

City of Fort Lauderdale  
Infrastructure Task Force Committee  
April 1, 2019  
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

<u>MEMBERS</u>		<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Marilyn Mammano	P	23	1
Ralph Zeltman	P	23	1
Peter Partington	P	4	0
Roosevelt Walters	P	22	2
Fred Stresau	P	20	4
Norm Ostrau	P	21	1
David Orshefsky	P	21	0
Jacquelyn Scott	A	8	1

**Staff Present**

Joe Kenney, Assistant Public Works Director-Engineering  
Talal Abi-Karam, Assistant Public Works Director-Utilities  
Lorraine Tappan, Principal Urban Planner, Dept. of Sustainable Dev.  
Ella Parker, Urban Design & Planning Manager, Dept. of Sustainable Dev.  
Lisa Marie Glover, Transportation Manager, Transportation and Mobility Dept.  
Igor Vassiliev, Project Manager II Public Works Dept.  
Meredith Shuster, Senior Administrative Assistant

**Consultant**

Edward Ng, Technical Vice President Planning, Corradino Group

**2. Approval of Agenda (2:03 P.M.)**

**Motion to approve the April 1, 2019 Agenda made by Mr. Walters and seconded by Mr. Orshefsky.**

Mr. Orshefsky requested it not be a matter of practice to place a presentation prior to General Discussion unless there is a cost factor to the City. His concern was not having enough time afterwards for General Discussion. The Chair agreed to take a consultant's time into consideration when an agenda is being created. Moving a presentation prior to the General Discussion will be addressed on a case by case basis.

Upon inquiry by the Chair, the Corradino Group Consultant Mr. Ng verified that his time was a cost to the City.

**Motion to approve the agenda approved unanimously by voice vote**

**3. Approval of March 7, 2019 Meeting Minutes (2:10 P.M.)**

**Motion to approve the Minutes for the March 7, 2019 meeting with or without corrections by Mr. Walters and seconded by Mr. Orshefsky.**

**Motion to approve the March 7, 2019 Meeting Minutes withdrawn by Mr. Walters**

**Motion to defer the March 7 Meeting Minutes pending the revisions for the stated attributions by Mr. Walters and seconded by Mr. Orshefsky.**

**Motion approved unanimously by voice vote**

#### **4. New Business**

**Presentation on Comprehensive Plan Update -Lorraine Tappen, Urban Design and Planning, Department of Sustainable Development, *The Capital Improvements Element.***

*The presentation in its entirety can be viewed online at <https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/strategic-communications/fltv> click on City Public Meetings, choose the April 1st Infrastructure Task Force meeting. The presentation began at approximately 2:15 p.m.*

Ms. Tappan explained there have been Master Plans for Fort Lauderdale going back to 1925. In 1989, the State mandated a Comprehensive Plan with certain elements to be included; at which the heart of the plan is to explain future land use for each property. The other elements are complementary to organize the infrastructure required for development; such as water, sewer, stormwater, and transportation. There are elements to preserve natural resources, elements to ensure quality of life such as Parks and Recreation, and being added are new elements including climate change, design and economic development and today's element, Capital Improvement which explains how the elements containing a level of service get organized and funded.

The Land Use element will be presented to the Commission in the fall of 2019. The schedule is to present the entire Comprehensive Plan to the Council of Civic Associations in May or June and then a special meeting with the Planning and Zoning Advisory Board to review all of the elements. The State requires a review of the current plan to begin every 7 years in preparation to the update of the plan required every 10 years. This helps account for population shifts, infrastructure deficiencies, growth, development and the like. It is an open ended plan with timeframes of 2025 and long range to 2040. The long range matches the long range transportation plan put out by the Metropolitan Transportation Board. Changes to the Future Land Use Plan are anticipated to include focusing on preserving the character of existing lower density residential neighborhoods and increasing the mix of uses along transit corridors.

Mr. Orshefsky has asked that when the presentation of the draft of Future Land Use element is transmitted to the Council of Civic Associations, that it also be sent to the Committee. Ms. Tappan agreed to do so.

Ms. Tappan reminded the Committee there currently is a draft of each element on the website with provisions for comments. Ms. Tappan asked for the Committee's feedback.

Mr. Stresau and the Chair asked for notification when the special meeting for the presentation to the Planning and Zoning Board is scheduled. Ms. Tappan stated the date is being arranged and she will inquire if the meeting can be broadcast.

The existing Comprehensive Plan was last published in 2008 and many of the City's master plans were not completed at that time. This Comprehensive Plan will include all the master plans. The heart of the Community Investment Element (CIE) is the Community Investment Plan (CIP). The CIP directs the projects that correspond with the CIE and is a funding mechanism.

In review, the Board discussed the CIP includes all infrastructure, not only water and sewer. The CIP is a five year plan reviewed and funded annually.

Broward County has incorporated environmental justice and equity in its Comprehensive Plan and asks that the same be added to the Land Use and Infrastructure elements in the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Mammano raised the issue of planning expansion of the Level of Service (LOS) of parkland per capita. In her opinion, the increased density and the building out to property lines without green space is not desirable. Mr. Stresau asked where additional land will come from. Ms. Tappan and Ms. Parker clarified that new development presents opportunities to increase green space accessible to the public.

Mr. Stresau would like the issue of LOS for Parks to be addressed at a future date.

Mr. Ng explained the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) compiles a five year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) that coincides with the CIP. The Corradino Group is recommending the City create a traffic master plan that includes the TIP, and FDOT. He explained that the City would have the opportunity to coordinate its projects with the County and State for cost savings.

The LOS pertaining to traffic was discussed by several members relating to whether future possible projects were taken into consideration in traffic studies and the comprehensive vs. the piecemeal approach to synchronization of traffic lights, intersection improvements and the effect of all the added density. Mr. Partington mentioned the need for multi-modal consideration. Mr. Ng explained that a long term traffic master plan includes the consideration of future possible projects, all the county and state data, as well as the ability and cost to maintain.

Ms. Mammano expressed that as an aspirational plan, she does not want a LOS "D" for local roads. Mr. Stresau expressed the density and amount of road space needs to be considered.

Mr. Ng explained that LOS "D" in the Comprehensive Plan is not "aspirational". It is formulated with cost impact and as the basis of how impact fees can be assessed. Moving from a "D" closer to an "A" may mean having to add 2 or more lanes to a roadway. There is an impact of cost and available space.

Ms. Mammano expressed that the LOS standards may mean that development may need to be curtailed accordingly to avoid slipping from "D" to "E or F". She expressed the conversation at FDOT meetings she has attended expressing a need to review how LOS assessments are being done. Mr. Ng explained that the Comprehensive Plan is taking into account some different approaches. In the past "traffic" has meant "number of cars". It is now taking into account walking, bicycling and other alternative modes of movement and the space these alternative modes need.

Ms. Glover expressed the impact of the fast growth and economic development experienced in Fort Lauderdale over a short period of time. The City includes the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest port and the 10<sup>th</sup> busiest airport. There are many elements that are outside of the City's control. The question is how to make the network livable. She thinks that a master plan is needed that takes into account a multi-modal approach with a comprehensive view of the entire transportation network.

Ms. Mammano clarified that she isn't stating she wants the City to go to a LOS "A". She brought up the point that if the current infrastructure remains but the development continues, there is only so much room to add the various multi-modal systems. Mr. Partington expressed that there is only so much right-of-way but various multi-modal uses would make it more efficient.

Mr. Orshefsky asked for an informational item regarding multi-modal information from other cities.

The remaining schedule for the Comprehensive Plan is to have meetings and workshops with the Council of Civic Associations and the Planning and Zoning Board in May and June with a second draft of the Comprehensive Plan in July. Ms. Parker explained that outreach has been ongoing via several social media sites as well as meeting with the various advisory boards specializing in the different elements of the Plan. The notices are posted and available on the website.

Mr. Ng stated it is expected that the Plan will be completed by March of 2020. Ms. Tappan mentioned the schedule and the most recently updated draft of the different elements are posted on the City website.

<https://www.advancefortlauderdale.com/our-progress>

## **5. General Discussion and Comments by Committee Members**

By consensus, there is no additional General Discussion and the Committee will move to Item 6 A on the agenda.

## **6. Old Business**

### **A. Discussion of a Potential Infrastructure Advisory Board Committee**

It was agreed:

- 1. b. remove “and identify infrastructure for repair or replacement”
- 1. d. Change “Utility” Directors to “Public Works” Directors under Group 2
- 1. f. add “the” prior to “above”,
- 1. g. remove “i”
- 1. h. add “improvement” to “i”
- 1. h. iii. make “repair or replacement” plural
- 1. h. vi. add “at reasonable costs” to the end of the sentence

**Motion: Mr. Orshefsky moved and Mr. Walters seconded for staff to make the stated revisions and forward as a Communication to the Commission.**

Discussion: Meeting frequency to be determined by the Commission or the City Attorney may use standard language used in other advisory board formation documents.

Budget Advisory Board and Planning and Zoning Board representatives were not included due to the City policy that one may only serve on one advisory board at a time.

**Motion approved unanimously by voice vote**

## **7. Informational Items**

### **A. Regional Treatment Facility Capacities**

Joe Kenney responded to Mr. Partington’s question about the difference in the amount of capacity in letters Mr. Partington referenced. The amount of capacity is an ongoing tally as projects are reviewed by Public Works Engineers and the Department of Sustainability and Development. He will look at the letters provided by Mr. Partington.

Talal Abi-Karam informed the Committee there was a different methodology used for the capacity letters written in May 2018. He stated there is about a 1.2%

difference when comparing methodologies. He also explained the variables used in determining the averages.

Joe Kenney informed the Committee beginning this year three Public Works Engineers are stationed at DSD to review capacity and a more conservative approach is being used.

Mr. Ostrau asked how to determine the number of units the remaining capacity of 8.52 MGD (Million Gallons per Day) could accommodate. (Potable water) Talal Abi-Karam responded that a calculation referred to as the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) is used. The current ERU is set at 300 gallons per capita per day for water and sewer each. The current water and sewer rate study may adjust the sewer ERU to 175.

In response to how many units the current available capacity would handle, an example was the proposed Alexan (approx. 180 residential units) would increase the amount of water and sewer usage by .036 MGD of the current available capacity.

Joe explained the City has gotten more detailed and now publishes the numbers in the reports.

#### **B. The Charles W. Fiveash Water Treatment Plant**

In response to Ms. Mammano's inquiry on the progress of the study, Joe Kenney informed the Committee that data is being exchanged with Carollo Group (Consultant) and the modeling for the pilot project have not been set as of yet; however, the Consultant has provided staff with several ideas. The goal is to have the first round of results in August 2019.

Mr. Zeltman asked if the data used in determining Peele Dixie's conversion to a membrane plant could be applied to Fiveash. Talal Abi-Karam explained that Peele Dixie is a manual membrane plant whose design was based on the quality of water from the Biscayne Aquifer. For Fiveash, the Consultant is tasked with looking at all water source options including the Floridan and the Biscayne Aquifers and at different treatment technologies. The City is limited on the number of MGD it can draw from the Biscayne Aquifer and the trend of the South Florida Water Management District is for that number to be decreased.

He added consideration needs to be given on the type of technology. Reverse osmosis or membrane technology has about a 17% loss in processing that needs to be calculated and is energy intensive. For an example, if the recommendation is for a new plant with an output capacity of 50 MGD, it would need to be built for a processing capacity of 65 MGD.

To answer Mr. Orshefsky, Talal confirmed the City's water plan is based on the South Florida Water Management Lower East Coast Plan. The next plan is due

in approximately 18 months which coincides with the City's schedule for any Fiveash improvements.

(Note: Mr. Orshefsky left the meeting)

**8. Public Comments (4:00 p.m.)**

Mr. Boyd Corbin, Wilton Manors resident

- Complete streets plan takes away traffic lanes
- He made several comments on Mr. Zeltman's report
- In response to Ms. Mammano's inquiry, he feels City of Fort Lauderdale is doing a poor job with its water processing
- Mr. Partington asked what input Mr. Corbin would give if asked about the design of a new water treatment plant. He stated his top choice would be GAC filtration with lime softening
- Mr. Corbin feels that GAC filtration should be utilized now. Joe Kenney reiterated a GAC pilot is included in the Consultant's study. Talal Abi-Karam explained to Mr. Corbin the Consultant's task is twofold, looking at the GAC filtration system and the cost to implement it as well as an analysis of the Fiveash plant to rehabilitate or replace of which both tasks are currently underway
- Mr. Abi-Karam confirmed there would be two separate and distinct deliverables forwarded to the Commission for its decision
- Mr. Abi-Karam stated that the Consultant hired by the City is reputed to be the best in the United States and Mr. Corbin agreed
- Mr. Corbin believes that the bids and reports may exclude the pilot study

**9. Adjournment – Next Regular Meeting May 6, 2019**

**Motion to adjourn: Chair entertained a motion to adjourn - several voices "so moved" simultaneously and seconded simultaneously.**

**Motion approved unanimously by voice vote**