

City of Fort Lauderdale
Infrastructure Task Force Committee
November 5, 2018
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
8th Floor City Commission Room – City Hall
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

1. Call to Order at 2:02 P.M.:

• **Roll Call**

MEMBERS		PRESENT	ABSENT
Marilyn Mammano	P	18	1
Ed Kwoka	P	16	3
Ralph Zeltman	P	18	1
Keith Cobb	P	12	7
Roosevelt Walters	P	17	2
Fred Stresau	P	15	4
Norm Ostrau	P	16	1
David Orshefsky	P	16	0
Jacquelyn Scott	P	4	0

Staff Present

Christopher Lagerbloom, Assistant City Manager
Paul Berg, Public Works Director
Joe Kenney, Assistant Public Works Director
Laura Reece, Budget Manager
Meredith Shuster, Administrative Assistant
Raj Verma, Staff Liaison

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the November 5, 2018 Agenda made by Mr. Walters and seconded by Mr. Orshefsky

Motion approved unanimously by voice vote

3. Approval of October 1, 2018 Meeting Minutes

- A. Motion to approve the minutes for the October 1, 2018 meeting by Mr. Orshefsky and seconded by Mr. Stresau**

Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

- B. Motion to approve the minutes for the October 8, 2018 Special Meeting by Mr. Orshefsky and seconded by Mr. Stresau**

Motion approved unanimously by voice vote

Mr. Cobb arrived 3 minutes after the start of the meeting.

4. General Discussion and Comments by Committee Members (2.38 minutes)

Note: Discussion on Agenda Items 5.A(i) and 5.C brought up under General Discussion are summarized under the Agenda Item)

(16 Minutes) By consensus the Committee allowed the member of the public to address the Committee at this time. (See **# 8 Public Comments**)

After the public comments, the projected trajectory for the costs of Police and Fire was discussed. Fire fees and the General Revenue Fund pay for police and fire.

Mr. Verma explained that projects can take a long time. The Reiss Report was done in 2016. Between 2016 and 2018 there has been progress. In totality there is a positive difference and progress is well underway.

Mr. Kwoka inquired if in the 18 months since the Committee started, what has the City Engineering staff discussed in common with the ITF? It was decided to proceed to Agenda #6A, the presentation by Mr. Kenney as it will answer this and several questions.

5. Old Business (33 minutes)

- A. October 10th Joint Workshop with City Commission Debrief
 - i. Police Department HQ and Parks and Recreation General Obligation Bond

Mr. Orshefsky suggested that Committee recommend its support of the police bond and the parks bond as discussed at the Joint Workshop held on October 10.

Discussion ensued with the consensus that all were in favor of the bond for the police station but there was not enough information on the need and how the projects were chosen for the \$150 Million bond for Parks. It was decided to address each bond issue separately.

Mr. Zeltman summarized the Commissioners meeting with the City Manager held on October 23rd regarding the bond for the Police Station. All five Commissioners were in agreement to support the bond for the police station. It was decided to present it to the voters in the March election. What was left to decide was whether the bond for the police would be combined with the bond for parks as one issue for the voters to decide or if each bond would be voted on separately. He thanked staff for providing his report and photographs on the Police Station to the Commission.

The specifics on the vetting of the proposed Park projects were debated. One belief was the list of proposed projects was derived from neighborhood outreach and the other that it is a City "wish list". It was consensus that there hadn't been enough study of the Parks system for the Committee to make a recommendation and that the proposed amount should be carefully reviewed to determine "wants from needs" and if the amount of \$150 Million could be lessened.

It was decided to not make a recommendation one way or the other whether the bond issue for Parks and for the Police Station be placed jointly or separately to the voters.

Motion by Ms. Scott and seconded by Mr. Orshefsky that the Infrastructure Task Force supports both bonds [Police Station and Parks].

In favor: Dave Orshefsky, Jacquelyn Scott, Norm Ostrau

**Opposed: Marilyn Mammano, Ed Kwoka, Ralph Zeltman, Fred Stresau, Keith Cobb.
Motion fails.**

Motion by Ed Kwoka and seconded by Roosevelt Walters recommending the City Commission proceed with the Bond for the Police Station.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Mammano asked if ad valorem taxes could be raised by one mill (\$35 Million) and that money set aside for three years to build the police station as an alternative methodology to bonds. Ms. Reece stated that could be done.

Mr. Stresau reminded the Committee of the expressed reasoning that by using bonds, the people benefitting would be the people paying over the lifetime of the bond issuance.

Ms. Reece clarified if ad valorem is used to repay bonds, the issue must go to the voters. Ad valorem used for bond repayment is listed separately on the tax statements and reported as a separate item to the Property Appraiser's Office.

Chair Mammano reported members of the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations are overwhelmingly in favor of raising the millage rate.

B. Cancellation of Wave Project Update (43 minutes)

The Committee decided there was no further discussion required.

C. Joint Meeting with Budget Advisory Board - January 2019

Ms. Scott expressed her concern that Budget Advisory Board (BAB) and Infrastructure Task Force (ITF) should be on the "same page" on budget issues and suggested the joint meeting take place prior to the FY 2020 budget process getting too far along.

Mr. Orshefsky stated the subject was brought up at the last BAB meeting; however, BAB did not make a decision or have a discussion regarding a joint meeting.

It was suggested city staff schedule the meeting for the same time Stantec will be presenting the rate study and if possible prior to the January 22, 2019 Joint meeting between the ITF and the Commission.

Conversation regarding how the City could find dollars to replace the ROI included ad valorem taxes and leveraging existing City assets. Several members did not see the need for the joint meeting if the Commission had no commitment to raising the ad valorem.

Mr. Orshefsky suggested the Committee present the topics and agenda for the joint meeting with the BAB; however, no conclusions on topics or direction to staff were given. Discussion was divided over the role of the Committee and the BAB as to whether the ITF was doing the same work as the BAB and the need or value of doing so.

Mr. Roosevelt was concerned about increases to taxes, fees and other rates. Mr. Orshefsky responded that if the annual 5% increase to the water and sewer rates can be deferred due to the elimination of the ROI, the increase in taxes would be reduced by the savings on water and sewer bills.

Marilyn Mammano entered the meeting. **(45.01 minutes)**

**D. Infrastructure Task Force Work Plan FY 2018 – 2020
(1 hour 55 Minutes)**

Mr. Orshefsky requested his suggestions sent out via email for setting milestones on the Work Plan be reviewed.

The December 3rd meeting agenda would include:

- Topics of discussion for the Joint Workshop with the Commission scheduled for January 22, 2019 to allow staff time to compile any needed information.
- Discussion on the projects for the Parks bond funding.
 - There is no need for staff to do a presentation.
 - Committee Members are to watch the video and hear the discussion of the Commission at its Conference Meeting of November 6th prior to the December 3rd meeting.
 - Later suggested by Paul Berg that the executive summary of the Master Plan be reviewed. The Master Plan was extensively vetted with the Public and the projects are based on it. There are not any further studies being done at this time.
- Updates on the Police Station costs if available
 - Presentation by staff not needed
 - Chris Lagerbloom was tasked with comparing the City's proposed cost of building the Police Station with recently built police stations in other cities. He will report back to the Commission and provide said report to the ITF in the near future (not promised for the Dec. 3rd meeting)

The January 7th meeting agenda will be preparation for the joint workshop with the Commission scheduled for January 22, 2019.

A future informational item will be the status of the 40 year and other facility assessments.

When asked about the budget amendment appearing on the November 6th Commission Meeting Agenda, Laura Reece explained that every year there is about \$2 Million set aside for
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facility estimates in a “generic bucket”. Parks and Recreation brought in a consultant to do a facilities study to see what needs to be replaced. When it is determined what is needed, the money is then assigned via a budget amendment to that specific project in order of priority. The money was always intended to be used for facilities.

Discussion ensued on the remaining suggestions in Mr. Orshefsky’s email with the consensus that the remaining topics of interest for the ITF are:

Potable Water (Fiveash specifically)
Rate Studies
City Hall

- March and April are the best dates for effectuating the next budget year.
- Members are to think about whether there is a continued need for the ITF after its recommendations for Budget Year 2020 (April/May 2019)
- Suggestion that a sub-committee for infrastructure be added to the BAB or
- If a specific need arises, the Commission could establish a committee to look into it at that time.

On the issue of potable water, Paul Berg reminded the Committee that there is a Master Plan that included Fiveash. It states to upgrade the current facility will cost approximately \$150 Million and to replace about \$200 Million. There will not be any new numbers coming out. A presentation by staff will not provide any new information.

Joe Kenney reiterated that a consultant will be hired in January 2019 that will be doing an analysis of Fiveash with recommendations as to rebuild or rehabilitate. That analysis is anticipated before the end of 2019.

Several members expressed it was not in the expertise or purview of the Committee to recommend whether Fiveash should be rebuilt or upgraded or that it needed an “exact” cost at the 30,000 foot level and listening to a presentation by staff would not add value.

Mr. Berg explained a delay of the rate study for the hybrid approach to stormwater was due to 10,000 parcels that needed to be manually reviewed to determine pervious surface. It will take staff about 90 days to compile the needed information.

Staff is asked to report on when studies will become available.

Mr. Lagerbloom advised that the Committee can make the recommendation to disband to the Commission.

6. New Business (46 minutes)

A. Master Plan Needs Summary Priorities/Recommendations to City Commission - Joe Kenney

Mr. Kenney’s presentation reviewed the current CIP (Community Investment Plan) which covers five years and is updated annually. The projects are based on the City’s Master Plans.

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With regards to getting things done, various studies and the Consent Agreement have caused some shifting of CIP priorities. Smaller individual projects in a given area have been bundled. Victoria Park, a neighborhood of over 1000 properties is now a \$12 Million project. It includes both water and sewer mains and resurfacing the roadways and ancillary projects. Bid is being opened November 15th. Croissant Park, another large neighborhood of bundled smaller projects is being presented to the City Commission on November 6th.

\$145 Million of wastewater projects was put out to bid for a Program Manager. It is scheduled to be completed in February 2023 prior to the Consent Agreement deadline of February 2026.

The \$33 Million in Infiltration and Inflow (I/I) includes addressing the worst six basins for stormwater flow into the wastewater system. Forty-one (41) miles of I/I will be completed by September 2020.

When asked about tearing up roads it was explained TV inspections are done and then determined if lining or point repairs are needed.

It was asked how much more capacity will the system gain once the 8% lining is completed. Mr. Kenney responded that there is no definite answer at this time. However, this repair represents the worst areas and the result will be getting the maximum benefit for the money spent.

The Chair reminded the membership that I/I will remain as a priority and further discussion can be terminated

A discussion ensued about resurfacing the streets with or without utility projects. The staff clarified that the streets scheduled for utility projects are not resurfaced until after all underground work is completed.

Regarding the Stormwater Master Plan, it was explained that it was more than just the plan. Designs have been done and permitting has been obtained. With the final funding expected in the early part of 2019, the bids will go out and construction will take place over the next five years.

The \$33.5 Million project in reliability improvement for Fiveash is at the 90% design completion stage. Permits have been applied for and the project is scheduled to move forward in the beginning of the 2019. This project is made up of 25 smaller, essential projects that have been bundled and scheduled over the next two years.

Another project for Fiveash is the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) treatment pilot project scheduled to begin in March. The same consultant will do a plant analysis to determine the best long term vision for the plant. The results of the pilot program and the analysis of the plant are expected toward the end of 2019.

The presentation showed that annually, \$1 Million is scheduled for roadway repair and \$1 Million for sidewalk and paver repair. The \$1 Million for sidewalks is funded through the Risk

Fund. It is not funded through the General Fund or bonds. Another \$3.5 Million annually is split between new stormwater projects and maintenance.

There was discussion whether the ITF should consider making recommendations for a higher annual amount for roads and sidewalks. Roads and sidewalks are at the top of the neighborhood survey every year and were brought up at all the outreach meetings held by the ITF. It was determined in conversation that repairing sidewalks was maintenance/operations and not an infrastructure issue for the Committee to address. .

The presentation explained that NCIP are smaller projects that take some time working with the neighbors. The presentation also mentioned the fire bond and site plan for the final fire station.

In response to the question being asked about “shovel ready” projects, Joe Kenney expressed that where possible; plans and designs are being done so the project is ready when the funding becomes available.

Ms. Reece explained that Bond dollars are in separate funds [495/496] from CIP funds [451/454].

The ITF members complimented Mr. Kenney and those that assisted in the presentation.

In response to a question as to when the City will go out for Water and Sewer bonds again; Ms. Reece explained, the City would not go out for more bonds until the funds from the previous issuance are spent down. The plan is designed that another bond issuance will be applied for in time for projects to continue uninterrupted.

It was asked when the stormwater construction will start for the seven basins. Mr. Kenney responded plans are done and permits are in good shape to start construction once the funding is in place. Funding is anticipated in the first part of 2019.

In response to City capacity for the larger projects, Mr. Kenney responded that with the recent Master Plans and funding, the projects are moving along as scheduled.

Question: How much more money is needed for stormwater outside of the initial seven basins.
Answer: It is estimated at \$800 Million for the rest of the City.

B. CIP Implementation (Project Management Update)– Joe Kenney

- a. Response included with the presentation

C. Goals and Agenda for Joint City Commission Workshop – January 22, 2019

- a. To be further discussed Dec. 3rd for staff to have time to prepare any needed backup and at the January 7th meeting.

D. Format of Interim and Final Reports

- a. Deferred until after the Workshop on January 22nd. It may be determined that no final report is needed; only recommendations to the Commission.

7. Informational Items

It was requested that staff provide timeframes for studies involving infrastructure.

8. Public Comments (16 minutes)

Paul Chettle, Citizen of Fort Lauderdale

- Suggested that since the BAB and the ITF are both looking at the Stormwater MP and impact fees, the joint meeting with the BAB be held when the rate fee presentation by Stantec is given. It is anticipated to be presented prior to the end of the year.
- Regarding the ROI, he suggested politics and not the budget process was the culprit. He does not think the budget process needs to change. There are 15 meetings including revenue estimating, audit, BAB and budget presentations that are held prior to the trim notice in July and the budget hearings in September. He felt Commissioners, Glassman, McKinzie and Sorenson are willing to increase the ad valorem rate, the Mayor is reluctant and Commissioner Moraitis was not in favor of raising ad valorem at all. He suggested that the ITF reach out to those three Commissioners.
- He empathized with Mr. Roosevelt's concern that the potential bonds for the Police Station, Parks and the annual 5% water and sewer rate increases along with the impact of the stormwater rates in addition to the County increases would place a burden on Fort Lauderdale citizens and that needs to be taken into account.
- He is on record of supporting the Police and Fire but states that the number of police and fire personnel needs to be looked at. He felt the imbedded trajectory of increase in costs for those departments is unsustainable as is.
- It is imperative to him that the BAB and the ITF leverage their joint meeting into an expansive conversation about "what do we do" in structurally adjusting the budget prior to the department budget presentations that begin in February.

9. Adjournment – Next Regular Meeting December 3, 2018 (4:40 PM)

- **Motion to adjourn made by Ed Kwoka and seconded by Fred Stresau approved by consensus.**