

City of Fort Lauderdale

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 7, 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

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 Anthony Gnisci

No public e-comments were submitted for this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Seiler called the Conference Meeting to order at 1:39 p.m.

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

Events and Matters of Interest

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

Mayor Seiler welcomed Sun Sentinel Reporter Brittany Wallman.

Commissioner Rogers discussed the Storm Water Master Plan Meeting held on March 6, 2017, noting its large attendance and the outstanding job of Staff and the engineers. He discussed intersections along Broward Boulevard that are undergoing infrastructure upgrades, stating brick pavers are being repaired when the road is repaved. Staff noted the cost difference to replace the brick pavers with stamped concrete is an additional \$300,000 when the roads are repaved. Utility markings along Broward Boulevard were also discussed. Commissioner Rogers recommended City Manager Feldman find additional funding to have the pavers along Broward Boulevard replaced with stamped concrete.

Vice Mayor Trantalis stated he would only support this if grant funds were used. Diana Alarcon, Director of Transportation and Mobility, confirmed the areas which would require stamped concrete replacement. She stated that the cost may be higher than \$300,000

and would research and verify. Discussions continued on possible funding and its practical aspects. The intersection of Andrews Avenue and Sistrunk Boulevard were noted as an example of an alternative to what currently exists on Broward Boulevard. City Manager Feldman explained aspects of the work being done by FDOT on Broward Boulevard.

Ms. Alarcon addressed the Commission on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement signed in 1999 with FDOT confirming it is the City's responsibility to manage and maintain all the pavers along Broward Boulevard, including sidewalks. She stated as part of the Triple R Project, FDOT will be removing the pavers on the sidewalks and replacing them with concrete at no cost to the City, in addition to other amenities. However, they will not be replacing any brick pavers on the street or crosswalks within the roadways. Ms. Alarcon expounded on the costs for various options to address the brick pavers located on the roadway. Further discussion continued on using stamped concrete. Mayor Seiler requested Staff come back to the Commission with more detail on the costs, maintenance, and life expectancy of replacing the brick pavers with stamped concrete.

Commissioner Rogers suggested to Ms. Alarcon that bike racks be installed at the corner of Federal Highway and Broward Boulevard in front of the CVS store. He stated the Davie rezoning meeting was rescheduled due to the property being purchased and he would keep the Commission informed on this issue. Commissioner Rogers requested City Manager Feldman look into an issue raised by one of his constituents in the Edgewood Community regarding the reserve area. City Manager Feldman confirmed.

Commissioner Rogers discussed the efforts of Jorg Hruschka, Chief Service Officer of Neighborhood Support, who is working with Broward County on the *Broward Reads Program*, a County-wide collaborative program to make grade level reading a priority. He stated Mr. Hruschka requested the City support this program via a Resolution. Commissioner Rogers gave the information to City Attorney Cynthia Everett for review and preparation of a Resolution.

Commissioner Rogers discussed input he received from Friends of South Side School (Friends), stating the need for proper programming and addressed the issue of utilizing the plumbing already installed for something other than showers. Commissioner Rogers stated he would remain connected with Friends to assist in the programming of the facility. Vice Mayor Trantalis commented on the history of this matter, stating that the Friends were always the party who would be responsible for activating the programming. He recommended

handing the programming over to the Friends group. The funding for the maintenance and programming of other recreational facilities in the City was discussed. There was agreement on the need for a funding discussion regarding the maintenance and programming for South Side School. Mayor Seiler recommended that Commissioner Rogers ask Friends how they wish to be activated. Commissioner Rogers recommended the Friends group come up with a business plan for the programming and meet with Phil Thornburg, Director of Parks and Recreation, to determine its viability on safety, security and other issues. Vice Mayor Trantalis recommended the Commission defer to City Manager Feldman and Phil Thornburg to direct things going forward with Friends. At the request of City Manager Feldman, the Commission confirmed the community center programming would be on the first floor of the School and Parks and Recreation Staff offices would be on the second floor of the School.

Commissioner McKinzie confirmed his Storm Water Management Plan at the Dorsey River Bend meeting, noting it was well attended and Staff did an excellent job. There was a lack of attendance at the meeting on this issue at Carter Park and would be rescheduled at his District III meeting. He commented on the success of the Sistrunk Boulevard Festival event, thanking all Staff for their outstanding efforts. Mayor Seiler concurred stating the setup had great music, was very successful and should remain on Sistrunk Boulevard. Vice Mayor Trantalis also commented on the importance of having these types of events to activate and ignite interest in the area.

Commissioner McKinzie noted his constituents were excited about the appointment of Interim Police Chief Rick Maglione, thanking him for attending meetings in his District and invited Chief Maglione to his District Meeting to introduce himself to additional members of the community. He also thanked Chief Maglione for his walk through in District III.

Commissioner McKinzie expressed his concern to City Manager Feldman about the unauthorized event activity at Carter Park over the weekend, which was eventually shut down, requesting City Manager Feldman to investigate. Further discussions ensued about the negative impact on the neighborhood.

Commissioner Roberts discussed his attendance at the 25th Anniversary of the Language Arts Lab, noting it was attended by over 1,200 college level students from around the world. Commissioner Roberts acknowledged the Language Arts Lab is seeking to partner with the City for some of their programs, noting their work with the Sister Cities organization. Commissioner Roberts expounded on the

various levels and programs, both accelerated and non-accelerated, and possible future opportunities.

Commissioner Roberts discussed his attendance at an MPO function focused on small business bonding, training, and coaching kick-off event for disadvantaged businesses relative to the WAVE.

Vice Mayor Trantalis commented on the success of the Pride Festival held on Fort Lauderdale Beach. Mayor Seiler and City Manager Feldman concurred, acknowledging the large crowd and noting there were no incidents. Vice Mayor Trantalis discussed the success of the Fort Lauderdale South Beach Wine and Food Festival at the Ritz-Carlton, one of seven venues in the City. He noted that Stacy Ritter, President of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, agreed to involve more restaurants located in the County. Mayor Seiler concurred stating it is on the agenda of the Tourist Development Council. Vice Mayor Trantalis commented on the Dog Park Ribbon Cutting ceremony in Holiday Park, stating it was a huge success with a large attendance of dogs and their owners.

Vice Mayor Trantalis noted his receipt of the Community Partner Award from the My Quality Florida organization. The Commission commented on the weekend's St. Patrick's Day Parade and festivities.

Vice Mayor Trantalis commented on his attendance, with Commissioner Rogers, at the Broward County League of Cities Meeting that included discussions on State House Bill 17 and the equivalent State Senate Bill that would prohibit local governments from adopting or imposing new regulations on businesses, professions, or occupations unless the regulation is expressly authorized by general law. The bill provides that this prohibition would be effective July 1, 2017. Discussions continued on the need for home rule and the impact of State H.B. 17 on local governments. There was a consensus among the Commission to pass a resolution in opposition to House Bill 17.

Vice Mayor Trantalis discussed the matter of the One Stop Shop for numerous issues. Discussions ensued on various options including fencing it off with decorative fencing. Vice Mayor Trantalis noted the Downtown Development Authority was in agreement this issue needs to be addressed. There was a consensus that this would be an agenda item for discussion at a future Conference Meeting.

Vice Mayor Trantalis discussed Spring Break and the amount of debris left on the beach. City Manager Feldman noted it became complicated due to heavy winds and difficulty in putting out additional

trash receptacles. Discussions ensued on the cleanup and the environmental impact on wildlife. Mayor Seiler emphasized the need to stay on top of this issue.

Mayor Seiler thanked all the 3,200 volunteers involved in the waterway cleanup, noting 32 tons of trash and waste were collected. He also thanked the Marine Industry Association for organizing this annual event for the benefit of the community. Mayor Seiler attended the Winterfest Captain's Cup Ceremony, acknowledging the many benefits of the Winterfest Bowl Parade to the City. He also discussed the event at Fort Lauderdale Executive (FXE) Airport Safety Expo on March 5, 2016.

Mayor Seiler raised the issue of the breakdown of the new Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway Bridge during evening rush hour on Thursday, March 2, 2017 that created traffic gridlock, noting two additional incidents. He emphasized the need for Police and Fire Departments to be immediately notified to allow for public notification. City Manager Feldman discussed the current procedures in place, stating he was working on having the FEC dispatcher notify the City. There was a consensus on this issue. City Manager Feldman noted the railway work around State Road 84 was the source of the delay issues. The public safety implications of the railway trains not allowing access to area emergency facilities were discussed. Mayor Seiler emphasized the need for instant notification to City officials and requested City Manager to address this issue and get a letter out as soon as possible.

Commissioner Rogers discussed the location of Fire Station 8. City Manager Feldman stated he received one reply from the direct mailing. Commission Rogers suggested, as an alternative, putting this Fire Station on the Northwest Corner of 7th Street and the FEC railway tracks near South Side School. Discussions ensued on this topic.

17-0300

Communications to the City Commission

*Education Advisory Board
Thursday, January 19, 2017
Communication to City Commission*

The Education Advisory Board encourages City Commission and Staff to consider the Park renaming for Ms. Lu Deaner in consideration of her many years of service to the Education Advisory Board.

In a voice vote, the motion unanimously passed.

City Manager Feldman confirmed this issue would be on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Agenda next month and on the Commission Regular Meeting Agenda in April 2017.

*DRAFT - Charter Revision Board
February 9, 2017
Communication to the City Commission*

Motion made by Ms. Del Rosario Lescano and seconded by Mr. Gunzburger, to direct a communication to the City Commission that the Board would like to have a workshop scheduled with the City Commission. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

There was a consensus among the Commission that City Manager Feldman would set up a lunch Workshop Meeting with the Charter Revision Board and the Commission.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 [17-0327](#)

Summary of Follow-Up Audits as of December 31, 2016

Commissioner Rogers commented all CRA policies should be clearly understood by the Board. City Auditor Herbst commented that in the past, the CRA policies and procedures were weak or nonexistent, and have since been revamped. City Auditor Herbst suggested CRA Staff give a presentation to the CRA Board to address issues raised in the audit. Commissioner Rogers expounded on the need to explain CRA Staff's standard responses to audit issues along with the need for a detailed explanation of how those issues are being addressed. City Auditor Herbst explained the current status is self-reported by CRA Staff and will be audited and confirmed by the Audit Staff. City Auditor Herbst expounded on how things will move forward confirming the Commission will receive a quarterly audit review of the CRA.

Commissioner Roberts commented on Commissioner Roger's recommendation, emphasizing the need to know the criteria involved and the importance of having the information in advance.

City Manager Feldman noted the final product for the Class and Compensation Study would be available in December.

Commissioner Rogers commented on the need for the City Attorney's

Office to be involved in the collection of monies and other issues noted in the Operational Audit Findings for the Cemetery System. He also noted the need to determine the amount of funding appropriate for maintenance issues and perpetual care, suggesting an actuarial study. City Attorney Everett confirmed the positive, ongoing working relationship of Assistant Attorney D'Wayne Spence with the Cemetery Board of Trustees advising them about relevant legal issues. She will review the audit issues that Assistant City Attorney D'Wayne Spence addresses with the Cemetery Board of Trustees with City Auditor Herbst.

Mayor Seiler asked the Commission if there were any other questions regarding the Operational Audit's Findings. There were no further questions. City Auditor Herbst stated the Cemetery Board Liaison has been proactive in addressing some changes noted in the audit's findings and that his department is reviewing and will bring them forward in the next quarterly report. He also noted in some cases departments had made changes to address the audit findings but had not notified his office to allow for the closing out of those findings. He stated this was primarily a training issue.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [17-0293](#)

Discussion Regarding FY 2017 Federal Legislative Priorities and Funding Requests for the City of Fort Lauderdale

City Manager Feldman stated with Congress back in session and the upcoming National League of Cities Meeting in Washington, DC, the City's federal lobbyist Maurice Kurland, Alcalde & Fay LTD, Inc., would be giving a brief overview to the Commission on the status of federal government affairs with the new administration.

Mr. Kurland noted his meetings with Staff to ascertain the needs and issues as they relate to the City's Federal Legislative priorities, i.e., The WAVE. He commented on possible changes at the federal level that would impact the City both positively and negatively, including infrastructure and EPA funding.

Mr. Kurland reviewed the federal grants received by the City in 2016, discussing portions of the proposed federal budget that will be forthcoming next week. In response to Mayor Seiler's question, Mr. Kurland explained the federal budget process, stating the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is the office where all federal agencies and departments funnel their budget proposals to be included in the President's annual proposed federal budget. He also noted the importance of funding for the new Federal Court House

being listed in the President's budget as it would not be considered an earmark. He stated this would be discussed at a meeting with the OMB following the National League of Cities Conference. Discussions continued on the Florida Congressional delegation and their advocacy for the City's agenda.

The Commission discussed infrastructure projects noting the focus will be on public-private partnerships. Mr. Kurland recommended Mayor Seiler meet with the President's Special Appointment for Public-Private Partnerships, Mr. DJ Gribbin. Mr. Kurland also commented on possible concerns in the area of taxation.

Mr. Kurland commented on the request from Congressman Bill Shuster, Chairman of the Transportation Infrastructure Committee (9th Congressional District of Pennsylvania) for each State Transportation Agency to present multiple projects for consideration. He noted a proposal to consolidate the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) which has been opposed by Senator Tammy Duckworth of Illinois. The timeframe for the federal budget was also discussed and estimated to be April 2017. Further comments and discussions continued about lobbying efforts with Congress and White House Staffers on behalf of the City.

Vice Mayor Trantalis reviewed the high-cost infrastructure issues important to the City including:

WAVE Funding
Federal Court House
Port Everglades (funding for dredging)

Mayor Seiler reiterated the FEC railway bridge issue. He asked Mr. Kurland about the notice requirements mandated by local government. Mr. Kurland stated this issue is regulated by the Federal Railroad Administration and he will research this issue from a public safety perspective. In response to Mayor Seiler's question about discussions at the federal level regarding CRA Issues, Mr. Kurland stated the only item discussed was the tax performance and overall economic development.

City Auditor Herbst asked if there was an opportunity to displace committed funding for infrastructure programs for a project that may not have gone through the entire required process. Mr. Kurland gave one example of this type of occurrence, stating there is precedence for this type of situation.

Discussions continued on the following:

The current financial posture of the country for programming over the long term for infrastructure projects versus shovel ready projects;

Economic aspects of lost funding for the Port's bypass project; and

Calculations for determining additional funding needs for infrastructure.

Mayor Seiler recognized Charles King, 105 N. Victoria Park Road, who commented on the costs of the City's lobbyists. He requested the costs for its lobbyists, and also commented on the Federal Court House.

BUS-2 [17-0290](#)

Discussion of Managed E911 Communication Center Services for the City of Fort Lauderdale

City Manager Feldman discussed the direction given to Staff for a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a 911 Emergency System. One response was received and has provided an outline for what is needed with a private contractor to get an independent 911 Call Dispatch System operational, with the end goal of Staff operating the system. The project was assigned to Public Works Director Paul Berg. City Manager Feldman noted the price involved is significant. Should the Commission desire to move forward, he will need to adjust the budget accordingly.

In response to Vice Mayor Trantalis's question, City Manager Feldman explained the former system was a split system and expounded on its function and cost history. Aspects of the proposed system, quality of the employees, and current and future error rates were discussed.

Commissioner Roberts commented on the quality and abilities of newer technologies to handle emergency calls more efficiently and other qualitative aspects that need to be considered, including a possible reduction in personnel.

Mayor Seiler recognized Paul Berg, Director of Public Works, who acknowledged the efforts of the experts and Staff who contributed to these efforts prior to his recent association with the project. Mr. Berg gave the Commission a PowerPoint presentation on the background and an overview of the project, expounding on aspects of the dispatch errors and sustained complaints. He discussed the following topics associated with this item:

The formal assessment done by the Broward County Dispatch Center;

User Agency input;

Receipt of the consultant's comprehensive plan recommendations outlining the technology and timeline implementation;

Correspondence in January 2017 from the County Manager relating to the County's infrastructure list and costs, noting the City's responsibility for integration at the County level;

The successful elimination of delays in transferring calls;

A review of the systems aspects of hardware and software;

The direction given by the Commission for the Request for Proposal for its own 911 Emergency Call Service Center managed on the City's behalf;

The single responsive bid received from IXP Corporation;

Preliminary approval by the assigned committee of the responsive bid received from IXP Corporation, noting that there were still items to be vetted, confirmed and negotiated;

The responsive vendor representatives who are present to address and answer any questions and concerns of the Commission, President and Chief Operating Officer Lawrence D. Consalvos, and Vice President Services and Solutions Joseph Estey;

A preliminary review of the plan's costs and budgeting requirements;

An overview of IXP's experience, accreditation, and qualifications as illustrated in the PowerPoint presentation;

An overview of details of the Call Center's staffing and the location and leasing of Call Center facility and the timeline for implementation;

Aspects of the necessary improvements and the vendor's recommendations; and

A review of the substantiated complaints with the current County 911 System and a comparison to those of IXP's clients.

A copy of Mr. Berg's PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.

In response to Commissioner Roberts's question, Mr. Berg discussed

the annual costs for this project including the annual cost of the mandated County integration as well as the ongoing costs for becoming independent.

Comments and discussions ensued on the total costs for being independent, taxation costs, ongoing and built-in operational costs, and funding.

In response to Commissioner Roberts's question, Police Chief Maglione (Chief Maglione) commented on the City's previous independent Fort Lauderdale Emergency Call Center and the current system utilized in conjunction with the County Regional Communication Center (County Call Center) noting their ongoing efforts to make improvements. He discussed the existence of a committee of sworn Police Chiefs to assist the County in guiding the progress of the County Call Center, which will soon be sun setting and noted they are working to extend its duration. He noted the lack of control over the County Call Center relating to policy and procedures for addressing errors, and the lack of interpersonal knowledge and relationships with its staff regarding the location of emergency call addresses and instant notification of police officer locations.

Chief Maglione confirmed Commissioner Roberts's comments on the difficulty of consolidating all policies and procedures for each municipal emergency agency under the umbrella of the County Call Center, noting the higher standard to which the City held their employees prior to the consolidation.

Assistant Police Chief Michael Gregory (Assistant Chief Gregory) confirmed the Police Department deploys the most resources in the field on each shift, within the parameters of the County, and is working towards becoming more customized, noting it is an ongoing conversation. Regarding technical issues, he noted steps backward when integration took place with the County Call Center, noting the County's new technology is scheduled for implementation on March 28, 2017.

Commissioner Roberts commented on the issue of reconciling the City's previous computerized medical protocols with the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) with the County's current system. Fire Rescue Chief Robert Hoecherl agreed with Chief Maglione and Assistant Chief Gregory's comments regarding the previous levels of service to the residents of the City before integration with the County Call Center. He noted the importance of addressing the closest unit response issue for fire rescue calls. Commissioner Roberts commented on his concern with staffing and equipment levels of other

area municipalities. Chief Hoecherl commented on the County using a *one size fits all* approach on this issue, noting the large size of the City's EMS unit. Chief Hoecherl stated should the City become independent of the County, they would revert to the previous higher operations level of service and medical protocols.

Stewart Ahearn, Fire Rescue Division Chief, commented on the differences in County's medical protocols, stating they would work with a new provider to relate on scene medical protocols for a more hands on approach.

Mayor Seiler asked how an EMS cell phone call would be handled. City Manager Feldman explained, noting the need for technology that would identify where the cell phone caller is located that it is in development. Mr. Consalvos commented on the available new technology known as CAD to CAD transfers to address this issue.

In response to Commissioner Rogers's question, Chief Hoecherl stated tracking of the closest unit response have not been tracked with the County and explained on how it currently operates. Division Chief Ahearn stated the majority of mistakes are due to operator error, noting the largest area of concern is the emergency call's address location. Discussions continued on the issues relating to addresses for EMS calls. Commissioner Roberts noted the vendor would hire and train local personnel to address the issue without the City's Human Resources Department that would provide a cost savings.

Mr. Berg commented that currently when Code Enforcement is in need of police assistance, it requires interaction with the County Call Center. Additionally, under the proposed new system both Code Enforcement and Parking Enforcement would be tied into the City's Police and Fire Rescue Call Center, allowing for a combined safety effort.

Vice Mayor Trantalis commented on the learning curve and timeline involved even when hiring local people. Commissioner Rogers concurred. Mr. Berg confirmed this is a training issue.

Lawrence D. Consalvos, President and Chief Operating Officer of IXP Corporation, addressed the Commission answering questions about their current systems in place.

In response to Mayor Seiler's question, Mr. Consalvos stated there are approximately 75 employees for the 350,000 residents located at their call center facility located in their Chattahoochee River 9-1-1 Authority. It was noted that before integration with the County, the City had

approximately 70 personnel at its Emergency Call Center. Mr. Consalvos expounded on their ability to retain qualified local staff with a focus on work/life balance and benefits for employees and the location of the proposed Emergency Call Center in the City. Further discussions and comments continued on this topic, including IXP's desire to imbed itself in the community doing things such as ride-alongs to familiarize staff with the City ensuring success.

Vice Mayor Trantalis commented that the driving factor would be the additional cost to the City. Mr. Consalvos confirmed the contract is a fixed cost over five-year years.

City Manager Feldman requested the need for direction from a budgeting perspective should the Commission desire to pursue this proposal. Commissioner Roberts requested City Manager Feldman give the Commission a menu of costs and budgetary considerations. Mayor Seiler confirmed this item would be brought back at the Conference Meeting of March 21, 2017 allowing the Commissioners time to receive input from their Districts and to further study the IXP proposal.

BUS-3 [17-0193](#)

SE 17th Street Mobility Plan Presentation

Elizabeth Van Zandt, Transportation and Mobility Manager, addressed the Commission with a PowerPoint on the 17th Street Mobility Plan (Plan) addressing the following aspects of the Plan:

- Recap plan scope/goals
- Outline plan efforts to date
- Identify early successes
- Cover types of recommendations
- Highlight high impact recommendations
- Next steps/ implementation

A copy of Ms. Van Zandt's PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.

Mayor Seiler recommended that the beach area of the slide should be clearly identified and included in a high traffic generator for this area. Ms. Van Zandt confirmed, stating she would make the requested changes to the PowerPoint presentation to better illustrate high traffic generators in the area.

Mayor Seiler commented on the number of vehicle crashes on 17th Street. Commissioner Rogers noted that 20 percent of the traffic in this area is generated from the Fort Lauderdale International Airport.

Ms. Van Zandt stated that FDOT confirmed the need for an additional on-ramp for Interstate 595. Debora Griner, Transportation and Mobility Manager, expounded on this point stating they would not create another on-ramp but would expand the existing on-ramp from one lane to two lanes. Jessica Joselyn, Kittleson and Associates, addressed Commissioner Rogers's question about the possibility of having an on-ramp to Interstate 595 from Andrews Avenue, stating from an engineering perspective, it was determined to not be a safe alternative.

Ms. Van Zandt emphasized that although the City is a major stakeholder in this issue, the State owns both SE 17th Street and U.S. 1, the County has jurisdiction over the signalization, and the MPO is a partner with the City. She stated this is reason for the importance of all parties being at the table regarding discussions on this matter.

In response to Vice Mayor Trantalis's question, Ms. Van Zandt explained a *shared use path* is a sidewalk used by both bicycles and pedestrians. She confirmed for Vice Mayor Trantalis that bike lanes would not be used on SE 17th Street as it would reduce capacity. Vice Mayor Trantalis commented on the safety threat to bicyclists on *shared travel lane roadways* such as A1A. Ms. Van Zandt clarified that this was a shared sidewalk, not a shared roadway, similar to the shared sidewalk on Flagler Greenway. She also expounded on the necessary agreements with the adjacent property owners for *shared use paths* in the SE 17th Street area.

Mayor Seiler emphasized the need for the requested bypass road, a southern parallel street to SE 17th Street. He expounded on the viability of this as the solution to traffic in the area. There was a consensus this request should be at the top of the list.

Diane Alarcon, Director of Transportation and Mobility, stated that Eller Drive is always open to Port Everglades (Port). She discussed the need to redesign the traffic within the Port for better truck maneuverability when utilizing Eller Drive. Due to this issue, Spangler Avenue is an easier truck route. There was a consensus that this request should also be at the top of the City's request list.

Truck traffic in the area and efforts to address truck routing in and out of the Port were discussed along with County meetings held to focus on this matter which City did not receive.

Mayor Seiler reiterated the need for a bypass road and the need to redesign traffic patterns within the Port to allow additional truck ingress

and egress on Eller Drive. There was a consensus that these two items should be at the top of the High Impact Recommendations. Ms. Van Zandt confirmed.

Mayor Seiler and City Manager Feldman commented on bridge tender operations at the Las Olas Bridge in need of being addressed with FDOT. Commissioner Rogers commented on complaints received about the SE 17th Street Bridge opening unnecessarily when vessels meet the bridge height clearance. There was a consensus this needs to be addressed.

Ms. Van Zandt confirmed for Commissioner Roberts that in the context of The Wave Streetcar Extension and the Convention Center, they were both considered an existing condition in the Plan.

Commissioner Rogers commented on the need for an origination/destination survey that would be a key element to support requests and recommendations. Ms. Van Zandt confirmed, stating community meetings with the Convention Center Hotel Project Team on the traffic methodology will be happening this year.

Commissioner Roberts requested the implementation of Vision Zero be added to the Next Steps/Implementation portion of the Plan. Commissioner Rogers stated his commitment to future efforts for the formation of a stakeholder working group to shepherd plan recommendations and implementation as a continuation of the District Commissioner's Working Group.

Mayor Seiler requested investigating ways to educate commercial and industrial operators to use Eller Drive and cruise passenger traffic to use Spangler Avenue. Discussions ensued on the County requiring cabs to utilize Spangler Avenue, but it could not be confirmed. Ms. Van Zandt confirmed she would address these issues.

BUS-4 [17-0297](#)

Budget/CIP and Grants Informational Presentation

City Manager Feldman stated that BUS-4-Budget/CIP and Grants Informational Presentation would be moved to the March 21, 2017 Conference Meeting.

Mayor Seiler recessed the Conference Meeting at 5:13 p.m. to conduct the Executive Closed Door Session.

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

[17-0332](#)

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)

Walter Hinton, et al. v. City of Fort Lauderdale
Case No. CACE 07-030358 (26)

Tiffany Denmark v. City of Fort Lauderdale
Case No. CACE 14-016830 (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 above-noted cases.

He stated the 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.: Blake Wakeman v. City of Fort Lauderdale, Counsel will be Assistant City Attorney Alain E. Boileau;

Re.: Walter Hinton, et al. v. City of Fort Lauderdale, Outside Counsel will be William M. Droze, Esq., of Troutman Sanders, LLP; and Assistant City Attorney Alain E. Boileau;

Re.: Tiffany Denmark v. City of Fort Lauderdale, Outside Counsel will be Jeffery R. Lawley, Esq. of Billing, Cochran, Lyles, Mauro & Ramsey, P.A.; and a Certified Court Reporter with Daughters Reporting, Inc.

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

Mayor Seiler reconvened the Conference Meeting at 9:56 p.m. following the Regular Meeting to continue the Executive Closed Door Session.

The Executive Closed Door Session ended at 10:30 p.m.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

BD-1 [17-0299](#) Board and Committee Vacancies
See Regular Meeting Item R-1, 17-0299.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Commission at the Conference Meeting of March 7, 2017, Mayor Seiler adjourned the meeting at 10:31 p.m.