

City of Lauderdale

*City Hall
5581 W. Oakland Park Blvd.
Lauderhill, FL, 33313
www.lauderhill-fl.gov*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, November 18, 2019

7:00 PM

City Commission Chambers

City Commission Workshop

LAUDERHILL CITY COMMISSION

***Mayor Ken Thurston
Vice Mayor M. Margaret Bates
Commissioner Howard Berger
Commissioner Richard Campbell
Commissioner Denise D. Grant***

***Charles Faranda, City Manager
Andrea M. Anderson, City Clerk
Earl Hall, City Attorney***

I CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Thurston called to order the Regular City Commission Workshop at 7:00 PM.

II ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Commissioner Howard Berger, Commissioner Richard Campbell, Commissioner Denise D. Grant, Vice Mayor M. Margaret Bates, and Mayor Ken Thurston

ALSO PRESENT:

Charles Faranda, City Manager
Earl Hall, City Attorney
Constance Stanley, Police Chief
Nadia Chin, Deputy City Clerk

HOUSEKEEPING

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Commissioner Grant, to ACCEPT the Final-Revised Version of the City Commission Workshop Agenda for November 18, 2019. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Berger, Commissioner Campbell, Commissioner Grant, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Thurston

Abstain: 0

III THIS IS A LIMITED AGENDA MEETING. THE ONLY ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED WILL BE:

1. A PRESENTATION ON WEST WIND PARK FROM THE NORTHWEST HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION (REQUESTED BY MAYOR KEN THURSTON).

Eula Murray-Hylton, 8320 NW 53rd Court, Lauderhill, stated she was a proud Northwest Lauderhill resident. She briefly introduced the idea of redeveloping West Wind Park that was voted on and approved unanimously by those in attendance at their October 2019 community meeting, which was reflected in the minutes of that meeting. They conducted two surveys, one earlier that included numerous elements for their neighborhood; the second was a specific survey related to the usage of West Wind Park. The proposal had three phases, and she would concentrate on Phase I. She gave a PowerPoint presentation, further illustrated in the backup, highlighting the following:

- There were key elements to their proposed redevelopment of West Wind Park, but the most important was community; Northwest Lauderhill had no events that brought them together at which they would meet, socialize and interact, as compared to other areas of Lauderhill
- They understood the importance of cost, practicality, community support, and the need to set long and short-term goals
- The impetus of redeveloping West Wind Park was toward the goal of revitalizing the community and maintain high property values; the Park served as a meeting

place for surrounding residents, and the redevelopment was to bring positive change, attracting young and old residents to the Park, have visitors staying longer in the Park, youth being more physically active in the Park, and residents having a sense of pride in the way in which the Park was redeveloped

- Phase I of the redevelopment would include: the Two Trees Courtyard, a name that defined the specific space, that included resurfacing the asphalt pad, the installation of outdoor table gaming furniture and a large chessboard, the installation of a water feature to create a tranquil and relaxing atmosphere, the acquisition of large planter boxes with greenery, the installation of a mural created by students of a senior class of 2020 from a Lauderhill high school, one that would promote pride in the community and the project
- The programming side would include regularly scheduled events: in the winter months, movies in the park, and every other Sunday a performance by a musical group or individual of not more than three persons from a variety of music genres
- The backup included a picture of how the pad would look with the amenities
- The estimated cost of the components of Phase I based on their research, though some of the costs did not include labor: the repair of the pad, as opposed to redoing the whole pad, was about \$3,000.00; the electrical power for the movie screen, water feature, etc. was about \$2,000.00 not including labor; the installation of poles for the sunshades was about \$200.00 to \$300.00, not including labor; in the furniture and fixtures, the water feature would cost about \$1,000.00; the chess tables would cost about \$1,200.00; sail shades were about \$1,000.00; planter boxes would be about \$250.00 to \$300.00, regular tables for seating at a cost of \$695.00
- Illustrations of examples of the water feature, chess table, sail shades, planter boxes, regular tables, etc., were provided
- Regarding the mural project, the students would create the actual design based on the theme of the environment, going green, and saving the planet; supervision would be provided by a City representative and the neighborhood association, and the art teacher at the school; all materials and supplies for the project would come from donations in cash or kind from individuals and businesses.
- Regular costs would include the rentals of four to six movies during the fall and winter months, bi-monthly Sunday evening musical performances would end at sunset and food trucks would be brought in to provide refreshments for sale; there would be special events, such as board game tournaments
- The whole process, including volunteers and “boots on the ground” was designed to bridge the gap between older residents, retirees and young teens, as sometimes they had difficulty understanding each other.

Ms. Murray-Hylton mentioned recently attending the Mayor’s chess event at City Hall, and she was most struck by the way in which it facilitated better interactions between the young and older residents. She noted the residents and community at large participated in creating a participatory environment, and even in creating the proposed redevelopment, the participation of volunteers, young and old, would foster a bonding experience for all. Students who participated could earn community service hours, and City Commissioners and staff, if they wished to, could donate time to the project. According to the Property Appraiser’s records, there were 1,650 single family homes in their neighborhood, and most of them were owned by residents over 46 years of age, with most being occupied by homeowners. Those residents around West Wind Park were very, very against having additional sports at the Park, because of the logistics, parking, noise, and

the lights. However, the community as a whole was not against sports; they embraced such activities, and they wanted to see more venues for the community's youth to play sports, so they thought a better, alternate plan for the City would be a dedicated practice facility, where economies of scale could be reached by having multiple fields that would share the cost of the lighting and preparing that space. In this way, they could attract teams outside Lauderhill to play there.

2. DISCUSSION OF WEST WIND PARK FIELD (REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER DENISE D. GRANT).

Commissioner Grant commented, as the subject item related to agenda item one, she knew Ms. Murray-Hylton briefly mentioned the surveys the community did, asking what percentage of the residents who agreed to the redevelopment plans that were reviewed in agenda item one.

Ms. Murray-Hylton responded, of the various activities, 70 percent of the residents were in favor of family-friendly improvements, as she laid out; 20 percent were in favor of additional sports, including soccer, flag football, and baseball. Additionally, when residents were asked what was most important to them in their neighborhood, 90 percent of the residents said an activity in which allowed the whole family could participate, and a majority liked the idea of beautifying the park.

Commissioner Grant questioned how the survey was administered; that is, was it sent via email, regular mail, etc., and what was the amount of the survey population.

Ms. Murray-Hylton replied the park survey was ongoing, but the first general survey had over 100 respondents, and the general survey had a question about having family-friendly amenities and activities. The survey was sent out to residents according to their neighborhood association mailing list, and links were posted on social media, and neighbors telling neighbors; the association members received emails from residents asking for the survey to be sent to them.

Commissioner Grant thought this information was important, as going into the second survey, she was very much in favor of the City having another soccer field, and West Wind Park appeared to be ideal for this, as the park had the space. The City needed more fields, as its soccer program had expanded rapidly, so it was important to have another soccer field in the City. She said, however, she spoke earlier in the week with Ms. Murray-Hylton and was told a large percentage of residents in community surrounding West Wind Park were against having a soccer field at the park. As a result of the community's sentiments, she began looking at other locations in the City.

Ms. Murray-Hylton added, logistically, parking at West Wind Park was even less than that at the Lauderhill Sports Park, so having a soccer field that would hold regular games would create a nightmare for nearby residents. The neighborhood was not against sport, including soccer, as they all had children and grandchildren who played, but some residents supported having a proper field that was dedicated to a sport, and reach economies of scale with lighting, and the preparation and upkeep of the field by having two or three fields, ideally, over the next five to ten years, that were dedicated to such activities, and teams could come from outside

Lauderhill to compete and participate.

Commissioner Campbell sought clarification as to the resurfacing of the asphalt pad Ms. Murray-Hylton mentioned in her presentation.

Ms. Murray-Hylton said when she walked the pad and gave it a cursory look, there were some one-inch potholes in the asphalt. Originally, it was thought the whole pad had to be resurfaced, but upon further review, the holes that were mostly on or close to the outer edges were filled and smoothed out, it would suffice. Based on her research, if the whole area was re-asphalted, a key component would be to have the community's youth leave their mark, and paint a mural, but she was told asphalt took up to a year to cure, and no paint could be applied before that. She said they wished to fast track the mural, so they hoped the 2020 class could go in the park to observe their handiwork, and they could enjoy and appreciate artwork in the park they participated in.

Commissioner Campbell expressed concern that after serving on the City's Recreation Advisory Board for over 12 years, one of the concerns in the City was, unfortunately, there were limited or no additional space for recreational activities in Lauderhill. Many of the City's youth had to go outside the City to get involved in recreational activities. For example, the Cheetahs track team was not in Plantation, inviting anyone to go and take a look at the conditions under which the team currently paid to practice at Plantation High School, such as no sanitary facilities. He was very disturbed that the City's youth could not be facilitated in Lauderhill. Lauderhill 6-12, the Broncos and the sharing teams were not using a City park, rather they used facilities owned by the School Board, and Lauderhill's teams were given limited opportunities to use such facilities, with the City not having the facilities. The subject park, which was almost 19 acres of land should be properly utilized, as apart from the Sports Park, there were few opportunities in the City to ensure, as the City grew, young families had recreational activities for their young members. Commissioner Campbell stated, based on such needs, he had a problem with the presentation. For the past 25 to 30 years, there was a section at West Wind that was created by a small group of people, and that section was never utilized for what it was intended, so he hoped the proposed redevelopment would not create a similar situation, even if based on all good intentions. He was concerned that the survey's sample size might render it not representative of the majority of the community's sentiments, so he hoped to be in discussions with Ms. Murray-Hylton in the near future, and before anything was done, he wished there to be a very clear understanding as to the needs of the City and the needs of the community.

Ms. Murray-Hylton concurred, stating a dedicated area was needed, and sticking a soccer field in a space that was never intended to be a sports park, with limited resources and parking, the objections of residents living directly adjacent to the park, created concerns. Her concerns had to be the nearly 2,000 residents of Northwest Lauderhill, who were taxpayers, and saw their taxes increase, so they should have a say as to how the park was redeveloped. She noted they were continuing to broaden the sample size, but trends were important, and it was trending that people were not against sporting activities. West Wind Park was a treasure for northwest Lauderhill, as it had a natural beauty, and, as such, every green space in the City was not necessarily designed or suitable for sports.

Mayor Thurston opened the discussion to the public.

Steve Gabor stated he was not a Lauderhill resident, but he had been involved with the City's soccer program for more than 22 years, noting it always came down to residents acknowledging the need for places where the City's youth could play sports, but not in their backyard. He asked where else could such spaces be found, stating West Wind Park accommodated sports, as there was already a baseball field, so the City would be changing the use from baseball to soccer, since there was more use of the area as a soccer field. He agreed with Commissioner Campbell, adding that if a City park bordered another city, then children from the neighboring city was more likely to use the park as well, rather than driving miles to go to a park in their own city, and the City's youth played sports in neighboring cities' parks as well. If there was no other location to create more park space for the City's youth to play sports, then West Wind Park should be used as such.

Trisha Myrie-Reid, Lauderhill resident, stated she represented Lauderhill's Northwest residents on the Community & Budget Advisory Board. The number of parking spaces on the actual park property numbered about 40 or 50, which meant holding sports games at West Wind would result in persons parking outside the park along the abutting streets, which usually resulted in garbage being left along nearby residents' property. She noted there were many older residents living adjacent to the park, and their concern was the noise that such added activities would bring, so the community's association was willing to work with City staff and further their survey to get a better indication of support for the various activities at West Wind Park, agreeing a 100 out of close to 2,000 residents was not a representative sample.

Nancy Wyman, Lauderhill resident, commented she lived near West Wind Park, and the park already had tennis, racquetball, pickleball, a children's playground, baseball, and soccer scrimmage that appeared to be a men's league taking place on a regular basis, along with a wonderful walking trail around the park that was lit until 10:00 p.m. Her concern was there was no buffer zone on that end of the park where the field would be placed with lighting that would be very close to the homes facing the park, along with the traffic impacts. Around the corner from West Wind Park was Veteran's Park that had already had a soccer field. She could not imagine what it would look like if a soccer field similar to that at Veteran's Park were placed at West Wind Park, as there did not seem to be enough space to accommodate a soccer field.

Mayor Thurston closed the discussion to public comments upon receiving no further input.

Commissioner Grant questioned how often the men played scrimmage at West Wind Park.

Ms. Murray-Hylton believed they met on Sundays.

Commissioner Grant asked if they rented the field to play scrimmage.

Ms. Murray-Hylton said they did not, they just came out on Sundays and played.

Commissioner Grant asked if the City or neighborhood association received any complaints about the noise from the Sunday scrimmage.

Ms. Murray-Hylton stated the scrimmage did not involve a lot of people, and it was not an organized sport, so there was no comparison to the impact of a league level sports team.

Commissioner Grant thought it might be possible to negotiate with the community, whereby, the teams would not actually hold competition matches at West Wind Park, but they would use the team for practice, as having sufficient fields on which to practice was a concern for the City's youth sports teams. She believed the City had eight to ten soccer teams, and the reality was the City needed more field space for its sports teams to practice on, but the City's administration wanted to respect the wishes of the surrounding community, so some type of compromise should be possible. Soccer teams practiced at Veteran's Park on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and they also utilized the Sports Park facilities, so an extra park at which they could practice one or two days in the week would help.

Ms. Murray-Hylton remarked the average homeowner in their community had lived there for over ten years, and that was changing as younger families coming into the community, but the older residents paid taxes and had a right to have a say in what goes on in their neighborhood. If West Wind Park was a suitable facility for increased or organized sports, she would fully support a compromise, and there were other places in Lauderhill that had park space that could accommodate soccer practices, and the City's Sports Park had a new soccer/football turf field, as well as an area right next to it that was undeveloped. She said her community had certain priorities and, for the last six months, all she heard from residents were concerns about flooding and taxes. When this was coupled with the potential cost to install lights and a proper soccer field in West Wind Park in an area where residents had other priorities and desired to improve their sense of community, and with nothing to bridge that divide, the community was likely to feel the City did not care what they were saying. She disagreed that the community's attitude was one of "yes, but not in my backyard", as not every park in Lauderhill had the beautiful lake view of West Wind Park or the volume of trees and the natural beauty of the park. There had to be some parks that served other needs besides league sports, parks that allowed residents to casually play sports such as tennis and basketball, serving as a place for the surrounding community to come together to relax and enjoy the park's amenities.

Commissioner Campbell thought the subject discussion was appropriate, and there would be more future discussion on the matter. He thought one of the things that should be taken out of the equation was particular sports, as the City's recreation staff could advise was that during the summer months, the sports played in Lauderhill included soccer, football, cheering teams, baseball, so he would not, at the present time, make a determination as to the space at West Wind Park being suitable for soccer or any one sport. He knew that within Lauderhill, the City was having tremendous issues with its youth sports programs across the board. The City once had just the Lauderhill Lions football program, and now there was a second team added, the Broncos. He said months prior he sat through a meeting where a third football program was being requested, so the demand for such

sporting activities was growing rather than decreasing, but the spaces to accommodate them was not, and he would be happy to look at the properties suggested by Ms. Murray-Hylton. There was a decrease in the space in the City for recreational activities, regardless of the sport, and the City had to look at any available space in Lauderhill with such potential, as it was not a matter of exclusion, rather it was to see how the City's residents could enjoy available space. He said the City had to ensure that an 18-acre park was properly utilized, not just for sports, but for the entire community, so the subject discussion was key, and there would be more, hoping Ms. Murray-Hylton and her fellow board members could do a tour of the City to gain a better understanding of the challenges the City faced providing recreational spaces for a wide variety of residents' needs. He commended her for putting some life in the northwest neighborhood's organization, agreeing those residents should be a part of the decision-making of what would take place at West Wind Park.

Mayor Thurston reiterated there would be future discussions on the matter, as the Commission would not be voting on anything at the workshop, and the Commission had a firm grasp on what the ideas and issues were concerning West Wind Park.

3. A 2020 CENSUS UPDATE (REQUESTED BY VICE MAYOR M. MARGARET BATES).

Vice Mayor Bates commented it was every resident's Constitutional right to participate in the Census, as it was a part of the Constitution; the first census was taken in 1790, and every ten years thereafter. The information gathered from the Census affected the City's representation statewide and nationally, and it helped the City's ability to receive monies from the federal government, and the latter had for the current year more than \$675 billion to distribute over the United States, and the size of that distribution was based on population. She noted it was said in the City of Lauderhill there were 70,000 plus residents, though she felt it was higher, as it took her almost a half an hour to get to City Hall from her home that was about five minutes away. The City needed its residents help, and beginning in the middle of March 2020, residents would be receiving in the mail a questionnaire from the Census, and she urged residents to complete the questionnaire, either online, by telephone, or someone would come knocking on doors. She said if residents preferred to avoid someone coming to their home, they could do the survey online or over the telephone. Many people thought the information from the Census would lead to deportation, etc., but no such questions were asked on the questionnaire, so it was safe to answer the questions, and the information given on the Census was sealed for 72 years, so residents should know none of their information could be shared among such organizations as the police. Vice Mayor Bates stressed the hope for Lauderhill to get a better percentage in the coming census, as in the last census, only about 60 percent of the population was counted. She said many residents ask about grants and other such funding sources, stating the figures from the census affected the amount of grant funding the City received under such programs as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), as the amount of the annual award was affected by population size. She encouraged all residents to participate in the 2020 Census, adding that if a baby was born on March 31, they could be counted in the Census, and residents should remember to count all children in their homes, as the funding the City received affected Lauderhill's schools. Lauderhill had a complete count committee, and they were distributing Census information, and all residents needed to participate, and on Tuesday,

November 19, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room at City Hall, the Lauderhill Complete Count Committee would meet, and anyone interested in serving on the committee should attend. She mentioned in Broward County, there were approximately 11,000 to 12,000 part time census jobs that would be available with a starting rate of \$17.50 per hour; interested persons could go online to 2020census.gov/jobs to complete the application; there was a three-month wait period, as they had to do background checks.

4. DISCUSSION OF CHARTER AMENDMENT AND TERMS OF OFFICE (REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER HOWARD BERGER).

Commissioner Berger stated term limits for City Commission members went into effect in about 2008, and stated a Commissioner could only serve three consecutive terms of 12 years. He was uncertain at that time as to whether or not, when a Commissioner termed out, he/she could return to serve at a later time. He was not in favor of term limits, as he believed the voting public should decide who they wanted to serve on the City Commission and for how long. City elections were a term limit of some sort, with the power to serve on the Commission being left solely to the will of the City's voting public, and he did not believe anyone should be permanently barred from serving on the Commission because he or she previously served. In speaking with the City Attorney, they created a City Charter amendment in the form of an ordinance that, if passed by the Commission, would be placed on the November 2020 ballot. The proposed ordinance stated that if a Commissioner was termed out, after two years he/she had the option to try to campaign to serve on the City Commission again and, if they did a good job previously and the public wanted them back, an election would enable that possibility.

Vice Mayor Bates sought clarification as to what the current Charter language was regarding Commissioners who could no longer serve due to term limits.

City Attorney Hall replied, under the current City Charter, the term limits in effect stated once a Commissioner served the limit of the terms allowed, they could no longer serve on the City Commission at any future time. Commissioner Berger's thought was that if a Commissioner served 12 years/3 terms, after they sat out for 23 months, they were again eligible to campaign to serve on the Commission again.

Mayor Thurston desired an explanation on the mention of eight years in the proposed ordinance.

City Attorney Hall stated the idea was if a Commissioner already served 12 years, if after 23 months they were elected to serve again, their next tenure could be no longer than two terms or eight years; this was the language Commissioner Berger suggested.

Commissioner Campbell said he supported the institution of term limits, and he would feel uncomfortable supporting any effort to change the public vote in 2008 that led to the institution of term limits in the Charter. At the time, he felt that after someone served for 12 years on the City Commission, they should move on, and he would hate to feel that now that he was a Commissioner, he now advocated for a change that would benefit himself directly by allowing him to serve more than three consecutive terms. He reiterated he would not support any effort to overturn

what many residents worked to approve regarding setting term limits for serving Commissioners.

Mayor Thurston liked the way the proposed ordinance was drafted, in that it stated the ultimate decision would be the voters of the City. He understood the need for a break, and 23 months was a reasonable time, so he would support the proposed ordinance if it came before the Commission for approval.

Commissioner Berger affirmed the proposed ordinance could be placed on the November 2020 ballot if the City Commission approved the ordinance by a minimum of three votes.

Vice Mayor Bates stated she never supported term limits, as she thought the decision as to who served the residents should be decided by the voters; if a Commissioner was doing a good job, the voters would reelect them accordingly; to her that was term limits.

5. UPDATE ON THE WOODLANDS PROJECT (REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER RICHARD CAMPBELL).

Commissioner Campbell mentioned months prior, the City Commission approved a resolution opposing the subject project in the City of Tamarac, as the intent of that construction would negatively impact the City of Lauderhill via the traffic the development generated on NW 44th Street and NW 64th Avenue. Since then, he was aware there were numerous public meetings on this project and the feedback he received was that along with the objections by a majority of Lauderhill residents, there was a majority of Tamarac residents who would be impacted who were voicing their objections to the project. Since the project was proposed, even with all the concerns voiced by residents of Lauderhill and Tamarac, there had been no amendment or adjustment on the proposed development, so it appeared the developers were thinking only of the profit margin and not the negative effects their development would have on the citizens living in the surrounding areas of both Tamarac and Lauderhill. Additionally, the Tamarac Commission approved moving forward with the subject project by a vote of three to two. He understood Tamarac had a district system and the Commissioner responsible for the directly affected areas in Tamarac was opposed to the subject development. Commissioner Campbell stated on January 22, 2020, the City of Tamarac would move forward at the county level to get Broward County's planning board approval. He spoke with City Manager Faranda about the fact that Tamarac had not recognized or reached out to the City of Lauderhill at any time to say what could be done to modify or adjust the developer's proposal, and he was extremely concerned that Tamarac, at a neighboring city, was undermining Lauderhill and disrespecting the residents of Lauderhill. If they were left unchecked, what next should Lauderhill expect? He could not speak for the residents of Tamarac, as they should know what steps they needed to take in the future when their wishes were ignored by their City Commission, but for the residents of Lauderhill he could speak and, thus far, all the neighborhood associations that would be impacted by the subject development were completely opposed to the project. He noted there were developments in Lauderhill that would be determined, one way or another, if the Tamarac project moved forward, as it meant the City might not be able to proceed with certain developments in Lauderhill, as the same concerns the City and its residents had with the Tamarac development existed for some of the potential development in the

City, so those anticipated impacts would be exacerbated. He wished to publically encourage the City Manager and his staff, and his fellow Commissioners to go full flight in opposing the Tamarac development, or the City would be in serious trouble moving forward. He asked Mr. Faranda if there had been any recent communication from the City of Tamarac regarding any changes in the proposed development and its effects on Lauderhill.

City Manager Faranda replied he was aware of no changes that would change the effects of what the developer proposed about the use of the two Lauderhill roadways, but City staff attended some of the meetings in Tamarac and witnessed the happenings there. City staff and he continued to reiterate to Tamarac the City's opposition, including sending them the resolution passed by the City Commission, so they were fully aware that Lauderhill was opposed the project for the reasons Commissioner Campbell stated. He affirmed they were set to go for approval at the County level, after which they would come back before the Tamarac City Commission for final approval. City staff would be present at the County meeting to express concerns and opposition on the City's behalf, but there was nothing new to report on the matter. In his last conversation with the Tamarac City Manager, he stressed the City's opposition to the subject development, and he indicated he was aware of Lauderhill's opposition, but he made no further comments to him on the project since then.

Vice Mayor Bates wondered what further action the City could take at the present time, since the City Commission already passed a resolution to indicate Lauderhill's opposition to the proposed development in Tamarac, and that resolution was forwarded to the City of Tamarac.

City Attorney Hall explained the aim was to bring to the public's attention that on January 23, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., the Tamarac developer was going before the Broward County Planning Council to seek approval for their project. Commissioner Campbell wished to emphasize the importance for affected Lauderhill residents to attend that meeting and voice their strong opposition to the project, as the City's resolution was a statement of opposition for the record without the ability to actually prevent its moving forward. However, that decision could be made at the County level.

Commissioner Campbell pointed out the City passed its resolution opposing the development, a resolution that was sent to Tamarac. He was unsure where that resolution ended up, but it was clear that the City of Tamarac's Commission voted to proceed with the development, and the City should be prepared to act, and one way was not to be reactive, but proactive by calling the Broward County Commissioners to make them aware of the extent to which the proposed development would adversely affect the residents of Lauderhill. Thus, the City and its residents did not have to wait until the matter went to the Broward County Planning Council to act. He was unsure what legal actions the City Attorney could begin to take to help the City fight the subject development, and the City should look at all the tools possible that could be used to fight. Lauderhill should not be dictated by Tamarac; they could take whatever actions they thought necessary, as should the City.

Mayor Thurston opened the discussion to the public.

Thomas Harney, Lauderhill resident, stated he was the president of the Inverrary Association, commented on attending one of the marathon meetings Commissioner Campbell spoke of in Tamarac. With the compelling evidence and testimony presented in opposition to the subject development at those meetings, he could not believe the Tamarac City Commission was moving forward with the project. He said the only impression one got when attending the meeting was the residents were being railroaded, just like the Lauderhill residents, so it was very important to be proactive. Besides the traffic impact that came up at the meeting, another matter mentioned was the absence of adequate drainage, so if a few back-to-back catastrophic weather events led to a few feet of water building up, this would be further worsened by the presence of the proposed development, along with the catastrophic traffic jams along NW 44th Street and NW 64th Avenue.

Jeffery Shapiro, Tamarac resident in the Woodlands community, stated the back of his house faced NW 44th Street, indicated one of the ways the City could represent itself at the County meeting was to discuss the possibility of excess flooding. The recent heavy rains the past Thursday afternoon, and the golf course acted as absorption, so when that area was filled in concrete and asphalt, absorption levels were severely decreased and, under Broward County codes, if new residential developments could be built, it had to be done at a higher elevation than that of surrounding communities.

Mayor Thurston received no further input from the public. He wished to know more about the City's presence at the County Planning Council meeting in January.

City Manager Faranda said he intended to send technical City staff, as the project was at the technical level of discussions; staff would be present to voice their opposition to the proposed development for numerous reasons, as discussed at the present meeting. Another approach was to engage the City's lobbyist to ensure County Commissioners and other officials had a full understanding of the City's position of opposing the proposed development and the reasons for that opposition.

6. DISCUSSION OF APPROPRIATION PROJECTS AND REQUESTS (REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER DENISE D. GRANT).

Attachments: [City of Lauderhill Legislative Agenda 2019 2020](#)
[Appropriations 2019-2020 long form](#)

Commissioner Grant remarked the previous Tuesday, Mayor Thurston, Deputy City Manager Giles-Smith and she went to Tallahassee to put a face to Lauderhill's issues, as there were some City projects they wished to present to the State representatives present, such as some underground utility projects, including the replacement of water infrastructure for West Ken Lark. They gave an overview of Lauderhill, giving them a brief understanding of the City's history, where the City was at present, and what the future plans were. She thought the trip went extremely well, and they met with some very interesting State representatives and senators, and their bill would be advanced by State Senator Perry Thurston, Mayor Thurston's nephew, along with State Representatives Anika Omphroy and Robert Dubois. They sought to ensure the State representatives remembered Lauderhill's needs and to consider the City when they sought to distribute funding to

municipalities. She said they learned it made a difference when elected officials were present, along with City staff and the lobbyist when interacting with the State representatives to forward the City's agenda. Commissioner Grant commended Mayor Thurston for being an excellent spokesperson, stating she sat back and learned, as this was her first time to see how things were done in Tallahassee.

Mayor Thurston indicated there were several matters Lauderhill sought as a city, and one such item the City tried for several years to get and that had not come to fruition thus far was the ability to bond in Lauderhill's safe neighborhood districts (SND). The City had four SNDs where residents voted to pay an additional tax to cover the cost of items the residents desired, as a community, to take place, whether it was fencing, increased lighting, major capital improvements, such as the installation of an elevator; they were the only ones who would benefit from the improvements, and they would be the only ones paying for them. He said the City presented the item in previous years to the State Legislature without any success, so on the most recent trip, City representatives made a hard push to explain to them why SND funding was important for condominium communities. When condominiums were first built, they were usually 80 percent owner occupants, and after reaching that point, it was difficult to get more than 50 percent of the residents to do anything, and it was even harder to get more than 30 percent of residents to attend association meetings to vote. Thus, in order for condominium and townhome developments to get financing for improvement projects, the banks required 80 percent owner occupancy, which was an impossibility, and the delinquency rate in any condominium could not be more than five percent; in essence, the bank had no wish to provide such financing. He commented, in order to save the quality of life for the residents of such properties, a vote of 50 percent plus one was required to allow the residents to tax themselves via the creation of a special taxing district, meaning the repayment would go on each resident's tax bill in those communities. If the City had the ability to bond, then a large amount of work could be done, and it would be paid for out of a bond over a 20-year period. He said the way it was currently set up, the City could collect the money for the year, and only do the work the funds would cover. This was what the City sought to accomplish for its SNDs, and this was the message they sought to convey to the State senators, and he thought they were very receptive, as it helped for them to meet face-to-face with the City's elected officials and understand the City was not advocating for a new tax, rather it was for a specific tax voted on by residents who would benefit to pay a little more on their taxes, so they could improve their community to the degree they desired. Deputy City Manager Giles-Smith was successful in helping the City's representatives get face time with numerous elected officials, and the persons they spoke with were the decision makers. He noted it might be necessary for the City to make a repeat visit to Tallahassee before the voting took place in the next legislative session, and if the City kept hammering away, the likelihood of success seemed greater for the City to get some of those appropriations being sought.

Commissioner Grant mentioned they spoke about aging pipes in the City, some over 50 years old, so it was important for the State representatives to understand the City needed financial assistance to replace them, and they appeared to be very receptive. It was important for the City to go to Tallahassee, as there were many cities in Florida sending in requests for funding all the time, so the City's having a physical presence representing Lauderhill, meeting and speaking with the State

representatives made a difference.

Mayor Thurston thanked Ms. Giles-Smith, as she and her staff had been involved in lobbying the State Legislature in the past, and the State representatives were very impressed that the City's projects were encapsulated onto one page, and there were City matches for many of the projects listed, and many of the projects were shovel ready once the dollars were awarded; this point seemed to be an important concern.

7. DISCUSSION ON JOINING THE WATER CONTAMINATION CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT (REQUESTED BY CITY MANAGER CHARLES FARANDA).

City Attorney Hall mentioned the City was recently notified by a law firm that there was a possibility that the City's waterways might have been contaminated in some way years prior by a product known as polyfluorinated substances (PFAS). In essence, it was a foam product used by fire departments to suppress fires and, apparently, the chemicals used to make the product had a very long lifetime and they leached into water systems. He said there had been testing of water and results showed a presence of PFAS in the City's wells. The law firm reached out to the City to inform staff they were starting a class action lawsuit that was taking place throughout the country and, if Lauderhill wished to join, it would be at no cost to the City, as it was on a contingency fee arrangement and they sent the City a copy of the contract. Mr. Faranda wished the matter brought before the Commission for feedback before any action was taken.

City Manager Faranda restated firefighting foams used to out chemical and flammable liquid fires, and for training purposes, and manufacturers of the foams told end users that they were completely safe to use as they were biodegradable and posed no risks. However, it was now being discovered that might not be true, so the law firm referenced in the backup specialized in identifying how much PFAS was in the wells in South Florida, as the product was used by all fire departments and found its way into all the aquifers, and the firm specialized in avenues to make it right. His staff and he thought it was important for the City to employ with the subject firm to help the City investigate the level of contamination in Lauderhill, and to make sure there was no risk to the public, and if a risk was found, for the City to get its water significantly cleaned. Mr. Faranda remarked, to date, no government agency approached the City to test its water on a regular basis, and Lauderhill's water was currently deemed safe by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Broward County Health, and the City tested its water on a regular basis. As the City was now informed of the potential risk, it was important to take the next step to investigate the matter, and this was what the subject firm would help the City do.

Vice Mayor Bates questioned if there were other cities involved in the class action lawsuit.

City Attorney Hall answered yes, there were cities throughout the country involved; he believed the main judge was in Virginia overseeing all the cases, as he was managing the entire docket of all such cases in the U.S. He knew of no other cities in Broward County being involved, but it was a massive class action lawsuit on a scale similar to that seen in the tobacco industry.

Mayor Thurston wished to know against whom would the class action lawsuit be filed.

City Attorney Hall believed it was 3M and other similar large firms who manufactured the product in the 1960s and 1970s.

Mayor Thurston asked if those companies were still viable today and possessed assets.

City Attorney Hall affirmed they were.

There was a Commission consensus for staff to proceed with the City's joining the class action lawsuit as discussed above.

8. DISCUSSION OF SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AMORTIZATION (REQUESTED BY CITY MANAGER CHARLES FARANDA).

City Manager Faranda reminded the Commission, the City engaged in a study of the uses along the corridors of NW 31st Avenue and Broward Boulevard, and his staff would present some of the findings and ideas from the study.

Deputy Finance Director/CRA Director Sean Henderson stated over the last year, the City was analyzing the possibility of expanding the State Road 7 CRA that ran from Sunrise Boulevard down to just north of NW 26th Street and 441. The aim was to expand that area to include the commercial properties along Broward Boulevard, NW 31st Avenue, and Sunrise Boulevard. He said, as with any CRA, the sole goal was to deal with slum and blight in the area and to help the City. They contracted with Mr. Kona Gray of EDSA to go out and meet with both the residents and businesses to gauge what their interests were. Mr. Gray took both groups through a series of exercises that allowed them to participate and convey what they wished to see in that particular area. The purpose of the subject presentation was to introduce and elaborate on the findings of the report.

City Planner Chris Torres gave a PowerPoint presentation on the subject item, as noted in the backup, highlighting the following:

- The site was located along Broward Boulevard, Sunrise Boulevard and MLK, Jr., Avenue, comprising roughly 203.12 acres
- The actual future land use of the existing properties consisted of commercial, community facility, the transit oriented corridor (TOC), and some low residential areas; the current zoning consisted of commercial, community facility, commercial warehouse, and light industrial uses
- The current conditions of the area included lacked connectivity, streetscape, and incompatible uses abutting residential properties, such as the junkyard uses and the feeding center
- The City sent a notice to property owners and business owners of uses that would be highlighted as incompatible, including but not limited to automobile sales, automobile repairs, automobile wrecking, check cashing/payday loan stores, community food distribution centers, junkyards, manufacturing, mobile collection centers, parking facilities, sexually orientated businesses, and welding shops

- Staff sought to start sprawling development, ultimately phasing out the uses that were intensive next to the residential areas to promote growth
- EDSA did a great job meeting with the public, and the desirable uses that came out of those workshops, as illustrated in the slide presentation, were commercially mixed uses, TOC development, educational uses, a public park component, and commercial retail; these uses would come together via connectivity; the City wished to promote connectivity with the southeast area expansion
- In the next few months, staff would be working to get the subject matter on the Commission's regular meeting agenda.

Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Kennie Hobbs mentioned past discussions took place regarding the amortization of the uses mentioned by Mr. Torres, and staff wished to make it clear to the Commission, based on information provided by Mr. Hall, staff was looking at amortization periods ranging from three to five years based on the actual uses. If there were uses that had health issues and concerns, uses that had a direct impact on surrounding area residents would have shorter amortization periods, versus others that caused no immediate danger to residents, which might have a longer amortization period. He noted, based on the information provided by Mr. Hall.

Commissioner Campbell expressed concerns regarding the subject matter. It was a massive undertaking, and he would hate for the City not to focus on the priority areas, of which he knew of three: the scrap metal business around the of NW 16th or 17th Street, and the businesses along NW 11th Street. He stated there should be no debate about the businesses in those two areas.

City Attorney Hall understood the Commission's concerns, but he preferred if they held such discussions individually with City staff and him privately, as there would be future public hearing on these matters, and what was being said at the present meeting became a matter of public record. The subject agenda item was to keep the Commission informed as to the CRA initiatives and the studies done to support their work; so when those matters came before the Commission in their regular meeting forum, the members of the Commission would be apprised of the studies that went into staff formulating their recommendations.

Commissioner Campbell questioned how were residents, landlords and actual business occupants in commercial spaces being informed of the City's study, asking if EDSA was getting significant feedback from them, and were they aware of the CRA's intent.

Mr. Hobbs answered yes, stating initially EDSA did a study years prior that involved reaching out to residents and business owners, and there were charrettes and meetings at City Hall, as well as onsite at various City parks and HOA meetings to discuss future projects. After those initial meetings, a public notice was sent notifying property owners and business owners that the report of the findings of the earlier study would be discussed at a public Commission workshop and available via the City Clerk's Office through direct mailing; the noticing was sent to affected residents, property owners and business owners within 300 feet of the affected area, those situated along NW 31st Avenue from NW 19th Street to Broward Boulevard, and from NW 31st Avenue west to the City's boundaries. He said over the last several years, numerous notifications were sent to the residents and

businesses advising them of what the process was and what the proposal would be. City staff received feedback, overwhelmingly, from residents who were in support of the properties considered to be nonconforming or incompatible uses. Some businesses voiced opposition to the latest study's findings.

Commissioner Campbell knew the residents were excited and somewhat on board, but he understood there would be opposition from some quarters, so staff should make every effort to engage and get feedback from all concerned. Over the weekend, he spoke with one property owner, and from his perspective he was clueless as to what could transpire; specifically, referring to a vacant property on NW 16th Street and NW 31st Avenue; the owner was unaware the study. He was not concerned that the study would show there was opposition. As whenever there were changes, there was likely to be some opposition, but it was important to keep the affected resident and property owners, and business owners informed. Their feedback should be included in the molding of the recommendations staff would present to the City Commission at a later time.

Mr. Hobbs indicated the City used the County's property appraiser records as the primary basis for addresses to send official notifications. Along with written notifications, the City's Economic Development team traveled along the corridors of NW 31st Avenue and Broward Boulevard to discuss the subject matter. There were problems concerning other issues along those corridors, so some notifications were sent along with violations issued by code enforcement, fire and/or police. Other efforts were made by staff to make all in the area of concern aware, and there would be additional public hearings. Normally, when a public hearing was upcoming, the City posted signs in the communities of concern, and sent direct mailings. He said staff would be sure to expand their scope, as it related to additional public hearings, making sure all HOA presidents were informed so they could disseminate the information. Staff would hand deliver notices of future public hearings to business along the two major corridors.

City Manager Faranda reiterated there would be a public hearing held on the subject matter, the current presentation was just to keep the City Commission informed of staff's progress in preparing for subsequent public meetings, all of which would be properly and adequately publicly advertised.

Vice Mayor Bates questioned if the approval for the expansion of the City's Southeast CRA would come from Broward County.

Mr. Hobbs answered yes.

Vice Mayor Bates inquired whether there was any opposition voiced at the County level to do what the City sought to do.

Mr. Hobbs indicated City staff was scheduled to meet with County staff beginning in November, though some preliminary meetings were held with them, and they appeared positive. Staff wished to make the Commission aware of their plans before further, more formal meetings were held with the County; the City's representatives on the County Commission were in favor of what City staff proposed for the subject area.

Vice Mayor Bates thought CRAs were being changed to something else.

Mr. Hobbs affirmed they were, elaborating there were CRAs that received tax increment financing (TIF) and those that did not; Lauderhill's CRA did not receive a TIF from Broward County. The subject changes would allow the City to participate in their new program. By Lauderhill expanding its Southeast CRA, the City was successful in receiving funding for the last five or six years in the amount of about \$2 million from the County. However, the City was unable to apply for funding to help businesses along the NW 31st Avenue corridor from NW 19th Street to Broward Boulevard, or for Broward Boulevard west, and the proposed changes would give the City's CRA that ability. The TIF CRAs were being phased out. The County created a new pot of money, which the areas in the City's eastern borders could not partake of, because they were not deemed a CRA.

Mayor Thurston opened the discussion to the public.

Roslyn Freedman stated she owned and managed a property off of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and 3rd Street. She produced a letter she said had just arrived, and it was the first and only communication she received, and it appeared others in attendance were in the same position. They were totally blindsided by the proposed expansion of the City's Southeast CRA. The affected owners did not have access to the information provided in the PowerPoint presentation. She was unclear as to the boundaries of the specific area being referred to. She wished to know if the businesses listed as nonconforming and/or incompatible were existing businesses. She remained unclear as to what the proposed changes entailed and the expected result. She had no grid to determine where her property was located in relation to what was being proposed.

Mr. Hobbs indicated City staff would be more than willing to meet individually or in a group with any business owner(s) after the present meeting to discuss the proposed changes, but the subject matter had been a discussion for several years and numerous notices were sent out to all businesses and residents in the area on many occasions.

Ms. Freedman understood but believed many business owners were absent, and they should be made aware of what was happening.

Mr. Hobbs stated all business owners in the areas were sent direct mailings on the matter of discussion, reiterating the subject presentation was only for informational purposes to the City Commission, and no action was being taken at the workshop; the information related more to the expansion of the City's Southeastern CRA and less to the discussion of the uses existing in the area that would be included in the expansion. Staff sought consensus from the Commission for them to move forward with formal discussions with Broward County to establish the expansion of the Southeastern CRA, which would have no direct impact on any business; the uses in the area would, but public hearings would be held for such discussions at a later time. Mr. Hobbs said the information being provided to the Commission was to make them aware of feedback from residents, businesses and EDSA - which performed studies for the City over the last several years to establish what would be considered compatible versus non-compatible uses.

Paul Connor stated he was the owner of the warehouse on 3150 NW 17th Street, providing a visual of the area that showed his property, adding that he participated in all the design charrettes since he was aware of them some 18 months ago. Since he took ownership in April 2014, tax revenues to the State and City coffers more than tripled, and he spent significant amounts of money to rehabilitate the property from neglect to one that people could be proud of without any financial aid from the City or the County. His fellow business owners and tenants were present in the audience, and they did business with their hands, making products, claiming neither they nor he were respected enough to be provided a working sewer system, and he invested in his own project for a permitted sewer connection. The same applied to streetlights, which he paid for to improve the security for his fellow tenants and himself. Mr. Connor said the people he spoke about had names and families; through their businesses, they provided services to the community, such as auto repairs to keep Lauderhill residents mobile, as not everyone could afford to go to a dealership and pay for pricey repairs. These were the businesses that would be affected by the City's move to zone out such business uses for what staff termed as more desirable businesses. He asked if serving in a Starbuck's was more desirable than serving in a business that worked with their hands to provide a much needed service in the community, so they could better provide for their family. He said the community did not need another Starbuck's or another retail outlet that would be "here today and gone tomorrow." The existing business operated for many years despite the neglect of the governmental authorities, and they somehow survived and continued to provide their services. They deserved the City's support, as theirs were noble jobs, as auto repair and auto body repair was a profession, an endeavor that enabled people to provide for their families and service their community. He urged the City to pause before instituting any of the proposed zoning that would drive these businesses away. The notification for the subject workshop was received on November 14th. It appeared the City's notification process was broken, so it needed to be fixed, so as to increase participation in future public hearings. He added it was interesting to see that Verizon's depot was not on the non-desirable list of businesses, despite their having all their equipment, etc. onsite.

John Shaw, Lauderhill resident, expressed confusion about the results of the study, and why the City wished to replace businesses in a developed area, and what would be the benefit to the community by redeveloping the area. He wished to know more about how changing the uses and eradicating many of the existing businesses benefited the community. He added that he too received the City's letter of notification on November 14, 2019.

Vincent Carella, Lauderhill resident, stated his home was located right behind the Swap Shop, and he too received the City's notification in the mail on November 14, 2019; he resided in his present home for three years, and this was the first notification he received from the City. However, if the subject changes would remove the junkyard business abutting his backyard, he would be greatly appreciative.

Regina Shaw, Lauderhill resident, understood why some persons were very concerned if there was a possibility that residents would be relocated, as they were homeowners, some retired. It was as if the City was throwing them out of the door. She asked if the residents would gain or lose from the proposed changes.

Willie Mae Cooper, president of West Ken Lark HOA, stated they met with Mr. Gray of EDSA, and residents expressed great concern with the beautification of their community. Many of the area businesses were not well kept and were an eyesore, so residents made suggestions to Mr. Gray. Residents wanted their communities to look just like those in west Lauderhill; they were tired of their communities looking rundown. They needed the businesses to make façade improvements and remove the trash around their premises. Residents were tired of their area looking depressed. Many homes were damaged and crashed due to the activities of a metal company operating off of NW 31st Avenue.

Shaun Campbell, business owner renting space at 3150 NW 17th Street, Lauderhill, stated current and proposed zonings served to dislocate auto repair shops in the both Lauderhill and Lauderdale Lakes, so it was difficult for them to find rental space that allowed their use. He said the landlord showed him the letter for the present meeting a few hours ago, so he personally did not received any notification from the City about the meeting, adding that there had been numerous closings of auto repair shops over the last year, and there was no suggested relocation sites. Small businesses like his wanted the City to explain what they should do as a next step if they were being pushed out of their current location, as they had families to support and other responsibilities.

Mayor Thurston asked if Mr. Campbell had a business license with the City in his name.

Mr. Campbell answered yes, he did.

Mayor Thurston expressed concern Mr. Campbell received no correspondence from the City.

Lawrence Martin, Lauderhill resident, noted though he felt compassion for the business owners speaking out, from a homeowner's perspective, he had to be selfish, as residential property owners lived in their residence that they invested in, their property values were as important to them as it was to the small business owners need to take care of their families. It was important that his property was of the highest possible value, and being a Lauderhill resident for over 40 years, he witnessed many of the subject areas continue to decline. If the City was making an effort to do something positive to enhance those areas for the sake of the homeowners, including changing some of the land uses, it was a welcome change. Unfortunately, everyone would not be satisfied with such changes. It was well overdue for the areas of West Ken Lark, St. George, and Broward Estates to be brought up to a level that anyone would want to reside in those communities.

Mae Smith indicated she was unaware of the TIF-funded CRA's being phased out. She looked forward to seeing the new operation of CRA dollars and the possibility of the City benefiting from them. In reference to the beautification of eastern Lauderhill, she missed the charrettes that took place during campaign time, asking if it was possible for the homeowners and her to see those drawings at a closer view, so they could see the exact proposed changes. She indicated some homeowners contacted her for clarification on the meaning of the letter. Even though the City did its mailing at a 300-foot radius, the proposed changes stretched

way beyond and into other affected residential neighborhoods. The City should consider expanding the mailing radius to include more neighborhoods so residents could be alerted to attend future public forums and voice their opinion. She echoed the need to beautify eastern Lauderhill, as residents were tired of the unkempt conditions and the commercial property owners and business owners should be tired of looking that way as well. No one wanted to move into a dump. She wanted businesses to clean up their exterior and maybe, if existing businesses could show the City Commission and staff their willingness and ability to make improvements to their properties and businesses, the City might consider other alternatives. She had no wish to see her fellow business owners go out of business. The improvements would raise property values and she looked forward to future meetings. She hoped the City would expand the mailing radius and use all avenues possible to notify residents and business owners to ensure their participation at those public meetings. She said her relative's backyard directly abutted the junkyard mentioned by Mr. Carella and driving by the businesses located off NW 31st Street, going left on NW 12th Street, one would see how high the junk was piled. It could be seen way above the wall and when they had family gatherings at that relative's house it was an embarrassment with the noise, the smell, and the bugs generated from the junkyard. She felt sure the City had an ordinance that was being violated by having so much junk piled so high above the existing eight-foot wall and she hoped the City would address that situation as soon as possible. Ms. Smith said she fully supported the improvement of their neighborhoods to the level of those in west Lauderhill.

Mayor Thurston received no further input from the public and asked City staff to provide answers and feedback to the public's questions and comments.

City Manager Faranda, having heard one individual speak about the displacement of residents, stressed that the proposed plans would not affect any residents, other than whatever affected the businesses in the area affected specific residents. The CRA would not take in the residential areas so there would be nothing done to anyone's home. He was concerned there were residents who thought what staff was proposing would affect residents. It would not.

Mr. Torres responded as to the benefits of rezoning and development. When a property was rezoned there was an associated due process and when a rezoning application came before a City it was up to both the public and the City Commission to speak towards the uses that would be beneficial to a given area. He reiterated the proposed CRA expansion and any associated changes did not involve the displacement or removal of any residential properties in any form so there was no question of relocating, etc. The proposed changes could, in fact, involve the promotion of mixed use development which included more residential uses being built. On the matter of letters not being sent to business owners, the City used its database that had over 800 names, including property owners, business owners, and residents. The letters were sent out to a 500-foot radius, but staff would work to improve the City's notification to all concerned and make the documents as public as possible. If anyone wished to view the documents he was more than happy to e-mail them, adding that the documents included pictures of the charrette and their sign-in sheets.

Mayor Thurston reminded the members of the audience the Commission was

voting on nothing at the workshop so nothing was being approved; the purpose of the item being on the workshop agenda was to provide information to the Commission. The matter had to come back to the Commission for approval and the public would have more opportunities to give their input at future meetings.

Mr. Henderson indicated, in reference to the COU observation, this was a good catch and staff would ensure this did not happen again regarding the businesses in that area by making sure they were added to the list. When Planning & Zoning did their mailings it did not necessarily correspond with the mailing list of Economic Development so staff would make sure they matched to ensure more effective future mailings. In regard to posting information on the City's website, since the subject areas were not yet included in the City's Southeast CRA, as staff was currently going through the expansion process, the publication from EDSA would not be put on the CRA website yet. Staff would instead work on getting it put up on the City's Economic Development link on the City's website so it was accessible digitally.

Mr. Hobbs stressed the goal of the item was for staff to get a Commission consensus for them to move forward with formally meeting with County staff to expand the City's CRA in east Lauderhill. There would be other public hearings and meetings, for which notifications would be sent. He added the ultimate goal was not to move out property owners or businesses but there would be a process to address the current uses versus the proposed uses going forward.

9. DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FOR DEPUTY CITY MANAGER AND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER (REQUESTED BY CITY MANAGER CHARLES FARANDA).

City Manager Faranda informed the Commission that at a future regular Commission meeting he would be putting forward some agreements for those two positions, as, currently, the City did not have employment contracts. After doing some investigating he learned it was common practice, particularly in Broward County and South Florida in general, for those positions to have employment contracts with clearly stated guidelines for benefits, wages, and other types of employment activities. Between now and when that item came before them, if members of the Commission had any questions or concerns they wished to discuss, they should call him and he would give them all the information needed.

Ms. Smith asked in reference to the City Manager and Deputy City Manager positions, in the interim, if there would be language that prevented someone serving in an interim appointment for either position from becoming permanent. The residents had no wish for anything to be put in place that would prevent Ms. Giles-Smith from becoming the City's next City Manager.

City Manager Faranda indicated his proposed action had nothing to do with anything like that, it was just for whomever assumed those positions in the City. At present, the City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerks all had employment contracts, but the two other positions of Deputy City Manager and Assistant City Manager did not have employment contracts. He was advancing nothing to preclude or exclude anyone from anything.

IV COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Commissioner Campbell wished to inform the public that the recent season for the youth football program was extremely successful for both the Lauderhill Lions and Broncos, as both teams went to the playoffs. The Broncos were not as fortunate as the Lions, and the Lions were now playing for the State Cup in the under-ten age group, and they were the national champions in 2018. He hoped they continued to defend their crown, and it was important for everyone in the City to do all they could to for Lauderhill's youth to prevent them from being on the street and getting involved in activities that did not serve them well. The City's youth should be recognized and supported. The Cheetahs, similarly, earlier in the year had nine athletes who went to the Junior Olympics, and this made everyone in the City proud, so there should be continued support for the City's youth.

Vice Mayor Bates reminded everyone that on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room in City Hall, the Lauderhill Complete Count Committee would hold their first meeting for the 2020 Census. Anyone wishing to participate should attend.

V ADJOURNMENT - 9:10 PM