

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
June 27, 2016

The meeting of the Community Redevelopment Agency was called to order by Chairman Steve Leary at 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Steve Leary
Commissioner Carolyn Cooper
Commissioner Pete Weldon
Orange County Rep. Hal George

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham
CRA Manager Kyle Dudgeon
CRA Attorney Kurt Ardaman

Absent:

Commissioner Greg Seidel
Commissioner Sarah Sprinkel

1. Administrative Items

Commissioner Cooper asked that the December 14, 2015 minutes reflect why she made the motion to move the Denning Drive project to 2018. She stated because they do not know the impact of the development of Whole Foods, Nordstrom's, the new library, and the major impact the I-4 Ultimate may have to Winter Park, she asked that the timing of the project be moved as they should understand any impact by 2018. The December minutes refer to these minutes for explanation.

Motion made by Commissioner Cooper to approve the minutes of February 22, 2016; seconded by Orange County Rep. Hal George and approved by acclamation with a 4-0 vote.

2. Action Items

a. Denning Drive project review and status

CRA Manager Kyle Dudgeon provided the status of the Denning Drive project. He summarized the public meetings held on May 12 and June 7 where they discussed the following: the design of the roadway, the current road conditions, the lack of sidewalks, development on Denning, traffic counts, bus travel and working with Lynx, level of service from the bicyclist and pedestrian levels, safety concerns, installation of trees, and streetscape.

Traffic Engineer Butch Margraf spoke about the impacts of traffic to Denning Drive, improvements to 17-92, and available funding for trees, landscaping and sidewalks and who is responsible for paying for this. Commissioner Weldon stressed the importance to understand that this is a two way street with regard to improvements to 17-92.

Discussion ensued that the drawings provided are conceptual and that the medians, bike paths, and bus bays can be adjusted. Commissioner Cooper stated she is in favor of bike paths being as wide as possible but not at the expense of shade trees or bus bays. Mayor Leary expressed the importance that staff coordinates with FDOT regarding the bump outs and their plans for buses.

Mr. Margraf spoke about the plans for trees in areas where there is only 5' of greenspace between the sidewalk and right-of-way line. He commented that they were going to contact the neighbors to see about planting a tree on the right-of-way line or just inside it whereby the roots would share the neighbor's homes as well as the right-of-way. He stated the staff recommendation for the medians is 10' wide.

Mr. Dudgeon spoke about Denning Drive being a topic of discussion at various times since the 1990's. He addressed the potential to connect to Mead Gardens and MLK Park, to provide multi-modal connectivity opportunities, add safety enhancements, and opportunities and potential improvements for the PD&E study.

Commissioner Weldon inquired about the existence of any alternatives within the width we have to work with for separating the bike path from the pedestrian path (a 10' path on Denning is required per FDOT). Mr. Margraf spoke about the path being a shared-use, multi-use path and that there is no room to have two separate paths. Mayor Leary asked that when the final design comes in that staff presents options as to how the path can look that takes into consideration the safety of both pedestrians and bicyclists.

Mr. Dudgeon addressed the available funding and that staff believes they can execute the project with the funding available in the budget today. When they get to the budget discussion there may be an opportunity to continue to elevate Denning further for things such as trees or things not included in the initial scope.

City Manager Knight read into the record a comment sent to him by Commissioner Seidel. "I fully support the roadway diet as I see it as a positive change for the corridor with minimal effect on motorist traffic and a very positive effect on safety, bike/pedestrian connectivity and aesthetics. Additionally, replacing the pavement with the greenspace will reduce runoff volumes. Low impact development stormwater practices could be implemented which could further reduce runoff and stormwater pollution." Upon discussion, Public Works will explore low impact development stormwater practices and will bring back information during the design phase so the Commission can make decisions on that.

Public comments:

Max Mogul, Compass Real Estate, 861 W. Morse Boulevard, stated he loves the beautification being proposed but opposed the project because of the amount of construction going on and the large amount of traffic emptying on Denning. He asked that this be put on hold until we see what happens with Lee Road coming onto Denning.

The following spoke in favor of the Denning Drive project being proposed:

Jeffrey Stephens, 500 N. Pennsylvania Avenue
Tom McMacken, 1821 Shiloh Lane
Amanda Day, 1890 Demetree Drive
Tom Hiles, 1025 Braemar Drive
Joe Terranova, 151 N. Virginia
Javier Omana, 426 West Lyman Avenue
Alex Trauger, 1821 Anzle Avenue
Margo Pedan, Center for Independent Living, 720 N. Denning
Lance DeCuir, 787 Douglas Avenue

Orange County Representative Hal George addressed his support of the project because of helping with the pedestrian and bicycle access that will enhance safety.

Commissioner Cooper commented she has heard from many neighbors regarding traffic concerns on Denning and has struggled with that but that it will enhance safety and the aesthetics of that corridor. She stated she has been against this for many years because she does not think we have evaluated future traffic well enough and have broadened the scope to look at all the potential we will be dealing with. She stated if they are incorrect in the future with moving forward, it can be changed without a large inconvenience to the community or huge expense. She stated she will support this but only if she is assured that we make sure the buses are far enough off the road that vehicles can get by and make sure we have shade trees up and down Denning in the 5' planting strip. City Manager Knight stated staff will make the shade trees work even if they have to expand the planting strip to 6'.

Mayor Leary stated that a lot of the questions come up this evening will be handled in the design phase and that he is comfortable moving forward.

Commissioner Weldon addressed his support to move forward and the need to make sure it is done right. He recommended not going ahead with a complete project without any detailed plans and wanted to see detailed plans costed out prior to final approval. He also wanted to see what it would cost them to do it from Orange Avenue to Railroad (Solana) and from Orange Avenue to Webster and to see plans that include bus turnouts that are agreed upon with Lynx. He also asked for a forestry plan. He did not believe that a process of engineering the alternatives and costing them out will delay the project but will make the project better and asked for support.

City Manager Knight explained they are being asked to approve the attached Denning concept design and begin engineering so the final plan will come back to the Commission for approval and it will be costed out.

Motion made by Mayor Leary to approve the recommendation as presented by staff; seconded by Representative Hal George.

Motion amended by Commissioner Weldon that staff bring back alternative plans not only from Fairbanks to Webster but also from Orange to Webster and from Orange to Railroad (Solana); and to include details of a forestry plan and arrangements with Lynx on the bus turnouts and design alternatives and cost tradeoff there as well.

Mayor Leary clarified that everything Commissioner Weldon is asking for is coming back to them the next time the plan comes back except for the extensions of the roadway. City Manager Knight explained that was Phase 2 in staff's mind and that Commissioner Weldon wants to expedite that. Mayor Leary stated he could support the initial work done on the pieces that are not Webster to Fairbanks. He stated he was not sure of the timeframe to get to the next level on the entire length of it. Mr. Attaway addressed in order to get the extension piece completed he needed an extra month above the time already required.

Motion was seconded by Mayor Leary for discussion purposes.

Mr. Attaway stated he is not aware of any time deadlines they have to meet but that the extension piece would take about four months. Mayor Leary stated if it is only an additional month and they are not constrained by anyone he will support the motion. He asked that staff inform them if they need additional time once they start.

Upon a roll call vote on the amendment, Mayor Leary, Commissioners Cooper and Weldon, and Orange County Representative Hal George voted yes. The amendment carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Upon a roll call vote on the main motion to accept the report and incorporated into the amendment, Mayor Leary, Commissioners Cooper and Weldon, and Orange County Representative Hal George voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

b. CRA Budget FY16-17

Due to the time, **motion made by Mayor Leary to table this item until the next CRA meeting, seconded by Commissioner Weldon and carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.**

Other issue

Commissioner Cooper asked about the Harper electric undergrounding and potential funding partners. City Manager Knight stated they have not had any success with partners and spoke with some who were not interested for their properties.

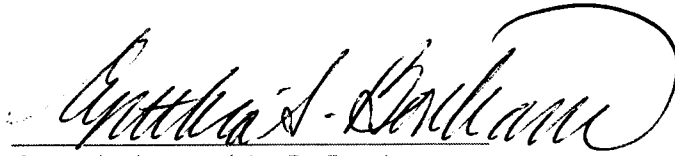
The CRA Agency meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

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Mayor Steve Leary

Chairman Steve Leary

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cynthia S. Bonham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end.

City Clerk Cynthia S. Bonham