



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

APPROVED

**BEACH REDEVELOPMENT BOARD (BRB)
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
8th FLOOR CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
Monday, November 19, 2018, 2:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS	FEB 2018/JAN 2019				
	REGULAR MTGS		SPECIAL MTGS		
	Present	Absent	Present	Absent	
Ina Lee, Chair	P	7	0	4	0
Thomas B. McManus, VC	P	4	3	3	1
Art Bengochea	P	4	0	2	0
Jason Hughes	P	5	2	3	1
Monty Lalwani	A	1	1	2	0
Christian Luz	P	5	2	2	2
Kristen Maus (arr. 2:38 p.m.)	P	4	0	2	0
Tim Schiavone	P	6	1	4	0
Shirley Smith	P	7	0	4	0
Aiton Yaari	P	4	3	3	1

Staff

Don Morris, Beach CRA Manager
Lizeth DeTorres, Administrative Aide
Thomas Green, Beach CRA
John Herbst, City Auditor
Jamie Opperee, Prototype, Inc.

Guests

Paul Chettle

I. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum – Ina Lee

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Quorum Requirement

As of this date there were 10 appointed members to the Board, which means 6 would constitute a quorum. It was noted there was a quorum at the commencement of the meeting.

II. Approval of October 1, 2018 Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Yaari, seconded by Mr. Bengochea, to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2018, meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (9-0).

III. Beach Projects Update – Thomas Green, Beach CRA

Mr. Green gave a PowerPoint presentation on four projects: Las Olas Beach Park Project, Beach Streetscape, Aquatic Center Project, and DC Alexander Park. Discussion on the projects follows:

Las Olas Beach Park Project

- Hope to have a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) for the garage by the first week of December (cost of \$10,000) so cars can be parked there. The finishing touches will not be in place then.
- Lighting targeted for completion by end of January
- After garage is in use, there will be electronic signage indicating the Oceanside Lot will be closing
- Chair Lee requested to have a representative from Transportation and Mobility at meetings from now on
- Trams will start once the park is open; the park is the drop-off. The trams are ordered but not delivered.
- Concern that people will make illegal left turns to get into the garage
 - Correcting that would involve FDOT right-of way, sight lines, etc.
 - Alternatives were discussed
- There will not be any gates/arms at the garage – entrance only at two sites on the north side
- Have a strong social media campaign on how to get to the beach and where to park
 - Involve the Public Information Office and Department of Transportation and Mobility
- Rates for the garage will be “municipal rates”
- If board members are asked about the projects, refer them to Mr. Morris
- Perhaps offer “free rides” until the tram is fully operational
- Pedi-cab operators need to know what is happening
- Emphasize signage in and around the garage – have color-coded, illuminated signs
- Perhaps have a staff volunteer directing traffic to the garage for the first 10-12 weeks during special events (use wands, etc.)
- Suggestion to have a big grand opening event when the garage is done
- Hardscape cannot be done until AT&T lays their fiber

Chair Lee reported that the board's last Communication to the City Commission to postpone closing Las Olas Boulevard was declined.

Mr. Green explained the steps involved in the remaking Las Olas Boulevard to concrete. Ms. Smith recommended keeping Las Olas Circle open to facilitate traffic, but Mr. Green said they have to close it down at some point in order to perform the work on Las Olas

Boulevard. They will work with the contractor to coordinate the schedule. The Marina Promenade is also part of the project.

Mr. Green said the only thing that would prevent the projects from beginning on time would be if they could not obtain the TCO for the garage. In that event, parking could not start at the beach.

Paul Chettle, member of the public, asked for clarification on several of the images and asked about police presence in the parks. Mr. Green pointed out two parking spots designated for police. Regarding the extended turn lane for the tram, Mr. Green explained that the driveway connection to the surface lot will be extended. He also provided details about the construction fencing.

Mr. Green described the tram route after it leaves the garage.

Mr. Morris mentioned that as long as the CRA exists, the trams have to remain within the CRA boundaries.

Beach Streetscape Improvement Project

- Construction will start in the second quarter of 2019
- There is a new amber light for the overheads that can stay on year-round per Fish and Wildlife
- The concrete sidewalk on the west side will remain, but patching will be required. Pedestrian lighting, traffic-rated bollards, relocating trees where possible will be the components of the west side improvements.
- Still trying to find a way to define the outdoor café seating area
- The east side will be all new decorative hardscape as far north and south as they can go within the construction budget.
- Sealant will be applied to the new sidewalk to keep maintenance issues at bay
- There will be lane closures throughout construction, but not closure of the entire street
- Mr. Yaari wanted to see the lane closures more organized so it would not be so hard on traffic

Mr. Morris said they would do outreach to businesses and others affected and put together a schedule to try to address their concerns. There was a suggestion to use social media and myfortlauderdalebeach.com.

Regarding the plaques/stars on the sidewalk, the consultant is working on a plan on where to put them. They will probably be in a different location. It was suggested to mount them on the wall.

Aquatic Center Project

Mr. Green showed the plans.

DC Alexander Park

Mr. Morris reviewed the meetings that were held on the park with the public and the CBA Board. He was most surprised that feedback indicated people did not think it should be designed just for children – it should be for adults, also. He said they need to reduce the size of the playground. People also said they did not like the fort because, as a solid wall, there would not be enough air going through the playground. Plans are to add more passive green space in a new design, which will be brought back to a joint meeting of the BRB and PRAB boards.

Ms. Maus relayed that the people at the public meeting were very much opposed to the project, but Mr. Morris pointed out many of them did not have grandchildren. He said since they will not have the playground on the beach, there needs to be one somewhere else. He said staff took the comments seriously, but the playground will not be removed altogether.

Mr. Green said they started out with a park that was a playground, but will now be doing a park with a playground.

Chair Lee emphasized there is no place for children to play now on the beach, and the existing playground cannot be updated.

Mr. Morris stated that the people who attended the last public meeting will receive invitations to attend the next joint board meeting. He pointed out the project is only at 15% concept – there is a long way to go.

Mr. Morris distributed a large sheet of development projects in the Central Beach area showing projects in review, approved, under construction, and finished.

Mr. Yaari commented that the beach is very close to being fully developed. He said that the Elad Development North Tower project was approved in 2008 and is not built yet. It is holding back beach development. Mr. Yaari advocated for a “reasonable amount” of time in the Code for building to begin. Mr. Morris added that there is a State law that allows the developers to ask for extensions.

Chair Lee wanted better coordination between the public and private projects.

Ms. Smith asked how many trips each project entails, and Mr. Yaari said there are 112 trips. Mr. Morris said when the trips are gone, there are no more approvals for new development.

IV. Communications to City Commission - None

V. Old/New Business – Donald Morris, Beach CRA Manager

Chair Lee reported on the two outstanding Communications to the City Commission. The first one was denied, which was to postpone the projects to June. The second one was to make sure there would be an extension at the County level for CRA projects.

Mr. Morris commented that the previous City Attorney opined that the CRA needed to have projects completed by September, 2020. However, the CRA cannot be expected to use TIF revenue in the same year that it is being collected. The CRA, therefore, believes that interpretation wasn't accurate and will ask the City Attorneys for another opinion.

Mr. Morris also stated that the request to keep staff involved with the CRA is still uncertain. If the CRA does not need to go to the County for an extension, there will be a more informal conversation with the City to keep the staff.

Maintenance of the projects is another issue. There was a Communication about keeping the City's CRA contribution separate after the CRA is gone and using that money for maintenance.

Chair Lee requested that she be notified when the Communications go before the City Commission. Mr. Morris said that the Commission asked him about delaying the Las Olas Boulevard closure and he told them he did not think it was a good idea. Whenever he thinks the board makes a decision that is contrary to the CRA Plan, he has a responsibility and obligation to communicate that to the City Commission.

Chair Lee announced the next meeting to be held December 17, 2018.

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

[Minutes transcribed by J. Rubin, Prototype, Inc.]

Attachments:

PowerPoint presentation on Beach projects – Thomas Green

Handout on development projects in Central Beach area – Don Morris