City of Fort Lauderdale

City Hall 100 North Andrews Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 www.fortlauderdale.gov



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 18, 2017 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

Meeting

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

City Commission Conference

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 Mary Gushwa

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seiler called the City Commission Conference Meeting of January 18, 2017, to order at 1:37 p.m.

No public e-comments were submitted for this meeting

BOARD REPORTS

Mayor Seiler commented on the successful and well attended Martin Luther King Day (MLK) Parade.

Commissioner Rogers acknowledged the positive Sun Sentinel letter to the editor regarding Assistant City Manager Chris Lagerbloom as related to the incident at Fort Lauderdale International Airport. Assistant City Manager Lagerbloom commented on the logistics with regard to the City's response to this incident. The entire City Commission agreed with Commission Rogers acknowledgement of the outstanding response from everyone involved in this incident, specifically noting first responders, the Police and Fire Departments.

Mayor Seiler noted the exceptional efforts put forth by City Manager Lee Feldman and City Staff. Commissioner Roberts also recognized the efforts of Mayor Seiler. He stated this incident illustrates the importance of the City's first responders training.

Commissioner Rogers gave a brief update to the Commission on his meeting with the organization Love Thy Neighbor and Arnold Abbott regarding a possible resolution to the ongoing lawsuit with the City. He stated it was a healthy conversation and that he explained the City's position. Vice Mayor Trantalis asked if Reverend Black participated in the discussions and Commissioner Rogers stated

Reverend Black was in the building but not part of the discussions.

Commissioner Rogers gave a review of his attendance at the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Retreat held in Davie, Florida. He stated it was a healthy discussion. Commissioner Roberts said the City's needs were accepted, well received and will be put on the MPO's lists of action items.

Commissioner Roberts suggested the City Commission having another joint session with representatives of the County Commission as a way to reconnect and reestablish priorities, noting County Commissioner Beam Furr's agreement.

Mayor Seiler agreed with Commissioner Roberts' suggestion and requested City Manager Feldman coordinate a meeting with the City Commission and Broward County Board of Commissioners to address both the City and County transportation needs.

Discussions continued on the infrastructure aspects of including a railway tunnel in the City for the FEC Railway.

Commissioner Roberts stated the MLK Breakfast was outstanding and the excellent presentation given by minister and civil rights activist Dr. C.T. Vivian, keynote speaker for the inspirational breakfast.

Commissioner Rogers noted his attendance at meetings in his district addressing infrastructure issues, specifically noting the Rio Vista Community Civic Associations meeting with presentations by Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Public Works Director, and Senior Project Manager Public Works Department Elkin Diaz regarding seawalls and associated engineering issues, noting they did an outstanding job. Commissioner Rogers noted discussions and questions from the public ensued regarding how to fund those projects, stating the importance of this issue for all stakeholders.

Commissioner Rogers informed the Commission that one of his constituents raised the issue of vacation rentals. Discussions ensued about State Senator Greg Steube filing a bill usurping and preempting any local ordinances passed before 2011 that would prohibit any vacation rental restrictions by local governments.

Mayor Seiler commented this was a significant issue as it is a quality of life issue and is similar to what occurred with Sober Homes. He stressed the importance of this being a local issue and the Commissioner need to communicate this to their constituents and the City's lobbyist to prevent the usurping of local ordinances.

Commissioner Rogers discussed FDOT installing medians in strategic areas along Andrews Avenue to address safety concerns along The Wave's route. Vice Mayor Trantalis noted the importance of addressing a lack of left turns or U-turns on The Wave's route. Discussions continued on the installation of traffic lights at intersections and modifications needed.

Vice Mayor Trantalis talked about the community meeting at Holiday Park regarding The Galleria project, noting the attendance was in the range of 40-50 people. Commissioner Roberts thanked City Staff for providing attendees with new information and a better understanding of the issue as this matter moves forward.

Vice Mayor Trantalis said the meeting was an opportunity for the developers to hear the positions of the attendees as well as the City as it relates to what the community desires with this project.

Vice Mayor Trantalis stated the Consulate General of Israel had requested the City Commission attend a tree planting ceremony on February 11, 2017, in observance of Tu B'Shevat, New Year of the Trees, an Israeli holiday similar to the celebration of Earth Day.

Vice Mayor Trantalis discussed the carjacking that occurred in the Rio Vista area. City Manager Feldman explained the City's proactive street crimes unit entitled Rapid Offender Control (ROC) stating their daily activities throughout the City are not publicly disclosed. Further discussions continued on way the City is addressing crime throughout all areas of the City and the need for every neighbor in the community to be proactive in reporting.

Mayor Seiler recognized Interim Chief Rick Maglione (Chief Maglione) who addressed the Commission regarding the carjacking. Chief Maglione reviewed the details of the incident at a residential homeowners meeting.

Chief Maglione discussed the Police Department's plan to make a visible difference in the upcoming year in the City's approach to crime, with a larger police presence and traffic enforcement primarily in the City's main corridors to act as a deterrent. He confirmed for Mayor Seiler that this will be implemented on February 12, 2017, and expounded on the details of the ROC unit. Mayor Seiler commented on this proactive unit and encouraged other members of the Commission to have a ride along to understand their impact on crime.

In response to Mayor Seiler's question about the recent Galleria meeting, Commission Roberts stated the next steps include focusing

on the developer agreement and working with neighborhoods. Mayor Seiler noted, based on today's discussions, there is no schedule at this time for moving forward on this issue.

Mayor Seiler stated the MLK Day Parade was successful, noting the parade route and location worked well. There was consensus among the Commission that the MLK Day Parade was a success.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 17-0097 Infrastructure Update

Mayor Seiler asked City Manager Feldman about the Infrastructure Update. City Manager Feldman stated Alan Dodd, Deputy Director of the Public Works Department, will provide the City Commission with a PowerPoint presentation with the support of other City departments that have direct responsibility for some of the issues involved. City Manager Feldman stated infrastructure issues relate to buildings, roads, seawalls, airport, parking system, storm water, water, and sewer which will be addressed in the presentation.

He stated addressing all the City's needs has a very high price tag, noting that not everything needs to be done immediately, and the City is cognizant of the fiscal realities of this issue.

Mayor Seiler recognized Deputy Director Dodd who provided the City Commission with the PowerPoint presentation

Mr. Dodd began the Infrastructure PowerPoint presentation commenting the City has a deliberative process, using the City's Master Plan methodology to focus on the needs and priorities in addressing the most critical infrastructure issues while also following guidance and direction from the Commission.

He discussed the requirement of meeting both the needs of today and tomorrow while simultaneously coordinating with the County, the State and Federal guidelines. Mr. Dodd gave a brief overview of each of the presentation's infrastructure areas. Each department head responsible for their respective areas of responsibility elaborated on their portion of the presentation.

A copy of Mr. Dodd's Infrastructure presentation is attached to these minutes.

In response to Mayor Seiler's question, Mr. Dodd stated there had been modifications to some of the numbers in the presentation and are in the back-up provided to the Commission for this item.

City Manager Feldman noted the manner in which the budgeting of the City's Capital Improvement Projects was handled prior to 2011 versus how CIPs are currently funded over the next five years.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked about the General fund balance amount for 2016. City Manager Feldman stated the City's books are still being closed and the projected General Fund balance is expected to be approximately \$71,700,000, in line with the City Commission's established policy.

Seawalls

In response to Vice Mayor Trantalis's question, City Manager Feldman discussed the seawalls owned by the City are in immediate need of being addressed. Out of the 4.8 miles of City-owned seawalls, approximately 2 miles are severely distressed. City Manager Feldman stated the City cannot cite people for seawall issues when the City is not in compliance.

Commissioner Roberts asked for details regarding the allocation of funds currently in the budget for the infrastructure needs. Mr. Dodd discussed the average cost for replacing a seawall is \$1,200 - \$1,400 per foot.

City Manager Feldman explained the City's funded projects include those seawalls in the public realm that are a priority, such as those on Riverwalk. He noted the engineering work in that area is ongoing to determine the extent of repairs and associated costs. He noted other areas of high priority including the area along Bayview Drive between 59th and 60th Streets, as well as City funds dedicated to any seawalls that break are included in the City's funded seawall projects.

Mayor Seiler and Commissioner Roberts requested the CIP funds be handled and discussed as they relate to individual projects, noted as separate costs and not be combined to determine a fixed cost per unit.

Vice Mayor Trantalis discussed the lower cost his constituents are advising for their seawall replacement that is approximately \$1,000 per square foot. Commissioner Roberts stressed his desire to know the worse-case scenario regarding costs. Mr. Dodd clarified that depending upon the seawall location, there are factors that will increase the replacement cost. The Cordova Road seawall issue was discussed and included its replacement and a cap on top. Further discussions ensued on the economies of scale.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked if there were opportunities in the City to duplicate what has been done in Key West where they build a bypass along the seawall. Mr. Dodd suggested areas along Bayview Drive and other smaller areas within the City may have those opportunities. Mr. Dodd acknowledged the City's goal to incorporate new seawalls with other opportunities to benefit the City. Discussions continued about replacing seawalls in such a way as to augment the height in the future. Mr. Dodd confirmed this would be done.

Mobility Improvements

Mayor Seiler recognized Debora Griner, Transportation Manager, who addressed the Commission on the mobility improvements from the PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Griner gave a brief history of the City's Transportation Department and its tasks, with a focus on addressing safety issues and the high number of traffic-related incidents. Ms. Griner outlined transportation and mobility plans that include pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and neighborhood mobility improvements as the City moves into the future. She also reviewed for the Commission the 21 identified projects (slide number 11) that were included in the City's 10-year infrastructure plan for the City's proposed surtax which was on the November 2016 ballot but did not pass.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked about the relationship between the pedestrian safety experience and slowing down City streets. Ms. Griner noted there are different points of view that vary based on the context of the street. She also acknowledged the correlation of reduced traffic fatalities with the slowing down of traffic.

Ms. Griner addressed Commissioner Roberts's question about the cost of funding for City transportation infrastructure needs, noting that many of the projects are currently partially funded with the assistance of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

Commissioner McKinzie commented on the area in District III on Sunrise adjacent to Carter Park that has an issue with pedestrians crossings in the area. Commissioner Roberts stated there is now an FDOT/MPO project to address this area. Diana Alarcon, Director of Transportation and Mobility, confirmed that this safety study has been advanced forward to have FDOT study and address this issue. Ms. Alarcon also expounded on the City's efforts to identify its needs and coordinate with the MPO to move the City's initiatives forward.

In response to Vice Mayor Trantalis's question, Ms. Griner stated the 15th Street area needs have been identified but a plan has not yet been created as the City is awaiting community input. Vice Mayor

Trantalis noted this is a dangerous area.

Ms. Griner noted that many roads and bridges in the City are the responsibility of either Broward County or the State of Florida. Ms. Griner emphasized the importance of having "a seat at the table" and continue working with Broward County and the FDOT for those projects under their umbrella.

Vice Mayor Trantalis noted the right turn at 1st Street and Federal Highway (behind First Baptist Church) is too narrow and Ms. Griner confirmed they are looking into this issue, noting that it meets City's code. Commissioner Rogers commented that 1st Street now has slower traffic and drivers stop for pedestrians at the crossing.

Ms. Griner noted that the 21 project listed (slide 11) are only a portion of the City's transportation infrastructure needs. In response to Mayor Seiler's question about 6th Avenue, Ms. Griner said the goal is to make one cohesive connected design from the tunnel top plaza project across to Laura Ward Park.

City Roads

Mr. Dodd continued with the next portion of the infrastructure needs presentation addressing the conditions of and remedies for the City's roads as illustrated in the pavement condition survey (slide 12).

Commissioner Roberts agreed with the idea of maintaining the roads and not allowing deterioration to the point of needing repaving, and voiced his concern over the accuracy of this survey today as it was done in 2013. Discussions ensued on the City's schedule for micro-paving. Commissioner Roberts stated that key streets within the City such as Bayview Drive and Sistrunk Avenue should be repaved rather than micro-surfaced. Mayor Seiler concurred with Commissioner Roberts that Bayview Drive should not be micro-surfaced.

City Manager Feldman commented on the additional issue of addressing the subsurface conditions of the City's roads that may not allow for micro-surfacing. Commissioner Roberts noted the need to update the 2013 survey.

In relation to the carjacking that occurred in Rio Vista, City Manager Feldman informed the Commission that an arrest had been made, giving the Commission answers to their specific questions.

Mr. Dodd continued with the presentation. Vice Mayor Trantalis commented on the issue of the lack of quality when roads are

micro-surfaced, causing safety concerns for those using skateboards and roller blades. He requested Mr. Dodd address the job quality being done by the contractors. Members of the Commission noted the importance of micro-surfacing being done in a consistent and cost effective manner in the City's neighborhoods. Mr. Dodd noted the City's construction inspectors are working with the contractors to improve the quality of their work.

Commissioner Rogers stated that based on the number of trips per day and volume of traffic, a roadway such as Bayview should be put into a category of having a complete resurfacing rather than micro-surfacing.

Discussions continued on the lengthy timelines involved in working with the County to coordinate and address pavers on County and State roads, which Mr. Dodd noted are the responsibility of the City.

Mr. Dodd also noted the City's responsibility for water and sewer infrastructure located under County and State roadways that need to be worked through and budgeted.

Commissioner Roberts asked for confirmation of the CIP funds budgeted for roads at \$3,700,000. Mr. Dodd stated some of the budgeted numbers were adjusted. Commissioner Roberts noted this number was consistent and asked if City Staff can anticipate this consistency moving forward into the future. City Manager Feldman stated the City does anticipate consistency on the adjusted amounts, expounding on the details as it relates to the gas tax appropriations.

Discussions continued on the amounts of Capital Improvement Project (CIP) budgeted funds (slide 13). City Manager Feldman explained that the CIP funds are programmed and City pays contractors based on what it is invoiced, and is an ongoing cycle.

Commissioner Roberts emphasized his concern of using real numbers for the five-year CIP.

Bridges

Mr. Dodd began the Bridges portion of the infrastructure presentation noting that the City owns 51 bridges, some of which date back to the 1920s which requires addressing their maintenance and prioritizing funding for repairs or replacement. Commissioner Roberts commented that the budgeted funds are not adequate for bridge repair. Mr. Dodd stated it is a combination of repairing and replacing City bridges.

Commissioner Roberts and Mayor Seiler stated they recalled a previous presentation on all the City bridges. Mr. Dodd confirmed that the overall cost of the City's Bridge Program is approximately \$35,000,000 for all 51 bridges and today's presentation only represents what is programmed within the five-year CIP, which fits into the City's previous presentation's budgeted amount of \$35,000,000.

Mayor Seiler asked City Manager Feldman to confirm that the \$3,300,000 budgeted for 2016 is rolling over to 2017. City Manager Feldman confirmed. He explained that the details of the funding are tied to multiple-year funding for the South Ocean Bridge and Coconut Isle Bridge. City Manager Feldman confirmed Mayor Seiler's question as to the location of the South Ocean Bridge, located next to The Church by the Sea. City Manager Feldman said these two bridges were identified as critical in the City's Master Plan.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's question, Mr. Dodd stated the \$35,000,000 is budgeted to address the 51 bridges in need of maintenance, repair or replacement over the next 20 years based upon their condition when they were surveyed. Mr. Dodd stated as FDOT does their inspections, they may identify additional issues the City will need to address.

Mr. Dodd addressed Vice Mayor Trantalis's question about the swing bridge and if it is navigable stating that it is navigable and to all the passing boats.

Sidewalks

Commissioner Roberts asked if the City is on track to address its sidewalk infrastructure repairs beyond the CIP's five-years. Mr. Dodd stated the City is ahead of schedule concerning the \$3,200,000 risk reduction funding the Commission approved for sidewalk repairs. In response to Commissioner Rogers's question about sidewalk corners requiring American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, Mr. Dodd stated this presentation only addresses structural issues and does not include ADA compliance requirements. Commissioner Rogers commented the City is changing the ordinance on sidewalks by default and there exists a need to address this due to fairness.

Commissioner Roberts commented that the City is required to meet ADA requirements when doing road improvements, and Mr. Dodd confirmed. Discussions continued on funding ADA improvement through grants, deterioration of sidewalks, responsibilities of homeowners for their adjacent sidewalks, and readdressing the ordinance to reduce tripping hazards.

Canal Dredging

Mr. Dodd reviewed the comprehensive dredging analysis requirements over the City's waterways done over the past two years, noting the ongoing work to address completed funding for canal dredging.

City Manager Feldman stated City Staff would be coming to the Commission to pass a Special Assessment for those who benefit from canal dredging. Mr. Dodd noted in addition to the funding challenges, canal dredging also has numerous environmental considerations and permitting challenges.

Facilities

Mr. Dodd reviewed the City's facilities maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department. He reviewed the unfunded facilities infrastructure needs over the course of the next ten years (slide 25).

Enrique Sanchez, Deputy Director of Special Facilities and Administration for Parks and Recreation, addressed the Commission on the CIP budget amounts noted on slide 25.

In response to Commissioner Rogers question, City Manager Feldman explained what is allowed to be used from the proceeds Parks Impact Fees, noting it can be used only to expand the capacity of the City's park system. City Manager Feldman stated the amount available in the Parks Impact Fee Fund is approximately \$2,500,000, noting the current balance as \$9,000,000 in cash while funding \$4,000,000 in ball field improvements and \$1,200,000 for park acquisition of the Black property, in addition to other encumbrances.

Mr. Dodd noted building the City's three Fire Stations is on track and moving forward. Commissioner Roberts noted the smaller neighborhood rescue facilities need to be added to the City's facilities infrastructure needs list in the areas of Rio Vista, East Las Olas, and other areas of the City in the future as the City grows.

Mr. Dodd noted the 40-year inspection requirement for buildings that are currently being worked through to remain compliant with regulations for life, health and safety issues. He noted that funding adjustments may need to be made to address any immediate, critical needs that are identified. In response to Commissioner Roberts's question about the 40 year certification statute, City Manager Feldman stated it applies to commercial and government buildings as well as residential buildings.

In response to Commissioner Rogers's question about a sprinkler system in the War Memorial building, Mr. Sanchez responded that he

would look into this issue. Mr. Dodd responded to Vice Mayor Trantalis's question about the funds allocated for the War Memorial building is for updates to the electrical system. Don Morris, the Area Manager for the Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, stated the City received a grant in the amount of approximately \$2,000,000 to address the facility needs of the War Memorial Building with the goal of bringing in a higher level of events and increased revenues to the City.

In response to Vice Mayor Trantalis's question about the City losing money each year on the War Memorial building, City Manager Feldman stated the City breaks even. Commissioner Rogers commented that it is one of the most efficiently run buildings in the entire City.

City Manager Feldman stated that condominiums are allowed to opt out of the sprinkler requirement.

Parking

Diana Alarcon, Director of Transportation and Mobility, addressed the Commission on the City's Parking Infrastructure portion of the presentation giving an overview of the City's parking system and its fund (slide 27).

In response to Commissioner Roger's question about providing park and ride facilities, Ms. Alarcon stated in the ongoing parking study, based on information in the five-year plan, parking growth is being looked at and assessed. He asked Ms. Alarcon if the parking fund can handle the improvements of existing parking issues and new parking facilities. Ms. Alarcon stated "yes," stating it had been over 8 years since the City's last parking rate increase and noting the need to move the rates more in line with the current market to offset the costs of adding any new parking facilities. Ms. Alarcon confirmed for Commissioner Rogers that there is a rate study in progress and it should be presented to the Commission in late spring or early summer.

Commissioner Roberts stated the fund look healthy but moving forward into the future, the City needs to look at the necessity of additional parking facilities due to the new services provided by companies such as Uber and Lyft. Ms. Alarcon and City Manager Feldman confirmed the City is looking at this issue.

City Manager Feldman noted the positive aspects favorable to the City in the recent land swap of the Sebastian Natchez property that includes public parking paid for by private funds. Discussions

continued on this topic and the benefit of public/private efforts in this area.

Commissioner Rogers commented on the Wells Fargo property located on the southwest corner of SW 17th Street and Andrews Avenue as a possible spot for a Park and Ride location. He agreed with Commissioner Roberts idea of future declining demands for parking in the City.

Airport

Rufus James, Manager of the City's Executive Airport (Airport), addressed the Commission on the it's infrastructure needs, stating that the Airport Fund is healthy. He reviewed the Airport's CIP budget fund balance over the next five years and gave a review of the Airport's active projects, issues/challenges, and opportunities. Mr. James noted that the funding needs of the Airport are addressed with the assistance of grants from the Federal Department of Transportation (DOT), and Federal Aviation Administration funding.

Mr. James noted that due to the limited amount of land at the Airport, it has had to turn away business. In response to Vice Mayor Trantalis's question regarding the ability of the Airport to acquire additional land, Mr. James stated "yes but the cost is extreme," noting there is not enough in the Airport's reserve funds to make an offer. Further discussions continued on acquiring additional land at the Airport. City Manager Feldman commented on one piece of property available has exposure on Cypress Creek Road and does not support hangar development as much as it does commercial development. It was noted that there is fence access where the National Guard is currently located, their lease is up this summer and they will be relocating to Miami.

Commissioner Roberts noted the vacant Florida Atlantic University (FAU) property on the other side of Perimeter Road. He asked if there was a way to incorporate this property to provide more runway access, noting the importance of bringing more property into the Airport. Commissioner Roberts requested this issue be addressed by City Staff.

City Manager Feldman announced the fire at the warehouse located in the vicinity of the Executive Airport at the Conceal International Inc. warehouse, near 6600 N.W. 17th Avenue has been fully extinguished.

Mr. James continued with the presentation. City Manager Feldman discussed the issue of selling versus leasing properties at the Airport, noting the goal of developing the City's tax base while not jeopardizing

federal funding for the Airport should it become too healthy.

Storm Water

Mr. Dodd continued with the Storm Water portion of the Infrastructure presentation.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked for the number of stormwater outfalls that require tidal valves or what portion of the 1,258 outfalls will require tidal valves. Mr. Dodd stated that is part of the City's Stormwater Master Plan currently being evaluated.

Mayor Seiler noted there were over 200 tidal valves scheduled for installation, about halfway in meeting this goal. Mr. Dodd noted the City has put in a grant application for assistance in funding another 87 tidal valves.

Mr. Dodd commented on the CIP for Stormwater needs, and a 2019 revenue bond is a projected bond for the Storm Water Master Plan. Commissioner Roberts and Mayor Seiler asked questions about the drop off in the 2018 CIP numbers. Laura Reece, Budget Manager, stated that smaller projects were being done in the first few years before issuing the bond in 2019 for the larger projects. Mr. Dodd expounded on this point stating he anticipates having the Storm Water Master Plan Phase II completed by 2017, which will give the City the costs involved to prepare the bond with construction beginning in 2019 or whenever the funds are available.

In response to Vice Mayor Trantalis's question on the length of time required to complete Phase II of the Storm Water Master Plan, Mr. Dodd stated they are still working on the design. Additionally, they are templating a timeline of approximately five years, that will address the seven priority neighborhoods, noting there may be some adjustments because water boundaries do not align with the neighborhood boundaries.

Commissioner Roberts noted there are 137 miles of storm pipes and this number was confirmed by Mr. Dodd. Commissioner Roberts asked in a worst case scenario the cost to replace these 137 miles of storm pipes. Mr. Dodd stated it would be in the approximately \$300,000,000. City Manager Feldman expounded on the City's current stormwater system infrastructure as well as that of the county and State that is not included in the \$300,000,000 amount.

Commissioner Rogers noted the storm water runoff from Fort Lauderdale International Airport that collides with runoff from City neighborhoods such as Edgewood will require coordination. Mr. Dodd confirmed that coordination is necessary for those types of situations.

Commissioner Roberts noted the fund balance for the stormwater operating fund seems healthy. City Manager Feldman commented that the storm water operating fund is primarily a capital project fund as compared to the water and sewer fund that has costs for treating and disposing and makes it more of an operational fund versus a capital fund.

City Manager Feldman agreed that the storm water operating fund is healthy in terms of maintaining the existing storm water infrastructure and make needed improvements. He emphasized the cost of implementing Phase Two of the Master Plan and confirming for Mayor Seiler that it will be in the range of \$148,000,000 to \$200,000,000. City Manager Feldman also commented on the way Miami Beach is handling the funding of their infrastructure needs noting their storm water rates are triple the cost of the City's. He stated the City's storm water rates would need to increase unless there is another form of funding.

In response to Commissioner Roberts comment that Miami has more pumping stations, Mr. Dodd stated City Staff would look into increasing the number of the City's pumping stations as part of the study to determine the best method to move the water.

Mr. Dodd stated moving forward with the program over the next several years, the City will be cognizant of sea level rise and climate change issues. The goal will be to build a more resilient infrastructure that is very adaptable and accommodate the needs of the City over the next 40-50 years.

Vice Mayor Trantalis raised the infrastructure issues at the intersection of 15th Avenue and Sunrise Boulevard and asking Mr. Dodd the status of the situation. Mr. Dodd explained there was a catch basin at 15th Avenue that tied into the State's stormwater pipe, and when the State's contractor was rebuilding the road, they severed the connection between the City's catch basin and the State's structures. Mr. Dodd stated they are working with FDOT to put in a new pipe to connect the stormwater pipe and two months ago the City finished the coordination with the State. The City has a tentative design which is now awaiting the City's procurement process to award to a new stormwater contractor. It is being treated as an operation and maintenance project rather than a CIP project, and the timeline is expected to be six months. City Manager Feldman commented the City's pipe was probably not permitted by the State and they were unaware of the City's pipe and was not included in the State's plans.

Water and Sewer

Mr. Dodd continued with the water and sewer portion of the PowerPoint presentation. City Manager Feldman pointed out the \$109,000,000 of expenditures there is an approximate amount of \$28,000,000 used for debt service on the City's former capital. Vice Mayor Trantalis asked if the \$109,000,000 also includes the funds transferred into the City's General Operating Fund. City Manager Feldman confirmed. Discussions continued on the funds operating expenditures and the history of the way the City has handled this issue.

City Manager Feldman explained how the City handled a payment.

City Auditor Herbst confirmed Commissioner Rogers point that there needs to be reasonable correlation and explained his reasoning. Mr. Herbst stated City Manager Feldman reached out to him and he advised that it is an unusual approach but is an alternative. Further comments ensued on this topic, and Mr. Herbst stated he felt the City is on solid ground.

Mr. Herbst explained this was based on the City's millage rate and the assessed value of property. City Manager Feldman stated that in 2011, the City charged the Water and Sewer Fund \$4,800,000 in a pilot payment. Further discussions continued on the pilot payment, ROI alternative funding, and other aspects of the Water and Sewer Fund. The Commission agreed to have a discussion on these issues involving the Water and Sewer Fund at another time.

Waste Water Fund

Mr. Dodd continued the presentation on the Waste Water Fund (slide 38). Mr. Dodd explained the effect of a 1% rate increase in the current water and sewer charges.

Water Utility

Mr. Dodd gave an overview and a brief history of the City's Water Utility facilities. He reviewed the Water Utility strategic plan and the Commission's priorities. Additionally, there was a review of the CIP budget fund balances over the next five years and the priority CIP projects for the City's Water Utility. He stated City Staff would be finalizing the Master Plan for all utilities over the next two months when the information is received from the City's consultant. Mr. Dodd discussed the Water Utility's active projects, issues/challenges, and opportunities (slides 40-42).

Commissioner Roberts stated he would like to know the percentage of

City utilities were involved in Waterworks project City wide to determine a cost basis and extrapolate costs.

Sewer Utilities

Mr. Dodd continued the infrastructure presentation with an overview of the City's Sewer Utility facilities as noted in the presentation's slides. He reviewed this utility's strategic plan and Commission priorities. Additionally, there was a review of the CIP budget fund balances over the next five years and the CIP's projects for Sewer Utilities. He noted these plans would be adjusted as dictated by the City's final Master Plan. Mr. Dodd also outlined and discussed the Sewer Utility's active projects, issues/challenges, and opportunities (slides 43-45).

Mayor Seiler asked about the amount of permitted gallons per day (58 gallons) at the City's wastewater treatment plant and the actual number of gallons per day the City is processing. Mr. Dodd stated the range in 28-40 gallons per day or 80% of permitted capacity on the highest days. Discussions continued on the replacement of pipes and the method of determining the relining of pipes or pipe replacement, determining thresholds and baselines, implications of new development in the City, system infrastructure, and the prioritization of these needs.

City Manager Feldman noted that developers pay an impact fee and other capital investment costs due to their development's effect on the City's infrastructure.

Commissioner McKinzie asked about contracting out the pumping of sewer systems in District III. Mr. Dodd explained they are still addressing the repair of the sewer line break that occurred in December. Further discussions and explanations continued on the details involved on this project.

Mr. Dodd summarized the infrastructure presentation highlighting the large investment required by the City and acknowledging the need of making significant infrastructure advancements to provide resiliency and adaptation moving forward to ensure the long terms needs of the City.

Commissioner Roberts requested the costs beyond five years be provided to the Commission. Commissioner Rogers requested that all of the CIP costs related to the City's underground be extracted out of the City's infrastructure needs and be viewed separately.

Mayor Seiler noted the large number of citizens who signed up to speak on this item, announcing that comments from the public will begin now and would continue at tonight's meeting as the Closed Door Session will necessitate a vote by the Commission at 5:15 p.m. He also announced today's CRA Meeting will be held tonight.

Mayor Seiler recognized Laura Croscenco, 1616 N. Dixie Highway, who addressed the Commission. Ms. Croscenco acknowledged and thanked the City for the good job Code Enforcement Staff has done in her Middle River Terrace neighborhood.

Ms. Croscenco additional comments focused on the safety issues regarding children walking to school due to poor road conditions and safety issues in her neighborhood. She noted this was a result of ongoing work on the railroad tracks in the area of NE 17th Court, NE 12th Terrace through to NE 16th Court. She also raised the issue of the area in front of Fort Lauderdale High School and its sidewalk issues and other safety concerns. Ms. Croscenco pointed out her concerns on the diagram and photo's she presented to illustrate the areas of concern.

Mayor Seiler recognized Abby Laughlin,425 Bayshore Drive, who addressed the Commission focusing on the City's need to address its infrastructure problems and the responsibility of citizens to be cognizant of what they dispose of which results in imposing a significant hardship on the City's fragile underground sewer pipe systems.

Mayor Seiler recognized Shirley Smith, One Las Olas Boulevard, who addressed the Commission. Ms. Smith's comments focused her previous effort along with Laura Ward's to notify Commission members when addressing infrastructure drainage issues in the beach area. Ms. Smith's also asked about the necessity of road work being done during the high season.

Mayor Seiler recognized Anne Hilmer, 621 Idlewyld Drive, who addressed the Commission regarding development in the City as it relates to its negative impact on the City's infrastructure and environment. She noted the petitions gathered last spring requested a comprehensive, transparent, and publicly accessible plan including a specific inventory of needed improvements as well as other items to allow citizen participation.

Ms. Hilmer discussed the active participation of many members of the community who meet on a regular basis on the issues affecting the City and their desire to be proactive. Those issues include addressing the City's Infrastructure Master Plan and being provided with a detailed plan as to how to pay for its costs.

Mayor Seiler recognized Brett Wood, 1619 Seabreeze Boulevard, who addressed the Commission. Mr. Wood's comments to the Commission focused on the budgeted funds of the 2008 CIP and the 2017 CIP. He requested an explanation as to the difference. He reviewed the history of the City efforts to move forward with the necessary actions to address the City's infrastructure needs and funding. Mr. Wood requested a clearer understanding of funds transferred from the sewer, storm water, and parking to the General Fund stating he believed those funds could be used for upgrading the City's infrastructure.

Mayor Seiler recognized Carolann Bartholomey, 3000 Holiday Drive, who addressed the City Commission reading from a written statement from City Manager Feldman to the City Commission in March 2016 addressing the details and importance of the aging infrastructure. Ms. Bartholomey also commented on the history and requests from the State of Florida Environmental Protection Agency for a plan to address the City's critical infrastructure issues.

Mayor Seiler recognized Nancy Thomas, 1924 SE 24th Avenue, who addressed the Commission, asking in concert with Carol Ann Bartholomey's request, about the plan to address infrastructure issues. Ms. Thomas recited the community's neighborhood survey results about to this issue and the history of the City's progress made to date. She continued her comments on the implications of storm water management in the City and emphasizing these must be addressed.

Mayor Seiler recognized Trisha Halliday, 50 Nurmi Drive, who

addressed the Commission. Ms. Halliday discussed the needs of the City's sidewalks and the costs estimates given in 2013. She also commented on amounts given to the City's Budget and Advisory Board in January 2016 to address the needs of the City's sidewalks. Ms. Halliday discussed the City's Fire and Rescue Services, the history of the City's Fire Bond, noting three fire stations have not yet been built, and the increase of emergency response times in the City. She further commented on the need for a new Police Station and questioned how those costs would be addressed.

City Manager Feldman emphasized that the number referenced on one of the speaker's signs of \$215,000,000 represented unfunded items. City Manager Feldman expounded on this issue, giving his philosophy of preparing the City's budget that provides a five-year plan containing committed funding, allowing for a reasonable expectation that a project would be completed.

Commissioner Roberts requested a copy of the document referenced in Ms. Halliday's comments regarding the costs of addressing City's infrastructure sidewalks issue. Mayor Seiler requested this document be sent to all Commission members.

Mayor Seiler recognized Bill Cole, who addressed the Commission on the issues relating to the City's traffic infrastructure. He noted the citizens' petition requested that all City roads rated "D" and lower be analyzed, plans developed and implementation scheduled to alleviate the City's failing roads.

Mr. Cole stated the citizen petition requested discontinuing development in the City until these needs have been addressed. He noted the importance of any future plans for the City having community support of the informed, intelligent and willing residents who desire to be part of the solution. Mr. Cole requested the Commission include the community in solving the infrastructure problems faced by the City.

Mayor Seiler recognized Jack Malcolm, 1900 Admirals Way, who addressed the City Commission regarding the document earlier discussed relating to the City's sidewalks and other infrastructure matters. He said it was given to the City's Budget Advisory Board at the meeting on January 11, 2016.

Mr. Malcolm handed the document to Mayor Seiler stating it came from the City's website. Mr. Malcolm noted the longer the infrastructure process, the more failures will occur in the City impacting residents and visitors. He noted the history of the process

of developing plans to address infrastructure issues, the delays, the history of recent infrastructure failures, and the demands being made by the State of Florida's Environmental Protection Agency to address infrastructure failures. Mr. Malcolm noted the importance of all stakeholders to work together to create an Umbrella Comprehensive Master Plan for the City.

Mayor Seiler recognized Paul Chettle, 200 S. Birch Road, who commented on the costs and paying for the City's aging infrastructure, noting CIP Fund spending is significantly less than in 2008. Mayor Seiler and City Manager Feldman clarified that those costs in 2008 were unfunded.

Mr. Chettle noted the amount missing from the costs given to the Budget Advisory Board in January 2016. He reiterated the need for a comprehensive plan to include accurate cost estimates and clearly identify projects and their priority.

Mr. Chettle pointed out that the CRA can fund infrastructure projects, and also recommended spending the fees from water, sewer, and parking on those infrastructure's areas of needs. He also suggested public health grants might be used to pay for the costs associated with recent infrastructure failures in the neighborhoods.

Mayor Seiler recognized Mary Fertig, 511 Poinciana Drive, who addressed the Commission. Ms. Fertig acknowledged these issues are controversial and emphasized the importance of not delaying remedies to the City's infrastructure needs, getting accurate cost estimates, identifying funding sources and noting all stakeholders need to be part of the solution.

Ms. Fertig commented on all of the benefits associated with addressing the City's infrastructure problems. She listed items the residents are requesting including the need for one comprehensive plan for all areas involved in the City's infrastructure that can be readily accessible by the citizens on one page of the City's website. She also noted the need for easy public access to locate all of the plans, identification of the immediate priorities, how the infrastructure areas interface, when they will happen, and accurate cost estimates. She encouraged the Commission create a citizens task force, allowing them to assist in creating a comprehensive solution which they will want to support.

Commissioner Rogers asked Ms. Fertig if the Commission should create a Bond Committee to fund these issues. Ms. Fertig stated that would be a natural outcome of having a citizens task force. She

reiterated the request for the City have a simple one-page website that would take all of the many infrastructure areas master plans, put them under one umbrella and make them understandable to the citizens.

Commissioner Roberts addressed Ms. Fertig stating he believes the Commission agrees with her and that this meeting is the first step in that direction.

RECESS

Mayor Seiler announced the Conference Meeting would be continued after tonight's Regular Commission Meeting to now allow the Commission to begin its Executive Closed Door Session.

Mayor Seiler announced the remaining public comments on BUS-1 would be heard tonight in addition to addressing the additional Conference Meeting's agenda items.

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

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

Blake Wakeman v. City of Fort Lauderdale Case No. CACE 15-007786 (09)

Mayor Seiler announced that 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 case:

Blake Wakeman v. City of Fort Lauderdale, Case No. CACE 15-007786 (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 Assistant City Attorney, Alain E. Boileau, and a Certified Court Reporter with Daughters Reporting, Inc.

The estimated length of the attorney-client session is approximately thirty (30) minutes.

RECONVENE

At 9:53 p.m., Mayor Seiler announced the resuming of the Commission Conference Meeting began earlier today.

The following public comments continued on item BUS-1 following the Regular Meeting.

Mayor Seiler recognized David Schwartz, 620 SW 6th Avenue, who addressed the Commission. Mr. Schwartz's comments and questions focused on the City's payment to him and his wife for the clean-up of the sewage spill at his residence to be able to pay CBI for the sewage cleanup. He stated City Attorney Cynthia Everett objected to the City making these payments. City Attorney Everett noted the details and position of the City on this matter and they City will meet in two weeks following a full assessment of the situation.

City Manager Feldman discussed the circumstances involved in the City's sovereign immunity cap on the residents' claims and his request for the City Commission to consider a resolution to exceed this cap to allow for the ability to pay additional claims. City Manager Feldman expounded on the method he chose to address the payment of claims.

Commission Rogers commented on his position of assessing the entire scope of the cleanup of these properties and the need to properly cure these situations. Commissioner Roberts noted this situation has extraordinary circumstances that affect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens. Further comments, discussions and questions continued on this topic among the Commission, Mr. Schwartz, and City Manager Feldman, and City Attorney Everett regarding numerous aspects of this issue including the process used by City Manager Feldman for claims already paid, Mr. Schwartz's timeline concerning his claim, possible alternatives to remedy the situation and the other claims relating to the sewage cleanup costs while also protecting the interests of the City, and City Attorney Everett's legal counsel on how the City should proceed.

Mayor Seiler asked Assistant City Manager to work with Mr. Schwartz tonight to work out the date of February 7, 2017, for resolving this matter.

Mayor Seiler recognized Chris Stachowski, 500 SW 7th Street, who addressed the Commission stating he was in the process of filing a claim regarding the sewage spill as it damaged both real and personal property at his residence.

Mayor Seiler recognized Oliver Larkin, 2613 Acacia Drive, and on behalf of Joel Erickson of 2117 SE 19th Street, who could not remain at the meeting to comment due to the late hour. Mr. Larkin addressed the Commission on the costs and needs of the City's infrastructure. Mr. Larkin reiterated and reinforced the need and importance of the City Commission addressing the City's infrastructure issues. He stressed the importance and the urgency required for the City to take full measures and do something now to address the specific issues of the City's infrastructure. Mr. Larkin specifically discussed issues including traffic gridlock, climate change, and sea level rise, in addition to the issues previously noted.

Mayor Seiler noted that Janet Scrapper, 401 SW 4th Avenue, left a copy of her remarks on this topic which would be made part of the record.

A copy of Ms. Scrapper's remarks is attached to these minutes.

Mayor Seiler recognized Vivian Godfrey, 805 Cordova Road, who addressed the Commission on this item. Ms. Godfrey comments included her experience at her home and held up a picture illustrating water intrusion that took place at her home from the King Tides in October 2016. She discussed her attendance at the meeting held in Rio Vista where Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Director of Public Works, and the engineering firm Elkin and Associates did an excellent job of presenting the issues relating to the King Tides. Ms. Godfrey also talked about Commissioner Rogers request for the community to provide their support for various ways of funding the City's infrastructure needs, noting her support of a general infrastructure bond and a special assessment district being created to fund the specific are of the Cordova Road seawall. Ms. Godfrey's comments also included possible opportunities to partner with private companies to address the City's infrastructure issues, giving an example of working with FP&L and Comcast to bury their lines. She recommended all stakeholders working together to come up with creative, innovative ideas to solve the City's infrastructure problems.

Mayor Seiler asked Ms. Godfrey her opinion on the City's ability to get support for a general obligation bond in areas of the City other than those immediately affected by the City's infrastructure issues, and she replied "yes," giving her views on this question.

Mayor Seiler recognized Chris Stachowski, 500 SW 7th Street, who addressed the Commission. He commented on the recent sewage spill and its impact on his residence, the lack of sidewalks on 7th Street and a left turn lane from Tarpon River entrance onto 4th Avenue which causes lengthy travel delays. Mr. Stachowski expressed his frustration with the City due to citizen's concerns expressed on the City's infrastructure having fallen on deaf ears and past requests to stop development in the City. He also commented on the pollution caused by the City in the New River and the need for residents to be tested for diseases due to the sewage spill in his neighborhood. He ended his comments with his request for a response from the Commission.

Mayor Seiler recognized Kristen Maus, 1778 Marietta Drive, who addressed the Commission focusing on the recent sewer line breaks and the City's mobility plans in the Tarpon River area. He noted his previous efforts along with that of other residents to inform City government that the current infrastructure situation was on the horizon and the need to stop development in the City until its infrastructure issues are fixed. He also commented on the effects on him and the other residents of the Tarpon River due to the recent sewage line break.

Mayor Seiler recognized Count Rosenthal, 1237 NW 4th Avenue, who addressed the Commission giving his comments on the possible passing a bond citywide noting those who do not live in the impacted areas be in favor. He cited what occurred in Miami Beach on this same topic. Mr. Rosenthal noted the need to develop a comprehensive infrastructure plan for all areas of the City.

Mayor Seiler recognized former Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom, 66 Nurmi Drive, who addressed the Commission. Commissioner Rodstrom discussed the issue of City's sewer infrastructure due to the government responsibility for the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens. She referenced the history of Wastewater Master Plan of 2000 and the subsequent 2011 Waterworks Project as well as the useful life of the materials used for the City's sewer pipes under ideal soil conditions. Commissioner Rodstrom noted the Commission's ability to place this item on the ballot in the 2018 City election. She stated should the Commission decide not commit to the prioritizing, planning, funding, and implementation of a sewer system that would take the City into the future, the Commission allow the voters to decide. Commissioner Rodstrom continued her comments on the need to make this a top priority.

Mayor Seiler recognized Art Seitz, 1905 N. Ocean Drive, who addressed the Commission on this topic. Mr. Seitz commented on the format of the City Commission meetings. He noted what he views the City needs in terms of linkage and connectivity, a friendly bicycle and pedestrian environment, vistas and views along with protecting the assets that make people want to live in the City. He commented on the attendance at the City's events and the need for a sidewalk going southbound on the Southbeach parking lot. He commented on other aspects of the City's needs and other South Florida areas that have had successful amenity designs.

Mayor Seiler recognized Charles King, 105 N. Victoria Park Road, who addressed the Commission on the format for the Commission meetings. He commented on the efforts of the City Commissioners during their tenures and sewer line issues at his residence. He stated he was for development, but the Commission needs to address funding the City's infrastructure issues, specifically the City's water and sewer infrastructure.

Each Commissioner gave their input on this topic, and each agreed that this needs to be made a priority and the importance of working with the residents to come up with the best solution and unique ways for funding this large expense. The Commission also acknowledged that the City is not unique and these issues are a problem throughout the nation and the need to move forward.

Additional comments included Commissioner Roberts confirming this is a top priority and acknowledging City Manager Feldman's systematic efforts to identify and measure the City's needs and make a plan and a vision for the City for its infrastructure. Vice Mayor Trantalis advised City Manager Feldman that City Staff needs to address this issue more quickly. Commissioner Rogers recommended appointing a Blue Ribbon Committee to be part of the process. He also noted the importance of keeping the public informed, and the need to use creative ideas in determining how to pay for the cost of the City's infrastructure as discussed in his neighborhood association meeting in Rio Vista. Commissioner McKinzie confirmed the need to keep this a top priority.

Mayor Seiler agreed with everything the Commissioners voiced and specifically with Commissioner Rogers recommendation for a Blue Ribbon Committee made up of capable and knowledgeable people. He noted that residents who are not affected by the infrastructure issues would likely not be in support of its bond funding. He agreed with Commissioner Rodstrom's comments that the health, safety, and

welfare of the citizens are the issue and that recent events in the City are unacceptable. He confirmed that health issues are the highest priority, noting the need to garner the public's support for a bond referendum in all areas of the City.

He stated City Staff as to put together a list of the highest priorities, noting they should focus on water, sewer, and stormwater projects that address climate change and sea level rise, and issues relating to this such as seawalls and tidal valves. Further discussions ensued on the assembling of a Blue Ribbon Committee and moving forward. The Commission continued their discussion on addressing the City's immediate infrastructure issues and paying for the costs.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 17-0051 South Side School Update

Commissioner Rogers discussed the issue the plans not including a flag pole at Southside School. City Staff confirmed they would look into this. Commissioner Rogers stated he would raise funds if necessary to pay for a flag pole.

Mayor Seiler recognized Charles King, 105 N. Victoria Park Road, who addressed the Commission. Mr. King comments focused on the costs involved with Southside School, the issue of sidewalks in the City, and the City being ranked second in the country for pedestrian deaths. He also recommended having more than five or six members on the City's Blue Ribbon Committee.

Mayor Seiler recognized Count Rosenthal, 1237 NW 4th Avenue, commented on the historic nature of Southside School, commenting on ways to make arrangements for a general obligation bond.

Mayor Seiler recognized Chris Stachowski, 500 SW 7th Street, commented on the lengthy timeline involved with Southside School and the lack of progress. Mayor Seiler gave a brief review of the history of the project, noting it should be completed this summer. Mr. Chris Strachowski emphasized the importance of the health and safety infrastructure issues relating to the sewage infrastructure and the City's bridges, recommending the City spend money in the proper places.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked about the back-up to this item's additional budget expenditure. City Manager Feldman stated he has identified those funds which will complete the IT work in the building. Mr. Dodd discussed the details relating to this change order and addressed the

Commission's questions. Further discussions continued.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

BD-1 <u>17-0091</u> Board and Committee Vacancies

See Regular Meeting item R-1.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Seiler adjourned the City Commission Conference Meeting of January 18, 2017, to order at 10:51 p.m.