



**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
PUBLIC ART & PLACEMAKING ADVISORY BOARD
TOWER 101, SUITE 1100**

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE 101 NE 3RD AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
FEBRUARY 23, 2026 – 1:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS		January-December 2026	
		PRESENT	ABSENT
Phoenix Marks, Chair	P	2	0
Martha Steinkamp, Vice Chair	A	1	1
Jacqueline Garcia-Arteaga	P	2	0
Edison Lozada	A	0	2
Erica Mohan	P	1	1
Jodi Tanner	P	2	0

As of this date, there are 6 appointed members to the Board, which means 4 would constitute a quorum.

Staff Present

Joshua Carden, Cultural Affairs Officer, Staff Liaison
 Porshia Garcia, Community Services Department Director
 Katrina Johnson, Community Services Department Acting Assistant Director
 Anna Allman, Cultural Affairs Coordinator
 K. Cruitt, Recording Clerk, Prototype, Inc.

Communication to the City Commission

None.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Marks called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Roll was called and it was noted a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes – 1/26/06

Motion made by Ms. Tanner, seconded by Ms. Mohan, to approve the minutes. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

1. Welcome & Introductions

Mr. Carden introduced Cultural Affairs Coordinator Anna Allman, who will assist him with public arts efforts in Fort Lauderdale.

Chair Marks advised that she had attended the dedication of the lifeguard tower project. Members of the surrounding neighborhood had been in attendance as well and were pleased with the project.

All present introduced themselves at this time.

2. Public Comment

See page 4.

3. Special Meeting of the PAPAB 3/12/2026 at 6 p.m.

Mr. Carden advised that the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association has requested that a special meeting of the Public Art & Placemaking Advisory Board (PAPAB) be scheduled before a decision is made on the art to be placed in the 13th Street Roundabout. A quorum of members has confirmed they would be able to attend on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Motion made by Ms. Tanner, seconded by Ms. Mohan, that the meeting scheduled for March 12, 2026 with the Middle River Terrace Association meets at 6 p.m. to discuss the 13th Street Roundabout project. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Mr. Carden continued that the special meeting will give the Board additional insight into the neighborhood's preferences for the roundabout project. The artists will make presentations at the regularly scheduled March 16, 2026 meeting.

4. 13th Street Roundabout Artist Design Packages and Next Steps

Mr. Carden recalled that he had shared a survey including the proposed artists' designs with the Board members and residents of the four neighborhoods surrounding the 13th Street Roundabout. The survey was also distributed in City Commissioner Steven Glassman's newsletter, and the City's Strategic Communications Team will ensure it remains available as well. The deadline for responses is March 14, 2026. There have been 13 responses thus far, 50% of which are from residents of the four neighborhoods, which include the Middle River Terrace, South Middle River, Lake Ridge, and Lauderdale Manors communities.

5. Public Art Ordinance Revision

Mr. Carden recalled that he has been working toward revision of the City's Public Art Ordinance for some time. The current Ordinance was passed in July 2020 before the City created the role of Cultural Affairs Officer. It included exemptions for most public projects from contributing any funding toward public art.

The draft revision shared with the Board at the January 26, 2026 meeting removes many of these exemptions and allows for the capture of funding toward public art. Mr. Carden has worked with the City Attorney's Office, the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations (CFLCA), and the Board on preparing the Ordinance, with the CFLCA establishing a subcommittee to participate in the rewriting process. He advised that today's meeting represents another opportunity for the Board to recommend any changes to the Ordinance before it is sent to the City Commission for approval.

Ms. Garcia-Arteaga noted that the draft Ordinance included references to the Public Art and Placemaking Advisory Board, recalling that there had been discussion of changing the Board's official name at the January 2026 meeting.

Chair Marks pointed out that most of the suggestions made by the Board members at the January 2026 meeting were not reflected in the updated document they had received prior to today's meeting. It was determined that the members would not be able to vote to approve the draft Ordinance in the absence of the correct version, although they may discuss changes.

Ms. Garcia-Arteaga expressed concern with funding, requesting clarification that any monies remaining in the public art account at the end of one fiscal year would roll over into the next year. Mr. Carden confirmed that the current public art account is set up to roll forward into the next year, and there were no plans to change this mechanism.

Ms. Mohan addressed membership terms for Board members, pointing out that the draft Ordinance states each appointee would be eligible for reappointment every year for three years. The Board members further discussed terms and lengths of service, noting that it may also be necessary to stagger members' appointments so all leadership is not lost at the same time when appointments have expired. Mr. Carden confirmed that all current terms are staggered in this manner. There was Board consensus to recommend two-year terms with a maximum total of three terms (six years).

Motion made by Ms. Tanner, seconded by Ms. Garcia-Arteaga, that Board positions are for a term of two years each and can be renewed for a period of six years total, two times more; and after that sixth year, it would be mandatory one year off the Board until a possible new appointment would be made.

It was recommended that the following language be added to the **motion**: to be incorporated into the Section 9-352 on Compensation Terms of the recommended Ordinance. Ms. Tanner accepted the addition to her **motion**, noting that the Board's recommendation, if accepted, would be incorporated into that Section.

Ms. Tanner restated her **motion** as follows: **motion** that the members shall serve without compensation, and each member shall serve for a term of two years from the day of his or her appointment with a maximum of three consecutive terms; members must take a one-year hiatus before a new appointment can be made.

Ms. Garcia-Arteaga **seconded** the **restated motion**. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Ms. Garcia-Arteaga noted that the updated draft Ordinance still includes references to the Public Art and Placemaking Program throughout. Mr. Carden asked if the Board wished to change the name of this program as well as the name of the Board. After additional discussion it was determined that the program would be referred to as the Public Art Program going forward.

Chair Marks reiterated that the changes proposed by the Board at the January 2026 meeting should be incorporated into the Ordinance.

Troy Liggett, president of the Middle River Terrace Neighborhood Association, distributed a document from the CFLCA to the Board members, explaining that he currently serves as chair of a working group the Council established following Mr. Carden's presentation to that advisory body on the draft Public Art Ordinance. The Council is fully supportive of the City's Public Art Program and hopes to assist the Board by encouraging residents to become invested in that program.

Mr. Liggett advised that the CFLCA recommended a number of specific amendments to the draft Ordinance, including:

- Increase membership from seven members to 11 in order to ensure every City Commission district has a representative, and to allow for the appointment of individuals who are not professionals in arts-related fields
- Increase length of terms from one to two years
- Add "testimony and feedback from residents of the neighborhood in which the public art will be located" to the list of items the Board shall consider when selecting artists
- Appoint a subcommittee or artist selection committee, including residents of the neighborhood where the public art will be located and/or City residents who are public arts professionals, artists, architects, urban planners, or engineers, to consider applications for specific projects
- Maximize public art produced by artists who are residents of the City and/or who create their art in the City

Mr. Liggett noted that the recommendation to establish a subcommittee or selection committee was intended to encourage the Board to consider artists who live in the communities where the public art will be displayed. He emphasized that this proposal, as

well as the proposal to maximize public art produced by local artists, is intended to encourage Fort Lauderdale to promote its residents' art.

Mr. Liggett concluded that he had prepared a separate list of his own specific recommendations, which include additional provisions put forth by other CFLCA members. This list was transmitted to Mr. Carden's office. Mr. Carden confirmed that he would send the list to the members.

Mr. Carden observed that many of the suggestions include steps the Board already takes or recommends taking, with the exception of changing the Board's size. He pointed out that the Board already reaches out to neighborhoods where public art will be located and emphasizes the importance of considering and/or selecting local artists. He added that he has spoken to the City's Procurement Office with regard to the possibility of maximizing consideration of local art and artists, but has not yet received a response.

Chair Marks expressed concern with the CFLCA document's use of the word "testimony," recommending its replacement with "feedback." She advised that "testimony" could be perceived as showing favoritism. She also questioned use of the word "maximize."

Mr. Liggett stated that he felt both testimony and feedback were important, explaining that "testimony" was intended to refer to a public meeting accessible to neighbors and residents where they may address the Board. Mr. Carden reiterated that this outreach is already part of the Public Art Program.

Chair Marks pointed out that the Ordinance should be consistent with the guidelines established by Americans for the Arts. She requested that Mr. Carden include these guidelines when he emails the updated Ordinance to the members so they can compare the documents. Mr. Carden noted that while they can provide guidance, some of the recommendations from Americans for the Arts may be in conflict with either the Sunshine Law or Florida Statutes.

It was confirmed that the Public Art Ordinance would be discussed further at the March 16, 2026 meeting if time allows; if not, it will be deferred to the next Board meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Garcia-Arteaga, seconded by Ms. Tanner, to defer this Item until the March 16 meeting. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Mr. Liggett advised that he had believed the March 12 special meeting was when the art for the 13th Street Roundabout would be considered and discussed by the Board, as members of the public will be there to see the artists' works and make comments. Mr. Carden explained that residents are encouraged to attend the March 12 special meeting to ask questions of the Board as well as to indicate their preferences for the proposed artwork. The feedback they provide will inform the Board's decision scheduled for the March 16 regular meeting, at which the artists are scheduled to make presentations.

Chair Marks asked if the public will be able to attend the March 16 meeting. Mr. Carden confirmed that the regular meeting will be open to the public, but explained that the Board will have the opportunity to address the artists directly at the March 16 meeting; the public may attend and provide public comment, but would not be invited to ask direct questions of the artists. He emphasized that this is how all public art advisory bodies operate.

Mr. Liggett was not in favor of this format. Mr. Carden explained that this is the typical meeting format: artists make presentations and answer questions, and are then asked to leave the room during deliberations. Ms. Garcia-Arteaga noted that this is similar to the format used by Broward County when making decisions on contracts, and allows the discussion to be more honest. Mr. Carden again emphasized that concerns or issues raised at the March 12 meeting will be shared with the artists by the Board.

Mr. Liggett stated that the neighborhood had held a meeting with some of the artists before they had submitted their designs. Several of the comments provided by residents at that meeting are reflected in the designs proposed by the artists. Mr. Carden confirmed that he had attended that meeting. Mr. Liggett advised that he could send a video of the neighborhood meeting with the artists to the artists themselves, and could send the same video to Mr. Carden for distribution to the Board members.

Mr. Carden also noted that the survey currently available to the community includes an opportunity to provide additional written commentary on any information the residents would like the Board to consider when making a decision.

6. New Business / Board Comments

Ms. Garcia-Arteaga requested clarification of how much public feedback is considered to be enough. She expressed concern that the Board may be over-accommodating the public with regard to the 13th Street Roundabout project. Chair Marks emphasized the professional nature of the Board, and also cautioned that allowing extended input from residents of one neighborhood could establish an unwanted precedent.

It was suggested that at the March 16 regular meeting, Public Comment could immediately precede discussion of the 13th Street Roundabout before the Board begins deliberations on that item. In addition, the public would be able to remain present during deliberations; only the artists would be invited to step out during that discussion.

Ms. Tanner emphasized that the Board is following its procedures correctly, and stated again that an exception to this procedure is being made for the neighborhood in which the 13th Street Roundabout would be placed. She pointed out again that this process could not be standard procedure going forward or the Board would have difficulty accomplishing their regular business.

Chair Marks emphasized the importance of ensuring that meetings do not become hostile or contentious, recalling that a security presence had been required at a previous

meeting. She wished to mitigate in advance any possibility that this might happen again, and suggested that the Board members review the Agenda when Mr. Carden provides it to them in advance of the next meeting and make any comments on the order of the Agenda within a time frame that would allow it to be revised if necessary.

7. Communications to the Commission

Ms. Tanner asked if the Commission has provided any notes or feedback regarding the draft Public Art Ordinance. She also asked if the Board members should be reaching out to the City Commissioners regarding the Ordinance. Mr. Carden replied that the Commission is aware that the Public Art Ordinance is being re-drafted, and did not believe there was any additional information that should be communicated to them.

Mr. Carden advised that the Commission wanted to see the Public Art Ordinance as soon as possible, but did not recommend rushing the review process. He recalled that the Ordinance was originally on the March 19, 2026 Commission Agenda, but has since been rescheduled. Chair Marks noted that because the Board will primarily focus on the 13th Street Roundabout artwork at their regular March 16 meeting, discussion of the Ordinance will most likely be deferred further. She suggested that the Board members take this time to reach out individually to their Commissioners to seek any feedback on the Ordinance rather than rushing the issue.

Ms. Tanner requested an update on the Sistrunk Boulevard overpass mural call to artists. Mr. Carden advised that the call to artists has been drafted and will be posted in March.

Chair Marks recalled that at the January 2026 Board meeting, the Board had discussed a potential increase in its number of members, but ultimately determined that they were not in favor of this change.

The Board's next meeting after March 16 is April 20, 2026.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

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

[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, Prototype, Inc.]