

City of Fort Lauderdale

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 4, 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 1:48 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commission Members Present: Commissioner Heather Moraitis, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Vice Mayor Robert L. McKinzie, 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 Keven Dupree

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

Commissioner Moraitis confirmed community meetings were held to discuss plans for the Lockhart Stadium Site (Project) at the June 3, 2019 District I Pre-Agenda Meeting. The Commission will receive a Project presentation for input at the June 18, 2019 Commission Conference Meeting. Discussions ensued on public and high school sports fields located on the site.

Commissioner Moraitis discussed the use of vacation rentals for graduation-related events which cause a nuisance to neighbors, requesting law enforcement address this concern. She also commented on the impact of vacation rentals on affordable housing. Vice Mayor McKinzie said the policy of the vendor, Airbnb, withholds owner information which correlates to the small number of registered vacation rentals. There is no mandate to register with the City when operating a vacation rental on Airbnb. Further comment and discussion ensued on the impact vacation rentals have on affordable housing and the need to address this with the State legislature.

Commissioner Glassman commented on the recent Las Olas Boulevard Mobility Working Group Meeting, confirming a discussion with the

consultant would be scheduled at an upcoming Commission Conference Meeting. He also noted a forthcoming Breakers Avenue presentation to the Commission from the Department of Transportation and Mobility (TAM) before the summer break.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the status of the anti-discrimination ordinance, City Attorney Alain Boileau confirmed drafting the ordinance. Mr. Boileau commented on related details. The First Reading is anticipated before the summer break.

Vice Mayor McKinzie discussed his attendance at Dillard High School and Fort Lauderdale High School graduation ceremonies. He commented on Fort Lauderdale High School Senior Watson Lubin. Mr. Lubin is a student government leader and participant in the Cambridge Magnet Program. Mr. Lubin achieved the highest test score worldwide on a test given in 160 different countries. Mayor Trantalis requested that Watson Lubin's academic achievements be recognized at an upcoming Commission Regular Meeting. City Manager Chris Lagerbloom confirmed scheduling of this item at the June 18, 2019 Commission Regular Meeting. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor McKinzie discussed the procedure for requesting a Commission member's attendance at events. Mayor Trantalis recommended Commission members and their assistants address attendance requests. There was a consensus that a member of the Commission should attend school graduation ceremonies. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen noted the need to address Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance on Las Olas Boulevard, confirming he is working with City Manager Lagerbloom to address this need. Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on utility poles and tie wires that impede wheelchair access. Commissioner Sorensen concurred, confirming Anthony Fajardo is working to address this concern.

Commissioner Sorensen requested an update from City Manager Lagerbloom regarding security. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed communications with Police Chief Rick Maglione to assess security, expounding on details relevant to a recent incident in Virginia Beach, Virginia. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding possession of firearms in City Hall, City Attorney Boileau explained details. Public meetings do not permit firearms. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on increasing visitor processing details, i.e., signing in of visitors at City Hall, similar to procedures at the Broward County Government Center and the Broward County Courthouse. He suggested having armed security personnel on duty at City Hall during working hours, requesting City Attorney Boileau explore these two options. Comment and discussion ensued on not having a metal detector at the entrance to City Hall due to costs. City Attorney Boileau commented that the need to secure the building is more significant than any possible challenges. Vice Mayor McKinzie discussed security concerns on the 8th Floor.

Commissioner Sorensen recommended having Commission Conference Meetings take place in City Commission Chambers which would serve to address security concerns and other items, including clearer audio, the ability to accommodate additional people, regulate access, and reduces the burden on Staff. Mayor Trantalis commented on his perspective regarding this suggestion. Further comment and discussion ensued on the pros and cons. There was consensus to have the June 18, 2019 Commission Conference Meeting in City Commission Chambers. A subsequent decision would be made to make this change constant.

Vice Mayor McKinzie discussed statistics and relevant details involved with gun control efforts, commenting on his speaking engagement at a recent gun violence awareness event. He emphasized the need for gun owners to use gun locks which are offered by the Police Department.

Commissioner Glassman commented on precautions taken on this subject in Israel which negate gun concerns. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding ways to address this topic. There was a consensus to do what is necessary to protect City Hall. Commissioner Sorensen recommended an active shooter drill during a Conference Meeting. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed these have been done at City Hall and would address this request with Police Chief Maglione.

Mayor Trantalis commented on discussions with Cleveland Clinic regarding their community public outreach. He recommended a free clinic in the 33301 zip code area in addition to an Emergency Medical Service Unit and a Mobile Stroke Unit in the beach area to be staffed by Cleveland Clinic doctors and nurses. Cleveland Clinic was open to these recommendations. City Manager Lagerbloom will follow-up. Further comment ensued. Vice Mayor McKinzie noted the large facility used for an existing 7th Avenue Clinic. Mayor Trantalis recommended Vice Mayor McKinzie work with City Manager Lagerbloom to address

Cleveland Clinic's desire to increase their community outreach.

Mayor Trantalis noted community input regarding the sound of train horns, confirming they are required when there is ongoing work on train tracks to alert train track work crews. Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on eliminating train horns on the western tracks. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis discussed a grant offer from the Citgo Petroleum Corporation (Citgo), a Venezuelan owned company located in the United States. He commented on details related to Citgo's public relations efforts and offering the City a \$50,000 grant to be used at the discretion of the City, i.e., hardening the City for emergency preparedness or funding other needs. There was consensus to wait until the current political transition in Venezuela has occurred before accepting the donation.

[19-0565](#)

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

**Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee
(Committee)**

April 25, 2019

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

In response to Mayor Trantalis, Commissioner Sorensen confirmed email communications with Committee Member Raymond Dettmann on several topics including Impact Fees. City Manager Chris Lagerbloom confirmed this item discusses the scope of work regarding the Fire Impact Fee Study (Study), expounding on details.

In response to Vice Mayor McKinzie's question regarding the cost, City Manager Lagerbloom noted the Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Study cost was approximately \$80,000. Vice Mayor McKinzie recommended having Staff address the Study. City Manager Lagerbloom commented on an improved timeline with a known scope of work. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis gave an overview of the Committee's communication regarding the topic of a Fire Station on SE 17th Street and the previous \$3,000,000 set aside for an Emergency Medical Station located in the north and east area of District IV. Further comment ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen confirmed ongoing efforts to find a site in

District IV, expounding on related details. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed funds to address these items are included in the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

CF-1 [19-0580](#)

Procurement Card (P-Card) Operational Audit - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Auditor John Herbst gave an overview of the Purchasing Card (P-Card) Program. He explained that the City receives a rebate for purchases from the issuing bank. Several years ago, the scope of purchases was expanded to maximize rebates. Due to the volume of activity and as part of the audit work plan, an operational audit of the P-Card Program has been completed. City Auditor Herbst confirmed the purchasing efficiency of P- Card. He reviewed audit findings, citing examples and explaining related details.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Herbst confirmed the benefits of having a P-Card Program, commenting on the need to strengthen oversight. Further comment and discussion ensued on the responsibility of supervisors to review and oversee P-Card purchases. Vice Mayor McKinzie reviewed details of the audit findings, commenting on his perspective.

City Manager Lagerbloom explained measures taken and controls put in place to address concerns, expounding on details that include the mandatory scanning and storage of purchase receipts.

Vice Mayor McKinzie expounded on details related to the history of this topic. City Auditor Herbst explained details of P-Card responsibility in the field and within the Procurement Division. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Vice Mayor McKinzie requested additional information. City Auditor Herbst expounded on actions taken to address items raised in the P-Card operational audit. He confirmed the controls put in place by City Manager Lagerbloom will serve to address reporting requirements and prevent future concerns.

CF-2 [19-0581](#)

Presentation of the 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Laura Garcia, Acting Deputy Director - Finance Department. There were no questions from the Commission

regarding this item.

City Auditor John Herbst explained details regarding Staff's preparation of the 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (Report), the external auditor's opinion (Opinion) of the Report accuracy and the review of the Opinion by Audit Staff, expounding on details.

CF-3 [19-0544](#)

Quarterly Investment Report for Period Ending March 31, 2019 -
(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Laura Garcia, Acting Deputy Director of the Finance Department.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the amount of equity in the Police and Fire Retirement System ("PFRS") and General Employees Retirement System ("GERS") funds, Linda Short, Interim Assistant City Manager, explained management of this information is handled by each respective Retirement System Board of Trustees (Board). Each Board has an investment advisor and has the discretion to set its ratios and investment policy regarding rates of return. Ms. Short confirmed she could request this information and forward it the Commission.

City Auditor Herbst confirmed his attendance at GERS and PFRS Board Meetings, explaining his understanding of their investment policies. In response to Commissioner Glassman's question, City Auditor Herbst confirmed his comfort level with the investment policies of the Boards, expounding on related details.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding the need to transfer funds from the General Fund to meet pension needs, City Manager Chris Lagerbloom confirmed no transfers are anticipated to meet pension obligations. Ms. Short concurred.

City Auditor Herbst explained PFRS investment portfolio details regarding its allocations: fifty percent (50%) equities, thirty percent (30%) alternatives, and twenty percent (20%) fixed income. He commented on details of future investments and rates of return, stating there is prudent management of both the PFRS and the GERS.

Ms. Short said that in the future, the Finance Department could add each Investment Board's Report to the backup for this item. Commission Glassman confirmed he would like these items included in future Quarterly Investment Reports.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [19-0559](#)

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

Michael Carey, P.E., Kimley-Horn, presented to the Commission details regarding the Broward County Aviation Department North Runway Rehabilitation Project (Project) at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. Broward County Aviation began rehabilitation on the North Runway on February 26, 2019. The most significant impact on the community will begin June 3, 2019 during the closure of the 9,000-foot long North Runway (Runway) which would last up to four months. During the duration of the Project, all air traffic will use the South Runway.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Carey confirmed the Runway would not be modified, only rehabilitated. The 15-year life expectancy of the Runway has ended. Rehabilitation efforts will increase its life expectancy to 30 years. Mr. Carey reviewed the Project's benefits and improvements, as illustrated in the presentation.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Carey confirmed there is an on-site Aviation Fire Department overseen by Broward County to address fire-related incidents. Mr. Carey reviewed the Project's overall phasing plan, noting incentives and other details. The Project utilizes only Florida contractors.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Carey commented on the Project's impact on possible delays. Delays are expected only during weather-related events.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding weather-related delays, Mr. Carey said that there are four "green days" built into the contract each month. Delays related to Acts of God, i.e., hurricanes, would be addressed as needed.

BUS-2 [19-0560](#)

Interstate 95 Ramp Signaling System - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Mayor Trantalis recognized Jonathan Overton, District Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O) Program Engineer,

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) 3400 West Commercial Boulevard. Mr. Overton gave a presentation on the Ramp Signaling System (System) which will manage on-ramp access to Interstate 95 during peak traffic congestion.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Overton reviewed several FDOT congestion management tools. Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on the Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) efforts to monitor traffic. Mr. Overton showed a video embedded in the presentation explaining how the System functions.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding how toll lanes mitigate traffic, Mr. Overton explained the concept behind toll lanes, stating it is a way to manage traffic during peak travel times. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the impact of the System on existing traffic congestion along Oakland Park Boulevard waiting to enter the on-ramp to the northbound lanes of Interstate 95. Mr. Overton explained the ability to monitor these types of situations and the ability of the System to address it through the release of traffic onto Interstate 95.

Mr. Overton said ramp signaling would only occur during times of high traffic congestion on Interstate 95. He explained the benefits and how drivers would experience and interact with the System. The Florida Highway Patrol will assist in education and enforcement efforts.

The first interchanges to have the System will be Atlantic Boulevard, Cypress Creek Road and Andrews Avenue. The System is predicated on and tied to the Interstate 95 Express Lane System. Mr. Overton reviewed future interchanges that will have the System, as noted in the presentation. By the end of 2024 all Interstate 95 interchanges in Broward County will have the System operational. Each interchange will have dedicated cameras to assist with System monitoring and management. Mr. Overton confirmed control and management of the System would take place from The Broward SMART SunGuide Regional Transportation Management Center located at 2300 West Commercial Boulevard, expounding on details.

Comment and discussion ensued regarding Commissioner Moraitis' question concerning the construction schedule to extend a one-mile southbound on-ramp to Interstate 95 in the area near the MPO Office and

installation of the System. Mr. Overton confirmed the System installation and adjustments would occur following the construction of the southbound one-mile on-ramp. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Alana Majdalawi, FDOT. Ms. Majdalawi confirmed the high intelligence level of the System software, expounding on details which will keep traffic flowing. The System would be operational only during peak travel congestion periods. Further discussion ensued on aspects of the System at Cypress Creek Road to inform drivers that the System is functional.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' questions, Ms. Majdalawi confirmed those in need of additional information should contact: D4-ManagedLanesReports@SMARTSunGuide.com.

BUS-3 [19-0504](#)

Dockless Mobility Update - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Manager Chris Lagerbloom confirmed a thorough presentation on Dockless (scooter) Mobility would be made at the June 18, 2019 Commission Conference Meeting.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his perspective regarding the impact of scooter use on pedestrians using sidewalks in areas where bike lanes are available. Vice Mayor McKinzie noted the need to address bicycles, skateboards and scooters in all areas. Mayor Trantalis said that it would be a comprehensive discussion. Comment and discussion ensued on this topic.

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

[19-0585](#)

The City Commission shall meet privately pursuant to Florida Statute 447.605 concerning Collective Bargaining

Mayor Trantalis announced the commencement of the Executive Closed Door Session.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m.