

# City of Fort Lauderdale

*City Hall  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
[www.fortlauderdale.gov](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov)*



## Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, December 18, 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 1:36 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, City Attorney Alain E. Boileau, City Auditor John Herbst, and Sergeant at Arms Luan Malushi

[18-1323](#)

Communications to the City Commission

**Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)  
November 26, 2018**

***A copy of the SAB communication is attached to these minutes.***

Mayor Trantalis reviewed the SAB communication, commenting on the recommendation to establish an additional Assistant City Manager position responsible for sustainability items, including sea level rise. He suggested a Commission Workshop with the SAB to consider this recommendation and to prioritize the SAB's additional recommendations. Discussion and comment ensued on this topic.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed the Nighttime Economy Manager's role and responsibilities, commenting on his perspective for implementing SAB recommendations.

Commissioner Glassman commented on the additional items raised in the SAB communication. Commissioner Moraitis noted the need to focus on other areas of government that address these recommendations.

## CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

Commissioner Moraitis commented on feedback received at the Coral Ridge Homeowners Association regarding School Guardian radio frequency communications. City Manager Feldman explained the need to provide School Guardians and School Resource Officers (SROs) with direct radio frequency contact with Broward County Dispatchers.

City Manager Feldman said that he has written to Broward County School Board (School Board) Superintendent Robert W. Runcie on this topic, confirming follow-up. He expounded on the need and effort to have real-time access to school video surveillance systems. Further comment and discussion ensued. City Manager Feldman commented on the security survey done by the Police Chief and Fire Chief, confirming he would follow-up and report to the Commission on the implementation of survey recommendations at each school.

Commissioner Moraitis gave an update on median improvement projects along A1A of the Galt Ocean Mile, confirming the estimated start date is May of 2019. Further comment and discussion ensued on the design and Master Plan.

Commissioner Glassman gave an update on the Las Olas Mobility Group. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Commissioner Glassman noted that discussion of a circulator at 15th Avenue and 12th Avenue had not been discussed. Comment and discussion ensued on this topic. Commissioner Glassman commented on issues addressed at Conference Meetings and raised at community meetings regarding enforcement concerns for various items including scooters and vacation rentals. Mayor Trantalis suggested communicating directly with Staff.

Vice Mayor Sorensen discussed the District IV neighbor meeting regarding the proposed Affordable Housing Project. He commented on discussions with Affordable Housing experts and his perspective on the Project.

Vice Mayor Sorensen raised the topic of Downtown Development Authority (DDA) term limits. Comment and discussion ensued on establishing and implementing DDA term limits. Mayor Trantalis recognized Jenni Morejon, Executive Director of the DDA. Ms. Morejon expounded on the DDA Board's recommendation of two consecutive terms, noting that the Commission can recommend appointments as terms expire. Further comment and discussion ensued on this topic. In

response to Commissioner Moraitis' question about current DDA Board Members who have served two terms (eight years), Ms. Morejon commented on two current DDA members whose terms expire at the end of 2018.

Vice Mayor Sorensen discussed the upcoming City Manager position transition. Assistant City Manager Chris Lagerbloom commented on plans for the two Interim Assistant City Manager positions effective January 1, 2019.

Vice Mayor Sorensen raised the topic of an increase for expenses allowed for the Mayor and Commissioners. City Attorney Alain Boileau expounded on related details, stating that any modifications would take effect after the next Commission is seated, commenting on historical information and how the Charter addresses this topic. Further comment and discussion ensued on Commission compensation and the timeline. City Auditor John Herbst explained tax-related details. Explanation and discussion ensued on participation in the Florida Retirement System (FRS). Mr. Herbst commented on the FRS option for the elected class. City Manager Feldman expounded on the process for an elected official to be part of the FRS. Commissioner Glassman requested detailed information on this topic and research on how other municipalities address expenses for elected officials. City Manager Feldman explained his previous recommendation that Commission compensation is linked to the City's median per capita income, adjusted annually by the Department of Labor.

Mayor Trantalis requested City Attorney Boileau prepare a compensation Resolution based on City Manager Feldman's recommendation. Further comment and discussion ensued. City Auditor Herbst discussed the option of employees participating in the FRS, expounding on details and commenting that it would enhance mid-career recruitment opportunities. City Attorney Boileau confirmed preparation of a draft ordinance and related research data.

Mayor Trantalis commented on speaking engagements at the Fort Lauderdale High School's Pre-law Program and the Cardinal Gibbons High School Football State Champions. He acknowledged the Seminole Hard Rock's sponsorship of the Winterfest Boat Parade and the success of this signature event.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**BUS-1** [18-1338](#)

Discussion of City Charter Amendments for March Ballot

Mayor Trantalis recognized former Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom, 66 Nurmi Drive and member of the Charter Revision Board.

Commissioner Rodstrom commented on her perspective regarding having Charter Revisions on a March ballot and voter outreach.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Dennis Ulmer, 1007 NW 11th Place. Mr. Ulmer concurred with Commissioner Rodstrom's comments, discussing his perspective on proposed election date changes in the Charter.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his agreement with the points raised by Commissioner Rodstrom. Commissioner Moraitis noted her support of a March election date and not having a primary.

Vice Mayor Sorensen discussed his support for November elections. Discussion ensued on including municipal elections on a ballot with state and federal elections, and voter turnout for the last municipal election held in March. Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on the cost savings associated with the proposed election date change. City Manager Feldman explained upcoming ballot dates. Commissioner Glassman discussed the inclusion of Charter Revisions on the same ballot as the Parks Bond and the Public Safety Facilities Bond. He commented on staggered terms for the Commission and his perspective on other election details. Commissioner Glassman also noted the need to address the topic of election contributions. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Attorney Alain Boileau confirmed the following proposed revisions to the Charter for the March 2019 ballot: the primary election would be eliminated; elections would coincide with Presidential Elections beginning in November 2020; the length of terms would be four (4) years; term limits would be three (3) terms for each Commissioner and the Mayor and would begin 2020. City Attorney Boileau also confirmed that beginning with the 2020 November election, the installation of the Mayor and each Commissioner would occur at the first Commission Regular Meeting in January following the November election and would be included in the proposed Charter revisions.

**BUS-2** [18-1339](#)

**One Stop Shop Building Demolition**

City Manager Feldman discussed the need to relocate Staff prior to moving forward with demolition of the One Stop Shop. Mayor Trantalis confirmed the need to move forward.

**BUS-3** [18-1292](#)

**Presentation from Fort Lauderdale on Public Safety**

Stan Eichelbaum, on behalf of Fort Lauderdale on Public Safety (FLOPS), explained the purpose and mission of FLOPS. Mr. Eichelbaum gave a presentation on FLOPS's draft White Paper (White Paper) submitted to the Commission. Topics in the presentation included: public safety, environmental practices compliance; the escalating Wind Vector Effect in the downtown area; concerns about life safety accessibility; traffic congestion and pedestrian safety; resident livability during intense development including infrastructure sufficiency; and compliance and enforcement standards. Mr. Eichelbaum expounded on details contained in the White Paper. A video on the White Paper was shown to the Commission.

***A draft copy of Mr. Eichelbaum's White Paper is attached to these minutes. A copy of the video is available from the Office of the City Clerk.***

Mayor Trantalis recognized John Bordeaux on behalf of FLOPS. Mr. Bordeaux discussed the need for further consideration of projects impacting infrastructure, expounding on concerns and recommendations.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Lenny Steinbaum on behalf of FLOPS. Mr. Steinbaum discussed concerns and recommendations regarding emergency life/safety response times and service.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Carol Kalliche, 411 N. New River Drive East. Ms. Kalliche commented on traffic and pedestrian safety concerns in her residential neighborhood. In response to Mayor Trantalis, Ms. Kalliche expounded on related details. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis requested the Las Olas Corridor Mobility Study address this topic.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Jim McGrath, Fort Lauderdale resident. Mr. McGrath commented on downtown neighborhood concerns, noting the need for construction oversight and other recommendations, including best practices and livability.

Mr. Eichelbaum reviewed FLOPS overall recommendations contained in the White Paper.

In response to Mayor Trantalis's inquiry, Mr. Eichelbaum noted that the Environmental Infrastructure Section of the White Paper is being augmented and would be forthcoming.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the need for the Commission and the

Department of Sustainable Development to review the White Paper. Commissioner Glassman requested further information from Staff on the Wind Vector Effect related to development. Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on the earlier request that Mr. Fajardo update the Commission on this topic as it relates to the Downtown Master Plan. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner McKinzie left the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the Commission Conference Meeting of December 18, 2018 at 3:07 p.m.