

MAYOR/COMMISSION WORK SESSION

May 12, 2008

Commission Chambers – 10:07 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Douglas, Moss, Muoio and Robinson Jr., City Administrator Mitchell, City Attorney McKenna and City Clerk Kauthen; Absent: Mayor Frankel.

<p>8.</p>	<p><u>Other</u> – City Attorney McKenna [a] introduced Ethics Officer Ostrau; [b] explained the role and functions of the Ethics Officer; [c] stated that Mr. Claypool, Executive Director and General Counsel for the Florida Commission on Ethics will be available from August 1 to August 12, 2008 to participate in the annual elected official training; and [d] stated that Mr. Kastrenakes, Assistant U.S. Attorney will be invited to address any federal ethics issues. Ethics Officer Ostrau stated he is looking forward to working with the Commissioners. Commissioner Robinson expressed his [a] opinion that the training would be beneficial for the Commissioners; and [b] concern that the training dates might coincide with the annual Florida League of Cities meeting. Commissioner Moss suggested that federal ethics rules be reviewed during the annual elected official training.</p>
<p>1.</p>	<p><u>Quadrille and Clematis Streetscapes – Presentation by Gladding Jackson</u> – Deputy Redevelopment Manager Kelley stated that [a] the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) is working on the Quadrille Boulevard streetscape project; [b] the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is working on the Clematis Street streetscape project; and [c] the consultant firm Gladding Jackson has held interviews to gage the merchant and stakeholders opinions on these projects. Traffic Engineer Collins stated that there are several issue on Quadrille Boulevard which would preclude the Florida Department of Transport (FDOT) from acquiring the road.</p>

Clematis Street

Mr. Sobczak, from Glatting Jackson, [a] made a presentation on the Clematis Street streetscape project; [b] spoke of the results from the stakeholders interviews; [c] presented the design proposal; [d] suggested possible materials to use on the street; [e] stated that the design goals for Clematis Street was to create a lively, pedestrian friendly environment, which would provide space and rain protection; and [f] suggested upgrading the lighting fixtures and furniture, removing the planter pots, planting shade trees and widening the sidewalk. Commissioner Moss [a] suggested looking into widening the sidewalks and narrowing the traffic lanes; and [b] expressed concern over the traffic patterns on the Clematis Street and Narcissus Avenue intersection. Mr. Clemente, of the DDA, stated that the DDA is working with Traffic Engineer Collins on a traffic study of the Clematis Street and Narcissus Avenue intersection. Commissioner Robinson [a] inquired into the amount of parking spaces that would be lost by the widening of the sidewalk; and [b] suggested that the fiscal impact of removing parking spaces should be investigated. Mr. Barth, from Glatting Jackson, stated that the merchants and residents did not mind losing some parking spaces. Commissioner Douglas [a] suggested looking into having a pedestrian mall on Clematis Street instead of extending the sidewalks; and [b] stated she strongly advocates extending the sidewalks and making Clematis Street a one-way street. Ms. Wohlust, Director of the DDA [a] stated that the stakeholders and merchant did not like the idea of turning Clematis Street into a pedestrian mall; and [c] stated that the idea of having a one-way street has not been explored. Commissioner Muoio stated that the Cultural Committee would like to see Clematis Street as a pedestrian mall.

Quadrille Boulevard

Mr. Sobczak, from Glatting Jackson, [a] stated that Quadrille Boulevard is not currently a pedestrian friendly place; and [b] stated that the goal is to create a corridor with trees, pavements, bicycle friendly roads, integrate the railroad landscape, and

	<p>utilize the median on Quadrille Boulevard. Commissioner Moss stated that [a] Quadrille Boulevard has always been considered as a bypass road; and [b] in his opinion he does not see Quadrille Boulevard as a pedestrian area. Commissioner Muoio expressed her opinion that the street needs to be pedestrian friendly. Commissioner Robinson inquired into Glatting Jackson's vision for the historic North West corridor on 3rd Street. Planner Stelly stated that [a] Quadrille Boulevard is a major transit corridor; and [b] sidewalks should be provided due to people walking on the FAC right-of-way.</p>
2.	<p><u>Florida Department of Transportation Presentation: SR80 Project Development and Environment (PD & E) Study</u> – Mr. Costa, from E. C. Drive and Associates, [a] gave an overview on the progress of the PD & E study looking into the area of Southern Boulevard between Dixie Highway and State Road A1A; [b] stated that there are two bridges included in the project, the Intercoastal Waterway Bridge and the Tide Relief Bridge; [c] stated that both bridges are structurally deficient, have inadequate sidewalk widths, have no pedestrian protection and have no bicycle facilities; [d] stated that the Intercoastal Waterway Bridge does not meet current coast guard regulations; [e] stated that they have looked at no-build alternatives, rehabilitation alternatives and several levels of replacement bridge alternatives for the intercoastal waterway bridge; [f] stated that due to space constraints a sidewalk under the bridge is not feasible; [g] stated that the flooding issues are being investigated; and [h] stated that Mr. Varges is the contact person for this project. Commissioner Moss inquired if [a] County Commissioner Koons had been contacted regarding this project; [b] four lanes would remain open while construction was occurring; [c] a pedestrian walk underneath the bridge was being considered; [d] there was money in the budget for landscaping; and [e] the Department of Transport design would alleviate the flooding issues.</p>

3.	<u>Palm City Transfer and Recycling Center</u> – This item was not discussed.
4.	<u>Incentive Program for North West Religious Facilities</u> – Deputy Redevelopment Manager Kelley stated that [a] the CRA is looking into an incentive program to assist with improvements of surface parking of religious facilities in the North West region of the City; [b] TIFFs are normally given to projects that will generate TIFFs in return; [c] the CRA is concerned that the religious facilities are looking to purchase vacant lots in order to expand their parking; [d] at this time the CRA does not have any programs which facilitate not-for-profit businesses; and [e] currently there are fourteen religious facilities in the CRA area. Commissioner Robinson inquired [a] if the proposal was in keeping with Zyscovich, Inc. Downtown Master Plan; and [b] into the fiscal impact of religious institutions buying up surrounding properties in the CRA area. Commissioner Moss stated that the City should try to help the religious facilities if the resources are available. Commissioner Muoio suggested that the CRA compile a list of the religious facilities which would be involved in the program, which would be tax exempt and the cost of the projects.
5.	<u>Construction Services Fee Increase</u> – This item was not discussed.
6.	<u>Vera Kaminester’s Demolition</u> – This item was not discussed.
7.	<u>Security in Dunbar Village</u> – This item was not discussed.
8.	<u>Other [Continued]</u> – Commissioner Robinson [a] stated that a project on the North West side of Clearlake near 7 th Street is in need of some maintenance; and [b] inquired if the clean up process could be expedited. Commissioner Moss [a] inquired into the status of the land swap between the City and Forest Hill High School; and [b] inquired if something could be done over the grass turning brown around the City. Deputy Planning

	<p>Director Jones-Vann [a] stated she would contact the School Board regarding the land swap; and [b] stated she would provide an update regarding the land swap for the Commissioners in the near future.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Adjournment</u> - 11:30 a.m.</p>