



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM
6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2024 – 2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

January-December 2024

Attendance

Marilyn Mammano, Chair	P	6	0
Peter Partington, Vice Chair	A	3	3
Gerald Angeli	P	6	0
Gregory Barnett	P	3	0
Shane Grabski	A	4	2
James LaBrie	P	6	0
Michael Lambrechts	P	5	1
Marta Reczko	P	5	1
Roosevelt Walters	P	6	0
Ralph Zeltman	P	6	0

As of this date, there are 10 appointed members to the Committee, which means 6 would constitute a quorum.

Staff

Omar Castellon, Assistant Public Works Director – Engineering
Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Public Works Director -- Sustainability
Vicki Beauvais, Senior Administrative Assistant
Jill Prizlee, Chief Engineer
Yvette Matthews, Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget
J. Oppерlee, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communication to the City Commission

None.

1. Call to Order

i. Roll Call

Chair Mammano called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. Roll was called and it was noted a quorum was present.

ii. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Mr. Walters, seconded by Ms. Reczko, to approve as written. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

iii. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2024 and May 20, 2024

Motion made by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Barnett, to approve the May 6 minutes with or without corrections. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Zeltman, to approve [the May 20, 2024 minutes] as written. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

2. Old Business

i. ITFC Draft Recommendations

Chair Mammano noted that the Committee was scheduled to participate in a joint meeting with the Fort Lauderdale City Commission on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. She briefly reviewed the process expected for that meeting, encouraging all of the Committee members to participate in discussion with the Commission.

Chair Mammano added that the Committee's recommendations are separate from Staff's presentation on the workshop process and public input. The Committee would not be answering questions about those processes.

Chair Mammano recommended that the Committee take a proactive stance on their recommended principles, including discussion of next steps with the Commissioners. She suggested that the Commission may wish to hire a consultant for purposes of site selection before the November 2024 general election so the next Commission can review their options for a new City Hall.

Mr. Lambrechts pointed out that other City projects have benefited from the hiring of an owner's representative, and proposed that the Commission may wish to strongly consider this option for City Hall. Chair Mammano emphasized the importance of continuing discussions about the new facility and including stakeholders in those discussions as well as providing additional opportunities for public input.

Mr. LaBrie asserted that the Committee should take a strong position with regard to their ongoing participation in the process, indicating that they are willing to play a continuing role.

Mr. Walters asked if the discussion at the joint meeting will address the recommended principles only or would also address the bullet points under those principles. Chair Mammano replied that she felt more information on the principles was needed in order to ensure the Commissioners fully understand what was discussed regarding each principle.

The members also discussed issues likely to be raised by the Commission, including questions about potential funding, site selection, survey results, and the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in a new City Hall facility.

Ms. Reczko noted that there may also be discussion of renting space at City Hall, which the recommendations address under the principle of cost-effectiveness. She emphasized the importance of the sovereignty of local government and ensuring that governmental functions take place in a building over which the City has control. She concluded that she would not be in favor of a P3 for a new City Hall.

Mr. Barnett was also not in favor of a P3 to construct a new City Hall, as this would mean the City cedes some control over the building to another entity. He recommended that considering solicitation of P3 partners be listed as one of the City's options, but emphasized that it should not be the only one.

Chair Mammano reiterated that the Committee wished to continue to be part of the ongoing conversation, which would mean if the City solicited P3 proposals, the Committee could be involved in review of those proposals, as they had in the case of the new water treatment plant. This would allow them to further discuss and focus on whether the City should turn over maintenance of a new City Hall to a private partner or retain control of building maintenance. These details would be worked through in a comprehensive agreement between the City and its partners if the Commission chose to use a P3 to fund the new building.

Chair Mammano advised that the Committee can adopt their draft recommendations as their final report, or they may make edits to the document. It was noted that if edits are made, the Chair would need to provide the City Commissioners with the final document at tomorrow's joint meeting.

Mr. LaBrie's recommended changes included:

- Shorten the introduction and history
- Clarify that documentation of public outreach and City Staff efforts will be provided in separate reports
- Under the principle "Welcoming and Engaging," change "transparent" to "feeling of openness" and remove a reference to architectural recognition and cost-effectiveness
- Under the principle "Accessible and Secure," note that the facility should be near public transportation
- Under the principle "Amenities for Public and Staff," clarify that the public should feel it is a pleasure to be in City Hall
- Replace "engage youth..." with the bullet point referring to space available for public education and civic engagement
- Under the principle "Cost-Effective," add "consider such elements as" before listing bullet points

- Combine principles “Functional and Efficient” and “Resilient and Innovative”
- Begin last paragraph with “The ITFAC recommends that the conversation continue” and include statement that the Committee is willing to participate in the next steps of the process

Mr. Walters also proposed recommending that the conversation continue with input from the public.

Motion made by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Angeli, to make this the final draft. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

3. New Business

None.

4. Public Works Update

i. CIP Financial Report

ii. Water & Sewer Breaks Report w/Mapping

Assistant Public Works Director (Engineering) Omar Castellon reported that a water break occurred on May 20, 2024 when a contractor drilled through a pipe on Andrews Avenue. Emergency repairs were made.

A question was asked regarding the Peele-Dixie Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Castellon replied that a contractor drilled through a pipe coming from the wells, which was repaired after approximately one week.

Mr. Castellon added that the City is installing a new pipe from the new water treatment plant to the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant. The current pipe will remain in place as a redundancy.

5. General Discussion and Comments

i. Committee Members

Mr. Lambrechts addressed the Kinney Tunnel, requesting feedback from the other Committee members on this facility. It was noted that some work may still be in progress on the tunnel. There was consensus from the Committee that its current appearance is unsatisfactory for a number of reasons. It was also clarified that the work on the tunnel was overseen by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) rather than the City. Chair Mammano suggested that members with concerns on this issue contact their City Commissioners.

The Committee also discussed items to be addressed at their August 5, 2024 meeting, with Chair Mammano recalling that members had requested an update on the CityWorks program. She also suggested inviting a representative of FDOT who is involved with bridge inspections to address the Committee at a future meeting.

Mr. LaBrie requested an update on the new water treatment plant at the August meeting.

Mr. Zeltman stated that he would like an update on the City's schedule for addressing vitrified clay pipe, as well as the inflow and infiltration (I&I) contract.

Mr. Lambrechts asked if the knowledge expected to be gained from the CityWorks installation and the information provided about I&I may be useful in identifying possible sources of coliform bacteria. He asked if it might be possible to identify the pipes from which these bacteria are carried into the New River. He concluded that infrastructure which may be compromising the City's waterways and environment should be prioritized.

Chair Mammano expressed concern that the aging septic tanks of some properties may be leaking. Assistant Public Works Director (Sustainability) Dr. Nancy Gassman explained that if fecal coliform bacteria are related to sanitary sewer leakage, these numbers would typically be found in a much higher concentration than what is detected by current monitoring. There have been no unusually high levels that would indicate a sanitary sewer system leak. Data provided by Miami Waterkeeper, which regularly tests the City's water, rarely shows the substantial values of bacteria associated with these leaks.

Dr. Gassman continued that it is a challenge to identify the source of fecal coliform bacteria. While genetic testing can help determine the bacteria's source, it does not provide a way to address the problem.

ii. Public Comments

None.

6. Adjournment – NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Monday, August 5, 2024

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.