

City of Fort Lauderdale

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

1:30 PM

City Commission Conference Room

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

***DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor - Commissioner
BEN SORENSEN Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District IV
HEATHER MORAITIS Commissioner - District I
STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District II
ROBERT L. McKINZIE Commissioner - District III***

***LEE R. FELDMAN, City Manager
JOHN HERBST, City Auditor
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI, City Clerk
ALAIN E. BOILEAU, City Attorney***

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trantalis called the Commission Conference Meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Heather Moraitis, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Commissioner Robert L. McKinzie, Vice Mayor Ben Sorensen and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Also Present: City Manager Lee R. Feldman, City Clerk Jeffrey A. Modarelli, Interim City Attorney Alain Boileau, City Auditor John Herbst and Sergeant at Arms Keven M. Dupree

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

Commissioner Moraitis inquired about the possibility of a Special Election in March 2019 for a Parks Bond. Mayor Trantalis said a decision has not been made. Discussions on this topic will continue at the upcoming Special Budget Meetings.

Commissioner Moraitis commented on the option of a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) as a revenue source in lieu of Return on Investment (ROI). City Manager Feldman explained that a PILOT is a government utility payment in place of a property tax, expounding on this topic and confirming this is an option. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis said this option would also deplete the Water and Sewer Fund if used for general fund obligations. Commissioner Moraitis recommended that PILOT revenue could be designated for water and sewer infrastructure improvements. Mayor Trantalis concurred.

Commissioner Moraitis confirmed that Premier Parks will not be coming to District I. She agreed with Commissioner McKinzie's comments made at the Joint Workshop with the Budget Advisory Board on the importance of investing in City Parks. Further discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis expounded on the history of this topic.

Interim City Attorney Alain Boileau confirmed he would address cost recovery options for Premier Park's termination, expounding on the City's legal position regarding forfeiture of the deposit. Further comment and discussion ensued. City Manager Feldman explained the history of proposed options for Lockhart Stadium impacted by the Federal Aviation Association (FAA) and deed restrictions on fair market value. He discussed details on how to address. City Manager Feldman confirmed Premier Parks was unable to move forward due to costs.

Commissioner Glassman confirmed neighbor requests to continue moving forward with the Las Olas Mobility Plan and vacation rental concerns. On September 13, 2018 he will convene a meeting with District II neighborhood association presidents in the Commission Conference Room.

Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on the success of a recent meeting with Airbnb, Inc., (Airbnb) to address the vacation rental concerns and efforts to continue moving forward with all vacation rental platforms. Commissioner McKinzie commented on Airbnb's position and the need for participation from other vacation rental platforms. Mayor Trantalis discussed meetings with Airbnb during his attendance at the U.S. Conference of Mayors, commenting on their willingness to come to the table. He requested Vice Mayor Sorensen to follow-up. Further discussions ensued on this topic.

Vice Mayor Sorensen discussed neighbor requests for additional code enforcement on trash receptacle removal following pickup. Commissioner McKinzie concurred, commenting on those who consistently violate City Code. City Manager Feldman discussed code efforts, confirming this is addressed on a complaint basis. Further discussions ensued. In response to City Manager Feldman, Vice Mayor Sorensen confirmed he would advise on District IV's complaint areas.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the success of the *Best Buy Teen Tech Event* for the benefit of at-risk children. He also discussed the Circuit Court of Appeals ruling on the homeless feedings issue. Interim City Attorney Alain Boileau said he would request an Executive Closed-Door Session at tonight's Commission Regular Meeting on this matter. September 12, 2018 is the deadline to file a Petition for Rehearing. Further comment and discussion ensued. The Executive Closed-Door Session will occur at the September 6, 2018 Special Budget Hearing.

Mayor Trantalis commented on City Manager Feldman's communications with the Broward County Business Council (Council) on

plans to address homelessness. The Council's funding needs to launch the project is approximately \$4,000,000. The City is being requested to provide \$1,000,000. City Manager Feldman explained the position of the Council. Mayor Trantalis asked City Manager Feldman to forward the Council's budget to all Commissioners. This topic will be discussed at the upcoming September 6, 2018 Special Budget Hearing. City Manager Feldman confirmed.

[18-0930](#)

Communications to the City Commission

**Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Board (Board)
Wednesday, August 22, 2018**

Mayor Trantalis read the Board's recommendation to eliminate plastic straws, commenting on their impact. Vice Mayor Sorensen concurred, discussing the negative impact of straws in the beach area. Discussions ensued on the actions of Deerfield Beach regarding this topic.

Mayor Trantalis confirmed this concern was also voiced in the Sustainability Advisory Board's Communication to the Commission.

City Manager Feldman confirmed action on this topic would require the adoption of an Ordinance. Interim City Attorney Boileau expounded on Deerfield Beach's Ordinance, stating it applies only to City-owned properties. He commented on possible concerns should the Commission request this also apply to private businesses. Further discussions ensued. City Manager Feldman confirmed this topic will be brought before the Commission at the October 9, 2018 Commission Conference Meeting.

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

**Sustainability Advisory Board
August 27, 2018**

Discussed under Parks, Recreation and Beaches Board
Communication..

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [18-0641](#)

One-Way Pairs Concept for Andrews Avenue and NE/SE 3rd Avenue

Mayor Trantalis recognized Julie Leonard, Interim Director of Transportation and Mobility. Ms. Leonard introduced Greg Stuart, Executive Director of the Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Christopher Restrepo, MPO Principal Planner. Ms. Leonard explained the presentation will address One-Way Pairings southbound on Andrews Avenue and northbound on Third Avenue (Project) in the downtown area.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Greg Stuart. Mr. Stuart commented on the financial impact of The Wave being discontinued. This Project addresses additional ways to alleviate downtown traffic with dedicated one-way pairings northbound on Third Avenue and southbound on Andrews Avenue. Mr. Stuart discussed the process for moving the Project forward. Following Commission approval, the Project would be presented to the Broward County Commission.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Restrepo explained the Project's benefits addressing traffic and transit improvements. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Stuart explained an "intersection queue" provides bus operators the opportunity to change all lights "red" at an intersection, allowing the bus to proceed through the intersection.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie, Mr. Stuart confirmed an "intersection queue" could be provided to the Sun Trolley and further study is needed. Mayor Trantalis commented on the need to make improvements to current Sun Trolley transit options to attract ridership. Discussions ensued on this topic. It was reiterated that further studies are necessary.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question, Mr. Stuart commented on the County's position on the upcoming referendum regarding the penny sales tax to fund the Project's costs. The deadline for the City's submission to the County was discussed. City Manager Feldman said this Project is not on the County's current project list. The Project will need to compete for the municipalities' ten percent (10%) portion of the one-penny sales tax. Mayor Trantalis commented that the list of uses does not include this type of transportation project. He noted both Third Avenue and Andrews Avenue are County roadways. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's question about downsides of Project, Mr. Stuart commented on a possible directional challenge, noting that other major downtown municipalities have areas that operate in this manner. He discussed the critical aspect of the Project's dedicated transit lane and future opportunities to utilize this concept on other major east/west roadways radiating traffic out of the downtown area. Mr. Stuart commented on the increased efficiency of this Project versus The Wave, noting the need to present it to the County for funding.

Mr. Restrepo commented on Project improvements, including wider pedestrian sidewalks, enhanced bicycle lanes and new urban forestry. Further comments ensued on landscaping enhancement opportunities, bicycle crossings and reducing pedestrian fatalities.

Commissioner McKinzie reviewed the public benefits of the Project. Mr. Stuart said this Project would reduce the current nine phases of traffic signalization to three.

Mr. Stuart discussed possible funding opportunities from the State following County approval. He addressed the timeline, commenting that this Project could be implemented within approximately 36 months and on the need to coordinate the Project with municipal utility improvements.

Mayor Trantalis discussed Congressman Diaz-Balart's commitment to providing alternative funding. Mr. Stuart concurred on the Congressman's support of regional transportation needs. Further comments ensued on the Department of Transportation's transit system funding.

Commissioner McKinzie commented on roadway construction and the need to coordinate the Project with infrastructure maintenance and improvements. Mr. Stuart concurred.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's question about the distance of the one-way pairing routes, it was confirmed as approximately four miles. There was positive Commission consensus on the Project.

Commissioner Glassman asked about plans for neighborhood outreach. He confirmed the importance of involving all stakeholders along the Third Avenue and Andrews Avenue routes. Mr. Restrepo confirmed the extensive public outreach plan.

Should the Project receive Commission approval, Mr. Stuart confirmed

the timeline. The MPO would bring the Project to the Broward County Commission following the November 2018 election, regardless of the results of the one-penny sales tax referendum. The planning documents would be completed approximately 18 months after County approval.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's inquiry about future similar east-west projects, Mayor Trantalis commented on his discussions with the County Administrator. The County views this as one of their high priority projects.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Dennis Ulmer, 1007 NW 11th Place. Mr. Ulmer urged the Commission to consider the impact on ridership due to the distance required to travel to the one-way corridors during inclement weather. Further comment and discussion ensued on time and convenience.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Jenni Morejon, Executive Director of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Ms. Morejon said this Project was presented to the DDA in August 2018, confirming their support. The DDA has requested input from all business stakeholders, including the economic benefits and perceived impacts on businesses located on Third Avenue and Andrews Avenue.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question about Sun Trolley circulator options, Mr. Stuart commented on utilization opportunities. Mr. Stuart requested a list of discussion items relating to the Project.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Carla Roundtree, 722 NW 2nd Avenue. Ms. Roundtree asked about the Sun Trolley being part of the Project study. Mayor Trantalis confirmed the east-west Sun Trolley would work in conjunction with the Project.

BUS-2 [18-0894](#)

Discussion on the NE 4th Avenue Lane Elimination

Mayor Trantalis recognized Julie Leonard, Interim Director of Department of Transportation and Mobility (TAM). She introduced Christine Fanchi, TAM Engineering and Design Manager, and John Olson, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Consultant Management Engineer.

Mr. Olson gave a brief overview of FDOT's work on the Project, confirming the Project has started.

Ms. Fanchi discussed Staff's work to define the scope of the Project in the City's portion of the Project, commenting on two alternatives.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question about on-going construction at the southeast corner of 13th Street and 4th Avenue, Ms. Fanchi identified it as a dedicated right turn lane. Mayor Trantalis commented on previous TAM comments reflected in previous Commission Conference Meeting Minutes. Ms. Fanchi explained the following Project details: there will be an 11-foot outside travel lane in the referenced area which will be painted with a six-foot bumper and a six-foot bike lane along 4th Avenue up to 13th Street; heading north from 11th Street to 13th Street, there will be one driving lane with a buffered bike lane; and approaching 13th Street, there will be a dedicated right turn lane on the right side of the buffered bike lane. Should the dedicated turn lanes not work, they can be reverted via restriping. Mr. Olson reviewed the Project's improvements.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Olson confirmed the dedicated drop-off lane at Fort Lauderdale High School is not a travel lane. There is only one northbound travel lane.

In response to Vice Mayor Sorensen's question, Mr. Olson commented on the timeline for the assessment of roadway changes, noting FDOT's position for its successful operation. Mr. Olson commented that the left turn lane would alleviate turning vehicles from the northbound travel lane.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question about the portion of 4th Avenue beyond 11th Street, Mr. Olson said there will be bicycle sharrows from 11th Street to Sunrise Boulevard. Mayor Trantalis voiced his safety concerns. Ms. Fanchi noted bicyclists in this area have the option of going onto the sidewalk, expounding on her understanding of the Project's original intent and related funding.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Greg Stuart, Executive Director of the Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Mr. Stuart explained the genesis of the Project, confirming the purpose was to connect residential units to transit corridors for bus lines utilization.

Mr. Olson reviewed the Project's timelines, estimating the completion date as fall of 2019.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's comments about the number of peak trips being surpassed, Mayor Trantalis noted the reasoning behind these modifications is to encourage bicycle ridership. Commissioner Glassman commented on neighborhood feedback and a

misunderstanding of what changes would be made on NE 4th Avenue from 11th Street to 13th Street. It was their understanding that the elimination lane would not extend beyond 13th Street. He reiterated that the number of peak trips in this area have been exceeded. Mayor Trantalis noted the different approaches to address capacity.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ron Centamore, President of the Council of Civic Associations. Mr. Centamore discussed his concern about the proposed Third Avenue three northbound one-way pairings being reduced to two lanes at N. Flagler Drive and one lane at Sunrise Boulevard. He discussed the increased development and residents in this area. Mr. Centamore recommended further study and evaluation of this item's lane reduction. Further comment and discussion ensued on Third Avenue being a main thoroughfare and the impact of lane sharrows.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Fred Valdez, 400 NE 13th Street. In response to Mr. Valdez's request for clarification on Fourth Avenue, Ms. Fanchi explained the intent is to repurpose the roadway with one vehicular travel lane, one buffered bike lane and a dedicated turn lane at 400 NE 13th Street. This will be done with restriping that can be reverted. Mr. Valdez commented on a curb at 13th Street at Fourth Avenue. He commented on the narrowing of Fourth Avenue, individuals cutting through his property, the Project's impact on his business and additional safety concerns.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie, Mr. Valdez confirmed his opposition to the Project's lane reduction. Discussions ensued on construction timing and completion of the dedicated right turn lane. Ms. Fanchi and Mr. Olson confirmed they would advise on the expected completion date.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Mark Antonelli, 5454 NE 25th Avenue. Mr. Antonelli commented on his work as a developer in the vicinity of NE Third Avenue and Second Avenue, confirming his opposition to this Project. He discussed neighbor input, recommending this Project end at 13th Street, stating drivers are rerouting to residential neighborhoods to avoid the Project's impact on the area.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Colleen Lockwood, 820 NE 16th Place and President of the Middle River Terrace Association. Ms. Lockwood commented on concerns in front of Fort Lauderdale High School, traffic overflow during drop off and pick-up times and the Project extending beyond 13th Street. She commented on increasing congestion due to

additional road changes in the area and other traffic concerns. Ms. Lockwood requested no permanent roadway changes until item BUS-1's one-way road pairings Project is studied.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Shea Smith, 1900 NE 21st Street and designated representative of Bike Walk Fort Lauderdale. Mr. Smith discussed the need for an integrated bike/walk system, the process and the need for a holistic solution addressing future increases in bicycle ridership.

Ms. Fanchi commented on neighbor requests for a traffic study at NE Second Avenue and NE Third Avenue, confirming funds have been made available. The initial traffic counts were compiled two weeks ago, and a second study will be done following Project completion.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question about the necessity of having bike lanes on main traffic corridors, Ms. Fanchi noted the limited rights-of-way in the City and riders' desire to reach destinations on main corridors. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis commented on addressing the needs of the large percentage of population driving vehicles. City Manager Feldman commented on the goals of LauderTrail.

Commissioner Glassman commented on previous discussions that there would be no lane elimination in front of Fort Lauderdale High School. Further comment and debate ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Jay Adams, 919 SE 6th Court. Mr. Adams commented on his support of this Project and the need for additional bike lanes on other main corridors. He also commented on safety concerns, the need for transportation alternatives and sidewalks in pedestrian areas.

Commissioner Glassman discussed the opportunity to make lane elimination changes south of 13th Street. Mayor Trantalis commented on the action of the previous Commissioners on this item. Commissioner Moraitis asked for a map illustrating the overall connectivity for existing and proposed bike lanes. Further comment and discussion ensued on the bike lane connectivity plan.

Mayor Trantalis recommended assessing the Project's impact once completed and prior to alterations, noting the positions of those in favor of the Project and those opposed.

Commissioner Glassman requested periodic updates from Staff on the impact of the Project. City Manager Feldman asked Mr. Olson about a post-construction analysis and frequency. Mr. Olson confirmed FDOT would work with the City to address this request. Mr. Stuart commented on MPO efforts to address measuring performance, noting details and confirming this is done on an annual basis. Discussions ensued on other projects of this type and the timeline should this Project's striping be reverted to its original routing.

Mr. Stuart confirmed a recent communication from the Project's construction staff stating the widening of the turn lane will be completed within two weeks. However, the turn lane will not be restriped until the entire Project is repaved after construction has been completed.

Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on his concern about residential neighborhood cut-through traffic and a reassessment of the overall Project. Further comment and discussion ensued on addressing this topic, the construction of the bike lane on Bayview Drive from Sunrise Boulevard to Commercial Boulevard and the impact four-lane roads on neighborhoods. Further comment and discussion ensued on these topics.

BUS-3 [18-0740](#)

Innovative Development (ID) Advisory Committee - Proposed Revisions to the Innovative Development (ID) District

Anthony Fajardo, Director of Sustainable Development, gave a historic overview of Innovative Development (ID) District zoning. He also expounded on the Innovative Development (ID) Advisory Committee's (Committee) proposed revisions. This item's presentation outlines the Committee's recommendations.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Jim Hetzel, Principal Planner - Department of Sustainable Development. Mr. Hetzel gave the presentation, reviewing the Committee's history, timeline, work and recommendations.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question about the Committee's initial denial of the Bahia Mar Project, Mr. Fajardo explained Bahia Mar went on to request what could be done under the current Ordinance.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Hetzel explained ways to address the maximum height of buildings on the beach.

In response Commissioner Glassman's inquiry about deletions in the

Review Process in Section 47-37(a)10(b), Mr. Hetzel confirmed it was deleted due to its redundancy. The Review Process is addressed in another section of the Code and discusses the appeal process should a project be denied.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie, Mr. Hetzel confirmed the need for Commission guidance on the Committee's recommendation. In response to Commissioner Moraitis, Mr. Hetzel confirmed there are no projects in the pipeline which would be impacted by these recommendations. Further comment and discussion ensued on the process and the next steps. Commissioner Glassman commented that the Committee has completed its responsibilities.

Mayor Trantalis explained ID Zoning and the need for a Commission supermajority for approval. Commissioner McKinzie also commented on this topic.

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

[18-0958](#)

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

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

Adderly, Ray, et al. v. City of Fort Lauderdale
Case No. 11-008499 (26)

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the Commission Conference Meeting at 4:22 p.m.