



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CONFERENCE MEETING**

#17-1039

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: December 5, 2017

TITLE: Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Projects Update

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide updates on the Las Olas Boulevard Corridor and Beach Streetscape improvement projects, the Las Olas Marina expansion and the Aquatics Center renovation. There are 33 months remaining before the Beach Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) sunsets on September 30, 2020.

Las Olas Boulevard Corridor

Skanska USA Building, Inc. is finishing installation of underground utilities for the parking garage. The new water main and sewer mains will be installed, tested, and commissioned this month. Florida Power and Light (FPL) will be onsite the second week in December to install new underground primary power and install a new transformer. These utilities must be installed so Skanska can abandon and demolish the existing utilities which conflict with the garage foundation and piles. The test piles were installed in November and production auger cast piles will begin in December.

Beach Streetscape Improvement Projects

The Beach Streetscape Improvement design is on schedule. The construction for the project is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2019. On April 11, 2016, the Beach Business Improvement District (BID) recommended funding the design of turtle-compliant lights on the west side of SR A1A, north of the CRA boundaries (Alhambra Street to Sunrise Boulevard). The construction funding for the lights would come from the remaining \$1.57 million Florida Department of Transportation ("FDOT") Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) grant.

The City will be responsible for any construction costs that exceed the FDOT JPA funds. Staff received correspondence from FDOT that JPA funds will be available in Fiscal Year 2020. It is recommended that this work be added to the Beach Streetscape Improvement Project in order to potentially reduce costs and complete construction earlier. A design change order will be submitted to the City Commission at its December 19, 2017 Regular Meeting.

A design conflict with an existing City watermain was discovered on the project. On the west side of SR A1A, the design involves locating new light poles and landscaping in the sidewalk 24 inches from the face of the curb to improve pedestrian circulation within the sidewalk. However, the location of the proposed lightpole foundations and trees conflicts with an existing watermain under the sidewalk. Staff and the design team are investigating alternative design concepts that include bollard lighting and planters for landscaping in areas that conflict with the watermain to avoid relocating the existing watermain. Staff and the design team are also investigating security enhancements for the project such as traffic rated bollards and security cameras.

Las Olas Marina Expansion

The City Commission approved the final lease agreement on July 11, 2017 with Suntex Marina Investors LLC (Suntex). Suntex has begun permit submittals for the dredged portion of the project, and is finalizing the site plan for the upland improvements.

DC Alexander Park

City staff reviewed bid responses to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) seeking a design team to provide design and construction administration services for park improvements. Three firms were short listed and a notice of intent to award was posted on November 20, 2017. Staff has begun negotiations with the top ranked firm Keith and Associates, and anticipates requesting City Commission approval on January 23, 2018.

Aquatics Center

On November 17, 2017, the City issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a design-build team. The close date for the RFP is January 15, 2018, at which time the selection committee will begin reviewing bid responses.

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