

**APPROVED
MINUTES
NORTHWEST PROGRESSO – FLAGLER HEIGHTS
REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD
FORT LAUDERDALE
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
8th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
AUGUST 24, 2016 – 3:30 P.M.**

**Cumulative Attendance
May 2016 - April 2017**

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Steve Lucas, Chair	P	4	0
Jessie Adderley (arr. 3:41)	P	4	0
Nikki Austin-Shipp	A	0	1
Leann Barber	P	3	1
Sonya Burrows	P	4	0
Ron Centamore	P	4	0
Alan Gabriel	P	3	1
Mickey Hinton (arr. 3:42)	P	4	0
John Hooper	A	2	2
Dylan Lagi	P	4	0
Steffen Lue (arr. 3:42)	A	1	3
Jacqueline Reed (arr. 3:58)	P	3	1
Scott Strawbridge	P	4	0
John Wilkes	P	3	1

Currently there are 14 appointed members to the Board, which means 8 would constitute a quorum.

It was noted that a quorum was present at the meeting.

Staff

Jonathan Brown, Northwest CRA Manager
 Bob Wojcik, Planner II
 Sandra Doughlin, DSD/ECR
 Diana Alarcon, Director, Department of Transportation and Mobility
 Kevin Walford, Department of Transportation and Mobility
 Debbie Griner, Department of Transportation and Mobility
 Mike Maier, Chief Technology Officer, Information Technology Services Department
 Jamie Opperee, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communications to City Commission

None.

Mr. Strawbridge commented that there had been no need for additional firewall protection for the existing cameras within the CRA, which suggested that the need may be specific to City information technology (IT) protocols. Mr. Brown replied that this was not expected to be an annual expense, as the cost is associated with an upgrade to the existing firewall system.

Mr. Wilkes estimated that there are 90 cameras throughout the City, which would mean the total cost of the upgrade would come to roughly \$3550 per camera. He was not certain that this was an expense the CRA needed to fund. Mr. Lagi added that the cost appeared to include equipment only but no labor expenses. It was determined that the Board members wished to hear additional information on this Item.

Motion made by Mr. Centamore, seconded by Mr. Strawbridge, that the Board does not support this funding. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed 11-0.

IV. Discussion – Transit Master Plan – Transportation & Mobility

Diana Alarcon, Director of the Department of Transportation and Mobility, explained that the previous year, the Department applied for federal grant funding that allowed consultant Tindale-Oliver to perform a transit study for the community bus service program. This study included a review of efficiencies in the current route, ways to fund the program, and determine operational practices associated with a five-star system. Today's presentation would show some of the study's key findings, and another presentation will be made at the end of 2016 to provide the Board with its final results.

Tara Crawford of Tindale-Oliver, deputy project manager for the transit study, showed a PowerPoint presentation on its key findings to the Board. The study included community engagement and public outreach within the City, as well as preliminary route analyses and areas of emphasis. The goal of the grant funding was to enhance mobility options in Fort Lauderdale by increasing accessibility and connectivity, as well as identifying and prioritizing short- and long-term service and capital improvements.

Ms. Crawford reported that thus far, a demand needs analysis has been completed and an operational and route analysis and five-year plan are near completion. She provided an overview of the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transit Management Association's (DFLTMA's) Sun Trolley, which operates eight bus routes, two of which extend through the Northwest CRA. The Sun Trolley served over 560,000 riders in Fort Lauderdale in 2015. The study includes these routes as well as a one-quarter mile buffer around the TMA's service area.

Ms. Reed arrived at 3:58 p.m.

Ms. Crawford continued that a traditional market analysis studied potential segments of the population that typically use transit, including the elderly, zero-vehicle households,

year plans relating how these infrastructure funds would be spent on an annual basis. Transportation dollars will go directly to the County, which must also submit a ten-year plan.

Mr. Strawbridge requested additional information on Title VI. Ms. Crawford explained that this refers to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, or national origin in programs or activities that receive federal funding. It means service must not be discontinued for areas with a disproportionate minority population, such as the Northwest community. Ms. Crawford pointed out that the results of the stakeholder survey rated the Northwest as the most important area in which to improve and enhance service.

Ms. Barber commented that she would like to see a needs analysis for residents and business owners specifically within the CRA, where she felt the greatest need for transit exists. Ms. Crawford advised that the survey was conducted for the entire City. Ms. Alarcon added that because Broward County Transit (BCT) is the lead provider of transit service in Broward County, that entity should be included in any discussion of providing transit needs within the CRA. She clarified that the Northwest area falls under the category of "other" in some portions of the survey results.

Ms. Burrows asked if more weight was given to survey results reflecting need-based use of transit as opposed to leisure-based use. Ms. Alarcon confirmed that this was the case. She concluded that the Department of Transportation and Mobility had previously provided the Board with a Sistrunk feasibility memorandum, which found that there is potential ridership on Sistrunk Boulevard moving toward NW 7th Avenue. Recent changes in the City's zoning Code allow greater density in that area, which in turn supports the possibility of building ridership; however, this potential is limited further down Sistrunk Boulevard due to zoning in that area.

V. Update – Funding Request: Sun Trolley – Transportation and Mobility

Ms. Alarcon explained that this funding request would support TMA service in the Northwest community. At the July 27, 2016 meeting, the Board had requested more information before making a decision on funding. The TMA has requested an additional \$64,903 to make up for the loss of grant funding which ended in June 2016. The TMA typically uses CRA funds last: if all funds are not used at the end of the year, they remain with the CRA. The total request for fiscal year (FY) 2016-2017 is for \$261,612, which is based upon the portion of the Northwest route that lies within the CRA.

Ms. Barber observed that she would like to first hear a needs analysis for the CRA before providing funds. Ms. Alarcon pointed out that the TMA's highest ridership occurs on the routes that include portions of the CRA. Robyn Chiarelli, Executive Director of the TMA, added that the CRA Board is one of the organization's resources in understanding market needs for the subject area.

best chance of success. He emphasized the need to ensure all potential transit riders are informed about the Sun Trolley's service.

Motion made by Mr. Wilkes to approve the request for the additional funding.

Mr. Lue asked if there is a way to use any CRA funds not spent on the existing routes to modify those routes. Ms. Alarcon replied that if an opportunity to modify these routes is identified, the TMA will come back before the Board. She explained that there is a great deal of work involved in adding services or adjusting routes, including public and stakeholder meetings.

The **motion** was duly **seconded**, with the clarification that "additional funding" refers to \$64,903 as well as the FY 2016-17 funding request.

Mr. Centamore requested clarification that this could not be construed as retroactive funding, recalling that in July, the Board voted to provide some funds retroactive to the time when an updated CRA Master Plan was adopted. Ms. Alarcon clarified out that the TMA's request includes funding that would cover the months of July, August, and September in the current fiscal year. Mr. Brown assured the Board that the request would be reviewed by the City's Legal Department to ensure that this is an eligible expense.

Ms. Reed expressed concern that the CRA Master Plan may or may not include the changes planned for the Northwest area. Ms. Alarcon reiterated that any funding changes must be brought back before the Board for approval in addition to the requirement for community outreach and a public hearing.

The **motion** was restated as follows: **motion** to support Staff's recommendation.

In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed 8-4 (Ms. Burrows, Mr. Centamore, Mr. Lagi, and Ms. Reed dissenting).

Ms. Alarcon concluded that an update on mass transit within the CRA would be presented to the Board in December, if not earlier.

The Board revisited its earlier discussion of funding for firewall upgrades to cameras within the CRA, with Mr. Brown introducing the City's Chief Technology Officer, Mike Maier. Mr. Maier explained that the firewalls will improve security for video taken by the cameras, which goes directly to the Police Department. The cameras have been grouped into clusters, and all cameras within the CRA will use a single firewall. Should the CRA determine that they want a larger firewall, it would necessitate the purchase of a larger appliance.

streetscapes. Mr. Brown explained that funds are set aside specifically for business and residential incentives; information on the City's website may be listed under former titles or old accounts that do not translate directly into individual projects. Once these have been reconciled, unprogrammed or unspent dollars will be moved into either business or residential incentives.

Mr. Strawbridge clarified that his question was related to why there are multiple allocations of funds for the same expenses. Mr. Brown reiterated that this is old account information, which includes line items for old accounts. When these funds are reallocated, they will be consolidated into either business or residential incentives.

Mr. Wilkes stated that if the Board is asked to review projects and approve funding requests, they should see a detailed budget that reflects the funds available in any individual account so they can make informed decisions.

Mr. Strawbridge noted that the target percentage of tax increment funding (TIF) revenue spent on public improvements in the CRA in 2017 is 15%, while in 2014 it was 16.6% and 20.8% in 2016. He did not feel this was a suitable goal for expenditures.

IX. Communication to CRA Board

None.

X. Old / New Business

Ms. Burrows recalled that The Mosaic Group is asked to present updates to the Board at every meeting, as recommended by the Mayor. Mr. Brown replied that the Mosaic Group may not always have items to report to the Board on a monthly basis.

XI. Public Comment

None.

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.

[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, Prototype, Inc.]