Regular Meeting of the Downtown Development Authority Thursday, June 9, 2005 <u>AutoNation Tower, 110 SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street</u> 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room

## **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Charles B. Ladd, Chair

Alan C. Hooper, Vice Chair Peter Feldman, Secretary Jack T. Loos, Treasurer Gale Butler, Board Member Douglas P. Eagon, Board Member

John M. Milledge, General Counsel Chris Wren, Executive Director

Sadie Williams-Panton, Temporary Administrative Aide

**ABSENT:** William R. Scherer, Board Member

**ALSO PRESENT**: Paul Carpenter

Richard Mancusso

Earl Prizlee Rachel Richter Neil Sterling Jeff Suiter

**PRESIDING:** Charles Ladd, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chair Ladd. Immediately following Roll Call, the Consent Agenda items were motioned for acceptance by Mr. Eagon and seconded by Mr. Hooper and all were in favor.

### REGULAR AGENDA

# **POLICE REPORT**

Officer Paul Kiley then presented the Police report by briefly reporting that although car burglaries were up during May, there were zero arrests, injuries, accidents and complaints. Mr. Hooper questioned him regarding the number of break-ins per year and Officer Kiley promised to get back to the Board later on with those numbers. Mr. Wren also inquired on the communication and coordination of road closures citing the OAS and other ongoing constructions in the area. Officer Kiley responded that even when sufficient signs are posted and there seems to be adequate communication, there still needs to be additional steps taken to inform the public as they do not always pay keen attention to posted signs on the roads.

# 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET UPDATE

Mr. Wren introduced the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Project and follow-up to Change Order #4. He thanked Mr. Prizlee for working diligently to obtain from the City, an additional \$60,000 to the current budget. *Mr. Jeff Suiter* from EDSA and *Mr. Earl Prizlee* from the City of Fort Lauderdale assured the Board that there is still communication with FP&L to get the Phase II street lights energized. Chair Ladd questioned whether this Change Order included Las Olas and Andrews Avenue. Mr. Suiter responded that items not included were the Mercedes Building, cost for the Las Olas crosswalk and improvements on the City Garage.

Mr. Prizlee reported that the project was on schedule and that the last segment of US-1 has to be narrowed. This would eliminate landscape and shrubs currently at the site. Mr. Eagon added that the drive lane and curve extension would involve the Traffic Engineering department. Chair Ladd suggested that the Board gets the opportunity to approve the new drawings and Mr. Prizlee advised that he would obtain the revised drawings and present at the next Board meeting. Further discussion preferred Mr. Wren to get these drawings from Mr. Prizlee and distribute to the Board members to avoid hold up of the project.

With reference made to Change Order #4, Chair Ladd needed clarity on the items to be included. They were listed as: *Completed*: Las Olas Boulevard / Andrews Avenue intersection, 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue landscape; *Pending*: Las Olas Boulevard / Andrews Avenue median upgrade, upgrades to the new Streetscape prototype along 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to US-1 including FP&L's drainage allowances and modifications.

Mr. Prizlee was asked to furnish FP&L's approximate cost to continue project. He will make a list of FP&L's holdups and deliver to Mr. Wren. Mr. Hooper also requested a copy of the list to see where he can assist with the project as far as FP&L is concerned.

The Mercedes project was also brought up and the thought of whether a developer would pay to develop on the site was questioned. Chair Ladd suggested Mr. Wren invite Marc LaFerrier to the next Board meeting.

Mr. Hooper inquired whether or not the City would make a wider sidewalk. After short discussion, Mr. Feldman suggested we should finish the job. He motioned that we should spend the \$65,000 to

complete 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and amend the prior motion to approach the City for assistance. If the City's response were favorable, then motion would be disposed of, if turned down, the Board would re-vote. Mr. Hooper seconded and all except Mr. Loos were in favor.

After a long discussion, Mr. Prizlee was asked to submit to Board information regarding requesting additional monies for the project. Final motion for Change Order #4 was entered by Mr. Hooper and seconded by Mr. Feldman. All present were in favor.

### **OUTREACH UPDATE**

*Mr. Chris Wren* gave an update on Outreach activities for the DDA. He noted that Phase II of the project resulted in a newly revised PowerPoint presentation. This is being presented at city meetings and Downtown Council meetings to facilitate informing the public. Chair Ladd suggested that in two months, there should be a discussion on topics to be addressed at the Associations meetings.

At this point, Mr. Alfred Battle, CRA Director arrived and welcome was extended to him.

## **DDA 2005/2006 BUDGET SCHEDULE**

*Mr. Chris Wren* introduced that it is now budget season. His main reason for this topic was to inform the Board of the budget schedule for the upcoming year. He has so far scheduled July to be a "discussion" period and advised the Board that their direction will be needed for this task.

#### STREET LIGHT INVENTORY UPDATE

Mr. Wren introduced *Rachel Richter*, the intern hired under the Douglas P. Eagon Urban Transit Fellowship program. Her efforts included researching the City Cruiser and the DFLTMA and the Downtown Streetlight Inventory. Backup summaries were included in the Board packages for both projects. After a very brief discussion on the streetlight inventory, Mr. Hooper volunteered to assist with the northern area of the Downtown.

#### **UNITS SCHEDULE**

*Mr. Peter Feldman* presented by reminding everyone of the infrastructure and vision of the Units project and recommended the County consider advertising for more than 3000 units. A brief discussion continued regarding comments from the May 24, 2005 Department of Community Affairs (DCA) report for Broward County, attached in a letter from the Division of Community Planning to Commissioner Jacobs (and copied to the Planning & Services Division and the Regional Planning Council. The DCA stated the County's proposed number of dwelling units does not represent adequate accommodation of the growth projections for the area and recommended the County reconsider the current number of proposed units.

Motion to send a resolution of support to the Planning Council chairperson and Commissioner Jacobs was entered by Mr. Feldman and seconded by Mr. Eagon. All were in favor.

Mr. Loos inquired of the difference between Affordable and Workforce Housing. Mrs. Butler volunteered to work on getting definitions for the different types of Housing for the Board.

### WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP

*Mr. Wren* noted that progress was made in congressional support received for the Downtown Rail project. He also noted that the offices visited had no reservations with their support. Responses received were very dramatic and to the point. He noted that specifically Senator Bill Nelson was in support literally prior to the DDA's presentation.

Special mention was made to Congressman Hastings and David Goldenberg, Director of Legislation, regarding Sistrunk issues. Mr. Art Battle requested our support and consideration on June 28<sup>th</sup> at the County Commission meeting. Mr. Ladd added that for our I.T.S. portion of the project, Sistrunk could assist in Downtown's traffic jam and Parsons Brinckerhoff could also assist.

# **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Eagon asked about the status of the Capital Improvement Plan project, specifically the \$1,500 document that was paid for. Mr. Wren responded that nothing has happened to the document. Chair Ladd suggested that either an outside group or individual consultant be brought in to run this initiative. Mr. Sterling volunteered to schedule a meeting with himself, Messrs. Eagon, Milledge and Wren to re-push this project.

In closing, Mr. Eagon introduced several pictures he recently took in France of their light rail. He encouraged that Downtown Fort Lauderdale could experience the same service.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:20am.

Respectfully submitted:

Sadie Williams-Panton DDA Staff

A taped recording of the proceedings of the June 9, 2005, Regular Meeting of the Board is on file in the DDA offices, 101 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Suite 350, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.