



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CRA BOARD MEETING

#18-1007

TO: CRA Chairman & Board of Commissioners
Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, Executive Director

DATE: October 9, 2018

TITLE: Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Projects Update

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide updates on the Las Olas Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project, State Road (SR) A1A Beach Streetscape Improvement Project, Las Olas Marina Expansion Project, DC Alexander Park Project, and Aquatics Center Renovation Project. There are 23 months remaining before the Beach Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) sunsets on September 30, 2020.

Las Olas Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project

Skanska USA Building, Inc. finished erection of the precast parking garage May 10, 2018. The garage façade clips and brackets are installed and attachment of the façade mesh and fins is ongoing (See Exhibit I). The interior and rooftop masonry work is complete. The interior finishes to rooms, offices, and garage striping is ongoing. The installation of the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing is ongoing. Site utility work is 95% complete and testing and inspections will be completed this month. The site work around the perimeter of the garage has begun with concrete retaining walls poured and site grading completed.

New sidewalks are being installed on the north side of Las Olas Boulevard between Seabreeze Boulevard and SR A1A. In addition to new decorative paving, improvements will also include new light poles, trees and bollards. The new trees will not be planted on the north side of Las Olas Boulevard until a permanent irrigation system can be installed. A permanent irrigation system will be installed during the Las Olas Boulevard roadway construction, at which time, new trees on both sides of the road will be planted as a part of this construction. The concrete sidewalk between Seabreeze Boulevard and Almond Avenue is scheduled to be completed by October 5th. The sidewalk work between Almond Avenue and SR A1A is scheduled to be completed before the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show.

A total road closure on Las Olas Boulevard is required to install the approved roadway improvements. As a result, the road closure dates had to be rescheduled to avoid conflicts with the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show. The revised road closure dates will not delay the overall project completion date, and is scheduled to begin April 2019. The roadway work duration is estimated at 4 months.

SR A1A Beach Streetscape Improvement Project

The design plans are progressing and staff anticipates beginning reviews of 100% design drawings by November 2018. On September 25, 2018 the City Commission approved a resolution to enter into a Construction Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the improvements within SR A1A right-of-way. This action has allowed the design team to proceed with permit submission to FDOT. The design team has also received approvals from Florida Fish and Wildlife (FWC) for a dual amber/white pedestrian light fixture. This approval will also allow the design team to proceed with permit submittals to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). Staff is targeting 2nd Quarter 2019 to begin construction on this project.

Las Olas Marina Expansion Project

Suntex submitted plans to the City's Design Review Committee (DRC) and attended a DRC meeting on April 10, 2018. Suntex is responding to DRC comments and making design revisions accordingly.

DC Alexander Park Project

On May 21, 2018 the design consultants Keith and Associates, Inc. (Keith) held an interactive public design workshop at the Fort Lauderdale Beach Community Center for the renovation of DC Alexander Park. On May 29, 2018 the Beach Redevelopment Board (BRB) and the Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board (Parks) held a joint meeting to provide feedback on the renovation of the park. At that meeting the consensus of both boards was to keep the park passive. On October 1, 2018 a second joint meeting of the BRB and the Parks Board was held. At this meeting staff proposed a more active alternative to the park renovation to include an experiential playground centering on a "fort" theme – harkening back to the original Fort Lauderdale. The park will connect to the history of Fort Lauderdale through representation of a fort and at the same time provide shaded/interactive areas of play for neighbors of all ages. The joint boards agreed to move forward with the idea.

The next step is for the design team, Keith and Associates, Inc. (Keith), to finalize 15% conceptual design, illustrations, and/or renderings and present to staff for final review. After staff review, the concepts will be presented to the BRB and Parks Board at a joint meeting. If the boards recommend moving forward with the design concepts, staff will then present them at a public workshop. Finally the concepts and input from the neighbors and advisory boards will be presented to CRA Board of Commissioners and the City Commission for approval.

Aquatics Center Renovation Project

On August 21, 2018 the CRA Board of Commissioners and the City Commission awarded an approximately \$27 million design-build contract to Hensel Phelps for the construction of the Aquatic Center improvements. A notice to proceed was issued to Hensel Phelps in September, and Hensel Phelps has begun design coordination and initial meetings with staff. The contract has 27 month duration. Design is ongoing and construction is estimated to begin 2nd Quarter 2019.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Progress Photographs

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