

City of Fort Lauderdale

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

1:30 PM

City Commission Conference Room

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor

ROBERT L. McKINZIE Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District III

HEATHER MORAITIS Commissioner - District I

STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District II

BEN SORENSEN Commissioner - District IV

CHRIS LAGERBLOOM, City Manager

JOHN HERBST, City Auditor

JEFFREY A. MODARELLI, City Clerk

ALAIN E. BOILEAU, City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trantalis called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commission Members Present: Commissioner Heather Moraitis, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Vice Mayor Robert L. McKinzie (arrived at 2:22 p.m.), Commissioner Ben Sorensen, and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Also Present: City Manager Chris Lagerbloom, City Clerk Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Attorney Alain E. Boileau, City Auditor John Herbst, and Sergeant of Arms Heather Lee

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

Commissioner Moraitis discussed plans for the Lockhart Stadium Site (Project). Several schools requested she speak on the Project. Commissioner Moraitis said she spoke to the Student Government at Pine Crest School.

The EDSA architectural plans for the Project's Community Center are scheduled to be presented as noted below:

June 3, 2019 - District I Pre-Agenda Meeting (receive community input);

June 11, 2019 - Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) (receive FXE tenant input);

June 18, 2019 - Commission Conference Meeting (community input and FXE tenant input also presented); and

June 26, 2019 - Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board (PRBAB) (community input and FXE tenant input also presented)

Commissioner Moraitis commented on additional details moving forward, including coordination with Phil Thornburg, Director of Parks and Recreation, and meetings with the PRBAB.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Manager Chris Lagerbloom confirmed efforts to coordinate a Commission Joint Workshop with the PRBAB in advance of the July 9, 2019 Commission Regular Meeting, noting that dates are circulating.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Commissioner Glassman confirmed plans for the Breakers Avenue Project and a presentation to the Commission by the Transportation and Mobility Department.

Commissioner Glassman noted the many services provided by the Boys and Girls Club, expounding on details. He noted several upcoming community meetings, including two on Wednesday, May 22, 2019: the Las Olas Mobility Working Group Meeting; and the A1A Streetscape Corridor Improvements Project Presentation to Residents at the Sonesta Hotel.

Commissioner Glassman acknowledged that May is National Historic Preservation Month and that this week is National Public Works Week and National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week.

Commissioner Sorenson gave a brief update on the May 8, 2019 SE 17th Street Mobility Working Group Meeting. Alan Cohen, Assistant Broward County Administrator, gave a presentation on the new plans for the Convention Center.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed details regarding municipalities challenging aspects of State gun statutes, commenting on related information. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding related litigation, City Attorney Alain Boileau confirmed both sides have filed Cross-Motions for Summary Judgment and the hearing is scheduled on June 7, 2019.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed the May 28, 2019 meeting to review Las Olas Boulevard business area needs prior to the unveiling of broader plans, expounding on details. Mayor Trantalis commented on the efforts of Group 954 working with Las Olas Boulevard merchant owners to place art displays in empty windows. Further comment ensued.

Mayor Trantalis noted the recent International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) Luncheon and commented on the positive input from the swimming and diving community regarding Aquatic Complex improvements. The ISHOF is moving forward with upgrades and

enhancements to its east and west buildings. Fundraising efforts are forthcoming. Mayor Trantalis discussed reconsidering Aquatic Complex seating to include VIP seating. City Manager Lagerbloom will be presenting options to the Commission. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding skyboxes and other options for the best use of surface space.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his attendance at the League of Cities Gala, confirming the opportunity this event provided to meet and discuss relevant topics with members of the Broward County Commission and Commissioners from other municipalities.

Mayor Trantalis noted that train horns are now absent, acknowledging and thanking the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the efforts in addressing this neighbor concern.

Mayor Trantalis recommended a joint Commission meeting with the Broward County Commission for an update on the proposed Joint Government Center. It would provide an opportunity for input, approvals, and suggestions regarding the unsolicited proposals received. City Manager Lagerbloom discussed efforts to arrange a Joint Unified Direct Procurement Authority (UDPA) Meeting with the Broward County Commission on June 18, 2019. He will look beyond that meeting for an additional opportunity to meet. Mayor Trantalis noted the need to update the Commission soon. City Manager Lagerbloom said that should the proposed meeting with the Broward County Commission not be coordinated due to scheduling conflicts, this topic would be an item on the next Conference Meeting Agenda.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions regarding the history of periodic meetings with the Broward County Commission, Mayor Trantalis said that previous joint meetings with the Broward County Commission were issue driven.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his attendance at the Mayors Meeting hosted by Broward County Mayor Mark J. Bogen, expounding on details. He discussed his attendance at periodic meetings hosted by Broward County Commissioner Lamar P. Fisher that included discussion on informative transportation issues.

[19-0507](#)

Communications to the City Commission - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Infrastructure Task Force Committee (ITFC)
May 6, 2019

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Marilyn Mammano, ITFC Chair. Ms. Mammano confirmed the ITFC's review and support of the Stantec FY 2018 Water & Wastewater Comprehensive Rate Study Report (Report). The ITFC supports all users paying a connection fee, commenting on related details. The ITFC confirms the equitable methodology of the Report. In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding the ITFC taking a position on Plan A or Plan B, Ms. Mammano reconfirmed the ITFC support of all users paying a connection fee in addition to paying for the amount of water used, i.e., when a customer uses more, they pay more.

**Marine Advisory Board (MAB)
May 2, 2019**

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Andrew Cuba, Marine Facilities Manager. Mr. Cuba confirmed proposed modifications to the Code regarding private use of the public property were presented to the MAB for discussion. The MAB supports a large portion of the modifications and made two recommendations noted in this communication. Mr. Cuba explained related details.

**Historic Preservation Board (HPB)
May 6, 2019**

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

Mayor Trantalis noted his support of the HPB recommendation to initiate the historic designation process for the Federal Courthouse Building (Courthouse). Commissioner Sorensen asked about the ability to encumber a federal property. City Attorney Alain Boileau confirmed there is nothing to prohibit the designation of the Courthouse as historical, expounding on details and stating the federal government does not have to abide by a local municipality determination.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Attorney Boileau confirmed

the option of historic designation at the federal level and explained related details. Commissioner Glassman said that the National Register of Historic Places has no control over a property and provides no level of protection for a structure, commenting on details related to designation by the City.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding what would occur if the Courthouse property sells, City Attorney Boileau discussed possible future scenarios. Mayor Trantalis recommended moving forward with the City's Historic Designation (Designation). He commented on the Designation running with the land, expounding on details. Further comment ensued. City Attorney Boileau noted possible future challenges. Commissioner Glassman suggested conversations with the Secretary of Interior, commenting on adherence to the Department of Interior's guidelines when making a historical determination. City Attorney Boileau confirmed he would do further research.

Commissioner Glassman commented on the HPB request to be informed on future plans for the Courthouse. City Attorney Boileau said he is not aware of any current federal plans for the Courthouse. Commissioner Glassman confirmed his position in support of avoiding demolition.

Mayor Trantalis commented on discussions with the Federal Courthouse Committee regarding the relocation of the Courthouse, stating it is now being studied by the General Services Administrations (GSA).

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Historic Preservation Officer Trish Logan said that she is not aware of a situation with similar circumstances. She discussed regulations in place which require adherence to the National Environmental Preservation Act - Section 106 for buildings 50 years and older. She explained details regarding the process and discussions with the State of Florida Historic Preservation Office (Preservation Office). Ms. Logan said the Preservation Office has an inventory of significant structures and local input is requested during the process. She expounded on the Courthouse architect, William Morgan, and its brutalism style of architecture. Ms. Logan confirmed that the Courthouse was included in a survey conducted by the University of Florida. It is part of Preservation Office inventory and is listed as a significant structure. There is a large amount of attention on the Courthouse structure and it was on a list of endangered structures last year.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Ms. Logan said HPB discussions on this topic lasted approximately 10-15 minutes, confirming their desire for the City to initiate a designation application and to be kept updated on future plans. Discussion ensued on the last time the City filed an application for Historic Designation. Commissioner Glassman concurred with Mayor Trantalis and the recommendation of the HPB to initiate the historic designation process for the Courthouse, expounding on his position.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question about what must be preserved by a purchaser, Commissioner Glassman explained it is dependent upon areas that are designated historical, i.e., interior and/or exterior. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Glassman explained options available through applications to the HPB, expounding on related details, possible alternatives and citing examples. City Attorney Boileau confirmed he would work with Ms. Logan to further research and update the Commission on available options.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [19-0451](#)

Broward County Surtax Plan - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Vice Mayor McKinzie arrived at 2:22 p.m.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Gretchen M. Cassini, J.D., Assistant County Administrator. Ms. Cassini introduced other Broward County attendees, confirming their availability to answer Commission questions: Greg Stuart Executive Director of the Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization, (MPO); Chris Walton, Broward County Director of Transportation; Barney McCoy, Broward County Transit Director - Service and Capital Planning; Tony Hui, Broward County Deputy Director - Public Works Department; and Richard Tornese, Broward County Director of Highway Construction Engineering.

Ms. Cassini said the purpose of the presentation is to update the Commission on implementation of plans funded by revenue from the Broward County Surtax Plan (Surtax). The first distribution of the Surtax revenue proceeds was received at the end of March 2019. A presentation was made to the Oversight Committee on April 25, 2019 and included MPO funding requested for prioritization of municipal projects. The MPO will be hiring Staff to develop the process for prioritizing municipal projects.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Ms. Cassini reviewed details of the draft Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement (First Amendment) sent to City Manager Chris Lagerbloom. The First Amendment will assist in streamlining the Ordinance process, as illustrated in the presentation. It will include a five-year plan to address project requests for a level of certainty.

The first municipal funding will relate to Community Shuttles. Ms. Cassini explained details associated with Community Shuttle Programs which will begin on October 1, 2019. She confirmed changes will include separate, new interlocal agreements between Broward County (County) and each municipality. There will be quarterly up-front funding. This would be followed by separate interlocal agreements and each City for non-Community Shuttle funds. Funding is projected to be available and presented to the Oversight Board in April 2020. It will be presented as a budget request to the County's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request.

The Oversight Committee will have a Budget Workshop on June 27, 2019 at Treetops Park and will include municipal project projections and details. The MPO is developing a process for updating municipal projects. All projects fully funded or funded in part by the Surtax will come to the Oversight Board no later than July 2020.

Ms. Cassini confirmed a large amount of transportation infrastructure needs, including \$465,000,000 plus in general mobility projects, and \$87,000,000 in rehabilitation and maintenance projects. She reviewed project specifics which will be handled by the County and illustrated in the presentation.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding addressing significant traffic concerns east of Andrews Avenue, Ms. Cassini noted that projects illustrated on the presentation map are County projects on County-owned roads and in County rights-of-way. She said the presentation map does not include all projects east of Andrews Avenue.

Tony Hui, Broward County Deputy Director - Public Works Department, commented on the opportunity to work in coordination with the City Department of Public Works on many transportation issues. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is continuing to identify and evaluate projects on State roads on the east side of the City. Mr. Hui noted that there would be a significant amount of improvement with the combination of these three resources,

In response to Commissioner Sorensen, Mr. Hui confirmed City projects will be funded by the Surtax. Ms. Cassini confirmed efforts for an overlay of County, FDOT, and MPO project layers in the five-year plan, expounding on details. Commissioner Moraitis commented on improvements being done by the City of Pompano Beach along McNab Road, recommending the inclusion of other municipal projects. Ms. Cassini confirmed. Mr. Hui expounded on the project representations shown on the presentation maps, explaining details related to eliminating intersection improvement project constraints. Comment ensued on the project locations shown in the presentation.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Richard Tornese, Broward County Director of Highway Construction Engineering. In response to Mayor Trantalis, Mr. Tornese identified a specific project location shown in the presentation. Mayor Trantalis explained plans for 15th Avenue, confirming the existing median would be extended to Sunrise Boulevard, expounding on related details. He said it is a County project.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding how the County, FDOT and MPO intersect in terms of project priorities, Mayor Trantalis explained the projects would be happening at different times.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Chris Walton, Broward County Director of Transportation. Mr. Walton gave a brief review of City transit improvements shown in the presentation. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding addressing transportation needs along Broward Boulevard and Sunrise Boulevard, Mr. Walton gave an update and discussed the Broward Breeze Rapid Bus Service along Broward Boulevard. Further comment ensued. Mr. Walton commented on ways to provide additional opportunities, including more frequent, larger buses and railway in high-capacity areas, expounding on details.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Walton confirmed discussions with FDOT regarding the consideration of reversible lanes along Broward Boulevard and Sunrise Boulevard. Commissioner Glassman commented on a recent article in the *Sun Sentinel* regarding fiber optics and bus routes, requesting an update on City projects.

Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on the presentation map and fiber optics. Mr. Hui said many area roads have fiber optics, expounding on details regarding the capacity of fiber optic traffic signalization capabilities. He said fiber optics could also be used for driverless vehicle technology.

Mr. Walton discussed overall efforts to improve bus service, confirming he would get back to Commissioner Glassman on improved City bus routing. In response to Commissioner Moraitis, Mr. Walton confirmed he would provide routing information within the City.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, Mr. Walton confirmed the *Sun Trolley* is separate from County bus service. Mr. Walton reviewed transportation improvements listed in the slide presentation, confirming he would provide specific details to include timing.

Ms. Cassini noted ongoing negotiations with Magic Leap, a company located in Plantation, that addresses augmented reality for fiber optic related opportunities, expounding on details. The County will be working with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) regarding technologies coming to market and ways to address an innovation district in the City.

Ms. Cassini explained technology sensors which serve to inform the County on travel location data for a better understanding of origin and destination modes. This is used for predictive modeling to improve traffic synchronization and designing transportation solutions. She emphasized efforts to ensure projects are done in a coordinated manner, expounding on related benefits and details.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Greg Stuart, Executive Director of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Mr. Stuart discussed the ongoing MPO process to develop a 25-year transportation plan, explaining their responsibility for the management of State and the federal government funding. Mr. Stuart discussed project prioritization, coordination of related projects in the Interlocal Agreement for Surtax revenue and possible federal supplemental funding.

Mr. Stuart said Surtax funded City projects will be spread over 30 years, commenting on additional information regarding potential future bond issues to advance City projects. He confirmed ongoing efforts to address Broward Boulevard traffic congestion, including reversible lanes and other opportunities coordinated by the MPO. Mr. Stuart emphasized the need for organization and coordination.

In response to Vice Mayor McKinzie's question regarding the City's responsibilities to ensure coordination and organization, Mr. Stuart confirmed ongoing work with City Manager Lagerbloom and Staff. In

response to Vice Mayor McKinzie's question regarding identifying shovel ready projects, Mr. Stuart explained efforts to identify those projects, present them to the Oversight Committee and implement a mechanism to prioritize.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding micro-transportation, Mr. Walton confirmed details are being finalized for a pilot program this summer and are being recognized as part of the transportation network. Further comment and discussion ensued on County funding.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding connecting numerous transportation options, i.e., rails to trails and LauderTrail, Ms. Cassini said that this funding would complete the system. Mr. Stuart confirmed ongoing MPO efforts to address connectivity for LauderTrail and Mockingbird Trail in coordination with the Office of the City Manager. There is a plan for greenway interconnectivity, bike lanes and trails. In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question, Mr. Stuart confirmed that the FEC rights-of-way are a challenge to trails, explaining details. Mr. Stuart confirmed the need to design and coordinate a solution.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding a light rail system from Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport (FLL) to Port Everglades (Port), Ms. Cassini confirmed FLL and the Port are in the final stages of Master Plan preparation. They have been requested to include a connecting light-rail system, expounding on details. As a group, a determination needs to be made for the most economically viable system. The use of federal funding was discussed.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Ms. Cassini explained details regarding the use of Surtax to fund a light rail feasibility study. Mr. Stuart discussed the need for the County and municipalities to maximize Surtax funding separately from federal funding. Comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Vice Mayor McKinzie's question about the reality of Surtax funding for light rail along State Road 441, Mr. Walton explained the need for federal participation due to high costs. Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on the need to address this type of solution for congested east/west traffic corridors in and out of the City.

Commissioner Glassman requested input from City Manager Chris Lagerbloom regarding coordinating what has been presented, i.e., schedules, identification of projects and deadlines. City Manager

Lagerbloom confirmed he is working closely with Mr. Stuart, expounding on details and readiness for stated deadlines.

BUS-2 [19-0519](#)

Broward County Aviation Department North Runway Rehabilitation at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport - (Commission District 4)

Removed from Agenda.

BUS-3 [19-0457](#)

Water and Sewer Rate Study Update - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Kyle Stevens, Stantec Project Manager. Mr. Stevens introduced Michael Burton, President of Stantec. Mr. Stevens confirmed this presentation is a follow-up to the Water and Sewer Study Report (Report) presented to the Commission on April 16, 2019. Today's presentation is based on dialogue from that meeting.

A copy of the follow-up presentation is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Stevens reviewed the background and critical elements of the Report presented at the April 16, 2019 Commission Conference Meeting. He reviewed each of the financial models requested by the Commission and illustrated in this follow-up presentation including:

Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Financial Forecast Revenue Sufficiency Model with *no annual rate increases and continued phase-out of the Return on Investment (ROI)*, explaining the related negative financial impact.

FY 2019 Financial Forecast Revenue Sufficiency Model and Stantec's recommendation for *annual five percent (5%) rate increases (with the exception of FY 2020) and the continued phasing out of ROI funds transferred to the General Fund (the phased-out portions of the ROI remaining in the Water and Sewer Fund)*. This model maintains minimum reserves, three months of operating expenses at all times. It allows funding of cash funded Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and issuance of new debt in FY 2023 and FY 2028.

FY 2019 Financial Forecast Revenue Sufficiency Model for the *annual five percent (5%) rate increases (except for FY 2020) without the phasing out of ROI transfers to the General Fund*. This model would result in a nineteen percent increase in 2019.

Mayor Trantalis discussed his understanding and history of ROI, expounding on details. Mr. Stevens explained that key cost drivers were

not previously contemplated, citing examples. Mr. Burton said items in the Consent Agreement were not considered when the previous ROI policy was implemented. The City is facing regulatory requirements and system repairs and replacements previously not anticipated in addition to increased costs and pressures on the water and sewer system. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Paul Berg, Director of Public Works. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Berg expounded on details of unanticipated costs and repairs, citing the 30-inch line break causing approximately \$30,000,000 in unexpected expenses to address all aspects of its impact. Mr. Berg also cited weather events that caused issues at the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant, resulting in unanticipated costs of \$11,000,000. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mr. Burton commented on his recollection of previous discussions which contemplated lowering water rates or funding capital. The City has had to support a significant amount of additional capital. He explained another unanticipated factor resulting from the cost allocation study, expounding on details. Rates to wholesale water customers have been lowered, causing more pressure on other customers. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mr. Berg explained the allocation of the new \$200,000,000 water and sewer bond. City Auditor John Herbst said two items not contemplated were annual pay-as-you-go investments of \$20,000,000 in the water and sewer fund (ROI) and a \$4,900,000 increase to the yearly contribution to the Central Regional R&R Fund. So there is \$25,000,000 for maintenance and system improvements not contemplated in last year's fiscal sustainability analysis.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, City Auditor Herbst explained pay-as-you-go investment. It is an amount allotted on an annual basis versus 30-year bond financing. The ROI would be front-loaded to allow the use of cash on hand from ROI instead of 30-year bonds.

Mr. Herbst discussed the prior City Manager's proposal, a \$200,000,000 bond issue to address Consent Order items and subsequent bond issues three and five years later, each in the amount of \$200,000,000. He explained additional details regarding Staff limitations to address Consent Order work and challenges to the acceleration of additional work which would cause a surplus in the water and sewer fund and also trigger reimbursements. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen noted that keeping ROI in the water and sewer fund would result in cost savings, avoiding debt service for bond issues.

Mr. Stevens reviewed the background of the two components of the rate structure, a base charge and a volumetric component for the use of water and sewer services. He discussed base rate parameter details and the update of fixed-water charges for water and sewer service.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question, Mr. Stevens confirmed both options, Plan A and Plan B, presented for multi-family user water and sewer rates are supported within the industry. He explained related details and reviewed the billing impact table for both plans, as illustrated in the presentation.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding the adequacy to fund water and sewer needs with the recommendation, Mr. Stevens said the revenue for water and sewer billing is fundamentally similar. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding impact details of recommended multi-family customer user rates illustrated in the presentation.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Stevens confirmed findings regarding the recovery of water costs from surrounding municipality wholesale customers, explaining details related to charging for the direct cost of customer services. Mr. Burton expounded on related information. Water rates to wholesale customers would be reduced and charged a twenty-five percent (25%) surcharge. In response to Commissioner Moraitis, Mr. Stevens confirmed a surcharge has not been charged in the past to wholesale water customers. Further comment and discussion ensued on projected revenue. There would be an approximate ten percent (10%) reduction in revenue for wholesale customers. Mr. Stevens confirmed Florida Statute allows the City to charge a twenty-five percent (25%) surcharge to wholesale customers.

City Manager Chris Lagerbloom requested feedback from the Commission regarding Plan A or Plan B.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Fred Nesbitt, 3900 Galt Ocean Mile, and on behalf of the Galt Ocean Mile Community Association. Mr. Nesbitt said that Option B is the best option, confirming his support.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ray Cox, 101 SW 18th Avenue. Mr. Cox discussed his perspective on this item.

City Manager Lagerbloom commented on his perspective regarding finding an equitable solution, Commission feedback and initiating the proper administrative steps for implementation.

Mayor Trantalis reviewed and commented on Plan A and Plan B proposed in the Report. He recommended Plan B. The Commission concurred. In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding water rates, Mr. Stevens confirmed only water rates are being reduced, expounding on related details as illustrated on the Cost of Service recommendations in the presentation. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question, City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed that changes would become effective at the beginning of FY 2019, October 1, 2019.

BUS-4 [19-0518](#)

Discussion to Increase the Minimum Legal Age for the Sale of Tobacco Products - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis noted federal legislation recently introduced on this topic.

Mayor Trantalis recognized John Pierbon, 2809 N. Atlantic Boulevard, and on behalf of Tobacco Free Partnership of Broward County (Tobacco Free Partnership). Mr. Pierbon commented on the efforts of the Tobacco Free Partnership, confirming the need to increase the legal age for tobacco purchases to 21, expounding on related details. Mr. Pierbon submitted a document for the record.

A copy of the document is attached.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Ray Cox, 101 SW 18th Avenue. Mr. Cox discussed his perspective on this item.

Commissioner Glassman explained his position in support of increasing the age to 21 for the purchase of tobacco products. City Attorney Alain Boileau confirmed his ongoing research into regulatory aspects of this item, explaining there is no current preemption at the State or federal level. Comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Glassman urged moving forward on this item. Commissioner Sorensen commented on current statistics on this topic.

Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on the need to have this age restriction implemented throughout Broward County. Commissioner Glassman noted that implementation of this type of ordinance is a start.

Comment ensued on County municipalities following actions of the City.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

City Manager Chris Lagerbloom raised the topic of the trade trip to Israel (Trip).

Mayor Trantalis recognized Anthony Fajardo, Director of Sustainable Development (DSD). Mr. Fajardo confirmed the Trip was planned and coordinated by the Economic Community Investment (ECI) Division of DSD. He reviewed the Trip itinerary, commenting on details and goals, including investment and technology, cultural aspects and management of large-scale events.

Commissioner Glassman commented on Florida Governor Rick DeSantis' trip to Israel, asking if this Trip was dovetailing on any related issues. City Manager Lagerbloom commented on what the media has presented concerning Governor DeSantis' trip, stating Enterprise Florida planned the Governor's trip. Commissioner Glassman recommended ascertaining what transpired.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his perspective regarding Israeli investment in the City, i.e., the need to meet with new investment partnerships, encourage continued investment from many different sources and establishing face-to-face relationships versus long-distance relationships. Mr. Fajardo expounded on details related to these topics.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding budgeting for the Trip, Mr. Fajardo explained details regarding funding. Commissioner Moraitis commented on upcoming budget cuts from the General Fund in FY 2019.

Vice Mayor McKinzie inquired about the ECI budget and the return on investment. Mr. Fajardo confirmed he would research this and report back. Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on his perspective regarding current investments in the City and concerns regarding the Trip.

Mr. Fajardo confirmed his attendance as DSD Department Director. Further comment and discussion ensued on determining attendees and the process.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the process for these types of trips in the future. In response to Vice Mayor McKinzie, Mayor Trantalis explained details regarding invitees from organizations which would serve to enhance future City economic development goals.

City Manager Lagerbloom explained his understanding that the genesis of the Trip originated with the prior City Manager. Mr. Fajardo discussed related details. Further comment and discussion ensued on this topic and attendees.

Commissioner Glassman commented on his perspective regarding the need to establish a policy for these types of trips, noting that the policy of the Broward County Commission requires a vote. The Commission should be involved earlier in the process. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Moraitis reiterated her budget concerns. Mayor Trantalis concurred on the need for a more defined process. Vice Mayor McKinzie expounded on his concerns. Commissioner Glassman discussed ways to adhere to Sunshine laws during these types of trips. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen acknowledged the points made, concurring with the recommendation that new policy should be made going forward. He also noted his concern with the number of Staff attending, explaining his rationale. Commissioner Moraitis confirmed her agreement that City Manager Lagerbloom participate.

City Manager Lagerbloom provided an update on the early vacating and relocation of the City Marathon Health Center (Health Center) to another building located at 4200 N. Federal Highway. He commented on anticipated future plans to relocate the Health Center to 1777 South Andrews Avenue.

In response to Vice Mayor McKinzie's question regarding looking at insurance alternatives concerning pricing, City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed he would request information from the Risk Management Group.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 3:39 p.m.