

Joint Committee Workshop of the
Downtown Development Authority of Fort Lauderdale
Wednesday, February 29, 2012
DDA Office, 305 South Andrews Avenue #301, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 33301 @ 3:00 p.m.

BOARD PRESENT: Gregory Durden, Chairman
John Ropes, Secretary
Mike Weymouth, Treasurer
Denny O'Shea, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director
John Milledge, DDA General Counsel
Elizabeth Van Zandt, DDA Planning & Design Manager
Chadwick Blue, DDA Urban Planner
Chuck Adams
Neil Sterling
Lee Feldman
Diana Alarcon
Phil Thornburg
Joe Gehl

The meeting started at 3:08 p.m.

Mr. Wren started with the Streetscape/Urban Oasis committee meeting. He kicked it off by discussing the upcoming April 12th Board Vision workshop since it involves deciding what the DDA's next big focus should be on. Further discussion was held.

Mrs. Van Zandt then went through follow ups from the last streetscape grant committee meeting. She touched upon grant eligibility, timing and Wave construction impacts to streetscape improvements done along the Wave Streetcar alignment.

Discussion was then held regarding potential projects that have been brought up by DDA Board members, City partners and DDA staff. The group discussed creating a permanent connection from Riverwalk to Las Olas Blvd. Staff was directed to bring the current design proposal to the upcoming April 12th Board vision workshop, as well as an Urban Oasis plan for the adjacent site.

Diana Alarcon, the City's Transportation and Mobility Director, presented information on a streetscape improvement initiative the City is leading on Andrews and 3rd Avenue from Sistrunk to Broward Boulevard. She indicated she was looking for the financial support from the DDA for the Wave alignment portion from Sistrunk Blvd to NE 4th Street along 3rd Avenue. She indicated she is looking at CRA funds, as well as federal and State grant opportunities. The Board asked that she make a presentation at the March 8th Board meeting and try and estimate costs to give the members a better understanding of the magnitude of the DDA financial ask.

Lee Feldman, the Fort Lauderdale City Manager, presented a proposal to better connect Andrews Avenue and 1st Avenue through Stranahan Park through the installation of landscape and hardscape features. Discussion was then held regarding the growing homeless problem at Stranahan Park and Mr. Feldman summarized several initiatives the City is moving forward with, as a comprehensive

approach to the issue. Mr. Feldman asked the DDA to pay the capital cost of the improvements, estimated at approximately \$237,000 and committed that the City would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the improvements. The Board asked Mr. Feldman to attend the upcoming March 8th DDA Board meeting and to provide a report that shows the comprehensive approach the City is taking to tackle this issue. The Board thanked the Manager and with that, Mr. Feldman, Mrs. Alarcon and Mr. Thornburg all exited to the meeting.

Discussion continued on the proposals that were presented and then turned to the agenda for the upcoming April Board vision workshop. Discussion was held regarding the homeless feeding site efforts and how the DDA can help the City. The Board directed staff to do some site research and other follow ups in advance of the April Vision workshop.

Mr. Wren then brought up the Joe Gehl contract for service as part of the agency's enterprise zone efforts. Mr. Gehl went through his proposal for a 2012 Rib Fest and his thoughts on additional events to hold. The Board then discussed the terms of his proposed contract. Discussion continued. The Board asked that he attend the March 8th DDA Board meeting for further discussion and potential contract approval.

As there were no other items to discuss, the meeting ended at 5:05 p.m.