

Budget Workshop of the  
Downtown Development Authority of Fort Lauderdale  
Thursday, August 21, 2014 @ 10:00 a.m.  
DDA Office, 305 South Andrews Avenue, Suite 301, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

**BOARD PRESENT:** John Ropes, Chair  
Michael Weymouth, Vice Chair  
Denny O'Shea, Secretary  
Tim Petrillo, Treasurer  
Bill Bodenhamer, Board Member  
Greg Durden, Board Member

**NOT PRESENT:** D. Fredrico Fazio, Board Member

**ALSO PRESENT:** John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel  
Chris Wren, Executive Director  
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator  
Chadwick Blue, Urban Planner

The workshop started at 10:03 a.m. Mr. Wren said the purpose was to go through some of the same items as the previous workshop since Mr. Petrillo was not able to attend. Mr. Petrillo said he wanted to discuss the increase in the millage rate and the timing of that, Huizenga Plaza and staff compensation. Mr. Petrillo asked if any Board members had any concerns with the timing of a millage rate increase. Chairman Ropes said they need the extra monies for the Security Ambassador Program, hiring another position, and expenses for the Federal Courthouse and Riverwalk extension projects. Mr. Petrillo said he understands but was wondering how everyone felt. Mr. O'Shea said his conclusion on timing was that it is so slight he believes it will be okay. The Board wanted to make sure it is clearly written that the increase is due to certain projects. Mr. Weymouth suggested there be a point person for any media questions that may arise and **Mr. Wren said he'd create a talking point document and the office can handle any inquiries. He said he will circulate that to the Board.**

Mr. Petrillo said he believes for the benefit of staff and the Board that a form process should be created for compensation with objectives laid out. He said they should have the form created by the current Chair, Vice Chair and previous Chair. Mr. Durden said it should also allow for inflation. Mr. Bodenhamer said he feels the DDA should pay at least or better than the City to ensure they retain staff. At 10:20 a.m., the Board requested the Director and staff depart to hold a closed door executive session.

The workshop resumed at 11:06. Discussion then focused on Huizenga Park and whether air rights or retaining green space was the direction the Board preferred. They discussed the option of soliciting information from the market on what could be done. After discussion the Board opted not to pursue any options with the park at this time. They expressed interest in trying to decrease the maintenance costs and talked about possible options. Mr. Bodenhamer said he believes they should look at the PACA garage for possible revenue ideas. Mr. Weymouth asked about raising the park fees to offset some of the costs. Mr. Wren went over the current rental fees and said they could go that route.

As there was no further discussion, the workshop ended at 11:38 a.m.