



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**APPROVED  
MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
CENTRAL CITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2021 – 1:30 PM  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301**

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Present/Absent</b>
Luis Castillo-Olivera, Chair	P
Ray Thrower, Vice Chair	P
Robert Ayen	P
Adam Gellar	P
Charlene Gunn	P
Shane Jordan	P
Peter Kosinski	A
Dennis Ulmer	P
Moshe Yehoshoua	P

At this time, there are 9 appointed members to the Board; therefore, 5 constitute a quorum.

**Staff:**

Cija Omengabar, CRA Planner/Liaison  
Clarence Woods, CRA Manager  
Jamie Opperlee, Prototype Inc.

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

Chair Castillo-Olivera called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. Roll was called, and it was noted that a quorum was present.

**II. NE 4th Avenue Streetscape Project**

**• 30% Conceptual Design Presentation**

Jonathan Haigh, Landscape Architect, Kimley Horn and Associates  
Istvan Virag, Transportation and Mobility Project Manager II

Mr. Haigh gave a Power Point presentation, a copy of which is attached to these minutes for the public record. He described landscaping, lighting, signage and road/sidewalk configurations.

Chair Castillo-Olivera took issue with the signage indicating “Central City” because this would conflict with the neighborhood, which was South Middle River.

Mr. Thrower asked about including all four crosswalks in the project. Mr. Haigh said they proposed adding a decorative treatment to the existing crosswalks. Mr. Virag noted that if they added the decorative option, the City, not the County would be responsible for maintaining the intersection.

Mr. Virag informed Mr. Gellar the signs could be used throughout Central City. Mr. Haigh stated the vertical panel sign would only suit one location.

Mr. Yehoshoua asked why the gay pride flag was being used on the post-mounted panel sign. He felt this was an opportunity for installing something with real artistic value and they should spend more time creating the design and volunteered to help. Chair Castillo-Olivera said cost was a concern.

Ms. Omengebar stated if they had money left over after the design, they would be able to pay for a gateway feature. Staff had come up with these options. Board members preferred the post-mounted panel sign.

**Motion** made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Ms. Gunn to approve the post-mounted panel sign with the interchangeable flag. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Chair Castillo-Olivera asked about including South Middle River on the sign. Mr. Haigh stated it could be confusing to indicate different signs/messages on different sides of the road. Ms. Omengebar pointed out that typically, distinct neighborhoods were not identified on signage in Fort Lauderdale.

Chair Castillo-Olivera suggested perhaps below the City logo on the post they could add the neighborhood name. Other Board members did not agree.

Mr. Thrower wanted to be sure that any crosswalk treatment was repeated on all four crosswalks. Ms. Omengebar agreed to check if the grant funds could be used for all four of them.

Board members discussed the proposed trees for the project. Mr. Haigh said all five choices were low maintenance. Mr. Ulmer thought sabal palms were not self-pruning and Mr. Gellar said oak trees had invasive roots. Mr. Haigh explained that they would use an under-sidewalk soil treatment to help the trees’ root system and to discourage sidewalk lift.

Mr. Thrower suggested using light fixtures similar to those on 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Ms. Omengebar agreed to send Mr. Haigh photos of the fixtures on 13<sup>th</sup> Street for comparison.

Mr. Haigh reported the next step was to take feedback and create construction drawings. They would present it to the County in August.

Ms. Omengebar stated they would hold a special meeting on August 10 for the 60% design presentation if the conference room was available.

Mr. Haigh asked about color preference for the crosswalk and Board members agreed on brick red.

**III. Communication to the City Commission**  
None

**IV. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was duly made and seconded. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

[Minutes written by J. Opperlee, Prototype, Inc.]