

**MINUTES OF THE
BEACH REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005 – 3:00 P.M
CITY HALL
CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM - EIGHTH FLOOR
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA**

BOARD MEMBERS

		Absent/ Present	Cumulative from 2/21/05	
			(P)	(A)
Pamela Adams	P		1	1
Brad Fitzgerald	P		2	0
Steve Glassman	P		2	0
Eileen Helfer	P		1	1
Ina Lee	P		2	0
Al Miniaci	P		2	0
Judy Scher	P		2	0
Linda Gill	A		2	0
Henry Sniezek	P		2	0
Mel Rubinstein	P		2	0

STAFF

Stephen Scott, Assistant City Manager
John Hoelzle, Director of Parking & Fleet Services
Paul Costanzo, CRA Project Manager/Principal Planner
Earl Prizlee, City Project Engineer
Peter Partington, City Engineer
Diana Alarcon, Assistant Parking Services Manager
Mary Ann Slough, Recreation Programmer II
Patricia Smith, Secretary

GUESTS

John Olson, FDOT
Chris Davis, FDOT
Paul Kissinger, EDSA

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ina Lee called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00 p.m. and roll call was taken.

Pamela Adams entered the meeting at approximately 3:05 p.m. and Brad Fitzgerald entered the meeting at approximately 3:08 p.m.

BEACH RESTROOMS

Ina Lee stated that this information is an update from a previous meeting regarding the four (intersection of Las Olas Boulevard & Seabreeze Boulevard) corners in the central beach area. She stated that she had done a walk thru with EDSA and indicated that she felt one

of these corners would be perfect for restrooms and wanted to re-visit the issue.

Paul Costanzo stated the Metro System in Washington, DC that was using the European self-cleaning restrooms and that many U.S. cities were utilizing them. In most every instance it is in conjunction with an advertising program, and they treat them as street furniture for transportation systems similar to the benches at the City's bus stops. He stated this is how they were providing the automatic cleaning toilet systems for public use. He stated that after last year's discussions, a list was created of tourist-friendly restroom facilities along the Beach and copies were provided to the lifeguards. He said the list is being used and no problems have arisen.

Al Miniaci stated that the European styles are very nice, but he could not see having that corner being used for this purpose. He did not feel that was the image they wanted to create when coming over the Las Olas Bridge. He said that it is City property and he felt that part of the requirement of the RFP, if one is put out by the City, should include public restrooms. However he felt a stand-alone structure would become an eyesore.

Steve Glassman stated that it would depend on the design guidelines, but he felt they could have the stand-alones and they might not be as offensive as one may think.

Al Miniaci further stated that they might not be offensive, but he did not think that a stand-alone facility should be placed at that site. He felt the property was more valuable to the City as something else. He felt this was not the best location for such a facility. He recommended that the restroom be placed in the parking lot.

Chair Ina Lee stated that she did not care where the restrooms were located, but they were a necessity for the central beach area, including part of the northern section.

Mel Rubinstein asked how many restrooms would be placed at the site. Chair Ina Lee stated that they needed to research the issue and see what was the demand. She stated the technology is now available and appears to be working very well. Mel Rubinstein stated that if the restrooms were not visible from the beach, then they would become a "hang-out." To be effective for monitoring and usage, he felt the parking lot was a good idea, along with the possibility of using the Sebastian parking lot. He stated they needed to look from Sunrise to 18th Street, as well. He stated further that they needed to move on to the next step.

Chair Ina Lee stated that this is a good idea but they needed to decide where, and if placed in a City-owned parking lot what needed to be done.

Pamela Adams stated that she believed direction to staff should be more global than parking lots because they serve people going back and forth. She reiterated that there is a demand for such facilities. She stated the parking lots are viable, but there are other available sites. She continued stating that the idea of a multi-use for the corner was a good one. She stated that locations needed to be decided upon, and then staff could explain what could be done at the

various sites.

Chair Ina Lee stated that staff should investigate further as to the locations for such a facility.

Pamela Adams stated that she also felt that a stand-alone structure could work.

Chair Ina Lee stated they needed to move forward on this matter, and asked staff to bring further information back to the Board at their next meeting in May.

17th STREET CAUSEWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Paul Costanzo stated that two members of FDOT were present at today's meeting, John Olson and Chris Davis, who would provide an update.

John Olson, FDOT, stated they were currently working on this project. He stated the reason for the project was the intersection at US1 and 17th Street which he proceeded to show on the map. He stated that DOT identified the intersection as having more than the average number of vehicular and pedestrian accidents, as compared to similar intersections throughout the State. He stated further that when that happens, FDOT conducts a study to see what improvements could be made as traffic calming methods. He explained that the Federal Government had a program which allocated funds to address safety-related issues. He stated this is not one of their normal resurfacing projects, and not a project to add lanes. He explained that this intersection had safety issues. He further stated that the Federal funding is restricted to address only the items dealing with fixing the safety problems.

John Olson stated that there were a tremendous number of cars heading west that wanted to go south on US1. He proceeded to show an aerial of the site. He explained that the lanes in the median for cars to stack up to make a left turn were not very long. He stated the lanes would be made longer, and left-hand turns would be made from the third lane as well. He explained that some of the area would be widened to accept the turns. He further stated that in order to have the turn lanes hold a lot of cars, the length used based on traffic projections and the County's model would back the storage to the intersection of Miami Road which is presently a signalized intersection. He stated they were proposing to remove the signal and install one at 10th Avenue.

Judy Scher asked for some further clarification regarding the work being done at Miami Road.

John Olson explained that if a vehicle was traveling eastbound, the vehicle could get in a left-turn lane and go south. He further stated that the vehicle could not make a left turn going northbound off Miami or southbound, but could make a left onto Miami.

Chair Ina Lee stated that the work being done was in regard to safety issues and did not have anything to do with beautification. She reiterated that funds were not available to do beautification improvements. John Olson confirmed and stated that if they do work in a median that has been enhanced, they will replace whatever is necessary after they do their work. He stated that things could just not be added to the project. Chair Ina Lee asked if funds were available from other sources to add a beautification element into the project. John Olson explained that funds were not available from DOT. He stated there is a resurfacing project that is a couple years out past this and goes to the Bridge. He stated further that another issue is that there is not a lot of right-of-way. He explained there would be more opportunity in the resurfacing project than in this one.

Brad Fitzgerald asked what the purple color on the map signified. John Olson explained that it was stamped asphalt. He stated it is dyed and made with a pattern. Brad Fitzgerald stated they were discussing tying this into the same theme being use for the Beach as in the Streetscape Plan. He stated it would be a shame not to be able to carry the same theme through to the Beach.

John Olson stated that in regard to using stamped concrete versus asphalt, he explained that DOT had experience with brick pavers, concrete, and asphalt crosswalks. Inevitably, they end up with the bump between the joint. He explained that asphalt was more flexible. Therefore, DOT made the decision not to use concrete or brick paver crosswalks on any of the state highways.

Steve Glassman stated another concern of this Board's is the County's greenway project. He asked if there was communication and coordination among the County and the City, along with the Department of Transportation, regarding all these projects.

John Olson explained they had been talking with the City and meeting with the homeowners' associations in order to educate everyone on what was being done and why. He stated that plans were sent to the County as a normal course of business. He stated they had also met with the Broward County Transit agency, but they had not really coordinated regarding the County's greenway project.

Steve Glassman stated that this is an integral part of the greenway project. John Olson stated that unless the sidewalks in the area needed repairs, they were not replacing anything or doing any type of that work.

Brad Fitzgerald asked if the City had been updated regarding the County's plan.

Peter Partington, City Engineer, stated that he was aware they were working on a plan, but that it was in the very early stages.

Chair Ina Lee asked if there were any opportunities for getting something conditioned so the work being done could tie in with the theme being created on the Beach.

John Olson stated their project design was scheduled to be completed within the month, and then plans would be sent to Tallahassee. He explained the contract would be awarded in October and construction would start right after the season in the spring. He stated their budget is basically fixed when the plans are completed. He explained that they were not doing anything outside of the curbs that would prevent things from happening in the future. He reiterated there was not a lot of space, but they would not do anything to prevent work being done in the future. He stated that irrigation would be installed in this project, but nothing additional was being put in the medians that did not already exist. He reiterated that the bulk of their work was being done in the medians.

Peter Partington stated that possibilities exist, but none have come through in time for this project. He stated they were in the next cycle of Enhancement Grants, and the City could submit two applications per year. He stated that most of the expenditures on Broward Boulevard had come from grants. He explained the grants being applied for at this time would not be available for 3-4 years. He further stated that they were looking at another grant, but it too would not come through in time for this project. He stated that the only aesthetic features in this project

would be the work being done in the medians, crosswalks, and the changing and adding of landscaping in some areas, unless the City decided to contribute some monies. He did not think that was going to happen.

Eileen Helfer stated that she had heard the neighborhood was concerned because of the removal of the traffic signal from Miami Road, and asked if they had agreed to such removal.

John Olson explained that a public meeting had been held at the school and one of their biggest concerns was the traffic signal because of the school children in the area. He stated that they met with the principal who stated they did not require anyone to walk across 17th Street. He explained that rules were established regarding walking areas and buses were provided. He stated there were also count down signals being installed in the area.

Chair Ina Lee stated that a comment had been made that pavers were not going to be installed on state highways, and asked for some further clarification.

John Olson explained that DOT made a policy recently saying that they did not want to put brick paver crosswalks across the State highway system due to a maintenance issue. He explained there also was a bump issue going from asphalt to concrete.

Chair Ina Lee asked if they were responsible on A-1-A for redoing the roads after the waterlines had been installed.

Peter Partington stated that she was referring to the excavation done through the WaterWorks Program. He stated it is his understanding that the project was put on hold for the duration of the season. He further stated that the responsibility for doing the work is the City's in connection with the WaterWorks Program.

Steve Glassman stated that the staging area for that project in front of the Venetian was a disgrace.

OCEANSIDE PARKING LOT PAVER BLOCK RECONSIDERATION

Chair Ina Lee stated that after the Board's last meeting, she was very uncomfortable and met with Paul Kissinger, EDSA and they drove and walked through the area regarding the parking lots. She said whether one drove or walked, unless one was actually in the parking lot they could not see the pavers for which they were about to spend \$200,000 on. She asked for this item to be placed on the agenda again, so they could review what other alternatives were available. She reiterated that even if one was in the parking lot, the pavers were not readily visible due to cars being parked. She said she just could not buy into this one.

Brad Fitzgerald asked if they were talking about doing the intersection and not the parking lot. Chair Ina Lee confirmed and stated that the monies could then be used for something else. Brad Fitzgerald asked if they were still discussing the possibility of assimilating the wave wall going down Las Olas. Chair Ina Lee confirmed. Brad Fitzgerald and Judy Scher agreed with Chair Ina Lee that the parking lot should not have pavers.

Motion made by Pamela Adams and seconded by Mel Rubinstein to reconsider the item as previously approved.

Brad Fitzgerald stated that he had a problem paying for designs on someone else's property, and he did not want to incorporate what they were doing with Paul Flannigan's project unless Paul is paying for it. He felt the City Attorney needed to be informed about their pushing people onto the pedestrian dock. He stated that he was very concerned about that due to the possibility of lawsuits.

Chair Ina Lee explained that if this Board is reconsidering their motion and vote, then possibly they might not want to include Mr. Flannigan's portion. She believed they were separate issues.

Paul Kissinger, EDSA, stated that the only piece approved last meeting is the area marked in yellow on the map. He stated that allowed the City to get all four corners, and did not include what work Mr. Flannigan was doing. He stated that the yellow portion was on private property and is part of the potential improvements. Brad Fitzgerald stated that he had a problem with the area in yellow due to the dock issue.

Paul Kissinger stated that they would look to this Board for their direction. He stated they were trying to enhance a pedestrian environment. He explained it was the scale of the paver which likened it more for pedestrians. He stated it was a parking lot, but they wanted to make a statement as to who had priority in the area. He further stated that contrary to DOT's thoughts is that another opportunity would be to take the pavers and put them on Las Olas from Seabreeze to A-1-A, or not do it at all. He stated that spending the money just for spending it does not make fiscal responsibility.

Paul Kissinger stated that he did not think installing a fountain made sense at the site. He stated that he preferred landscape improvements and an extension of the beach wave wall. He believed they should make sure all four corners are touched.

Chair Ina Lee stated that if the money is used that would have been used in the parking lot to install the pavers on the street, people would see those improvements.

Brad Fitzgerald stated that this sounded like Washington. Don't spend the money here, but spend it over there. He stated that he did not agree with such a theory of business, but he felt the bigger thing not being contemplated is that people from the City would say it would be difficult to maintain the pavers in the parking lot. He further stated that their goal was to improve the Beach, and he did not want them to spend money just to spend money. He reiterated it is easy for individuals to design things, but the cost for maintaining something was another story. He stated they were two different worlds. He further stated that pavers were a maintenance nightmare and required constant work.

Steve Glassman stated that the Quarterdeck parking lot has been greatly improved and the pavers brightened up the entire corner. He felt the subject parking lot would look just as good if the pavers were installed.

Judy Scher stated that she did not think pavers should be installed in the parking lot. She added that money should not be spent just to spend it, and felt they should hold on to it until it could be put to better use.

Mel Rubinstein asked if anything was going to be done regarding the sidewalks in the subject area. Paul Kissinger confirmed. Chair Ina Lee asked if the sidewalks could be done instead of the parking lot. Paul Kissinger confirmed. Mel Rubinstein stated that he felt such improvements

would enrich the area and have more of an impact.

Eileen Helfer stated that supposedly there is a product that can be designed that has lower maintenance. Paul Kissinger stated there were a variety of products available. He stated that Poinsettia Heights used stamped asphalt less than ten years ago, and now you can't even tell the original color and design. He reiterated that the pavers had colors integrated, along with ones that had color on the top third portion, and they appeared to last longer. Judy Scher asked about a finish that came in all designs.

Brad Fitzgerald stated that he was in favor of using pavers for crosswalks and sidewalks. He further stated that the pavers installed at Broward Boulevard and Federal Highway did not hold up, and involved a lot of maintenance.

Earl Prizlee, Engineering stated that the City had a concrete contract and one of the line items was to remove various shapes and replace blocks over a sand leveling course. He stated the cost is \$11.00 per square foot. He stated that staff and funds were limited in regard to maintenance of such items. He stated further that many of the improvements currently being discussed were Paul Flannigan's vision.

Chair Ina Lee stated that the four corners were integral in regard to what is all being done, and proposed that the Board's next meeting be held at the site so everyone could walk the area and see what is involved. She stated they were not only dealing with the street, but the surrounding area. So before the Board made a decision, they should visit the site and then make some recommendations.

Pamela Adams stated that this was a good idea and possibly a workshop could be held, and then the meeting. Brad Fitzgerald suggested that the tour of the area take place a week before the Board's scheduled meeting, since he would then be on vacation.

Pamela Adams stated that EDSA prepared the design for Paul Flannigan and this Board voted on it and agreed, and asked if that would obviate the concern about the City paying for that portion.

Paul Costanzo explained that last month this Board agreed that as part of the final design contract they were going to enter into with EDSA and Keith and Schnars for the CRA portion of the Streetscape Plan, that EDSA would design from a finalized standpoint the public improvement enhancements to the four corners. He stated that it might not be the exact design schematically shown by EDSA for Mr. Flannigan's project, but along the same lines.

Chair Ina Lee stated that this Board could meet at the site one week before the Board's scheduled meeting. Mel Rubinstein suggested that after the site visit, the Board proceed with their regular meeting. Paul Costanzo stated that a special meeting could be held one week before the Board's regularly scheduled meeting, and then the regular meeting could be cancelled. Brad Fitzgerald suggested that a morning meeting be held at the subject site.

Chair Ina Lee stated that the site visit and meeting could be held on May 9, 2005. After some discussion, the Board decided to meet on May 16, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. at the site, and then meet at the Swimming Hall of Fame. Paul Costanzo would check on the availability of space and advise the Board Members.

Chair Ina Lee stated that the previous motion voted on had been withdrawn, and action would be taken at the Board's next meeting.

Al Miniaci stated that he felt the pavers were a great idea and provided a nice look, but he did not think anything should be done until the two property owners at the corners do something with their property which were Paul Flannigan and the City. He felt money would be wasted until the property owners made some improvements. He felt there should be a master plan with everyone working together.

Brad Fitzgerald stated that the problem with such a suggestion is that if they waited for things to happen, nothing will get done and they needed to keep the ball rolling. He stated that he was not a proponent for the restaurant proposal being made by Mr. Flannigan, but would like to see something there for the City, such as a small park. He stated he was tired of nothing taking place in regard to the Beach, and the same conversations taking place over and over again. He stated that he wanted to see some action, funds were available and should be spent. He believed everything could be incorporated into the Streetscape Plan, otherwise, they were just sitting in neutral going nowhere. He reiterated that something had to be started in order to get things going.

OLD BUSINESS

Hurricane Rebuilding/Overlay District

Chair Ina Lee stated that she had met with the City Manager regarding hurricane rebuilding and the overlay district. Both projects had stalled, but were now back on the "front burners." She stated further that a meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday April 20, 2005 regarding these projects.

Chair Ina Lee stated the hurricane rebuilding project is a complicated issue, but at least staff is beginning to deal with it. She added that updates would continue to be provided. She stated that the rebuilding is not limited to hurricanes, but would encompass all disasters.

Café Tables

Chair Ina Lee asked if any updates had been provided regarding the café tables.

Al Miniaci stated that a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 20, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. with the property owners to discuss outdoor seating and keeping in compliance with the City and State regulations. He stated that during the last several weeks, the business owners have been in compliance. He further stated that when the Beach was redone in 1993 enhancements and improvements were done between Las Olas and Poinciana, but they had not considered outdoor dining because it did not exist at that time. Therefore, it caused zigzagging and walking on the street, and he explained that he could identify about five streets that could be redone to aid in pedestrian movement. He asked the Board for their feedback on the issue. He explained that the business owners would pay for the relocation of the trees and other landscaping that would be removed.

Steve Glassman stated that he felt the people were the problem and removing trees would not alleviate it.

Al Miniaci reiterated that crowds were part of the problem, but the landscaping and trees contributed to the problem. He added that was one of the reasons the concrete blocks had been removed.

The Board decided to walk through the area when they were at the parking lot site, and agreed to have the issue discussed with the City Manager.

Steve Glassman stated that the trees did soften the atmosphere of the streets.

Chair Ina Lee stated that the planters that barricade between the restaurants and the streets did offer some enhancements to the area.

Brad Fitzgerald asked if the palm trees could possibly be realigned to serve as the barrier for the table identification lines. Al Miniaci stated that also now in the leases for the property owners, language was included that if they did not stay in compliance with all the regulations, the lease would be violated and they could lose it.

Façade Program

Chair Ina Lee stated that she was recommending that staff look into the possibility of creating a public/private partnership façade program for the first block of A-1-A and Las Olas because it is such a critical area. She asked if staff could investigate the matter and bring back information to the Board at their next meeting for discussion.

Pamela Adams stated that the Northwest Progresso-Flagler Heights CRA had a façade program, and stated that they would need to meet with the property owners and then see how it would affect their budget. She stated that a model would have to be created.

Steve Glassman stated that the County had a grant for doing a design, and was not an implementation grant. He stated it was in the amount of \$15,000 and was not a matching program. The Board decided they should move forward with this concept.

Motion to Reconsider

Paul Costanzo reminded the Board they had not voted on the motion to reconsider.

Motion to reconsider the motion previously approved to install the pavers until after physical inspection of the site passed 9 – 0.

Staff resources

Henry Sniezek asked for an update regarding staff resources.

Paul Costanzo stated that Chuck Adams's position has been advertised, but he had not heard anything further.

Budget Preparation

Mel Rubinstein asked when they were to begin working on the budget. Paul Costanzo stated that the capital budget would begin in September, and they were about one month away

regarding the operating budget.

Streetscape Plan

Paul Costanzo stated they had received approval to sign contracts regarding the Streetscape Plan.

Birthday Money

Chair Ina Lee asked if an update could be provided regarding the spending of the Commissioner's birthday contributions.

Earl Prizlee stated that plans had been provided pro bono, and the in-house landscapers would do the work. The Commission is asking for a conceptual plan.

Beach Council Update

Chair Ina Lee stated that the Beach Council is pursuing an adopt-a-block program for the Beach. Updates would be provided.

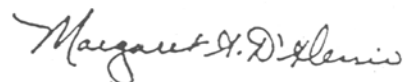
NEW BUSINESS

Steve Glassman stated that he had cut out some articles which had appeared in the newspapers, newsletters, and magazines regarding the Beach.

Motion made by Eileen Helfer and seconded by Judy Scher to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Margaret A. D'Alessio".

Margaret A. D'Alessio