

Regular Meeting of the
Downtown Development Authority
Thursday, September 12, 2013
110 SE 6th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

ROLL CALL

COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION

BOARD PRESENT: Tim Petrillo, Chair (by speaker phone)
John Ropes, Vice-Chair
Michael Weymouth, Secretary
Dennis F. O'Shea, Treasurer
D. Fredrico Fazio, Board Member (by speaker phone)
Gregory Durden, Board Member

NOT PRESENT: William H. Bodenhamer, Jr., Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel	Heather Parnass
Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director	Laura Gambino
Elizabeth Van Zandt, Planning & Design Manager	Patty Rollinson
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator	Chuck Adams
Chadwick Blue, Urban Planner	Jim Ellis
Kate Sheffield, Planning Assistant	Dana Pollitt
Neil Sterling	Mike Lassner
John Bertino	Norm Adams
Patricia Zeiler	Sgt. Fontalvo
Michael Dutko	

PRESIDING: John Ropes, Vice-Chair

Vice-Chair Ropes called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Roll call was taken by Marti Brown. All Board members were present with Chair Petrillo and Mr. Fazio participating by speaker phone and Mr. Bodenhamer not present. Vice-Chair Ropes asked if anyone had any questions regarding the items on the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, a *motion was moved by Mr. Durden and seconded by Mr. Weymouth approving all the items on consent. All Board members were in favor.* The following items were unanimously approved:

CONSENT AGENDA

C-1) Approval of the minutes and follow ups from the August 8, 2013 DDA Board Meeting and the 9/3 Budget Workshop.

REGULAR AGENDA

R-1 Police Report

Sergeant Fontalvo said there were 25 part one crimes in July which decreased in August to 15. The 15 represented 12 larceny thefts and 3 vehicle burglaries. There was nothing else to report.

R-2 Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Update

Mr. Coddington passed around 2 press releases, one about Citrix and the other about Cyalume. He said these are publicized all over the state. He said Fort Lauderdale is one of the hottest markets. He said the Governor was here on Tuesday. He said the Alliance is pushing to take away sales tax on lease payments and are supporting internet sales tax and explained. He went through perspective new opportunities and how it relates to an increase in jobs. He said Florida Trend had a 42 page article that he worked on and the front page was a picture of the boat parade.

R-3 Demographics Report

Heather Parnass said this is the 2nd quarter report covering January through June. She said the average condominium price increase was 20% and the price per square foot was \$290. She said 95% of the sales price averaged 75 days on the market for one and two bedrooms and three bedrooms took 188 days until sale. Ms. Sheffield said apartment rentals increased in price from \$1.65 per square foot to \$1.89 and she named those buildings. She said the first generation units are now down to one unit.

Norm Adams said there has been positive absorption for the fourth consistent quarter. He said the rental rates are now about \$29 a square foot net base rent plus \$15 in operating expenses and parking. He went through some of the commercial activity. Some examples were Smith Barney renewing and Premier Beverage coming into a new office. He said the next sale will be Commerica. Mr. Wren asked when Mr. Adams thought the next new office building would take place and Mr. Adams said it will be driven by 2 or 3 large anchor tenants.

R-4 The Wave Streetcar

Mr. Wren said the team is working on another Small Starts application. He explained how Map 21 rules favorably affect the project. He said this will lead into getting a fully funded grant agreement after they design the Small Starts segments and explained. He said the partners are working on the cash flow needs of the project. He said the design team will start meeting with the community regarding stations. He said they are looking for an iconic train image and to be off wire as much as possible. He said that the US Department of Transportation Secretary Foxx's office reached out to coordinate a roundtable discussion and he was very pleased they picked the DDA. He said this is taking place tomorrow and it will be a very small group. He added that members of the local congressional delegation planned on attending. He said afterwards there will be a press conference in Croissant Park where the Secretary will be announcing the South Florida Freight and Passenger Rail Enhancement Project Grant (TIGER V).

R-5 Contract with Kimley-Horn for Environmental Services

Mrs. Van Zandt said that as part of the Riverwalk Streetscape Seawall Pedestrian Improvement Project, an environmental clearance process must be completed to meet the National Environmental Policy Act. She recommended the action to be conditional on an executed contract with the design build firm for the actual project. *A motion was made by Mr. Durden and seconded by Mr. O'Shea to authorize staff to execute a contract with Kimley-Horn for environmental services related to the*

planned Riverwalk Streetscape Seawall Pedestrian Improvement Project, conditional on an executed design build contract for the actual project, not to exceed \$7,600 paid from the capital projects fund. By roll call vote, all approved. Mrs. Van Zandt said the deadline for the design/build RFQ is tomorrow, with a selection committee meeting anticipated for the following week. She indicated that, pending successful negotiations with the highest ranked firm, staff intends to bring the contract for approval at the October 10th Board meeting.

Mr. Wren said there is a meeting tomorrow with the County's Cultural Division and other area stakeholders regarding the "over the tunnel park" project in conjunction with the County's 100th birthday celebration planned for 2015. Mr. Ropes brought up possible naming rights.

R-6 Projects Update

Mrs. Van Zandt said the hanging flower baskets have been fabricated in California and they are just finalizing the brackets. She said they should be installed by October with the City doing the installation.

Mr. Wren recognized Russ Davis and explained that he will be helping with expansion of the utility box wrap program. The intention is to try and wrap all the major traffic boxes in downtown through sponsorships. He said they will rewrap the existing boxes in April.

Mrs. Van Zandt said the technical committee met today on the Downtown Intelligent Transportation Information System (DITIS) project and said the consultant package was really thorough. She said the next step would be to come back to the Board in October with the next notice to proceed on the consultant's contract, which will include design and implementation of the smart phone application, kiosk software, and the website. The kiosk implementation plan will also be included in the notice to proceed.

R-7 Draft Report on State of Downtown

Mr. Blue said he's been working with Chair Petrillo on this and it's turned into a business recruitment tool. He said the document handed out is a first draft and their goal was to keep it short but to peak interest. He said they wanted to focus on highlights such as low taxes, availability of Class A office space, central location and quality of life measures. He said he will meet again with Chair Petrillo to make sure he is on the right page and then they can send it out. **Mr. Ropes suggested they add the amount of infrastructure happening in Florida such as the South Runway, the Wave and the new courthouse.** Mr. Wren said All Aboard Florida in conjunction with the Wave poses a unique market for us and that should be captured. Mr. Blue said he'd bring this back at the next meeting. Mr. Coddington asked who the audience is and Mr. Blue said they need to establish that. Mr. Coddington said to coordinate with his office for assistance.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

D-1 News Articles

All information was in their packages.

D-2 Broward College Partnerships

Mr. Wren said he put a name tag at the table for a representative from Broward College who will be attending and wanted him to feel welcome. He said he's met with the Broward College leadership and they have shown interest in activating the ground floor of their building on Las Olas Blvd. Mr.

Wren said he encouraged a use that is open until ten or eleven at night. He said Bonnie Clearwater is the new MOA Director and she wants to activate the street as well.

D-3 TMA New Connections

Patricia Zeiler handed out some brochures. She said ridership has increased. She said they have developed an economic development pilot program from the airport to downtown (airport excursion) which has brought an increase of 30,000 people and she elaborated. She said it encourages people to come and ride the water taxi, explore the new river, and other downtown attributes and that it has generated 7,500 in new people coming to the area. Ms. Zeiler said that Alan Hooper, the Chairman could not be present today because he is in Tallahassee. She said they have the possibility of taking the Las Olas Link route from 5 days to 7 days but they only have funding for 4 days. She went through the financials and said to fund it for 7 days would create a shortage of \$94,000. She said this connection to the beach is important. She said they have received an FDOT grant for money to fund new buses in the downtown. She went through the new Downtown Link which runs five days a week at a cost of approximate \$60,000 a year.

As there was no other business, Vice-Chair Ropes adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.