

June 2020-May 2021			
Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Catherine Maus, Chair	Р	7	0
Mary Fertig, Vice Chair	Р	7	0
John Barranco (arr. 6:15)	Р	7	0
Brad Cohen	А	6	1
Coleman Prewitt	Р	7	0
William Rotella	Р	7	0
Jacquelyn Scott	Р	7	0
Jay Shechtman	Р	7	0
Michael Weymouth	Р	6	1

It was noted that a quorum was present at the meeting.

### <u>Staff</u>

Ella Parker, Urban Design and Planning Manager D'Wayne Spence, Assistant City Attorney Shari Wallen, Assistant City Attorney Jim Hetzel, Principal Urban Planner Trisha Logan, Historic Preservation Planner Karlanne Grant, Urban Design and Planning Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, ProtoType, Inc.

#### **Communications to City Commission**

**Motion** made by Mr. Shechtman, seconded by Vice Chair Fertig, to request that the City Commission work with the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to prioritize a new project [to study pedestrian/bicycle improvements for crossing the New River at either the Andrews Avenue bridge or the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue bridge] to be considered for funding through the Florida Department of Transportation Work Program Development process. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed 8-0.

### I. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Fertig called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Roll was called and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Urban Design and Planning Manager Ella Parker introduced the Staff members present.

Ms. Scott asked why the addition was being proposed at this time. Mr. Lochrie explained that the B Ocean determined that they could improve their existing resources and heighten the property's overall value to the City by adding these spaces.

**Motion** made by Chair Maus, seconded by Mr. Prewitt, to approve and adopt the findings of fact in the Staff Report.

Assistant City Attorney Shari Wallen read the following Resolution into the record:

A Resolution of the Planning and Zoning Board of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, approving an amendment to a previously approved Site Plan Level III development permit to add two additional floors and a roof deck to an existing fivestory parking garage at the B Ocean hotel located at 1137 Seabreeze Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Case Number PLN-AR) 2010001.

Attorney Wallen clarified that this Resolution is inclusive of the changes to the Staff Report in Section 47-25.3.

In a roll call vote, the motion passed 8-0.

Vice Chair Fertig ceded the gavel to Chair Maus at this time.

CASE: REQUEST: *	<b>UDP-T20002</b> Amend City of Fort Lauderdale Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) Section 47-24.5, Subdivision Regulations to Align with Broward County Platting Regulations
PROPERTY OWNER/APPLICANT: GENERAL LOCATION: CASE PLANNER:	City of Fort Lauderdale City-Wide Karlanne Grant

Karlanne Grant, representing Urban Design and Planning, explained that the proposed Amendment is intended to update Code to align with Broward County subdivision and platting requirements. The Broward County Land Development Code, which governs County review and plats, requires that no unit of local government may grant an application for a building permit for the construction of a principal building on a parcel of land without approval by the Broward County Commission and recording in the official Broward County records. All plats must be initiated at the City level.

The Broward County Comprehensive Plan was updated in 2019. As part of this update, some regulations for subdivision and platting requirements were amended. Staff proposes an amendment to model the Broward County subdivision and regulation requirements. The following amendments are proposed:

- Definition of "subdivision"
- Requirements for platting

# • Exceptions to platting

The Board agreed by consensus to include the Staff Report as part of the record.

There being no questions from the Board at this time, Chair Maus opened the public hearing. As there were no individuals wishing to speak on the Item, the Chair closed the public hearing and brought the discussion back to the Board.

**Motion** made by Ms. Scott, seconded by Vice Chair Fertig, to approve. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed 8-0.

#### V. COMMUNICATION TO THE CITY COMMISSION

Mr. Shechtman recalled that at the December 2020 Board meeting, the Board had briefly referred to pedestrian/bicycle connectivity across the New River along both Andrews Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Some years ago, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) undertook a project development and environmental (PD&E) study to identify this location for a proposed pedestrian bridge, which FDOT would then fund to improve pedestrian activity in the area.

Mr. Shechtman noted that the City ultimately rejected the proposal for a bridge when it became apparent that the proposed locations would not be beneficial to Fort Lauderdale. After the fact, however, the City determined that it might be preferable to ask FDOT to consider an attachment or alternative solution to either the Andrews Avenue or 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue bridge.

In September 2019, Mr. Shechtman had presented this information to the City Commission on behalf of the LauderTrail Working Group, requesting that the Commission reopen the PD&E study. The Commission forwarded this request to FDOT, which confirmed that the project's programming had been abandoned. FDOT advised, however, that they would be willing to work with the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to prioritize a new project to be considered for funding through FDOT's Work Program development process.

Mr. Shechtman continued that at the December 2020 meeting, the Board members had discussed their personal experiences with the existing bridges, most of which expressed safety concerns. He pointed out that the City's Downtown Regional Activity Center (RAC), which has the highest density in Fort Lauderdale and Broward County, is bisected by the New River, and that providing a safe means of traversing the river is necessary. He felt the existing conditions for crossing the river are inadequate.

**Motion** made by Mr. Shechtman, seconded by Vice Chair Fertig, to request the City Commission work with the [Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization] MPO to prioritize a new project [to study pedestrian/bicycle improvements for crossing the New River at either Andrews Avenue bridge or the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue bridge] to be considered for

funding through the [Florida Department of Transportation] Work Program development process. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed 8-0.

Vice Chair Fertig requested an update on the communication to the City Commission sent after the Board's December 2020 meeting. This communication had requested that City Staff review parking requirements. Chair Maus advised that Staff was directed by the City Commission to look into parking requirements for town homes and cluster dwellings. Ms. Parker added that Staff plans to bring this issue forward at a City Commission Conference Agenda meeting to request further policy direction.

Mr. Prewitt observed that the Staff Report provided to the Board members for Item 1, Case PLN AR 20100001, did not discuss the standards to be applied to the proposed project to determine compliance. When he reviewed Code on this issue, it seemed to indicate that the Board should look at the project as if it were new. He requested that in the future, the Staff Report include the standard of review for amendments to new projects.

Ms. Parker noted that the proposed amendment would be reviewed under the same section of Code as the previous approval, although the amendment would only address the addition rather than the full original project. She agreed that Staff would take this under advisement and clarify these criteria for future reports.

# VI. FOR THE GOOD OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.

Chair

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[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, ProtoType, Inc.]