

City of Fort Lauderdale

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Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 5, 2021

1:30 PM

**City Hall - City Commission Chambers
100 North Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301**

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor

HEATHER MORAITIS Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District I

STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District II

ROBERT L. McKINZIE Commissioner - District III

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 1:40 p.m.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Trantalis announced details regarding the meeting format, including how members of the public can view and participate.

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Commission Members Present: Vice Mayor Heather Moraitis, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Commissioner Robert L. McKinzie (arrived at 1:46 p.m.), Commissioner Ben Sorensen and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

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

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COMMISSION

[21-0957](#)

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

City of Fort Lauderdale Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)

July 26, 2021

Communication to the City Commission

The Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) provides the following Communication to the City Commission:

With recent climate-related disasters including unprecedented heatwaves, drought, flooding, and wildfires making headlines, it is imperative that we all take significant steps to reduce climate impacts. As one of the most vulnerable cities to sea level rise, the SAB believes that the City of Fort Lauderdale should take a leading role in this effort to reduce its carbon footprint and ultimately its climate change impacts.

Therefore, as was previously communicated, the SAB strongly recommends that the City adopt policies and set long-term goals for

reducing the City's carbon footprint consistent with achieving the goals and objectives of the Advance Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan.

In response to the previous SAB communication on this topic, City Commission has requested a phased approach to carbon footprint reduction. At the July 26, 2021, SAB meeting, Sustainability Division staff presented recommended policy and implementation strategies for the next phase of the City's carbon footprint reduction efforts. Based on that presentation, the SAB recommends that the Commission adopt the single policy below by resolution to establish an overarching direction for future action.

- The City of Fort Lauderdale will commit to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions in its operations by the year 2040 and citywide by the year 2050.*

This policy would be consistent with the recently launched Florida Race to Zero Campaign which already includes pledges from Orlando, St. Petersburg, Tampa, Boynton Beach, Hallandale Beach, and seven other Florida cities. The SAB recommends that Fort Lauderdale take the first step and pledge to participate in this Campaign.

The SAB also recommends that the City implement no cost and low-cost initiatives to reduce carbon footprint in its operations and community wide. Recommended initiatives include, but are not limited to, adopting green ordinances, continuing to increase EV and hybrid usage in the city fleet and installation of EV charging infrastructure, renewable energy demonstration projects, and community outreach programs to reduce carbon footprint among businesses and residences, implementing energy efficiency and conservation initiatives, among others.

Motion

A motion was made by Mr. Dutton and seconded by Ms. Tamburly to advance the Communication on the premise that submit it simultaneously with the Carbon Footprint Memo. Motion passed unanimously.

Glen Hadwen, Public Works Department Sustainability Manager, noted prior Commission discussions on the City's carbon footprint and clarified details of related communications. On September 13, 2021, the

Commission received a SAB Communication regarding the City's carbon footprint, which aligns with this communication.

Mr. Hadwen expounded on details and context of these communications towards adopting a Resolution with the policy to achieve a Net Zero Policy (Policy) and participate in a *Race to Zero* campaign.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions and comments regarding related challenges, Mr. Hadwen explained the need for Policy commitments from the City towards a coordinated course of action for similar Policy from Florida Power and Light (FPL) and federal and state government entities.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, Mr. Hadwen confirmed the need for federal government financial assistance. Mr. Hadwen noted President Biden's goal for the entire national electrical grid be net zero by 2035 that lowers costs to achieve Policy.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Hadwen recommended the Commission adopt a resolution setting a net zero goal and join the *Race to Zero*, i.e., municipalities establishing related policy commitments. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed Staff could determine the feasibility of this recommendation and prepare a resolution.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Commissioner Sorensen confirmed support of joining the *Race to Zero*. Vice Mayor Moraitis noted her support and commented on the need to preserve greenspace to achieve sustainability. She commented on her support and cautioned on the need to be aware of consequences should a resolution be adopted. Commissioner Sorensen confirmed the Commission unanimous agreement to *Race to Zero*.

Public Art and Placement Advisory Board (PAPAB)
Monday August 30, 2021

Communication to the Commission

Motion was made by "Phoenix" Lynn Marks and seconded by Sarah Glass recommending the City of Fort Lauderdale's City Commission to select and award DJerlens Chery as the artist to complete the Lifeguard Towers Project. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Lagerbloom explained details and the background of this communication regarding a competitive solicitation for an artist to create artwork design themes for lifeguard stations.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, City Manager Lagerbloom explained lifeguard stations are systematically replaced four (4) or five (5) at a time. The artwork would wrap lifeguard stations.

Commissioner Glassman explained his efforts towards achieving this goal and said this is the beginning of this process. He commented on the generosity and efforts of the Fire-Rescue Department's work with the PAAB, the funding donations of others and his positive perspective. The project will begin with four (4) or five (5) lifeguard stations. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB)
August 11, 2021

Communication to the City Commission

Motion to recommend that the commission emphasize establishing incentives to attract and assist small business to open and thrive in Fort Lauderdale.

Motion made by Mr. Feinberg, seconded by Mr. Lorigas. Voice vote taken and the motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Lagerbloom explained details of this communication. In the absence of Qualified Target Incentives (QTI), business incentives should continue to be offered.

Mayor Trantalis noted an Agenda item at tonight's Regular Meeting to address this recommendation and expounded on details. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [21-0933](#)

Discussion - Rescheduling City Commission Meeting Dates for 2022 Holidays - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Commissioner Glassman noted possible calendar conflicts. Comment and discussion ensued. There was Commission consensus on

rescheduling the following dates:

The October 4, 2022 Commission Meetings to be rescheduled to Monday, October 3, 2022;

The Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Commission Meeting to be rescheduled to Wednesday, January 5, 2022; and

The Tuesday, January 3, 2023 Commission Meeting to be rescheduled to Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

BUS-2 [21-0893](#)

Unfunded Community Investment Plan Needs - General Fund - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

City Manager Lagerbloom commented on the context of this Agenda item. The Budget Advisory Board (BAB) requested this Commission Conference Meeting discussion. The capital plan is well funded for the magnitude of current ongoing projects.

Laura Reece, Management and Budget Office Director, explained that this presentation resulted from the March 2, 2021 *Commission Joint Workshop with the Budget Advisory Board (BAB)*. Staff will provide an overview of identified capital project funding requests that are unfunded in the adopted *Five-Year Community Investment Plan (CIP)*.

Ms. Reece narrated the slide presentation entitled, *General Fund Capital Project Funding Needs*.

A copy is part of the backup to this Agenda item.

Ms. Reece noted a *Revenue Sufficiency Analysis* presented to the Commission in June 2022. The Operating Budget's existing and proposed rate structures and a variety of funds would support initiatives.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions regarding funding for a *Water Treatment Plant*, Ms. Reece explained *Community Investment Plan (CIP)* projects funded by rate structures are not included in this presentation. She expounded on details of *CIP* projects supported by General Obligation Bonds, i.e., *Public Safety Facilities Bond* for the new *Fort Lauderdale Police Department Headquarters (FLPDH)* building. *Water Treatment Plant* replacement costs would add to items listed in the presentation, and funding would be appropriated when the revenue-supported debt is issued. Ms. Reece discussed examples and details of line items listed in the presentation.

In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' questions, Ms. Reece explained everything except General Capital Projects and General Obligation Bonds are funded by user rates. Ms. Reece confirmed the *Water Treatment Plant* would not be funded by the General Fund. Further discussion ensued.

Susan Grant, Finance Department Director, clarified details of unspent balances for capital projects. A portion is in a bank account, and the balance is invested in the City's long-term investment portfolio, typically two (2) to three (3) years, based upon cash-flow department projections.

Ms. Grant continued the presentation addressing unfunded General Fund *CIP* projects. She provided an overview of financial details associated with the unfunded *City-County Joint Government Center Campus (JGCC)*.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions regarding the *JGCC*, Ms. Grant expounded on cost details for the City's portion of the *JGCC* listed in the presentation. A draft of the *JGCC Request for Proposal (RFP)* is circulating to multiple departments for feedback. Staff will continue to work with Broward County (County) to address the *JGCC RFP*.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions, City Manager Lagerbloom noted current decentralized Staff located outside City Hall would be consolidated at the *JGCC*, i.e., Transportation and Mobility Department (TAM) Staff, Office of City Attorney Staff and additional Staff located in the 101 Building. Staff is retaining joint counsel to review the *JGCC RFP* before its release.

City Attorney Boileau said the joint counsel agreements are under review and are being finalized and expected to be released next week.

City Manager Lagerbloom said following joint counsel's final review of the *JGCC RFP*, it would be sent to the four (4) firms selected at the end of the RFP process.

City Manager Lagerbloom said the next meeting with the City of Fort Lauderdale Commission and Broward County Commission meeting as the *Unified Direct Procurement Authority (UDPA)* would follow *JGCC RFP* responses.

City Manager Lagerbloom commented on environmental challenges

related to the proposed *JGCC* site and the process to remediate, which the County will share. Further comment and discussion ensued regarding prior businesses located on the *JGCC* site and remediation of environmental concerns.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's questions, Ms. Grant confirmed the total annual rent savings for centralizing Staff in the *JGCC* would be \$1,500,000. Currently, there is no rent paid at City Hall or at the building TAM occupies. Real estate consultants estimate the equivalent office rent for City Hall would be \$24 per square foot and \$15 per square foot for the TAM building. Annual costs realized would be \$2,900,000.

Rhoda Mae Kerr, Fire-Rescue Department Chief (Chief), continued the presentation regarding the unfunded *Public Safety Training Facility (PSTF)*, including a training tower, assorted buildings, classrooms, etc.

Mayor Trantalis commented on a training tower in the Town of Davie (Davie). Chief Kerr explained there are costs associated with using the Davie facility. It takes Fire-Rescue Department Staff a significant distance out of the City, causing areas of the City to be out of service.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's question regarding a proposed *PSTF* location, Chief Kerr noted prior discussions regarding the *Wingate* site. She noted previous conversations about including a marine training facility and offering an annual class to neighborhood youth.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Chief Kerr said the \$10,000,000 cost does not include land acquisition. She explained available federal government grant funding for Firefighters to provide a training tower and noted that this requires seed money and a location.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's question regarding using parcels available at the *Broadview* site, City Manager Lagerbloom commented on parcels available at that location and his initial perspective that there is not enough space. Chief Kerr explained the need for a significant size parcel for a *PSTF*. Further comment and discussion ensued on an available site.

Andrew Parker, Information Technology Services Director, continued the presentation regarding the unfunded *Public Safety Radio Tower (Radio Tower)* relocation from its current location in front of the *FLPDH* building. There would be a parcel available on the north center of the campus when the *FLPDH* building is relocated. City Manager Lagerbloom

confirmed the ability to build around the *Radio Tower*.

Commissioner McKinzie recommended placing the *Radio Tower* on a more suitable parcel. He commented on an option to lease space on a *Radio Tower* owned by the City to provide revenue. Mr. Parker confirmed. Mr. Parker noted the State owns the existing *Radio Tower*. The State leases the City land currently occupied by the *Radio Tower*. The City leases antenna space on the *Radio Tower*.

Mr. Parker explained four (4) options under consideration that would have a multi-year cost: 1) purchase a parcel and build a *Radio Tower* which could generate revenue; 2) identify a high-rise building in the downtown and rent space for the relocation of antennas; 3) partner with the State to relocate the *Radio Tower* and continue leasing space; and 4) the *Radio Tower* remains at its location and the City continues to lease space from the State.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Parker said the *Radio Tower* was not built to withstand a *Category 5 Hurricane*. Construction of a new tower would be built to *Category 5 Hurricane* standards.

Commissioner Sorensen noted significant concerns from area residents regarding the relocation of the *Radio Tower*. Mr. Parker confirmed all options are being pursued, and he would keep the Commission updated.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's question regarding maintaining the *Radio Tower* on the existing site, Mr. Parker remarked it depends upon how the site is utilized. City Manager Lagerbloom noted an option of keeping the *Radio Tower* in place until the *JGCC* is built, relocating antennas on *JGCC* upper levels.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's questions, Mr. Parker said the *Radio Tower* height needs to be 300'- 350' feet. City Manager Lagerbloom stated there is a 500' tower height limitation due to *Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)* rules. Further comment and discussion ensued on antenna communication needs for the *Radio Tower*. Mr. Parker clarified antennas would be placed on leased space in an area to satisfy communication needs and adhere to *FAA* height rules.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's questions regarding the required timeline, Mr. Parker explained due to the location of radio equipment in the *FLPDH* building, plans need to be aligned with its demolition.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Parker confirmed research efforts. There are currently no other towers within the small geographic area the City can lease for antennas to meet needs.

City Manager Lagerbloom explained the option of removing existing radio equipment from the *FLPDH* building and building a small structure next to the current *Radio Tower* to house radio equipment until a permanent solution is identified, which would allow demolition to move forward. He commented on duplicate costs and the highest and best use of the *FLPDH* building when the *Radio Tower* is relocated.

Commissioner McKinzie explained his viewpoint and recommended maintaining the *Radio Tower* on the current site. Further comment and discussion ensued on height requirements for the antennas.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions, City Manager Lagerbloom explained feedback received from high-rise buildings open to discussion regarding leasing antenna space. City Manager Lagerbloom noted the opportunity to have related talks with the new *Broward County Courthouse*. *Colliers International, Inc.* is working to identify other downtown area buildings.

Mr. Parker continued the presentation addressing an unfunded *Broadband Infrastructure (Broadband)* initiative. He expounded on details of this initiative and Staff efforts to apply for available federal government and local funding that entails many requirements. Staff would retain a consultant to provide a *City-wide Smart City Assessment (Assessment)*. *Assessment* results would drive the next steps determining funding levels needed to offset City funding.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding previous discussions with a vendor for a micro tower, City Manager Lagerbloom noted that was for small cell technology.

City Manager Lagerbloom explained two (2) options for the *Broadband* initiative, going to market for a vendor or the City installing *Broadband* fiber equipment and acting as a vendor. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mr. Parker explained the installation and uses of *Broadband* infrastructure, citing the *Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI)* as an example. The lifespan of *Broadband* infrastructure is forty (40) to fifty

(50) years.

In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' questions, Mr. Parker explained *Broadband* transfers data to a central location for uses such as synchronized traffic lights. Broward County has a fiber optics network that is not shared due to cyber security. The *Broadband* initiative would serve areas that do not have internet access.

Alan Dodd, Public Works Department Director, continued the presentation outlining details and needs for the unfunded *Public Works Joint Facility*. There were no questions from the Commission.

Ben Rogers, Transportation and Mobility Department Director, continued the presentation regarding unfunded *Transportation and Mobility (TAM)* projects. He clarified this presentation includes *TAM* projects submitted for funding to date and noted ongoing requests for transportation and traffic improvements from area neighbors and homeowner's associations.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions, Mr. Rogers confirmed Staff would provide a cost breakdown for the *Las Olas Mobility* and *LauderTrail Projects*. Mr. Rogers explained details related to partial funding of projects listed in the presentation.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question regarding funding-related discussions with the County for the *Las Olas Mobility Project*, Mr. Rogers explained conversations with the County focusing on *Surtax* funding. *Surtax* funding has numerous criteria and only funds local builders' grade conditions, i.e., no allowance for upgrades or a project's decorative aspects. There are ongoing efforts of a small group of stakeholders to expedite the shops area of Las Olas Boulevard in coordination with the *Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)* plans for the *Tunnel Top Project*.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions regarding the ability to use a portion of the Reserve Fund for the *Las Olas Mobility Project*, Mr. Rogers noted the required minimum reserve amount, and there is not a large amount of discretionary funding. City Manager Lagerbloom commented on the self-imposed twenty-five percent (25%) minimum reserve amount. He remarked on the need to review the *Stantec Study* funding options anticipated to be received in January 2022.

City Auditor John Herbst commented on his perspective regarding

maintaining a twenty-five percent (25%) minimum in the Reserve Fund to maintain a AAA Bond Rating. This may not best serve residents, i.e., setting aside funds that could be used for other purposes. An evaluation of borrowing needs and a determination of the best use of funds is recommended.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, City Auditor Herbst explained aspects of General Obligation Bonds, i.e., *Public Safety Facilities Bond* for *FLPDH*, and the *Parks Bond* and *Water and Sewer (Revenue) Bonds*. City Auditor Herbst said he does not anticipate bond refinancing due to rising interest rates.

Ms. Reece commented on efforts to raise the Fund Balance in preparation of issuing a bond for the *Public Safety Facilities Bond* for *FLPDH*. The *International City/County Management Association (ICMA)* has been advocating to increase Fund Balances due to volatility related to COVID, which resulted in lower interest rates.

City Auditor Herbst expounded on details related to the percentage maintained in the Reserve Fund and the perspective of bond rating agencies associated with the use of funds taken from the Fund Balance.

Ms. Reece provided closing comments that included a review of various funding options in the presentation.

BUS-3 [21-0858](#)

Feasibility Study for Fort Lauderdale Aviation and Aerospace Training Program Update: Phase 1 Needs Assessment - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Zoie Saunders, Chief Education Officer, provided a presentation overview and goals to achieve the Commission priority for the City becoming a Hub for Aviation/Aerospace Workforce Training. In 2020, Staff focused on support of the successful launch of the new *Avionics Systems and Technician Program at Atlantic Technical College*. In 2021, Staff contracted with a consultant to comprehensively analyze the need and explore the opportunities to make the City an Aviation Training Hub. After a competitive bid process, Broward College was selected.

Ms. Saunders introduced the *Broward College Institutional Research Team* members, Russell McCaffery, Érica P. Amorim, PhD (participated via communications technology), and Sean Gallagan, PhD.

Dr. Sean Gallagan narrated the first portion of the presentation entitled *Feasibility Study for Fort Lauderdale Aviation and Aerospace Training*

Program Phase 1 - Needs Assessment (Study). Dr. Gallagan discussed the overview and vision of the *Study* and explained its three (3) phased approach.

A copy is part of the backup to this Agenda item.

Dr. Érica P. Amorim continued the presentation addressing the *Labor Market -Current and Projected Jobs*.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Dr. Amorim confirmed job vacancies listed in the presentation are new jobs, above and beyond attrition vacancies.

Dr. Gallagan continued the presentation focused on the *Local Aviation Industry - and Education*.

In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' question regarding the success of the *Apprenticeship Program at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) (Apprenticeship Programs)*, Rufus James, *FXE* Director, explained challenges due to COVID. Job shadowing has been used along with student tours to expose students to companies located at *FXE*. One aviation business indicated they would like to bring students on but can only accommodate two (2) or three (3) students. As COVID declines, *Apprenticeship Program* opportunities are anticipated to improve.

Vice Mayor Moraitis commented on letters of agreement from several *FXE* businesses to provide training.

Ms. Saunders explained that with the assistance of the *Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance*, Staff was able to connect the *Apprentice Program* with *JetBlue Airlines (JetBlue)*. *JetBlue* created a virtual training program to expose students to career opportunities within the commercial airline sector.

Vice Mayor Moraitis noted *JetBlue* operates out of *Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL)*.

In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' question, Dr. Gallagan explained *Phase 1 of the Study* addresses the broad view of South Florida, and *Phase 2* and *Phase 3* will be narrowed down.

Dr. Gallagan commented on additional *Atlantic Technical College*

(ATC) student opportunities. In addition to avionics, a future goal of ATC is to add an aviation maintenance track.

In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' questions regarding attracting a workforce that desires training, Dr. Gallagan explained developing those relationships goes back to working with K-12 students on related programs. Dr. Gallagan noted existing programs and cited Miramar High School and other high schools with *Aviation Maintenance Programs* directly tied to the *Broward College Aviation Program*. *Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Embry-Riddle)* also has a number of aviation programs in high schools. He discussed students' opportunities to complete those programs, and the City can guide these students towards avionic job opportunities. South Florida is a hub of aviation. Dr. Gallagan remarked on the opportunities for economic development within the City that include providing training and upskills for high school students and high wages.

Vice Mayor Moraitis commented on the opportunity and growth in the aviation industry and conversations with virtual takeoff operators. In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' question, Mr. James confirmed interest from several operators wanting to come to the South Florida area and commented on related details. Vice Mayor Moraitis noted the opportunity for this type of operator to locate its hub downtown. This *Needs Assessment Study* will be a key piece to share with potential businesses.

Dr. Gallagan commented on discussions with other companies around the country who were unaware of avionic educational opportunities available in South Florida should they relocate. This *Study* generated a great deal of interest, and those types of conversations will be part of *Phase 2* and *Phase 3*.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' questions regarding ATC duplicating efforts of numerous aviation education entities listed in the presentation, Dr. Gallagan said three (3) small avionic programs in South Florida do not meet industry demand. Dr. Gallagan expounded on details and said if these programs were doubled, needs would not be met.

BUS-4 [21-0796](#)

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

Ben Rogers, Transportation and Mobility (TAM) Department Director, introduced this Agenda item. He explained the purpose is to present findings of the non-profit consultant *Path Foundation* for a *LauderTrail Master Plan*.

Mr. Rogers confirmed the participation of over 150 people at an August 2021 Public Meeting focused on the initial findings of the *Path Foundation*. Feedback received at that public meeting has been incorporated into today's presentation. The intent is for the *Path Foundation* to return before the end of 2021 to present a final version of the *LauderTrail Master Plan (Plan)* to the Commission for approval based on today's Commission feedback.

Mr. Rogers explained \$5,000,000 had been identified from the *Parks Bond* for this project. In addition to the planning document, a portion of this funding needs to address design and construction.

Representatives of the *Path Foundation* will present a model segment along the *Florida East Coast Railway (FEC)* corridor. Mr. Rogers noted conversations with *FEC* indicate they are open to the idea, but logistics need to be addressed. Based on those conversations, he commented on the opportunity to look to advance another model project.

Ed McBrayer, Executive Advisor, *Path Foundation*, and Greta deMayo, Executive Director, *Path Foundation*, narrated the *Plan* slide presentation.

A copy is part of the backup to this Agenda item.

Ms. deMayo's portion of the presentation focused on design recommendations. Mr. McBrayer's portion focused on funding options. Mr. McBrayer said the Commission would have a hard copy of the draft *Plan* document this week.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his understanding of initial discussions and original vision for *LauderTrail*, a seven (7) mile nature trail and the creation of the *LauderTrail Working Group* to implement. He commented on his perspective regarding the presentation of the *Plan* and inquired about how it had changed and expanded from the original vision.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Jay Shechtman, *LauderTrail Working Group* Member, commented on his perspective and support of the *Plan* presentation and noted the opportunity to begin and build off the *Plan* going forward. He cited the example of extending *Riverwalk* an additional one point three (1.3) miles and noted related resident opportunities.

Mr. McBrayer addressed Mayor Trantalis' comments and explained developing a plan for a trail system in a developed area is opportunity-driven for use by everyone, citing examples. He expounded on related efforts in Atlanta, Georgia, to serve both commuting and recreational activities.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Terry Frank, 201 East Las Olas Boulevard, and *Friends of Mockingbird Trail* president. Mr. Frank noted the progress made on parks and trails. He commented on the efforts of *Friends of Mockingbird Trail* with the *Path Foundation* and the importance of the downtown portion of the *Plan*. Mr. Frank discussed his recommendations and details regarding initial phases in *Tier 1* of the *Plan* to connect south of the *New River* to *Holiday Park*. He emphasized the importance of a Friends Group leading fundraising efforts and coordinating with the City to advance this project over the long-term, multiyear *Plan*.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Vice Mayor Moraitis commented on the need for the *Plan* to serve the entire City. She noted the *Path Foundation's* expertise and efforts to connect existing opportunities. Vice Mayor Moraitis explained her perspective and support of the *Plan*. She discussed the need to address rights-of-way opportunities for bicycle safety and including efforts of existing trail groups that the *Plan* includes. Vice Mayor Moraitis remarked on her support of expanding the *FEC* rights-of-way in the future should it be possible.

Commissioner Glassman discussed his support of the *Plan* and moving forward with continued momentum. He concurred with Mr. Frank's recommendation for a Friends Group. Commissioner Glassman said he would like to capitalize on the success of *Riverwalk*, keep expanding, make *Plan* connections and do what is necessary to keep moving forward.

Commissioner Sorensen concurred with Commissioner Glassman's comments.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions, Mr. McBrayer confirmed the need for Commission feedback and said the Commission would receive the document this week.

Mr. McBrayer explained the need for Commission adoption of a final

Plan to prevent future development encroachment and inform developers to relocate development accordingly. Commissioner Sorensen agreed.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's question, Mr. Rogers estimated adequate review time for Commission feedback and adoption was preliminarily scheduled for the first Commission Meeting in November 2021. Mr. Rogers explained the first portion of the *Plan* extends from *Riverwalk* west to the back of the *Salvation Army* building. He confirmed Staff would provide an Executive Summary for model programs of the *Plan*. The Commission should provide its preference.

Ms. deMayo recommended creating an Implementation Committee as soon as the Commission accepts the *Plan*. The Implementation Committee would lead the model project forward and all *Tier One Plan* projects. She recommended the Implementation Committee meet monthly moving forward with acquisition, design engineering and construction of *Tier One Plan* projects over the next ten years. Ms. deMayo noted the need to have multiple items moving simultaneously.

Mr. McBrayer recommended members of the *LauderTrail Working Group* be on the Implementation Committee. The nucleus of a Friends Group should be comprised of several existing trail initiatives, i.e., *Friends of Mockingbird Trail*, *Old Dillard Trail* and *LauderTrail Working Group*. The Friends Group and Implementation Committee would move forward concurrently.

Ms. deMayo expounded on activities of the Implementation Committee, i.e., looking at what needs to be acquired, determining the model project. Mr. McBrayer explained the importance of one individual on the Implementation Commission addressing acquisitions. He expounded on details regarding the future possibility of property owners willing to participate and donate land as projects gain momentum.

Mayor Trantalis commented on including *Birch State Park* in the *Plan*. Mr. McBrayer suggested these comments be included in Commission draft *Plan* comment feedback to the *Path Foundation*. Vice Mayor Moraitis commented on connecting this area through the *Bonnet House* property.

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

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

Commissioner Glassman commented on attending the September 27, 2021 *South Florida Regional Planning Council Meeting* and the attendance of Julie Brown, *State of Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR)* Secretary. He attended the meeting to obtain input from Secretary Brown and provide opinions regarding Vacation Rentals from the State's perspective and the City's perspective.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on attending the upcoming *International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) Induction Weekend and Fifty-Sixth Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards* on October 9, 2021 at the Marriott Harbor Beach with over three hundred (300) attendees.

Commissioner Glassman requested an update regarding the July 21, 2021 memorandum from City Manager Lagerbloom addressing rezoning work for the *Central City Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Plan* and Staff's request for direction regarding additional costs. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed he would research and provide an update. Commissioner Glassman noted changes included a change of vendors, scope of work cost increase, an updated timeline, ~~from twelve (12) months to twenty (20) months and an increase to the current budget from \$49,500 to an additional \$74,200.~~

Clarence Woods, Area Manager Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (NWPFH CRA), confirmed Staff is awaiting direction regarding extending the scope by engaging *The Corradino Group, Inc., (Corradino)* to perform the additional work at the northwest corner of the Central City CRA. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed it would be placed on the next CRA Board Meeting Agenda.

Commissioner Glassman commented on previous discussions regarding putting a list of items together for the Charter Review Board to address. City Attorney Boileau noted his office has a list of items identified for review by the Commission for potential changes to the Charter at a future election. City Manager Lagerbloom said there were no significant changes that would require the convening of the Charter Review Board.

Commissioner Glassman discussed the recent *Historic Preservation Board (HPB)* meeting. He commended his appointee to the *HPB*, Arthur Marcus, for his presentation on architect Charles McKirahan. Mr. Marcus presented buildings for consideration for ~~historic~~ designation, including the Castro Convertible building on Federal Highway, the Bayview building across from the Galleria Mall and the Times Square Plaza at Oakland

Park Boulevard and Federal Highway, which will be coming moving forward to HPB and to the Commission.

Commissioner Glassman remarked on an upcoming *HPB* communication regarding the large amount of work in that office and the need to consider allocating additional resources, staffing and funding. He expounded on *HPB* concerns regarding the individual Staff person and workload, i.e., surveys, grants, numerous neighborhoods. He requested City Manager Lagerbloom address alleviating the burden on one individual in that office.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's inquiring regarding the *Rubin Stacy Street Naming Project (Project)* status, Ben Rogers, Transportation and Mobility (TAM) Department Director, provided an update. Broward County (County) has fabricated most of its signage. The County is ready and waiting for City signage expected in early November 2021 from a local vendor. There is difficulty obtaining aluminum for signage poles that could cause delays. Following receipt of all materials, the *Project* would proceed to the installation phase.

Commissioner McKinzie recommended the *Project* ceremony occur during *Black History Month*, February 2022. Mr. Rogers clarified installation would begin when materials are received, and the *Project* ceremony event would occur in February 2022. Commissioner McKinzie confirmed.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on Miami-Dade County passing a Resolution renaming *Dixie Highway*, *Harriet Tubman Highway* and related procedures. He requested Commission feedback.

Mayor Trantalis commented on his perspective and commemorating local individuals who had made significant heroic contributions, citing the example of naming *Sistrunk Boulevard* for *Dr. Sistrunk* for his important contributions to the neighborhood.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed his viewpoint. He discussed the connection and legacy of *Harriet Tubman* related to the historic *Underground Railroad* and *Dixie Highway*. Commissioner Sorensen confirmed he would pursue renaming *Dixie Highway*.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's request for an update on the task force addressing the noise ordinance, City Clerk Jeffrey Modarelli confirmed nominees for the *Noise Control Advisory Committee (NCAC)* would be read into the record at the Commission Regular Meeting

tonight and would establish a quorum. An *NCAC* Liaison would be selected and reach out to *NCAC* members for the first meeting. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed Staff would connect with the *NCAC* at its first meeting.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's inquiry regarding the next steps to address *Inter Miami* plans at the *Lockhart Stadium* site, City Manager Lagerbloom explained the brief high-level update he received yesterday. The previous team who worked on the original design for the stadium was reassembled. *MANICA Architecture (MANICA)* is back on the team and meeting with *Inter Miami* managing members and owners. He anticipates hearing from *Inter Miami* soon regarding plans to put something forward for Commission consideration or return to previous park plans. Commissioner Sorensen commented on good options and confirmed the need to keep moving forward.

Commissioner McKinzie commented on the historical legacy of high school football athletics played at *Lockhart Stadium*. He noted a lack of correlation between the high school football stadium and *Stranahan High School* and *Fort Lauderdale High School*. *Auto Nation Community Stadium* is the name used. Further comment ensued.

In response to Commissioner Sorensen's questions, Anthony Fajardo, Department of Sustainable Development Director, explained details of how *Planned Development District (PUD PDD)* zoning was developed and became available in May 2019. Mr. Fajardo said a committee of residential and development stakeholders made recommendations to the *Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Board* that included additional criteria. He cited examples and explained the process leading to Commission consideration. Commission approval of a project requiring *PDD* zoning requires a supermajority vote, four (4) out of five (5) Commission Members must vote to approve.

Commissioner Glassman said the first *PUD* was in *the Village at Sailboat Bend* and noted others in the City. Mr. Fajardo stated similar types of zoning were available before 2004. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Glassman said *PDD* must demonstrate a very specific public benefit, citing the rideshare public benefit offered by the *Galleria Mall*.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on positive measured changes to *Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL)* airline flight paths. He requested continued monitoring and an update. City Attorney Boileau

confirmed the need to meet with City Manager Lagerbloom to review costs versus benefits and identify funding for the consultant. Discussion ensued on related costs, and City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed he would review to determine whether the value matches the expenditure. Commissioner Sorensen noted the helpfulness of tracking airline flights eastbound and westbound.

In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' questions, City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed work with City Attorney Boileau towards selecting a consultant to hold public meetings on redistricting. The Commission and the public will have the opportunity to provide input, and Staff will generate several maps for consideration that meet the criteria of the Statute.

Mayor Trantalis noted a significant population change since 2020 and asked if redistricting would be based on the *2020 United States Census (2020 Census)*. City Attorney Boileau confirmed official *2020 Census* information must be used for redistricting. City Manager Lagerbloom said balanced districts would have approximately 45,000 residents per district. Further comment and discussion ensued on changes to current district maps.

Vice Mayor Moraitis explained, as the Commission representative, she has a scheduling conflict attending the November 4, 2021 *Florida League of Cities Meeting*. Commissioner Sorensen confirmed he would attend.

In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' question, City Attorney Boileau confirmed two (2) Ordinances regulating panhandling are enjoined from enforcement. He will discuss the lawsuit impacting this topic in a Closed-Door Session with the Commission. Further comment ensued on complaints received from residents about panhandling and homelessness.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding enforcement to address blocked sidewalks, City Attorney Boileau confirmed the ability to take enforcement action for blocking rights-of-way, i.e., streets or sidewalks. City Attorney Boileau expounded on details, cited examples and explained enforcement challenges.

Commissioner Glassman inquired about recent gatherings on two (2) corners of *Stranahan Park*. City Attorney Boileau confirmed the ability to enforce and disburse groups if they are not moving. He explained enforcement challenges. City Manager Lagerbloom said this had been

occurring due to the opportunity for food on weekends.

Commissioner McKinzie commented on his perspective regarding homeless, loitering, and blocking sidewalks along *Sistrunk Boulevard* and other areas of District 3. City Attorney Boileau reiterated rights-of-way could not be blocked. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner McKinzie said he would like to see the related Ordinance.

Commissioner McKinzie discussed recent violent incidents related to lawless outside groups coming to the City participating in retaliatory acts.

In response to Vice Mayor Moraitis' question, City Attorney Boileau explained enforcing the Camping Ordinance only applies to the downtown area.

Mayor Trantalis acknowledged Commissioner McKinzie's comments and resident complaints regarding outside groups coming into the City. He explained related details that resulted in a fatality. Commissioner McKinzie noted that the individual who passed was a resident of Sunrise, Florida, and commented on Sunrise police efforts to address these groups.

Mayor Trantalis noted his perspective and confirmed he had requested new Fort Lauderdale Police Chief Larry Sciroto develop an action plan to address these lawless groups. Further comment and discussion on City.

Mayor Trantalis discussed Broward County's employee vaccine incentive and inquired whether the Commission would consider a similar incentive. City Attorney Boileau reiterated previous concerns, i.e., denying a benefit to those not wishing to be vaccinated. He explained opposition of the Florida Attorney General and Governor Ron DeSantis and noted details regarding how the related Statute is interpreted. Mayor Trantalis expounded on his perspective. Further comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Glassman's question regarding requiring vaccinations or ~~daily~~ weekly testing of City employees, City Attorney Boileau explained it would run the risk of violating the Statute. City Attorney Boileau noted anticipation of State fines levied against municipalities imposing employee vaccination incentives and related mandates.

In response to Commissioner McKinzie's question, City Attorney Boileau

confirmed the ability to remove an individual from City Hall who registers an above-normal temperature and is allowed under the Statute.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

City Manager Lagerbloom announced effective October 1, 2021, *Suntex* took over the Marina. Due to *The Boat Show*, work on the Marina is anticipated to begin after the first of the year.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the meeting at 5:29 p.m.