



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

APPROVED
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
CENTRAL CITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024 – 3:00 PM
CRA OFFICE - 2nd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
914 SISTRUNK BOULEVARD
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33311

Board Members

Present/Absent

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Edward Catalano | P |
| Linda Fleischman | A |
| Justin Greenbaum | A |
| Troy Liggett | P |
| Christina Robinson, Vice Chair | P |
| Carlton Smith | A |
| Nikola Stan | P |

Staff:

Anthony Fajardo, Assistant City Manager
Clarence Woods, CRA Manager
Cija Omengebar, CRA Planner/Liaison
Tania Bailey-Watson, CRA Senior Administrative Assistant
Vanessa Martin, CRA Business Manager
Karen Warfel, Transportation and Mobility Division Manager
Judy Erickson, Land Transportation Planner

Others:

Randall Klett
Carla Blair, Recording Secretary, Prototype Inc.

Communication to the City Commission:

None

I. Pledge of Allegiance

Board members recited the pledge of allegiance.

II. Call to Order & Determination of Quorum

Vice Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. Roll was called, and it was noted that a quorum was present.

III. Working Toward a Capital Improvement Plan

Ms. Omengebar gave a Power Point presentation, a copy of which is attached to these minutes for the public record.

Mr. Klett asked about code enforcement and Mr. Woods said the CRA was not responsible for any code enforcement, but they could help businesses address their code enforcement issues and bring a property into compliance. Ms. Robinson said the residential façade program could help homeowners with such issues as well. They could also put out flyers educating owners about code compliance. Mr. Klett suggested changing the word “enforcement” to “compliance” to avoid confusion.

Mr. Fajardo said the City’s Comprehensive Plan had been updated in the last few years, in a process that involved the County and State. He noted there was no longer a requirement to update it on a specific cycle. Mr. Fajardo noted this would only affect the CRA land use sections.

Ms. Martin discussed the annual budget. Mr. Stan suggested broadening the residential incentives to help residents keep their properties code compliant, such as including the construction of trash enclosures. Ms. Omengebar said this change would require more discussion with the full Board. Mr. Liggett said he would rather dedicate funding for capital projects instead of incentives. Mr. Catalano was concerned about getting projects approved before the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Robinson noted how long a project could take to complete but this had given her the initiative to drop off flyers in the neighborhood to encourage people to take advantage of the programs. She said the Board should do a better job of getting residents to apply. Mr. Fajardo suggested code enforcement officers could distribute flyers while doing their rounds.

Mr. Liggett asked if \$150,000 for residential out of \$941,000 total incentives was a hard cap. Mr. Woods said the Board had decided on this number in previous discussion. Ms. Omengebar said this did not mean the residential program would always be \$150,000. Mr. Liggett wished to increase the amount for residential. Ms. Martin said if they wanted more funds for the façade program, she could do a budget transfer.

Ms. Warfel asked the Board to indicate their priorities. She and Ms. Omengebar would also canvas the neighborhoods for their input and then investigate cost estimates. Board members prioritized lighting and sidewalks. After they canvased the neighborhoods, Ms. Warfel said they would return to the Board with ideas for capital projects in the high priority categories. She anticipated this would take a few months. Ms. Omengebar said after ranking the project types, they would identify the streets they wanted to focus on. Mr. Liggett requested staff provide the Board with a timeline at the next meeting so they could stay on track but Mr. Fajardo said they would not have sufficient data yet. He suggested the HOAs could have a group meeting for the priorities exercise. Mr. Liggett wished to send an email to HOA members with the priorities exercise. He also wanted to invite business owners to attend the Central City Alliance meeting on Monday, March 4 to provide input.

Board members discussed what would happen if a project’s cost increased significantly and Mr. Woods said the applicant could come back to the Board to request additional funding.

IV. Old/New Business

- **Budget Clarification**

Discussed earlier.

- **Redevelopment Plan Amendment**

Mr. Liggett said the Plan was last updated in 2018 and it should be updated every five years. He suggested setting aside \$50,000 - \$100,000 for this. Mr. Woods agreed they should consider updating it but he wanted to wait until they accomplished the rezoning. He said the redevelopment plan should have illustrative, not specific examples of projects to allow them to pivot.

Ms. Omengebar recommended tabling the discussion until at least April.

- **Miscellaneous**

None

V. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on March 6, 2024.