



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CRA BOARD MEETING

#19-0076

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

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, Executive Director

DATE: January 22, 2019

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 twenty (20) 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 opened on December 20, 2018. Skanska USA Building, Inc. obtained a temporary certificate of occupancy which gives the City an opportunity to park cars in the garage while remaining garage construction activities are completed (See "Exhibit 1"). Opening the garage allowed Skanska to begin construction on Phase II which includes the new Oceanside Park located at Las Olas Boulevard and SR A1A. The existing parking lot was closed on December 20, 2018 and Skanska has erected construction fencing and begun site demolition.

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 amenity deck glass railing should be completed by May 2019. 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 and 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 design plans are at 100%. The design team submitted permits to the Florida Department of Transportation and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for approval. Staff is targeting 2nd Quarter 2019 to begin construction on this project.

Lane closures on SR A1A will be necessary to construct the proposed improvements. Staff will also engage a Public Information and Outreach (“PIO”) team to assist with coordination efforts for businesses, residents, and neighbors in the vicinity of the project footprint. The PIO team will assist the City throughout the remainder of the design and permitting timeframe, and also assist throughout the entire construction schedule. A Request for Proposal has been drafted and will be advertised. The public input gathered by the PIO team will be utilized where feasible to schedule and means and methods for the construction firm awarded this project and will be incorporated into the construction bid package.

Las Olas Marina Expansion Project

The Las Olas Marina Expansion developer, Suntex Marina Developers LLC (“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. There are no further updates for this project.

DC Alexander Park Project

On October 1, 2018, a meeting of the Beach Redevelopment Board (“BRB”) and the Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory (“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 would have sought to 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 of the idea.

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

- a joint BRB and Parks Board meeting on November 7, 2018;
- a public workshop on November 14, 2018; and
- 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 themed playground resembling a fort. Staff and Keith took the notes from these meetings and will make revisions to the concept that

addresses some of the comments raised at these meetings. The revised concept will be presented at additional public presentations and then will be presented to the City Commission for approval.

Aquatics Center Renovation Project

On August 21, 2018, the CRA Board of Commissioners and the City Commission awarded a design-build contract, to the construction management firm Hensel Phelps Construction Co. ("Hensel Phelps"), for the construction of the Aquatic Center improvements. A notice to proceed was issued in September 2018. Hensel Phelps has begun design coordination and initial meetings with staff. The contract has a twenty-seven (27) month duration.

The City's project team has completed 30% design review and revisions were incorporated into the drawings. Hensel Phelps submitted 30% drawings for City of Fort Lauderdale to begin Site Plan Level I review, and submitted to 60% drawings to the City project team for review. Construction is estimated to begin in the 2nd Quarter of 2019.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Progress Photographs

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