dean J. Trantalis and Commissioner Romney Rogers

**Quorum Established**

**Also Present:** Assistant City Manager Stanley Hawthorne, City Auditor John Herbst, City Clerk Jonda K. Joseph, City Attorney Cynthia A. Everett and Sergeant At Arms Sergeant W. Auguste

No public comments were submitted by email for this meeting.

**CITY COMMISSION REPORTS**

**Events and Matters of Interest**

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

**Pension Obligation Bonds Update**

Commissioner Rogers gave a positive update on the City's pension obligation bonds.

**Sea Level Rise Projections**

Commissioner Rogers noted upcoming meetings with neighborhoods to address sea level rise projections in those areas most affected by heavy rains and king tides and possible remedies such as raising the roads. The Commission acknowledged this project needs to be comprehensive and thorough to avoid unintended consequences noting there are no easy solutions. Options to cover the costs associated with remedies to the sea level rise projections were raised and discussions ensued on this general topic. Commissioner Roberts requested this be put on the agenda for the second week in January 2016. Commissioner Rogers asked the Budget Advisory Board to take this up and advise the Commission on possible areas of funding of costs and alternatives for the necessary modifications to neighborhoods.

**Sidewalk Evaluation**

Vice-Mayor McKinzie raised the issue of the City's sidewalk evaluation. City Manager Feldman updated the Commission stating the City Commission acquiesced to moving forward with the first two components being City owned sidewalks and those clearly identified by the City's trees. City Manager Feldman recommended the Commission address other sidewalks under the City's Code that are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner with the options being assessments or splitting the costs with the City and the property owners. Commissioner Trantalis requested City Manager Feldman

*EX 1 – (16-0196)*

come back to the Commission with pricing to assist the Commission in making a decision on how to move forward.

**Airport Noise**

Commissioner Rogers discussed airport noise in the Lauderdale Isles neighborhood noting there has been little response from the FAA. He requested assistance from City Staff to get the FAA to address his constituents' concerns about the noise issue.

**Crescent House**

Commissioner Trantalis asked City Manager Feldman and Attorney Cynthia Everett if they had an opportunity to review how Crescent House proposes to comply with the Special Magistrate's Orders. City Attorney Everett stated their proposal was just received and has not yet been reviewed.

**Sober Homes**

Commissioner Trantalis discussed clarification of the local government's ability to regulate Sober Homes without conflicting with ADA rights referencing a letter from Congresswoman Lois Frankel. City Manager Feldman said he was monitoring this topic from a legislative standpoint. Commissioner Trantalis said he would like more clarification from an administrative standpoint.

**Public Art**

Commissioner Trantalis would like to entertain the idea of incorporating public art as part of the City's improvement projects. Commissioners Rogers and Roberts also agreed it would be a good idea to look at this opportunity.

**Boat Parade**

Mayor Seiler noted the success of the Holiday Boat Parade and acknowledged all of the efforts of the City staff and government agencies who assisted in the event's success.

**Toy Drive – Operation Santa Stop**

Mayor Seiler thanked the Police Department for their efforts with Operation Santa Stop, the Toy Drive and Toy Giveaway for the children in the City.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**BUS-1 15-1541                      Discussion of Modifications to the Vehicles for Hire Ordinance**

Commissioner Roberts brought this item up before the Commission. City Manager Feldman gave an overview of what has transpired regarding Transportation Network Companies (TNC) and explained the City's goal to simplify the process and not be repetitive with requirements that are already required by the County regarding the regulation of TNCs.

City Manager Feldman and City Staff proposed revisions to the ordinance that will streamline and simplify the process of the vehicles for hire program. These revisions include:

- the addition of definitions and modifications to various terminology to provide a better understanding of the requirements of the program;
- the elimination of financial statements as part of the application process;

- standardizing insurance requirements;
- the elimination of duplicate processes to satisfy the County and City criteria;
- restructuring the application processes for uniform adherence of requirements;
- the creation of a fee schedule to cover the costs associated with the administration and enforcement of provisions within the ordinance; and
- the introduction of TNCs to the ordinance based on the regulations and guidelines within Chapter 22½ -7B of the Broward County Code.

City Manager Feldman asked the Commission for input about items to address with the vehicle for hire Ordinance. Questions and discussions ensued about the opportunities for the City, TNC accountability, and County regulations.

The following members of the public spoke regarding this item:

Bob Bonner, Intercity Taxi, spoke in support of this item.

Eric Rosenberg, Friendly Checker Taxi, spoke in support of to this item.

Gerlyn Cadet spoke in support of this item.

Ivalier Duvra spoke in support of this item.

Cheryl Whitfield made the Commission aware of what other States are doing concerning TNC's.

Charles King, 105 North Victoria Park Road, spoke in opposition to this item.

Further discussions ensued among the Commission regarding taxis in the City and a possible moratorium on the enforcement of the City's TNC Ordinance to evaluate the impact on the City. It was stated that the market will dictate the need for TNCs. City Attorney Everett asked City Manager Feldman for an opportunity to do a thorough comparison of the County's Ordinance and the City's Ordinance before implementation of a moratorium to evaluate the consequences. It was agreed that this comparison will be done before the City Commission Meeting on January 5, 2016.

**BUS-2 15-1575**                      Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization Complete Streets and  
Local Initiatives Program Grant

Dana Alarcon, Transportation and Mobility Director, introduced Karen Mendrala, Principal Planner, and Christine Fanchi, Livability Planner. The transportation alternative plan was presented for the new Complete Streets and Other Localized Initiatives Program. It is a streamlined program merging the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funding with Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) funding for mobility projects. The program's aim is to fund mobility projects such as, but not limited to, complete streets projects, traffic calming and intersection improvements, ADA upgrades, mobility hubs, bus shelters, bike racks, and technology advancements such as transit signal priority and traffic control devices.

The following project concepts were submitted for the Commission's consideration:

- Breakers Avenue Complete Streets Improvements (Vistamar Street to Riomar Street) - \$1.5 million for bike and pedestrian enhancements as identified in the Central Beach Master Plan.
- Vision Zero: Safer Streets for Fort Lauderdale Implementation – \$1.5 million for engineering, education, and enforcement, encouragement and evaluation improvements along two corridors to be identified based on accident data.
- Progresso Drive Complete Streets Improvements (from Andrews Avenue to Sunrise Boulevard) – \$1.5 million for complete streets improvements including on-street parking.
- ADA Improvements on Las Olas Boulevard (from US1/Federal Highway to SE 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue) – \$1.5 million for ADA improvements along Las Olas Boulevard, including at intersections.
- Neighborhood Mobility Master Plan Implementation - \$1.5 million for implementation of Neighborhood Mobility Master Plans including traffic calming measures that have been identified by the neighborhoods and prioritized for implementation.

These project concepts have the support of:

- NE 26<sup>th</sup> Street (Wilton Manors 5 points to US1/Federal Highway) – support is being included in the City of Wilton Manors' application to add bike lanes along NE 26<sup>th</sup> Street.
- A1A Parallel bike route – (Friends of Birch State Park) – support of the application for the addition of paved area along the east side of the loop to allow for connection to the A1A Greenway through a parallel bike facility.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan*: **We are Connected.**

*A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.*

Questions, discussion, and comments ensued among the Commission members.

### **BUS-3 15-1486** Sustainability Advisory Board Communication on Food Forest

During its November 3, 2015 meeting, the City Commission received a Communication from the Sustainability Advisory Board, which “encourages consideration of the development of a Food Forest on City-owned property. The Board also recommends the inclusion of a Food Forest Project in the 2015 Parks Master Plan.” Additionally, the Board also stated that a Food Forest is consistent with the goals, objectives, and actions of the Sustainability Action Plan.

Cheryl Whitfield, Sustainability and Advisory Board, spoke in support of this item promoting local food development as part of the City's Park District Master Plan and community education projects.

The following members of the public spoke regarding this item:

Judy Summers spoke in support of this item stating it is a community initiative, not a homeless initiative, that would benefit everyone.

Mayor Seiler left the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Charles King, 105 North Victoria Park Road, spoke in opposition to this item.

Questions, discussion, and comments ensued among the Commission members regarding this matter.

**COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING - 4 P.M.  
OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE**

Mayor Seiler returned to the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

**BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**BD-1 15-1595** Board and Committee Vacancies

Discussions among the Commission ensued regarding proposed nominations and reappointments for board and committee vacancies. Please see regular meeting item R-1.

**BD-2 15-1596** Communications to the City Commission

There was a communication to the City regarding the property located at 301 North Andrews Avenue. City Manager Feldman stated the City has not decided what to do with this property also known as the old One-Stop Shop. The Commission determined a thorough discussion on this item was necessary and to be addressed at a future meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding the City's parks and the need for open, green spaces for future redevelopment in the City. The Commission determined a full, comprehensive discussion on this general topic was necessary.

There was a communication from the Sustainability Advisory Board about writing a letter supporting their position regarding drilling in the Everglades. The Mayor stated he would be personally writing the letter.

There was a communication from the Central City Redevelopment Board suggesting their support of the Commission's position regarding Crescent House. This issue was addressed earlier in the meeting (please see the Crescent House item under "City Commission Reports").

**CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

None.

Mayor Seiler adjourned the City Commission Conference meeting at 4:30 p.m.

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

The City Commission convened the Executive Closed Door Session at 5:01 p.m. and adjourned at the end of the session.

The City Commission met privately with City Attorney Everett and City Manager Feldman pursuant to Florida Statute, Section 286.011(8) concerning:

*Barbara Carswell v. City of Fort Lauderdale Case No.: CACE 14-016723(08); and*

*Albion Staffing Solutions, Inc. v. City of Fort Lauderdale Case No.: CACE 15-018760(09)*