



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**DRAFT**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD (EDAB)  
MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE  
8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2018 – 3:45 P.M.**

**January-December**

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Jason Crush, Chair	P	5	1
Cary Goldberg, Vice Chair (dep. 4:45)	P	4	2
Steven Buckingham	A	3	3
Keith Costello	P	3	3
Christopher “Kit” Denison	A	0	2
Mick Erlandson	A	5	1
PJ Espinal	A	2	4
Lonnie Maier	A	4	2
David Neal	P	3	3
Dustin Robinson	P	3	3
Jordan Yates	P	6	0

**Staff**

Michael Chen, City Liaison, Economic and Business Development Manager  
Lutecia Florencio, Economic Development Program Aide  
Suzy Joseph, Economic Development Program Aide  
Karen Reese, Business Outreach / Foreign Trade Zone Administrator  
Ben Sorensen, Vice Mayor of Fort Lauderdale  
Jamie Opperee, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

**Communications to the City Commission**

None.

**I. Call to Order & Determination of Quorum**

Chair Crush called the meeting to order at 3:48 p.m. It was noted a quorum was present.

The following Item was taken out of order on the Agenda.

**III. Staff Updates**

Mr. Chen reported that there was an increase in the number of businesses contacting Fort Lauderdale for various reasons, such as relocation or expansion, during the months of June and July 2018.

The City will attend the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) in Orlando, FL. The City will also attend the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) in New York in December.

An event on doing business with the City was being scheduled. Economic and Business Development Department Staff met with the City's Purchasing Department. It was determined that training their staff how to be more "user-friendly" to businesses and vendors would be more productive. This training will be extended to each City Department that also makes purchases that are below the thresholds at which policies apply and therefore are not subject to the formal bidding process.

The City has had continued interaction with international markets, including a meeting between the Counsel General of Turkey and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL). A tour and leadership meeting will be rescheduled for the Director General of Taiwan at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE), to be followed by a similar tour and meeting at Port Everglades. The Mayor is planning a trip to Taiwan in September 2018 with a small business delegation.

Mr. Chen advised that a trade mission to Israel is being planned by City Manager Lee Feldman. He has been tasked with scheduling meetings and identifying potential objectives for the City's delegation. One possibility is a sister port relationship between Port of Haifa and Port Everglades. Another option is an incubator joint venture between an Israeli University and the City.

Building Broward, a Broward/Palm Beach County Realtor's event, was hosted by ECI at the Tower Club. Over 180 realtors attended this event, which included a panel presentation by the Mayor, Ella Parker, John Travers, and Mike Chen to provide a "State of Fort Lauderdale" update. Feedback indicates this was a very successful event.

Staff has reached out to a Miami incubator, Venture Café, in order to encourage them to open a branch in Fort Lauderdale. This incubator is linked with a real estate investment entity, Cambridge Investments, which builds entrepreneurships through shared space in various cities. There are at least 12 of these incubators nationwide. It was noted that a similar program, Collective Ventures, currently exists in the City.

Mr. Chen stated that Staff continues to attend meetings with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, among other entities, to demonstrate active support of partner agencies. The 2018 Business Engagement Assistance and Mentorship (BEAMs) program, where 78 companies were represented, was completed in June with 41 graduates. The BEAMs program has received a national award.

Mr. Neal asked if there has been any discussion of creating an incubator zone in Fort Lauderdale. Mr. Chen replied that he would like to see suggestions from Israel regarding a potential model and strategy for an effective program. He noted, however, that Israeli universities are known to partner only with Ivy League universities for this purpose.

Mr. Neal suggested the creation of a cluster zone with tax benefits in an area such as Cypress Creek Road, which would allow participation from universities. Mr. Chen reiterated that the City hopes to learn more from Israel's universities about a possible model for this type of operation. Ms. Reese recalled that several years ago, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance produced a whitepaper on this possibility for the Cypress Creek area, which she recommended to the members for further reference. Chair Crush advised that a Land Use Plan Amendment would be necessary in this area in order to allow residential housing that would support creative centers such as an incubator.

Chair Crush requested an update on the implementation of new software by the City's Building Department. Mr. Chen replied that the Department of Sustainable Development has closed on the past three Friday afternoons to allow for training on this new software.

**IV. Discussion – Board members will consider topics to be brought to the Joint Meeting with the City Commission on October 17, 2018. (EDAB members are requested to bring ideas to discuss)**

Mr. Chen recalled that the previous joint meeting between the Board and the City Commission was held in October 2017. Since that time there has been significant turnover on both the Board and the Commission.

Chair Crush stated that one item he would like to discuss with the City Commission is the possibility of streamlining development and permitting approvals by the Department of Sustainable Development. He noted that the number of review meetings per month, as well as the typical number of items presented for Development Review Committee (DRC) approval, has been reduced, and asked if this would allow Staff additional time to review new applications or if more Staff will be hired to speed this process. Because Code provisions require the City to review applications within a specific time period, he expressed concern that the reduced number of meetings could affect this review.

Vice Chair Goldberg pointed out that the Building Department is working to address this process through its new software, while the DRC/Site Plan review process is separate from this. Chair Crush observed that it can be difficult to attract qualified Staff members who can address these needs. He pointed out that the time frame for engineering review is currently 30 to 60 days, although in previous years it was much shorter. He attributed this longer time frame in part to understaffing, and expressed concern for the effect of this delay on the City's economy.

Vice Chair Goldberg suggested that the members ask the City Commission to discuss the role they would like the Board to fulfill for them, or make suggestions themselves of what this role might be. This could include the types of economic development items they see on meeting Agendas, as well as how to make recommendations to the Commission regarding how the City should act on these items.

Mr. Chen advised that at the 2017 joint meeting, the discussion led to the development of five priorities, which were endorsed by the City Commission. All activity and budgeting that he has undertaken since can be linked back to these five priorities.

Mr. Neal emphasized the need for the Board to provide the City Commission with viable ideas and projects that will lead to actual economic development. Mr. Costello pointed out that the City Commission has an agenda and economic priorities, but the Board is not aware of these. Chair Crush suggested that after the joint meeting, the Board may wish to structure its Agendas differently in recognition of these priorities.

Mr. Neal again addressed the creation of an international hub. Mr. Chen noted that the City has a number of "spot operations," including incubators and accelerators; however, he was not aware of any plans for a zone or hub to concentrate these uses in a certain area. Ms. Reese reiterated that the Board members should reach out to the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance for this information, as they had prepared previous research on this topic.

Chair Crush characterized an Innovation Zone as similar to a Business Improvement District (BID), which allows for the diversion of tax dollars into a specific area with the agreement of that area's business owners.

Fort Lauderdale Vice Mayor Ben Sorensen briefly addressed the meeting.

Vice Chair Goldberg suggested that each member reach out to his/her appointing City Commissioner in advance of the joint meeting and ask what those individuals see as the role of the Board. This could be part of the discussion at the next meeting. Chair Crush requested that Mr. Neal look further into his idea for an international hub and prepare for additional discussion at the next meeting.

Vice Chair Goldberg left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Mr. Chen returned to the earlier discussion of development review, suggesting that the Board could benefit from a clearer understanding of the City Commission's vision for internal growth in the City. This could include a description of the term "smart growth," which was a priority cited by the Commissioners as candidates.

Chair Crush agreed that the Board needs to know the City Commission's current vision for economic growth. Mr. Yates added that another consideration could be the need for reciprocal accountability, through which the City Commission holds the Board

accountable for the responsibilities delegated to them as action items. The Commission would also be responsible for considering and possibly integrating the Board's feedback into its plans. He felt this accountability would make both entities more effective.

Mr. Chen characterized the role of the City Commission as the City's board of directors, while the City is actually managed by the City Manager. When the Board makes policy recommendations to the City Commission, the Commission then provides direction to the City Manager for their implementation. Chair Crush suggested that the Board also plan to meet with the City Manager in the future.

It was determined that Chair Crush and Mr. Chen would work together to prepare a list of potential topics for the joint meeting, which would be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

## **II. Approval of June 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion** made by Vice Chair Goldberg, seconded by Mr. Yates, to approve. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

## **V. Old Business**

None.

## **VI. New Business**

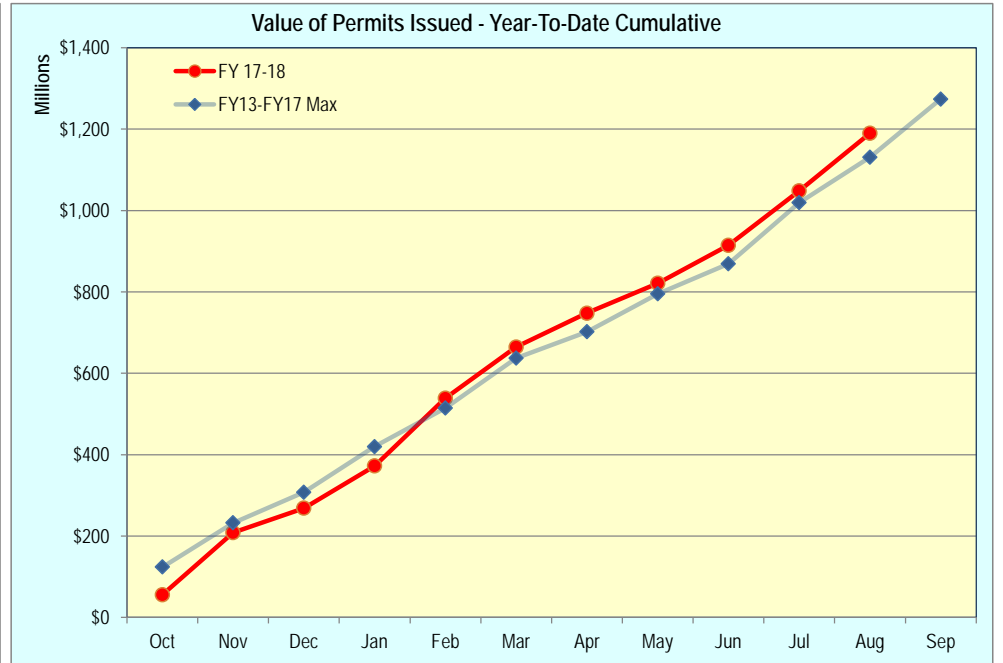
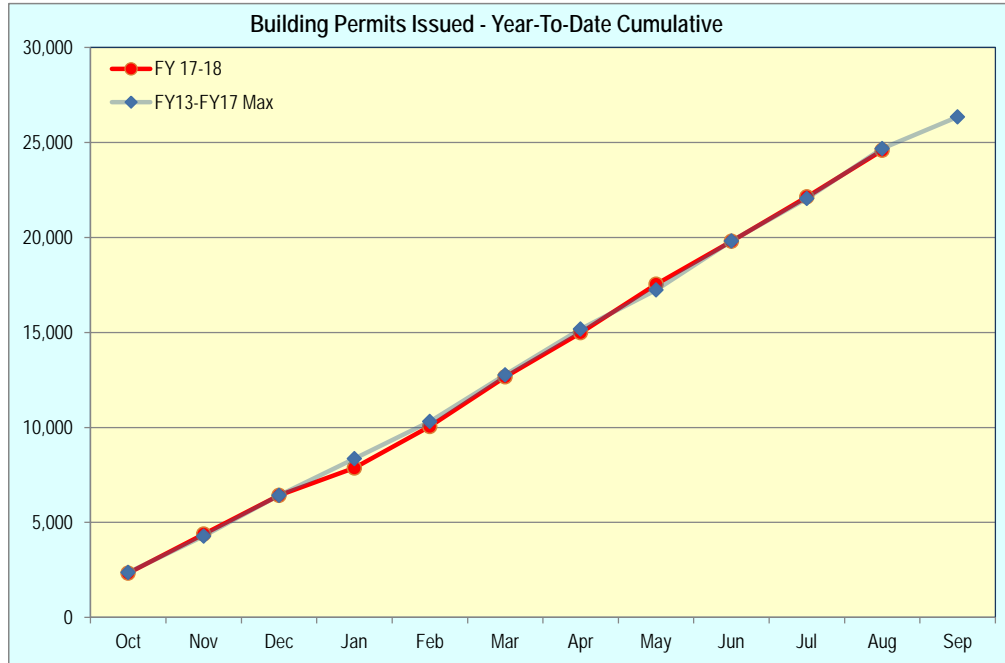
There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

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.]

**Economic Development Advisory Board  
Building Permit Activity - Year To Year Comparison**

Monthly	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
Permits FY 17-18	2,335	2,050	2,043	1,436	2,187	2,610	2,324	2,550	2,265	2,340	2,446	-	24,586
Permits FY 16-17	2,029	2,050	2,198	1,933	1,831	2,554	2,074	2,567	2,572	2,244	2,622	1,485	26,159
Permits FY 15-16	2,364	1,913	2,144	1,934	1,895	2,011	2,152	1,979	2,411	2,166	2,684	2,151	25,804
Permits FY 14-15	2,320	1,720	2,165	1,928	2,182	2,454	2,404	1,969	2,359	2,352	2,282	2,207	26,342
Permits FY 13-14	2,158	1,671	1,693	1,886	1,783	2,042	2,078	2,065	2,028	2,222	1,912	2,043	23,581
Permits FY 12-13	2,002	1,736	1,538	1,703	1,835	1,806	2,025	2,176	2,037	2,170	2,106	1,961	23,095
Value FY 17-18	\$55,661,618	\$152,958,665	\$59,740,113	\$104,002,784	\$166,456,881	\$125,893,691	\$83,165,944	\$73,267,651	\$93,544,442	\$118,108,562	\$157,473,439	\$0	\$1,190,273,790
Value FY 16-17	\$123,921,353	\$108,563,274	\$75,270,124	\$112,116,500	\$94,746,424	\$122,726,209	\$64,674,735	\$93,242,310	\$74,129,480	\$150,244,475	\$111,698,782	\$142,682,256	\$1,274,015,922
Value FY 15-16	\$67,511,481	\$41,287,431	\$55,726,954	\$51,741,512	\$117,489,505	\$63,955,076	\$60,652,318	\$108,422,328	\$98,494,053	\$95,107,284	\$52,612,981	\$56,908,667	\$869,909,590
Value FY 14-15	\$62,631,335	\$44,325,918	\$66,895,725	\$37,769,253	\$134,708,176	\$53,122,983	\$40,303,422	\$88,610,251	\$104,410,391	\$85,687,521	\$43,890,285	\$58,245,665	\$820,600,925
Value FY 13-14	\$49,569,089	\$57,617,057	\$49,464,796	\$38,609,216	\$80,585,113	\$50,258,813	\$67,893,253	\$69,968,615	\$41,056,018	\$101,347,490	\$77,109,091	\$54,555,381	\$738,033,932
Value FY 12-13	\$64,105,571	\$24,927,111	\$28,391,730	\$33,464,148	\$62,461,815	\$80,183,245	\$103,897,484	\$46,738,678	\$33,723,657	\$76,368,660	\$58,425,186	\$43,935,429	\$656,622,714
<b>Y-T-D Cumulative</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	
Permits FY 17-18	2,335	4,385	6,428	7,864	10,051	12,661	14,985	17,535	19,800	22,140	24,586		
Permits FY 16-17	2,029	4,079	6,277	8,210	10,041	12,595	14,669	17,236	19,808	22,052	24,674	26,159	
Permits FY 15-16	2,364	4,277	6,421	8,355	10,250	12,261	14,413	16,392	18,803	20,969	23,653	25,804	
Permits FY 14-15	2,320	4,040	6,205	8,133	10,315	12,769	15,173	17,142	19,501	21,853	24,135	26,342	
Permits FY 13-14	2,158	3,829	5,522	7,408	9,191	11,233	13,311	15,376	17,404	19,626	21,538	23,581	
Permits FY 12-13	2,002	3,738	5,276	6,979	8,814	10,620	12,645	14,821	16,858	19,028	21,134	23,095	
<b>FY13-FY17 Max</b>	<b>2,364</b>	<b>4,277</b>	<b>6,421</b>	<b>8,355</b>	<b>10,315</b>	<b>12,769</b>	<b>15,173</b>	<b>17,236</b>	<b>19,808</b>	<b>22,052</b>	<b>24,674</b>	<b>26,342</b>	
Value FY 17-18	\$55,661,618	\$208,620,283	\$268,360,396	\$372,363,180	\$538,820,061	\$664,713,752	\$747,879,696	\$821,147,347	\$914,691,789	\$1,048,744,317	\$1,190,273,790		
Value FY 16-17	\$123,921,353	\$232,484,627	\$307,754,751	\$419,871,251	\$514,617,675	\$637,343,884	\$702,018,619	\$795,260,929	\$869,390,409	\$1,019,634,884	\$1,131,333,666	\$1,274,015,922	
Value FY 15-16	\$67,511,481	\$108,798,912	\$164,525,866	\$216,267,378	\$333,756,883	\$397,711,959	\$458,364,277	\$566,786,605	\$665,280,658	\$760,387,942	\$813,000,923	\$869,909,590	
Value FY 14-15	\$62,631,335	\$106,957,253	\$173,852,978	\$211,622,231	\$346,330,407	\$399,453,390	\$439,756,812	\$528,367,063	\$632,777,454	\$718,464,975	\$762,355,260	\$820,600,925	
Value FY 13-14	\$49,569,089	\$107,186,146	\$156,650,942	\$195,260,158	\$275,845,271	\$326,104,084	\$393,997,337	\$463,965,952	\$505,021,970	\$606,369,460	\$683,478,551	\$738,033,932	
Value FY 12-13	\$64,105,571	\$89,032,682	\$117,424,412	\$150,888,560	\$213,350,375	\$293,533,620	\$397,431,104	\$444,169,782	\$477,893,439	\$554,262,099	\$612,687,285	\$656,622,714	
<b>FY13-FY17 Max</b>	<b>\$123,921,353</b>	<b>\$232,484,627</b>	<b>\$307,754,751</b>	<b>\$419,871,251</b>	<b>\$514,617,675</b>	<b>\$637,343,884</b>	<b>\$702,018,619</b>	<b>\$795,260,929</b>	<b>\$869,390,409</b>	<b>\$1,019,634,884</b>	<b>\$1,131,333,666</b>	<b>\$1,274,015,922</b>	



NOTE: For the purpose of comparison, each value represented for FY13 through FY17 is the highest monthly value recorded for any given year during the period.

Economic Development Advisory Board  
FY 2018 (YTD) Building Permit Activity

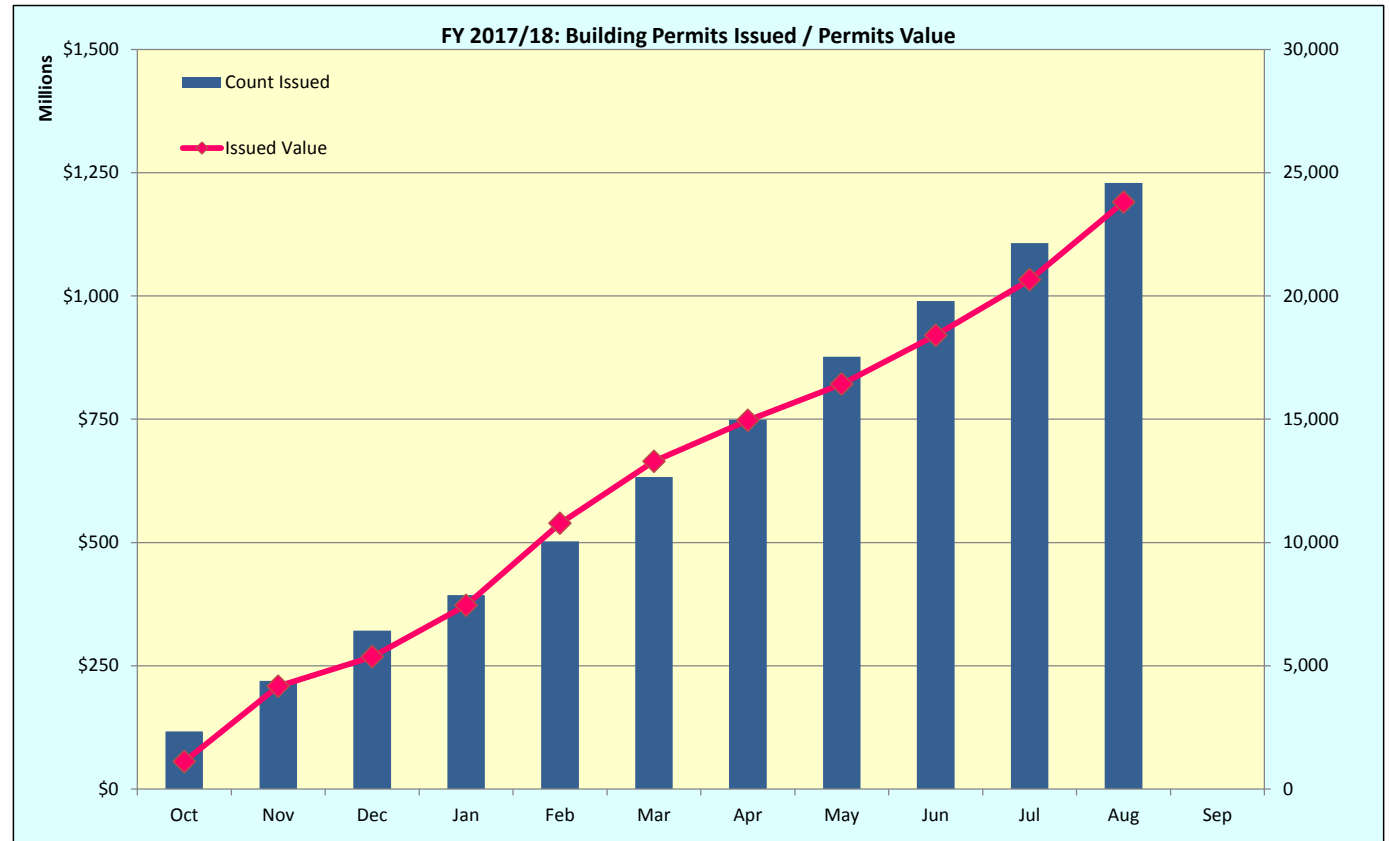
Month	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year-To-Date
Count Issued	2,335	2,050	2,043	1,436	2,187	2,610	2,324	2,550	2,265	2,340	2,446		24,586
Value	\$55,661,618	\$152,958,665	\$59,740,113	\$104,002,784	\$166,456,881	\$125,893,691	\$83,165,944	\$73,267,651	\$93,544,442	\$118,108,562	\$157,473,439		\$1,190,273,790
<b>Cumulative</b>													
Count Issued	2,335	4,385	6,428	7,864	10,051	12,661	14,985	17,535	19,800	22,140	24,586		
Value	\$55,661,618	\$208,620,283	\$268,360,396	\$372,363,180	\$538,820,061	\$664,713,752	\$747,879,696	\$821,147,347	\$920,060,229	\$1,032,800,351	\$1,190,273,790		

NOTE: The data that comprise the totals in this summary is constantly being updated. Therefore, these total do not necessarily match the total from the monthly data.

FY 2018 YTD Permits Issued by Trade		
Trade	Issued	Value
Building	\$11,056	\$695,303,465
Electrical	\$5,070	\$93,539,001
Engineering	\$891	\$6,920,282
Flood	\$16	\$4,807,102
Landscaping	\$514	\$2,693,208
Mechanical	\$2,904	\$56,987,554
Plumbing	\$4,515	\$76,222,594
Permit by Affidavit	\$19	\$258,470,743
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$24,985</b>	<b>\$1,194,943,949</b>

Peak Building Permit Activity: FY05/06  
 Applications: 35,681  
 Permits Issued: 31,870  
 Permit Value: \$1,446,456,647

NOTE: Hurricane Wilma hit in Oct of 2005. This caused an abnormally high volume of permit applications and permits issued.



**ECI BUSINESS PIPELINE**

**Month: August 2018**

Industry/Organization		Subject(s) Discussed
1	Hoover Architecture	Working with Hoover on design/code issues of their renovation/expansion
2	Fuse Partners (x 3)	CRA Investors - resource for Israel trip planning, maybe a City delegate
3	Stiles	Presentation to a group of Japanese restaurant investors
4	Greater Fort Lauderdale Sister Cities (x 4)	Discuss work plan strategies and renewal of SCI agreement with Taiwan
5	Alliance BRAVO	Partner agency support
6	Shanghai Student Delegation and Mayor Meet & Greet	Arranged for the Mayor to address 20 Chinese students in Broward College Int'l program
7	Meital Stavins	Holland & Knight, Israel Practice Co-Chair - resource for planning the Israel delegation
8	Market Overview Colliers	Market update 2018, Q2
9	Aero Partners	Partner agency support - entrepreneurship support in the region
10	Inovative Finishing Solutions	Explore software support option
11	BEAMs Visitation	Discussed business concerns and questions
12	Launch Code	Discussed potential cross-support/partnership for entrepreneurial development
13	AERO Expo	Exhibitor at first AERO EXPO - informed attendees about ECI and BEAMs program/classes
14	Broward College (x 3)	Discuss more extensive City collaboration with the BC Int'l Studies program
15	Enterprise Florida	China/Asia Cultural Awareness & Business brief - prepare delegation for Taiwan trip
16	Sergio Escobar, Former Exec Director of ACI Medellin	Discuss potential int'l JV with City
17	Project Barkley (x 4)	Potential Corp relocation to CRA - 170 current jobs, add 350 jobs in 3 years, not qualified for QTI
18	Fort Detrick Deputy Commander	Provide brief overviews of each division and major initiatives
19	US Dept of Commerce (x 4)	Discuss City int'l outreach initiatives - set up meeting with Mayor
20	ICSC Conference - Orlando	Exhibitor - informed attendees about Ft Lauderdale opportunities, ECI, and BEAMs
21	Mayor & Commissioner Hollness	Discuss City's participation/sponsorship of FITCE 2018
22	BEAMs Visitation (6)	Discussed business concerns and questions