



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**CRA BOARD MEETING**

**#18-1240**

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

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

**DATE:** December 18, 2018

**TITLE:** Central Beach Master Plan Public Improvement Projects Update

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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 21 months remaining before the Beach Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) sunsets on September 30, 2020.

**Las Olas Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project**

The Las Olas parking garage will open on December 20, 2018. Skanska USA Building, Inc. obtained a temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO) which gives the City an opportunity to park cars in the garage while remaining garage construction activities are completed (See Exhibit 1). Once the garage is open, Skanska will begin mobilization to install temporary construction fencing, tree removal, and demolition on the Oceanside Parking Lot located at Las Olas Boulevard and SR A1A.

The remaining garage construction activities include the façade installation, exterior site landscaping, exterior site concrete, amenity deck glass railing, and additional security features. These remaining garage activities should be completed by February 2019 with some exceptions. The exterior site concrete and landscaping on the east end of the garage should be completed by March 2019. AT&T needs to install a new fiber line on the east side of the garage; until this happens, Skanska will not be able to complete the work in this area.

The new sidewalks on the north side of Las Olas Boulevard between Seabreeze Boulevard and SR A1A are installed and open to the public. 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.

A total road closure on Las Olas Boulevard is required to install the approved roadway improvements. The road closure dates were rescheduled to avoid conflicts with the Fort

Lauderdale Boat Show. The revised dates will not delay the overall project completion date and is scheduled to begin in April 2019. The roadway work duration is estimated at 4 months.

### **SR A1A Beach Streetscape Improvement Project**

The consultants have completed the design and have submitted for permits to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for approval. Staff is targeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2019 to begin construction on this project.

Lane closures on SR A1A will be necessary to construct the proposed streetscape improvements. Staff will also engage a Public Information and Outreach (PIO) team to assist with coordination efforts with businesses, residents, and neighbors in the vicinity of the project footprint. The PIO team will assist the City throughout the design and permitting schedule as well as the entirety of the construction schedule. The information gathered by the PIO team during public outreach will be incorporated into the construction bid package, and will also assist in scheduling and means and methods for the construction firm awarded 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 October 1, 2018 a meeting of the Beach Redevelopment Board (BRB) and the Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board (Parks) 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 unanimously agreed to move forward with the idea.

Keith and Associates, Inc. (Keith) presented 15% conceptual design and illustrations at the following public meetings:

- a joint BRB and Parks Recreation and Beaches Board meeting on November 7, 2018
- a public workshop held on November 14, 2018
- a Central Beach Alliance Board meeting on November 15, 2018

The public comments were in support of park improvements but were not supportive of most of the park footprint becoming the "fort" themed playground. Staff and Keith took the notes from these meetings and will provide a revised concept that incorporates some of the input provided at these public events. Staff and Keith will conduct a second round of public presentations to present the revised concept. After presenting the new concept and obtaining additional public input, the concept will be presented to Commission for

approval.

**Aquatics Center Renovation Project**

On August 21, 2018 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 in September, and Hensel Phelps has begun design coordination and initial meetings with staff. The contract has a 27 month duration period. Thirty percent (30%) design review is complete. Construction is estimated to begin in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2019.

**Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Progress Photographs

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