

# City of Fort Lauderdale

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



## Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, December 20, 2016**

**1:30 PM**

**City Commission Conference Room**

## **City Commission Conference Meeting**

***FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION***

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

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

## ROLL CALL

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

## QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Also Present: - City Manager Lee R. Feldman, City Clerk Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Attorney Cynthia A. Everett, City Auditor John Herbst, and Sergeant at Arms Francisco Ventancourt

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seiler called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

No public e-comments were submitted for this meeting.

## CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

### *Events and Matters of Interest*

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

### **Boat Parade**

All members of the Commission recognized and acknowledged the success of the City's Boat Parade.

### **Sewer Main Break - Tarpon River**

Commissioner Rogers noted staff's exceptional efforts in addressing the sewer main break that affected 35 properties at Tarpon River. He noted the cost to fully address the needs of the infrastructure at this location will be approximately \$9,000,000. In response to Vice Mayor Trantalis's inquiry regarding the engineering study on the City's infrastructure needs, City Manager Feldman stated this subject will be ready for discussion at the upcoming City Commission Conference Meeting in January 2017 and will be the only item discussed at that Conference Meeting.

### **17th Street Mobility Plan Workshop**

Commission Rogers discussed the recent 17th Street Mobility Plan (Plan) Workshop which was noted as being well attended. He noted

the City Staff did an excellent job with the City's presentation along with the heightened involvement by Broward County. Commissioner Rogers stated one of the suggestions made was to form a committee to ensure the plan gets implemented. He stated that he would participate to ensure this occurs. New ideas and for addressing the alternatives in the Plan were discussed which included 20th Street and 22nd Street. Comments and discussions ensued from the Commission regarding additional possible alternatives.

#### **Tri-Rail Coastal Link Summit**

Commissioner Rogers discussed his attendance at the Tri-Rail Coastal Link Summit. He was impressed with what Miami has done in this area stating they are coordinating their Tri-Rail Coastal Link Hub with Brightline. He noted the importance of addressing the City's traffic issues similar what Miami and Palm Beach County have done. He noted the importance of the City and the County being on the same page regarding the Coastal Link in order to move forward on this issue and ensure it occurs along with the necessary funding. Commissioner Rogers said he would follow this issue to ensure the City is updated. Commissioner Rogers noted the importance of Miami's efforts in building a case to back up their transportation needs and its goals for the future. He also noted what the City of Austin did with a software program to illustrate and project what the City would look like if it were fully built out. He recommended the same type of exercise be done for the City. City Manager Feldman noted a software program allowing the City to do these same types of projections would be available in late spring or early summer. Further comments and discussions continued on this topic.

#### **Water Main Break - 15th and Sistrunk Blvd.**

Commissioner McKinzie discussed the water main breaks in the City at 15th Way and Sistrunk Blvd., noting the pavers were never replaced. Commissioner McKinzie also noticed missing pavers in front of the National Association of Colored People (NAACP) building. City Manager Feldman stated he would look into and address both of these issues.

#### **Police Department Acknowledgement**

Commissioner McKinzie thanked and acknowledged the Police Department's officers for their participation in community events and their ongoing relationship building with the City's youth and neighbors. Commissioner Roberts recognized Commissioner McKinzie's efforts and contributions and acknowledged his involvement and participation in fostering the positive relationship between the City's officers policing and the community. Mayor Seiler joined Commissioner Robert's comments and thanked Commissioner McKinzie for his efforts and

specifically discussed the outstanding recent event at the Carter Park Community Center where the Police Department held a Literacy Contest which was very well received.

#### **City Commission Workshops**

Commissioner Roberts commented on the success of the two recent workshops on the City's Investment Policy and with the Broward County School Board. He requested City Manager Feldman schedule an additional workshop to follow-up on the City's investments in the future. Commissioner Roberts also discussed the success of the workshop with the Broward County School Board and issues relating to Stranahan High School's needs. Discussions ensued on a possible City resolution about using the funds received from the sale of Edgewood Park for the construction of a new and larger cafeteria to meet the needs of Stranahan High School. Further discussions continued on this topic including Commissioner Roger's reasoning. Commission Rogers asked City Manager to look into doing a viable City resolution on this subject.

#### **Galleria Project Meeting**

Commissioner Roberts announced the upcoming meeting on January 11, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. with the stakeholders associated with the Galleria Project to ensure all parties are on the same page. Mayor Seiler asked that this meeting be publically noticed to allow two members of the City Commission to attend. He also noted a member of the City Attorney's Office would be present along with City Manager Feldman and Anthony Fajardo, Director of Sustainable Development.

Senior Assistant City Attorney Paul Bangel, introduced the newly hired Assistant City Attorney Gustavo Ceballos to those in attendance.

#### **Air Emirates Route to Fort Lauderdale International Airport**

Vice Mayor Trantalis noted the projected amount of business that will be brought to the City as a result of Air Emirates new route to Fort Lauderdale International Airport is projected at approximately \$105,000,000. He cited aspects of the Convention and Visitor's Bureau presentation and the need for the City to create a development department to produce presentations showcasing all the City has to offer. Vice Mayor Trantalis further expounded on other aspects of his trip to Dubai, establishing a Sister Cities relationship between the two cities and pursuing the development of economic activity. Further discussions continued on this topic including the need to refocus and rethink the City's promotional materials to market the City, disseminate those materials in the advancement, pursue the Sister Cities' relationships and other unique aspects of Dubai. Vice Mayor Trantalis requested City Manager Feldman have City Staff put

together a video on all the unique, outstanding, and positive things the City has to offer.

[16-1524](#)

Communications to the City Commission

**THE MARINE ADVISORY BOARD**

*Motion made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Holmes, to send the following communication to the City Commission: as the New River Bridge provides the only access to west New River boatyards and homes, the Board recommends that the time the bridge must be closed for repairs be shortened (currently scheduled from 2-11-17 to 2-22-17) and that they have input into the repair process. They are concerned that the closure will cause severe short- and long-term economic hardship to marine facilities, and feel Police and Fire boats must have access to both sides of the bridge. The Board would like the FEC to create a compensation fund to reimburse the affected parties, and recommends that an independent engineer be hired to evaluate the plans. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Seiler stated the City has similar issues as noted in this communication from The Marine Advisory Board. Commissioner Rogers discussed his conversations with Ali Soule, All Aboard Florida and Phil Purcell, Marine Advisory Board, and suggested that all stakeholders meet to address all aspects of this matter. He also recommended delaying it from the February timeframe.

Mayor Seiler noted the Marine Industries Association's desire to move the timeframe to June 2017. Discussions ensued on issues relating to moving it to June and the 11 day timeline for remilling the necessary parts and the limited number of vendors who do this work. Mayor Seiler asked City Manager Feldman to coordinate a meeting to address the issues of shortening the timeframe and pushing the date back. Further discussion continued on this topic.

**CENTRAL CITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD (CCRAB)**

*Motion made by member Segaloff, seconded by Vice Chair Greenbaum to request that the City Commission explore the feasibility of performing a test to evaluate the impact of the NE 4 Avenue lane elimination project on surrounding streets and neighborhoods because of concerns that traffic will reroute through residential neighborhoods. In a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.*

Concerns about moving forward with this project were discussed including the complicated nature of this project due to the limited number of north/south roads. City Manager Feldman noted that FDOT will be doing a feasibility study on this project. Mayor Seiler stated he is awaiting a report back from City Staff on the test study. Additional comments ensued.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

*Motion made by Mr. Lovell, seconded by Mr. Morris, to retain the \$20,000 in funds not utilized by Junior Achievement for future allocation to those agencies that did not receive full public service grants. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Seiler stated he would like to see what agencies were involved. City Manager Feldman stated these allocations would come back to the City Commission as part of their annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program allocation.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**BUS-1** [16-1450](#)

Discussion Regarding FY 2017 Legislative Priorities and Appropriation Requests

Ron Book thanked the City Commission, the City Administration and the taxpayers for their legislative business on behalf of Ericks Consultants, Inc., Ronald L. Book, PA, and The August Company. Mr. Book discussed the State's revenue shortfall due to a downturn in incoming revenue and the political dynamics occurring in Tallahassee, the associated paperwork submissions and procedures and deadlines for the City's requested budget allocation projects. He also stated that according to the State House Rules every appropriation item must be the subject of a House Bill in order to be included in the Senate Budget and end up in the Senate's Final Conference Report. In response to Mayor Seiler's inquiry, Mr. Book stated there is no limit to the number of House Budget Bills submitted. Mr. Book also noted general bills do not count against local bills or appropriation bills and that the State House is adjusting its rules and procedures based in large part on lobbyist's participation and cited examples for the Commission. He noted the potential for a continuation budget and those items he believes the State wishes to eliminate. He also commented on the advice he has given to City Manager Feldman that CRA matters should be eliminated from the City's Agenda. Mr. Book gave his recommendations to the City Commission for the next

legislative session citing diminishing returns and recommended requesting less rather than more and being judicious. Mr. Book recommended working together to find more opportunities from an Agency perspective to achieve the City's goals and priorities. Mr. Book shared his concerns about the City's growing homeless issues and the need for longer term solutions.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked Mr. Book about the submission of the number of water related appropriation requests. Mr. Book explained in detail the process noting it is a four year cycle. It was noted that the water related appropriation requests that have been submitted include: tidal valves, seawalls, and rapid rehousing.

Commissioner Roberts asked about the opioid crisis stressing the need to address this issue. Mr. Book noted that there is no current focus to address Commissioner Roberts's concerns. Mr. Book stated that as the Criminal Justice Committees evolve at the State level they will begin to address this issue. He stated he would keep this issue at the forefront when working in Tallahassee.

Commissioner Rogers reviewed the City's appropriation request list as noted in this item's backup. Issues related to the general revenue as it relates to the State's Medicaid budget were discussed.

City Manager Feldman explained in detail the requests for appropriation funding items listed in the back-up to this item and the ones on which the City is moving forward.

City Manager Feldman raised the issue of CRA and Mr. Book stated his concern over submitting CRA items and the need remove them from the City's appropriations request list due to its sensitive nature at the State level.

Dave Ericks and Candice Ericks, Ericks Consulting, Inc., addressed the Commission on issues relating to The Wave, and the City's Tri-Rail Link. They noted the efforts of State Senator Brandes, Senate Appropriations Chair for Transportation, who is a progressive thinker and a proponent of transportation companies to improve transportation issues. Further discussions continued on transportation priorities and statutes.

Mayor Seiler confirmed the priorities for funding and the agreement to remove CRA items from the City's list.

Ms. Ericks noted the Florida Association of Counties is holding a Medical Marijuana Summit in Orlando on February 4, 2017, with a

round table discussion for stakeholders to address issues relating to local control and home rule on this issue. Mayor Seiler stated the City has put this issue on hold as a zoning in progress.

Mayor Seiler recognized Charles King, 105 N. Victoria Park Road, who addressed the Commission. Mr. King's comments focused on the number of lobbyists the City utilizes and other issues relating to requested appropriation funding requests.

### CONFERENCE REPORTS

**CF-1**    [16-1521](#)

**South Side School Update**

City Manager Feldman stated the only item to report on regarding the Southside School Project is the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the State relieving the City of the \$125,000 obligation to deal with the sidewalk easement. He also noted the City has been able to secure additional Dade County Pine for the building's interior and the project is moving forward on schedule.

Mayor Seiler recognized Charles King, 105 N. Victoria Park Road, who addressed the Commission. Mr. King's comments focused on the grand total of the costs for the Southside School project.

Mayor Seiler recognized Count Rosenthal, 1237 NW 7th Avenue, who addressed the Commission. Mr. Rosenthal's comments focused on the cost of historical projects that draws tourists to the cultural aspects the City.

**CF-2**    [16-1486](#)

**Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Projects Update**

City Manager Feldman stated a joint meeting with the Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board (BRAB) is scheduled in January 2017 to review the Guaranteed Maximum Price for the Las Olas Project. Additionally, the design build criteria for the Aquatic Complex is moving forward and the City is scheduled to receive it in January 2017.

Mayor Seiler recognized Paul Chettle, 200 S. Birch Road, who addressed the Commission. Mr. Chettle's comments focused on the December 19, 2016, Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board (BRAB) Meeting. Additionally, he said a mobility plan presentation was made and noted the public's interest and desire to know the related details regarding the mobility plan. He also noted the importance of the presentation by Dr. Nancy Gassman at this meeting.

Mayor Seiler recognized Don Morris, Manager Central Beach



Community Redevelopment Agency, who confirmed that the BRAB was publically noticed both in the lobby of City Hall and on the City's website on December 14, 2016, at 11:44 a.m.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked City Manager Feldman about a traffic circulation study in the relation to the garage in the Las Olas Corridor Project. He stated he had only seen EDSA's design concepts. City Manager Feldman explained the issues related to the traffic circulation and discussions ensued on this topic.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

#### **BUS-2 [16-1455](#)**

##### **Las Olas Boulevard Mobility CIP Update**

Elizabeth Van Zandt, Transportation and Mobility Manager, addressed the City Commission and gave an update on the City's Las Olas Mobility Project. Ms. Van Zandt noted the presence of the consultant team and the City's Transportation and Mobility Department's Project Manager II for the Las Olas Mobility Project, Catherine Prince, to address any technical questions from the City Commission.

Ms. Van Zandt's presentation included a recap of the project, an overview of what has been done and the next steps in the project's timeline. The presentation reviewed the way the project goals would be achieved which included slowing down vehicles and reducing the cut-through traffic in Colee Hammock, addressing reaching the beach via Las Olas Blvd. by utilizing SE 15th Avenue, making the Las Olas Blvd. multi-modal, and improving pedestrian safety.

***A copy of Ms. Van Zandt's presentation that include details regarding the project's goals is attached to these minutes.***

Questions and comments ensued from the Commission during Ms. Van Zandt's presentation.

Vice Mayor Trantalis specifically questioned the Las Olas Blvd. and 15th Avenue intersection having a left-turn signal arrow. Ms. Van Zandt stated there would be maximum movement included at this intersection. Mayor Seiler concurred with Vice Mayor Trantalis's recommendation for a left turn arrow lane signalization at this intersection.

Mayor Seiler requested a more visual map at the next update meeting.

Vice Mayor Trantalis noted the importance of enforcing trucks to utilize SE 15th Avenue rather than Las Olas Blvd. and requested Ms. Van

Zandt address this issue in conjunction with this project. City Manager Feldman stated the City will step up enforcement on this issue with the City's Police Motor Units along with educating the public.

Mayor Seiler recognized, Ali Hanes, P.E., Kimley Horn, who addressed the question from Commissioner Rogers explaining the threshold issue of the stop sign located at SE Second Street and SE15th Avenue and issues relating to sight distance. Further comments and discussions ensued.

Mayor Seiler recognized Mary Fertig, 511 Poinciana Drive and on behalf of the Idlewyld Neighborhood, who addressed the Commission. Ms. Fertig's comments focused on previous plans for mobility in this region that focused on the area from the ocean to the river and emphasized the need for the City to come up with a regional plan to facilitate the surrounding communities' needs. Ms. Fertig recommended the City having a public meeting prior to initiating the plans for Colee Hammock and Las Olas Blvd. to allow for public conversation and input.

Vice Mayor Trantalis confirmed that in the morning Las Olas is a four lane road during morning rush hour and on-street parking on Las Olas does not begin until 11:00 am on the weekdays.

City Manager Feldman stated this meeting was an only an update meeting.

Mayor Seiler recognized Diana Alarcon, Director of Transportation and Mobility, who confirmed that the issues raised at a previous Riverside meeting had been addressed.

Mayor Seiler recognized Ed Smoker, 912 E. Broward Blvd. and on behalf of E.J. Smoker Associates, who addressed the Commission with his comments and thoughts in favor of this project.

Mayor Seiler recognized Charles King, 105 N. Victoria Park Road, who addressed the Commission with his comments, thoughts, concerns, and questions regarding this item.

Mayor Seiler recognized Mike Weymouth, 620 East Las Olas Blvd., and on behalf of The Las Olas Company, who addressed the Commission. He recommended it was time to move forward to get this project moving. Mr. Weymouth concurred with Ms. Fertig's comments that this project needs to be global from a regional standpoint.

## **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

### **BD-1    [16-1523](#)**

#### **Board and Committee Vacancies**

Mayor Seiler stated he would reappoint Abby Laughlin to the Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board and that additional Board appointments would be discussed at tonight's Regular Meeting.

Please see Regular Meeting item R-1.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the City Commission at their Conference Meeting of December 20, 2016, Mayor Seiler adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

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

### **[16-1559](#)**

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

Dmitry Lyubimov v. City of Fort Lauderdale, Thomas Capano, Jesus Gonzalez and Sean Reddish  
Case No. CACE 14-017138 (13)

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

Mayor Seiler announced at this time, 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 cases:

Dmitry Lyubimov v. City of Fort Lauderdale, Thomas Capano, Jesus Gonzalez and Sean Reddish - Case No. CACE 14-017138 (13)

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

Persons in attendance will be:

Mayor, John P. "Jack" Seiler  
Vice Mayor, Dean J. Trantalis  
Commissioner, Robert L. McKinzie  
Commissioner, Bruce G. Roberts  
Commissioner, Romney Rogers  
City Manager, Lee R. Feldman  
City Attorney, Cynthia A. Everett

Re. Dmitry Lyubimov v. City of Fort Lauderdale,  
Thomas Capano, Jesus Gonzalez and Sean Reddish,  
Counsel will be Assistant City Attorney, Alain E. Boileau,

Re. Albion Staffing Solutions, Inc. v. City of Fort  
Lauderdale  
Outside Counsel will be Robert Vaughan, Esq., Kim  
Vaughan Lerner, LLP, and a Certified Court Reporter with  
Daughters Reporting, Inc.

The estimated length of the attorney-client session is  
approximately one (1) hour.