



# MIAMIBEACH

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## COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Interim City Manager Kathie G. Brooks

DATE: September 12, 2012

SUBJECT: **REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND CITYWIDE PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETING OF July 9, 2012, July 10, 2012, July 25, 2012 and August 22, 2012**

July 9, 2012

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

### **1. Discussion: Status Update on FY2012/13 General Fund Operating Budget**

#### ACTION

**The Committee asked for an update on the Condrey Study and a list of the open and unfilled positions in the City be given at the July 25, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meeting.**

Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks presented and reviewed the status of the FY 2010/11 Operating Budget. Ms. Brooks stated that the revised "working gap" with the July 1<sup>st</sup> Certified Tax Roll as of July 9, 2010 is \$4.4 million. Ms. Brooks then presented three millage scenarios, decrease of \$1 million from revenue at the current millage rate, decrease of half of one percent from revenue at the current millage rate, eliminate all additional property tax revenue, and the State defined rollback rate.

Mayor Mattie Herrera Bower asked what was driving the gap. Chairperson Deede Weithorn stated that pension was driving the gap. Ms. Brooks then stated that there were opportunities to address the gap which included Resort Tax, refinements to revenue projections, and potential efficiencies which total \$5.6 million, leaving \$1.2 million to reduce the millage. Ms. Brooks then suggested rather than discussing potential enhancements and efficiencies on July 11, 2012, that it be discussed on July 25, 2012 after the Commission has had the chance to discuss the union negotiations. Discussion ensued. Ms. Brooks then asked for direction regarding ICMA Studies for both the Police and Fire Departments and whether the Commission wanted to move forward with the studies so that they can be placed on the July 25, 2012 agenda. Commissioner Ed Tobin was concerned about initiating a study when the

recommendations of a previous study had not been implemented. Ms. Brooks stated that the previous study could be used as a starting point to look at what has or has not been implemented. Commissioner Jorge Exposito requested a list of open and unfilled positions. Conversation ensued. The Committee asked for an update on the Condrey Study and a list of the open and unfilled positions in the City be given at the July 25, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meeting.

## **2. Overview of Right of Way Projects**

### **ACTION**

The Committee recommended that the above ground funding needs for the following neighborhood projects be part of the capital prioritization discussion and that the water and sewer and stormwater funding needs be presented to the Finance & Citywide Projects Committee at a later date in concert with discussions on bonding requirements and rate impacts.

- Bayshore Neighborhood Central Bayshore – Bid Pack A
- Bayshore Neighborhood - Lower North Bay Road – Bid Pack 8B
- Bayshore Neighborhood Lake Pancoast – Bid Pack C
- Bayshore Neighborhood Bid Pack E – Sunset Islands 1 & 2
- Bayshore Neighborhood Sunset Islands 3 & 4 – Bid Pack D
- Palm & Hibiscus Islands Enhancements
- Venetian Neighborhood – Venetian Islands
- La Gorce Neighborhood Improvements
- Flamingo Neighborhood – Bid Pack 10A
- Flamingo Neighborhood – Bid Pack 10C
- West Avenue/Bay Road Improvements
- Sunset Harbor Neighborhood Pump Station Upgrades

Capital Improvement Projects Director Fernando Vazquez presented the item.

As neighborhood construction activities escalate throughout the City, certain existing field conditions are manifesting on a more frequent basis which are prompting a reevaluation to the previously established scope and control budget programmed under each project. Field conditions encountered during construction are revealing the actual state of existing infrastructure. Unforeseen conflicts have developed with franchise utility installations and street lighting conduits. Additionally, unanticipated work repairs to sewer pipes collapsing during construction, added asphalt milling a resurfacing, as well as placement of additional storm-water systems to address stormwater mitigation not contemplated in the original scope of work are also components which are impacting the cost of construction. These unforeseen conditions are becoming more frequent, impacting construction already underway, and must, therefore, be addressed in order for construction to continue uninterrupted without the incurrence of unforeseen delays and extension of construction timelines. In addition, resident turnover and fresh visions from the community are resulting in additional requests not originally considered in the Basis of Design Reports (BODR), the most significant being, traffic calming requests and revisions to the Atlantic Greenway Network-Bike Master Plan.

Design plans developed in the past are being subject to a thorough and rigorous reevaluation by the Engineering Division of the Public Works Department; current regulatory requirements as well as enforcement of engineering criteria originally not contemplated in the BODR's are being applied in a systematic approach for all future

neighborhood improvement projects. In tandem, all respective budgets are being reevaluated and projects are being priced out accordingly, prior to the CIP office initiating the construction administration phase. Amendments to the original BODRs for the neighborhoods are also being updated to address current residents' requests and needs.

The following neighborhood projects require additional funding during Fiscal Year 2012/13: Bayshore Neighborhood Central Bayshore – Bid Pack A, Bayshore Neighborhood - Lower North Bay Road – Bid Pack 8B, Bayshore Neighborhood Lake Pancoast – Bid Pack C, Bayshore Neighborhood Bid Pack E – Sunset Islands 1 & 2, Bayshore Neighborhood Sunset Islands 3 & 4 – Bid Pack D, Palm & Hibiscus Islands Enhancements, Venetian Neighborhood – Venetian Islands, La Gorce Neighborhood Improvements, Flamingo Neighborhood – Bid Pack 10A, Flamingo Neighborhood – Bid Pack 10C, West Avenue/Bay Road Improvements, and Sunset Harbor Neighborhood Pump Station Upgrades. The total capital improvements funding requests for fiscal year 2012/13 are: \$7,441,645 for additional above ground, \$9,842,226 additional water and sewer, and \$13,177,564 for additional stormwater funding. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks to explain where the funding comes from. Ms. Brooks stated that the above ground funding would come from Pay-as-you-go, General Obligation Bonds and/or Capital Reserve funds. Conversation ensued. The Committee recommended that the above ground funding needs for the previously mentioned neighborhood projects be part of the capital prioritization discussion and that the water and sewer and stormwater funding needs be presented to the Finance & Citywide Projects Committee at a later date in concert with discussions on bonding requirements and rate impacts.

### **3. Amendment to the Bayshore Neighborhood Basis of Design Report**

#### **ACTION**

**The Committee referred the discussion of widening the streets for bike lanes to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee.**

Capital Improvement Projects Director Fernando Vazquez presented the item.

On May 16, 2001, the City of Miami Beach adopted Resolution No. 2001-24387, approving and authorizing the execution of an agreement with CH2M Hill, Inc. (CH2M Hill) for professional services for the Right-of-Way (ROW) Infrastructure Improvements Program for Neighborhood No. 8 – Bayshore and Sunset Islands project pursuant to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 134-99/00. The agreement for planning, design, and construction administration services for the collective Bayshore Neighborhoods which was originally one project and was subsequently separated into five individual projects via amendments to the original agreement. These five projects included Central Bayshore Neighborhood 8A (Package 8A), Lower North Bay Road Neighborhood 8B (Package 8B), Lake Pancoast Neighborhood 8C (Package 8C), and the Sunset Islands (Packages 8D and 8E).

On April 9, 2003, the City Commission approved the Basis of Design Report (BODR), completed and submitted by CH2M Hill for the Neighborhood No. 8 Bayshore /Sunset Islands Project. The Bayshore Neighborhood No. 8 ROW Project was one of thirteen neighborhood improvement projects included in a program developed by the City of Miami Beach to improve the quality of life for its residents. The program included citywide water, wastewater and stormwater improvements; as well as a variety of streetscape enhancement projects. The two projects being addressed are Central

Bayshore Neighborhood No. 8 (Bid Package A) and Lake Pancoast Neighborhood No. 8 (Bid Package C). The other neighborhoods have received additional unplanned improvements for water and stormwater improvements and milling and resurfacing based on technical needs. In early 2010, following completion of design and permitting services for the Central Bayshore project area, the home owners association (HOA) requested that the City consider changing the width of some streets in the project area as well as some aspects of the completed design. The approved HOA requested items are as follows: narrow Sheridan Avenue from 30<sup>th</sup> Street to 40<sup>th</sup> Street and provide for a bike route and bus bays; narrow North Meridian Avenue from Dade Boulevard to 28<sup>th</sup> Street and eliminate the proposed bike lanes and replace with a bike path within the ROW adjacent to the golf course; remove Prairie Avenue from 28<sup>th</sup> Street to Dade Boulevard from the Central Bayshore scope of work; removal of the bike lanes along Prairie Avenue and an alternate bike facility be placed on Royal Palm Avenue; maintain 28<sup>th</sup> Street from Sheridan to Prairie Avenues at 24 feet in width with the additions of sharrows in lieu of bike lanes; narrow 34<sup>th</sup> Street from Chase Avenue to Pine Tree Drive to 22 feet with sharrows; Fairgreen Drive to remain within its existing width of 16 feet; eliminate all proposed mid-block stamped asphalt decorative treatments and replace with concrete paver treatments; with the exception of 40<sup>th</sup> Street, eliminate all proposed stamped asphalt decorative crosswalks at intersections and replace with concrete paver treatments; eliminate the proposed Royal Palm species on the south side of 40<sup>th</sup> Street and replace with Mahogany species. The HOA requested items are not expected to require a significant increase in construction cost, based upon preliminary estimates. A detailed estimate of the probable cost will be submitted by the consultant once revised construction documents are completed.

The Central Bayshore Neighborhood's current stormwater management system consists primarily of outfalls served by swales, inlets, storm drains, and culverts which currently do not meet the 5 year level of service. The existing design is based upon the recommendations of the City's 1997 Stormwater Master Plan and the subsequent Bayshore Neighborhood BODR. The City's stormwater master plan consultant, CDM Smith, undertook an extensive stormwater analysis of the Bayshore Neighborhood. The current analysis makes use of modeling from the Draft Stormwater Master Plan, which is more sophisticated than the previous 1997 Stormwater Master Plan. The Stormwater Master Plan determined that Pump Station No. 2 located between Pine Tree Drive and Flamingo Drive could be replaced with a system based on gravity wells and upsized outfalls. Pump Station No. 2 could then be relocated in a more needed location to the area of 28<sup>th</sup> Street and Fairgreen Drive and be used to provide additional stormwater infrastructure within Zone 4 and the North Meridian collection system.

Staff looked for direction on whether or not to proceed with the revision to the plans for the requested improvements which are outside of the current BODR for the Central Bayshore neighborhood. Chairperson Deede Weithorn was concerned about the removal of dedicated bike lanes. Discussion ensued. The Committee referred the discussion of widening the streets for bike lanes to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee.

#### **4. Discussion of Normandy Shores Park Tot-Lot/Playground Project Conversion to Fitness Circuit/Passive Open Space Park Project**

##### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended moving forward with the changes requested by the Normandy Shores HOA.**

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Smith presented the item.

The Normandy Shores Park is located adjacent to the Tennis Courts, and across from the Normandy Shores Golf Course and Clubhouse. The Park currently includes a small building with restrooms, and a playground area. The approved FY 2009/10 Capital Budget included funding in the amount of \$135,500 to replace the existing playground that was beyond repair at the Normandy Shores Park. The project includes the complete replacement of the playground, safety surface, new fencing and furniture, fixtures & equipment. As that project was in development, Parks & Recreation staff worked internally to develop a potential second phase of the park's revitalization. The concept being developed would include a new recreation building/activity pavilion/restroom with storage space, similar to the one built in Fairway Park, and a water access/fishing dock. In January 2012 Parks & Recreation staff met with Commissioner Jorge Exposito and Normandy Shores HOA New Projects Committee Chair Mark Wojak to discuss the community's interest and suggestions for that area. At that time, staff shared the second phase concept under development with Mr. Wojak, who agreed to take the concept to the Normandy Shores HOA board for their comments, as well as further input on options for the park. On February 14, 2012, Mr. Wojak sent correspondence to the City stating that the residents on Normandy Shores would prefer a more open green space park, which would include the demolition of the existing storage building/restroom that is in very poor condition; a Vita Course/fitness circuit similar to the one installed in Lummus Park; park furnishings such as benches, trash receptacles, etc.; and new fencing, sod and trees. Based on previous installations of similar fitness circuits, passive park components such as benches, irrigation, sod, trees and fencing, the Parks and Recreation Administration believes this allocation, \$135,500, will be sufficient to accomplish the revised program as requested by the residents. The Committee recommended moving forward with the changes requested by the HOA.

## **5. Discussion regarding establishing new recycling bins**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended moving forward with a pilot program on Lincoln Road with the Coca-Cola recycling bins pending approval from the Historic Preservation Board.**

Public Works Director Fred Beckmann presented the item.

At the May 17, 2012, Finance and Citywide Projects Committee meeting, the Committee reviewed the Euclid Circle Right-of-Way (ROW) recycling bin demonstration. The Committee recommended that during the FY 2012/13 budget discussion, staff determine the number and locations of recycling bins that are needed in the ROW, and present a cost comparison for the current City silver bin, the Coca-Cola recycling bin, and/or the Big Belly recycling bin.

Staff developed three potential deployment options: Lincoln Road, Entertainment Districts (including Lincoln Road), and Citywide replacement. The cost per bin is approximately \$1,200 for the current silver recycling bins, \$800 for the bin designed by Coca-Cola, and \$2,800 for the Big Belly standalone recycling bin. Coca-Cola has committed to provide 19 bins to be installed along Lincoln Road, at no cost to the City. In addition, Coca-Cola will be provided improved signage for the 63 existing silver recycling bins. Under the three deployment options, the Coca-Cola recycling bins are the most cost efficient. Staff recommended that the ROW Recycling Bin Program be phased in, first with the Lincoln Road Coca-Cola Recycling Bin Pilot Program. If the new bins are successful, the City will purchase an additional 83 to deploy throughout the

entertainment districts. The existing 52 silver bins currently located in these districts can be repositioned along identified high pedestrian areas.

Mayor Mattie Herrera Bower asked how effective the recycling bins were. Sanitation Division Director Alberto Zamora stated that the Coca-Cola bin was the most successful prototype, having the least amount of cross contamination and the highest rate of recyclables present. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked if there was any difference in cost for the level of service required for the bins. Mr. Zamora stated that the cost would be the same and that the only bins that will be serviced by City Employees are the recycling bins on Lincoln Road and Ocean Drive, the balance of the bins will be serviced by the franchise waste haulers as an in-kind service. The Committee recommended moving forward with a pilot program on Lincoln Road with the Coca-Cola recycling bins pending approval from the Historic Preservation Board.

## **6. The Wolfsonian – FIU Washington Avenue Initiative**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended that the item be brought to the July 25, 2012 Budget meeting and classified it as a Potential Enhancement as part of a broader initiative related to Washington Avenue improvements.**

Cathy Leff, Director of The Wolfsonian – FIU, presented the item.

The Wolfsonian – Florida International University was seeking support from the City of Miami Beach in the amount of \$150,000 to undertake a Master Plan of its Miami Beach Properties. The investment of City funds would leverage and unlock \$10 million that has been approved for The Wolfsonian through the Miami-Dade County Building Better Neighborhoods Bond Issue. These funds are to be used for museum capital improvements that could potentially more than double the amount of square feet dedicated to the exhibition of the Wolfsonian collection at its 1001 Washington Avenue site. The Wolfsonian must advise the County of how it intends to utilize the \$10 million; it must identify which buildings and for what public purpose the funds will be utilized. The Wolfsonian would retain the services of an architect and other related museum consultants to create a long-term plan for its Miami Beach real estate, which includes 1001 Washington Avenue, 1025-1049 Washington Avenue, 1500 Lenox Avenue, and 1538 Lenox Avenue. While the County Bond funds allow up to 10% for soft costs, it is anticipated that those funds will be used to retain the services of the consultants required to execute the work articulated through the Master Plan. The Committee recommended that the item be brought to the July 25, 2012 Budget meeting and classified it as a Potential Enhancement as part of a broader initiative related to Washington Avenue improvements.

## **7. Discussion: Other Public Requests**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee asked that Staff look at options for Altos Del Mar Park, that a place holder be put in City Center Funding for the Collins Canal/Beautification of Dade Boulevard, and that a detailed report of the steps that needed to be taken, how long each process takes and an explanation of why the process takes so long, be given to Commissioner Ed Tobin.**

Resident Daniel Veitia asked that staff look at options for Altos Del Mark Park since the Sculpture Park is not moving forward. Other requests included concern about funding to complete the Collins Canal/Beautification of Dade Boulevard. Assistant City Engineer Richard Saltrick stated that Dade Boulevard is a county road, whereby Miami-Dade County has jurisdiction on all traffic engineering; therefore before the county approves a design, the City needs to request approval from Publix to eliminate the left turn in order to shift the curb further north, it has to speak with the Department of Transportation about the increase in left turns off of Dade Boulevard, and go through the Design Exception Process in order to eliminate the 4 foot median that is required on 4 lane county roads. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked how long the process would take. Mr. Saltrick stated that the Design Exception process is the longest and would take approximately 6 months. Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks suggested that a place holder be put in the City Center funding for the Collins Canal/Beautification of Dade Boulevard. Commissioner Ed Tobin asked that a detailed report of the steps that needed to be taken, how long each process takes and an explanation of why the process takes so long, be given to him. The Committee asked that Staff look at options for Altos Del Mar Park, that a place holder be put in City Center Funding for the Collins Canal/Beautification of Dade Boulevard, and that a detailed report of the steps that needed to be taken, how long each process takes and an explanation of why the process takes so long, be given to Commissioner Ed Tobin.

#### **8. Discussion: FY 2012/13 Capital Projects Prioritization**

##### **ACTION**

##### **The Committee tentatively approved:**

- **the additional funding requested for existing projects**
- **future unfunded projects in adopted CIP requested for FY 2012/13**
- **funding Crespi Park Field Renovation, Fisher Park Irrigation System Restoration, Flamingo Park Madvac System, Stillwater Park Sports Field Landscape & Irrigation, and Tatum Park to Construct 2 Outdoor Sand Volleyball courts**
- **funding the Beach Access Gates, Alton Road Irrigation System from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Michigan Avenue, and Collins Avenue 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Lincoln Road projects for FY2012/13**

##### **The Committee requested:**

- **Staff provide a timeline for the completion of the Middle Beach Rec Corridor Phase II**
- **that funding for furniture, fixtures, and equipment be included in the funding when buildings are planned**
- **the funding source for the North Beach Town Center Complete Streets be changed from North Beach Quality of Life (QOL) to either Pay-as-you-go or CDT/RT**
- **the funding source for South Pointe Pier be changed from South Beach QOL to South Pointe Capital**
- **the Muss Park Kayak Launch be designated as residential use only and be separated from other areas used by children**
- **a report detailing how seawalls are prioritized/programmed**
- **that Staff find alternatives to artificial turf**

- **funding a Pay-as-you-go component from the General Fund Operating budget**

**The Committee asked that status updates regarding the Middle Beach Rec Corridor Phase II be given at future Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meetings.**

**The Committee also recommended bringing a list of projects that have requested funding from Pay-as-you-go for FY2012/13 to the upcoming Committee Meeting.**

**Review of project funding from other sources was deferred to July 10, 2012.**

Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks presented.

Ms. Brooks went over the potential funding sources and their balances as of October 1, 2011. The sources include Pay-As-You-Go Capital (PG), Quality of Life (QOL), Capital Reserve (CR), and Miami-Dade County Interlocal Funds committed to CDT/RT Capital Projects.

Mayor Mattie Herrera Bower asked how projects were prioritized. Ms. Brooks stated that the projects currently being discussed are existing projects which require additional funding. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked for a timeline for the Middle Beach Rec Corridor Phase II to be completed and asked that it be tracked at the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee meetings. Chairperson Weithorn then asked that funding for furniture, fixtures, and equipment be included in the funding when buildings are planned.

Commissioner Ed Tobin asked if the pavilion at Muss Park was going to be air conditioned. Ms. Brooks stated that funding was not available when the item was last discussed. The Committee approved funding a project for air conditioning the Muss Park pavilion. The Committee also requested that the Muss Park Kayak Launch be designated as residential use only and be separated from other areas used by children.

Chairperson Weithorn was concerned with having parks projects waiting for future funding. The Committee recommended funding Crespi Park Field Renovation, Fisher Park Irrigation System Restoration, Flamingo Park Madvac System, Stillwater Park Sports Field Landscape & Irrigation, and Tatum Park to Construct 2 Outdoor Sand Volleyball courts.

Mayor Bower asked for a report on how seawalls are prioritized/programmed.

Commissioner Jorge Exposito was concerned that artificial turf was going to be used on fields because artificial turf generates more heat than asphalt. The Committee recommended that Staff find alternatives to artificial turf.

The Committee recommended funding a Pay-as-you-go component from the General Fund Operating budget. The Committee also recommended bringing a list of projects that have requested funding from Pay-as-you-go for FY2012/13 to the July 18, 2012 Commission Meeting. Resident requested the Committee recommend keeping the millage flat and using the funds to improve the quality of life for residents.

The Committee tentatively approved:

- the additional funding requested for existing projects
- future unfunded projects in adopted CIP requested for FY 2012/13

- funding a project for air conditioning the Muss Park pavilion
- funding Crespi Park Field Renovation, Fisher Park Irrigation System Restoration, Flamingo Park Madvac System, Stillwater Park Sports Field Landscape & Irrigation, and Tatum Park to Construct 2 Outdoor Sand Volleyball courts
- funding the Beach Access Gates, Alton Road Irrigation System from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Michigan Avenue, and Collins Avenue 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Lincoln Road projects for FY2012/13

The Committee requested:

- Staff provide a timeline for the completion of the Middle Beach Rec Corridor Phase II
- that funding for furniture, fixtures, and equipment be included in the funding when buildings are planned
- the funding source for the North Beach Town Center Complete Streets be changed from North Beach Quality of Life (QOL) to either Pay-as-you-go or CDT/RT
- the funding source for South Pointe Pier be changed from South Beach QOL to South Pointe Capital
- the Muss Park Kayak Launch be designated as residential use only
- a report detailing how seawalls are prioritized/programmed
- that Staff find alternatives to artificial turf
- funding a Pay-as-you-go component from the General Fund Operating budget

The Committee asked that status updates regarding the Middle Beach Rec Corridor Phase II be given at future Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meetings.

The Committee also recommended bringing a list of projects that have requested funding from Pay-as-you-go for FY2012/13 to the upcoming Committee Meeting.

Review of project funding from other sources was deferred to July 10, 2012.

## **9. Proposed Capital Renewal and Replacement Projects**

### **ACTION**

**Item Deferred to July 10, 2012**

## **10. Proposed Information and Communications Technology Fund Projects**

### **ACTION**

**Item Deferred to July 10, 2012**

**July 10, 2012**

**OLD BUSINESS**

## 8. Discussion: FY 2012/13 Capital Projects Prioritization

### ACTION

#### The Committee:

- requested the Bass Museum Phase II Expansion project name be changed to Bass Museum Phase II Expansion – Interior Exhibit Space and that the item be discussed further at the July 25, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee Meeting
- recommended that the funding for Euclid Avenue Improvements at Lincoln Road be put in as a placeholder, that community outreach be conducted for the item and refer the item to the Land Use & Development Committee
- referred the discussion of the width of sidewalk café and the encroachment of them into the pedestrian walkway to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee
- requested the name of CC-Misc. Projects be changed to Contingency Items and provide a reconciliation of what was spent in fiscal year 2011/12
- asked that the drawings for the Surface Lot 22X N Shore Youth Center project be provided and that the surface lot projects be brought back to the July 25, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meeting
- asked that Law Enforcement Trust Fund be included next year when the Capital Budget is being discussed
- asked that the Miami Beach Transportation Improvement and Implementation Plan include failing intersections as part of the scope

Interim City Manager Kathie G. Brooks continued with the item and presented the City Center Projects. The Committee asked that the Bass Museum Phase II Expansion project name be changed to Bass Museum Phase II Expansion – Interior Exhibit Space and that the item be discussed further at the July 25, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee Meeting.

Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked if community outreach had been done for the Euclid Avenue Improvements at the Lincoln Road project. Assistant City Manager Jorge Gomez stated that some preliminary outreach had been done and suggested that funding be put in as a placeholder and that Staff reach out to the neighborhood. The Committee recommended that the funding for Euclid Avenue Improvements at Lincoln Road be put in as a placeholder and referred the item to the Land Use & Development Committee. Commissioner Jorge Exposito asked that the issue of the width of sidewalk café and the encroachment of them into the pedestrian walkway be readdressed. Discussion ensued. The Committee referred the discussion of the width of sidewalk café and the encroachment of them into the pedestrian walkway to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee.

The Committee tentatively approved the proposed Anchor Garage/Shops projects. Commissioner Ed Tobin asked if there was interest in police monitored cameras located in tourist areas. Police Chief Ray Martinez stated that an item regarding surveillance cameras has been placed on the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee July agenda. Ms. Brooks suggested that the funding for the pilot program come from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund.

The Committee asked that the name of CC-Misc. Projects be changed to Contingency Items and provide a reconciliation of what was spent in fiscal year 2011/12. Chairperson Weithorn asked if the projects listed in fiscal year 2013/14 – fiscal year 2016/17 should

be moved to the future column since the City may decide not to do them based on what happens with the development of the Convention Center District. Ms. Brooks stated that her concern with moving all the items to the future column is trying to distinguish those things that need be done versus the things that are truly future projects.

Chairperson Weithorn asked for details of the Surface Lot 22X N Shore Youth Center project. Parking Director Saul Frances stated that drainage and lighting were included in the cost. Chairperson Weithorn then asked to see the drawings for the project. The Committee asked that the surface lot projects be brought back to the July 25, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meeting.

The Committee asked that Law Enforcement Trust Fund be included next year when the Capital Budget is being discussed.

Chairperson Weithorn asked what the scope of work was for the Miami Beach Transportation Improvement and Implementation Plan. Public Works Director Fred Beckmann stated that it is a study to determine the transportation needs for the City. Commissioner Tobin asked that the study include solutions for failing intersections.

## **9. Proposed Capital Renewal and Replacement Projects**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee asked that a list of the unfunded items be provided, a photograph of the fire station 2 reroof project be taken and presented at the July 25, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meeting, and that the age of the air conditioning units in the Anchor Garage that are programmed for renewal and replacement be provided.**

Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks presented the item.

To ensure that renewal and replacement of General Fund assets are funded and addressed when needed, in FY 2004/05, the City of Miami Beach established a dedicated millage for renewal and replacement funding to be used for capital projects that extend the useful life of the City's General Fund assets to be used exclusively to provide for renewal and replacement of capital items related to our facilities and infrastructure over and above routine maintenance. At the same time, the City established a systematic approach to identify renewal and replacement needs. City facilities are inspected at least once every five years to determine current renewal and replacement needs as well as projected replacement dates for all of the major Building components. A Facility Condition Index Rating (FCI) is assigned to each facility based on the total value of existing requirements divided by the current replacement value of the building.

The current dedicated millage of 0.1083 mills (as of FY 2011/12) is projected to generate \$1,859,000 for the General Fund Capital Renewal and Replacement Fund based on the July 1 values. In addition, based on the ongoing review of projects funded in prior years, approximately \$600,000 is available as Renewal & Replacement Fund Balance as of 09/30/11 for General Fund renewal and replacement projects, resulting in a total of \$2,459,000 available for funding FY 2012/13 General Fund renewal and replacement projects. It was also noted that approximately \$4 million in additional projects have been identified that could be upgraded, if additional funding were available. Based on the review of funding needs over the next 5 years, Administration has identified an additional approximately \$11.4 million in General Fund major facility components that may need to

be replaced. Together with the \$4 million not recommended for funding in FY 2012/13, this results in approximately \$15.4 million to be addressed between FY 2013/14 and FY 2016/17, an average of \$3.8 million per year. However, each year the list of projects are re-reviewed before finalizing for that year's proposed budget, and projects are often removed because either they may have been addressed through other capital improvement projects, or despite the useful life indications, the maintenance costs may not warrant replacement. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked that a list of the items not being funded be provided.

Ms. Brooks then stated that with the exception of Parking, funding needs in the Enterprise Funds are projected to be less than \$100,000 per year, including funding for FY 2012/13. Proposed Parking renewal and replacement projects for FY 2012/13 total \$566,905. Fleet Management FY 2012/12 renewal and replacement projects total \$82,804. The City Center RDA FY 2012/13 renewal and replacement projects total \$219,373, with an additional \$485,488 for Miami City Ballet. The Anchor Shops and Parking Garage Fund, which are separate because it's not part of the Tax Increment funding of the RDA, has FY 2012/13 renewal and replacement needs totaling \$539,660.

Commissioner Jorge Exposito asked if the Fire Station 2 reroof project was for the new building. Ms. Brooks stated that it is for the historic building on Dade Boulevard. Chairperson Weithorn asked that a photograph of the fire station 2 reroof project be taken and presented at the July 25, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meeting. The Committee asked for the age of the air conditioning units in the Anchor Garage that are programmed for renewal and replacement be provided.

## **10. Proposed Information and Communications Technology Fund Projects**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee requested that the specific dollar amounts requested for each project be brought back to the July 25, meeting**

Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks presented the item.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2005/06, the adopted work plan and budget for the General Fund including funding specifically for Information and Communications Technology Projects. Each year departments propose projects which are then reviewed and prioritized by the Information and Communications Technology Steering Committee. The City's General Fund proposed FY 2012/13 budget includes a transfer of \$280,000 to the Information and Communications Technology Fund for the following projects: Technology Enhancements for New Accela Permitting System; Enhancement to Eden Accounts Payable module; Upgrade of Automated Cleanliness Assessment; Off-Duty Job tracking application; and the Development of Mobile Applications. In addition the following projects are funded from the Police Confiscation fund and the Parking Enterprise fund and will be under development next year with in-house resources dedicated to the respective departments: License Plate Recognition; Gated Revenue Control System Upgrade; and Master Meter Replacement. Further, the following projects do not require funding but are planned to be under development next year with in-house staffing resources: re-writing of the pending City Commission documents log and lobbyist and board and committees programs, in the Office of the City Clerk; complete a historic buildings database and GIS Map; and provide hotel and restaurant information for the Visitor and Convention Authority (VCA) for the development of a visitor information website and data aggregation portal.

Commissioner Ed Tobin asked for a status update on the installation of GPS systems in city vehicles. Chief Financial Officer Patricia Walker stated that there was an item regarding the GPS installation in city vehicles on the July 18, 2012 Commission Agenda. The Committee requested that the specific dollar amounts requested for each project be brought back to the July 25, meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Proposal for Increased Rates for the Botanical Garden**

#### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended authorizing the increased rental rates for the Botanical Garden.**

Real Estate, Housing, and Community Development Director Anna Parekh presented the item.

On June 6, 2012, the Mayor and City Commission approved a renewal of the Management Agreement between the City of Miami Beach and the Miami Beach Garden Conservancy, Inc. for an additional five-year term, commencing on July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017. At the time the Garden Conservancy requested to exercise its five-year renewal option, it also requested authorization for an increase of the rental rates at the facility. In light of the City's annual contribution to the Garden Conservancy, approval of the increased rates was deferred by the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee until the City's budget review process was underway. Historically, the City's annual contribution to the Garden Conservancy, which comprises approximately 33% of the Conservancy's income, has been determined through the annual budget as a city-wide cost. Over the past two years the City reduced its contribution based on a 10% across the board reduction to all entities receiving direct allocations and not based on any review of whether the Garden Conservancy's operating costs increased or decreased.

During the time the Botanical Garden was closed for construction, Conservancy staff conducted extensive market research and visited other facilities in Miami-Dade and Broward counties, to learn about their respective rental policies, pricing and amenities. Based on its research, the Conservancy is proposing to increase the rate for rental of the Banyan Room from \$850 for a period of up to four hours, to \$2,500 for non-City residents and/or businesses and \$1,500 for City residents. Each additional hour would be charged at a rate of \$200 per hour, reflecting an increase of \$25 from the current plan. Also, under the new plan, the rental rate would also include access to the Great Lawn, which previously was mostly reserved for stand-alone events. However, since the renovations have converted much of the area occupied by the Great Lawn into a signature water feature, it is now included as an additional amenity for renting the Banyan Room. For the remaining areas of the Garden that can still be rented out for smaller events, the rents under the new plan would also remain the same. Additional charges include state sales tax and insurance; an annual family membership fee of \$50.00 for non-members; \$25 per hour for a garden attendant and \$125 per hour for janitorial services, shall also still apply under the new plan. In light of the Garden Conservancy's prediction that the revenues under the new rate structure would not significantly impact its budget until the second quarter of FY 2013/14, Administration

recommended that the City's contribution be considered as part of the annual budget process as in previous years.

The Committee recommended authorizing the increased rental rates for the Botanical Garden.

**2. Discussion of the current management and operations of the City of Miami Beach Golf Courses, clubhouses, and related facilities and options/direction for the future management agreement**

**ACTION**

**The Committee recommended the agreement be extended on a month-to-month basis while the Administration meet with Professional Course Management II, Ltd. (PCM) to discuss any additional benefits that would be proffered to the City in consideration of waiving the competitive bidding process; that Staff provides more detailed information on the cost of other golf course management companies and how the golf courses are maintained and the Administration report the results of the discussions and finding of the golf courses comparisons back to the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee for further direction.**

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Smith presented the item.

On September 5, 2007, a new management agreement with Professional Course Management II, Ltd. (PCM) for the management and operations of the City's Miami Beach Golf Club (including the Par 3 Golf Course) and the Normandy Shores Golf Club, was approved by the City Commission. This agreement commenced on October 1, 2007 and is due to expire on September 30, 2012. For the term of the management agreements, PCM has managed the City's golf clubs at a high service levels, and has received positive comments from the City's residents, tourists and day guests. PCM has also done a notable job in managing the annual budget allocated to the golf courses, covering all expenses and debt service at the Miami Beach Golf Club, while exceeding revenue projections and managing expenses at or below the appropriated budget on three (3) occasions during their current term, and on six (6) occasions since the inception of agreements. Additionally, PCM has managed the Normandy Shores Golf Club budget by reducing the projected deficits, while maintaining the Golf Course and Clubhouse in excellent condition. The options available are to either direct the Administration to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP) to be issued as soon as possible with the intent of having a new agreement in effect on October 1, 2012 or shortly thereafter; or direct the Administration to prepare a Commission Item waiving the competitive bidding process and enter into negotiations with Professional Course Management for the continued management and operations of the City's Golf Course, Clubhouses and Related Facilities, with the intention of having an agreement in effect on October 1, 2012.

Chairperson Deede Weithorn stated that PCM should give the City an additional benefit to waive the competitive bidding process. Commissioner Ed Tobin felt that the contract should go out bid to see what the market is like. Discussion ensued. At the conclusion of the discussion the Committee recommended the agreement be extended on a month-to-month basis while the Administration meet with Professional Course Management II, Ltd. (PCM) to discuss any additional benefits that would be proffered to the City in consideration of waiving the competitive bidding process; that Staff provides more detailed information on the cost of other golf course management companies and how the golf courses are maintained and the Administration report the results of the

discussions and finding of the golf courses comparisons back to the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee for further direction

### **3. Status on Building Development Process Fees**

#### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended that the item be brought to the full Commission.**

Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks presented the item.

On January 13, 2010, the City Commission approved four ordinances for the Building, Fire, Planning and Public Works departments related to the fees for Building Development Process. These ordinances went into effect on February 1, 2010 and provided a complete overhaul of the fee structure for the above mentioned departments. Additional changes were adopted by the City Commission in September 2011 that went into effect on October 1, 2011, including reductions to the fees for certain permit types, a continuation of discounts for permit fees related to certain permit types, a continuation of discounts for permit fees related to certain permit types, a waiver of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustments for 2011 and 2012, and the introduction of a cap on permit fees at 10% of the calculated cost of construction.

During the discussions regarding the 2011 changes, the Administration noted that further changes were still being considered and would be brought back to the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee for further consideration. Administration sought direction on the following:

- whether fees related to Planning and Public Works' efforts in the Interior Alteration/Remodeling Permit types should be reduced;
- whether or not the discounts should continue past September 30, 2012, and
- whether or not the CPI increase for 2013 pursuant to the existing ordinance should be waived.

The Administration recommended that fees related to Planning and Public Works' efforts in the interior Alteration/Remodeling permit types be reduced, extend the current discounts past September 30, 2012, and not waive the CPI increase for FY 2012/13.

Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked for an update on the "glitch" bills. Building Department Director Stephen Scott stated that an update would be given to the Committee in the future as well as recommendations for addressing the "glitches".

Commissioner Ed Tobin asked if the environmental incentives were included in the memo. Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks stated that they were not listed in the memo. The Committee recommended that the item be brought to the full Commission.

### **4. Mass Transit Connectivity Study**

#### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended that Administration contact FEVE to explore the matter further, they discussed maybe setting aside funding for the project with the provision that it cannot be used without authorization from the Commission, and that status updates be given to the Finance & Citywide Projects Committee.**

Public Works Fred Beckman presented the item and went on to introduce Transportation Manager Jose Gonzalez.

Pursuant to the adopted policies, goals, and objectives in the Transportation Element of the City's 2025 Comprehensive Plan, the City coordinates closely with Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) to ensure that transit service within the South Beach, Middle Beach, and North Beach communities improves mobility and promotes the use of alternative modes of public transit while preserving the historic character of the community. The City Administration works closely with MDT, the Miami -Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on various short term bus transit projects and initiatives in order to provide residents and visitors traveling in our City with an efficient public mass transportation system. At this time, there is renewed interest, increasing demand, and new options for additional mass transit connections between the City and other parts of the County. In addition, new technology eliminates overhead catenary wires that were one of the concerns of the most recent potential mass transit connections – Bay Link.

In 2004, the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) completed the Miami-Miami Beach Transportation Corridor Study, also known as Bay Link. The Bay Link study consisted of an approximately eighteen (18) mile long bi-directional loop route utilizing the Mac Arthur Causeway, Washington Avenue, Alton Road, 17<sup>th</sup> Street, and Dade Boulevard corridors. The estimated capital cost of the Bay Link LPA was \$482.7 million and the annual operating and maintenance cost was estimated to be \$12.1 million in 2004 dollars. In spite of the support for the Bay Link Transit project, there were a few outstanding concerns over noise, vibration, and the proliferation of the necessary overhead catenary wires throughout the City's historic South Beach district. The unresolved concerns coupled with a lack of funding and political will at the County level to build, operate, and maintain the proposed Bay Link system resulted in a lack of support to program the funding necessary to complete the Preliminary Engineering phase of the project. Currently, the Bay Link Transit project is listed as a Priority IV Unfunded Project in the 2035 MPO Long Range Transportation Plan.

In an effort to promote light rail transit technology along certain PTP corridors within Miami-Dade County and improve connections to the existing regional transit system, the MPO and MDT have recently partnered with FEVE, a state-owned Spanish railway company operating approximately 777 miles of rail service. The rail technology implemented in many urbanized and historic parts of Spain is primarily characterized as a modern streetcar technology that operates in mixed traffic and pedestrian plazas, is not intrusive, and does not require overhead catenary wires between stations throughout the route in order to operate. The streetcars essentially "charge" only at stations via a pantograph mounted on the roof of the streetcar that extends upward to reach the overhead catenaries and charge at the stations and then collapses and hides within the roof structure of the streetcar. The streetcars travel from station to station without needing recharge, thereby significantly reducing the amount of exposed overhead catenary wires within historic cities. FEVE officials have offered to conduct a study through the MPO to evaluate the feasibility and potential benefits of additional transit rail corridors at no charge to the MPO or Miami-Dade County. On January 26, 2012, the MPO Board passed a resolution directing the MPO Director to coordinate with relevant Miami-Dade County and municipal officials, City of Miami and Miami Beach in particular, and staff to facilitate a study to be performed by FEVE as to the feasibility for potential light rail transit corridors.

The Miami-Dade MPO is currently undertaking a planning study with the primary objective of developing an agency-supported, short-term, cost-feasible, countywide plan for an interconnected network of Tolle Managed Highway Facilities with rapid/enhanced

bus service routes and infrastructure. Among the eight countywide corridors that will be highlighted as part of this MPO study is the Bay Link corridor – Mac Arthur Causeway (Downtown Miami Government Center to Miami Beach City Hall). The study will focus on the concept of implementing variable pricing on existing free roadways or new lanes on existing free roadways. This approach involves evaluating the feasibility of implementing segregated managed lanes with all day variable pricing on existing untolled highways (such as the I-395/Mac Arthur Causeway and the I-95/Julia Tuttle Causeway). The study will evaluate the potential of using new revenues generated by the tolled managed lanes/facilities to fund the capital, operating, and maintenance costs of implementing enhanced or express bus services or other type of premium transit, such as light rail. The current condition and approach has and will continue to have a disproportionate impact on lower income travelers who typically do not have a choice and must rely on slow-moving street-running bus service.

Commissioner Jorge Exposito asked how long it takes to charge the streetcar. Mr. Gonzalez stated that it charges when it's at a station, which is only approximately one minute. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked if the streetcar would share the road with other vehicles. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the vehicle could operate in mixed traffic or on a dedicated right-of-way. Discussion ensued. The Committee recommended that Administration contact FEVE to explore the matter further, they discussed maybe setting aside funding for the project with the provision that it cannot be used without authorization from the Commission, and that status updates be given to the Finance & Citywide Projects Committee.

## **5. Miami Beach Mass Transit Loop**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended that Staff research bus ridership in Middle and North Beach and that the item be pursued for the future and referred the item to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee.**

Transportation Manager Jose Gonzalez presented the item and went on to introduce Alan Brick-Turin of Gannett Fleming Inc, the consultant for the City.

On September 25, 2005, the City of Miami Beach and Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) collaboratively launched the South Beach Local Circulator service (known as the SoBe Local). The South Beach Local replaced the City's Electrowave Shuttle service which had been in service continually since 1998 providing public transportation for South Beach residents and visitors. The South Beach Local is a bi-directional circulator providing public transit service to the eastern and western areas of South Beach with a recent extension of service to Belle Isle. Since inception, the South Beach Local has proven to be the most successful MDT-operated circulator with an estimated annual ridership of approximately 1,563,000 and more than 127,000 boardings per month since the beginning of this fiscal year. Funding for the operations and maintenance is provided by the City of Miami Beach and MDT. The City currently contributes \$1.2 million annually from the Charter County Transportation Surtax (half-cent) allocation and MDT contributes \$1.9 million.

In 2012, the City of Miami Beach, in cooperation with the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), completed a study to identify a transit service that would be customized to the unique needs of the A1A/Collins Avenue/Indian Creek Drive corridor along the eastern coast of the city. Only two routes traverse the length of the corridor between 71<sup>st</sup> Street and South Beach; other routes cover portions of that length

and then connect with the rest of the county across Biscayne Bay. Traveling by bus within the city along the A1A corridor is therefore more complicated and less convenient than would otherwise be expected. The recently published resident satisfaction survey reported that seventy-eight (78%) percent of respondents in the Mid-Beach "condo-corridor" and North Beach use their car as their primary mode of transportation. Eighty-nine (89%) percent of Mid-Beach respondents reported their car as the primary mode of transport. The proposed service would be uniquely configured to serve the high rise condominiums, apartment buildings, and hotels for which transit travel is a voluntary alternative to travel by private automobile. Generally, auto ownership and household income in the corridor is high suggesting considerable discretion in mode choice for residents and visitors in the corridor. In addition, the service would carry residents and visitors to non-work destinations: restaurants, entertainment venues, and shopping rather than to places of employment. The proposed service would carry residents and visitors from the high rise condominiums and hotels along A1A to the retail and commercial districts along 71<sup>st</sup>, 41<sup>st</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> Streets. The service would intersect with and therefore support transfers to Miami-Dade Transit service within Miami Beach and to destinations on the mainland. This service would require the operation of six buses, of which two City-owned vehicles could be deployed. An additional vehicle, for a total of seven, should be acquired to use as a spare, particularly as the vehicles become older and require more substantial maintenance.

An estimate of capital and operating & maintenance costs was developed based on transit operations in the Cities of Miami, Doral, and Hialeah, all systems that rely on contract service and/or non-union employees. Anticipated costs were limited to: the purchase of vehicles, 28 to 35-foot diesel buses similar to those used on the South Beach Local; hybrid or other "green" technology vehicles could be substituted at some additional cost; automatic vehicle location/GPS/traffic signal priority technology to support passenger information systems and better management of on-time service; and minimal accommodations for a dispatcher and drivers. Bus shelters and other passenger amenities were assumed to be covered by the type of turnkey contract funded through advertising on the shelters. The total cost for the initial system was estimated at \$3.3 million in capital costs and \$1.6 million in annual operating and maintenance costs. Given the preliminary annual budget of \$1.3 million for operations and maintenance the proposed service plan is as follows:

- 15-minute frequency between noon and midnight, 7 days per week, 364 days per year
- Service route operating along 71<sup>st</sup> Street/Normandy Drive to A1A to 41<sup>st</sup> Street at Sheridan returning on 40<sup>th</sup> Street to A1A, then continuing south on A1A to Washington Avenue at Lincoln Road.

The Miami-Dade MPO North-Middle Beach Transit Study looked at three alternatives for operation of the service:

- Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) as Sole Operator: This alternative relies upon MDT as the sole operator to extend service in accordance with the plan studied. MDT would assume all responsibilities including that of hiring staff and delivery and maintenance of vehicles.
- City of Miami Beach as Sole Operator: Under this alternative, the City would assume all responsibility of the route and its service. The initial outlay of the bus purchase and other capital expenditures would occur in the first year. In subsequent years the City would incur only operational and maintenance costs.
- Turnkey Operator as Sole Operator: Under this alternative, the City would engage a private operator to procure vehicles and provide service for a fixed price. Training of personnel, maintenance of vehicles, and all other responsibilities would fall solely to the operator. The operator could be engaged in a performance-based contract, requiring specific services including service

reliability.

The Administration recommended that the City issue a request for proposals for a turnkey contract with a qualified operator, including maintenance staff, to operate the proposed service. The turnkey contract could potentially be funded with Quality of Life (QOL) and Parking funds if the bus transit circulator provides service to parking garages and or parking lots along the service routes.

Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked why the proposed route stopped at 71<sup>st</sup> Street and didn't go further north. Mr. Brick-Turin stated that finances were a factor in the route and that the goal was for route to get people to commercial areas. Public Works Director Fred Beckmann stated that staff would look into the ridership in Middle and North Beach. Chairperson Weithorn then asked where the funding would come from. Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks stated that QOL funds are currently split into four categories but could be split further into 5 categories. Ms. Brooks went on to explain that fifty percent of the amount of QOL funds earned are committed to the payment of a portion of the debt service on the Miami Beach Redevelopment Agency – City Center/Historic Convention Village Bonds, which are used for the development, improvement and construction of certain public areas including a portion of the Cultural Center facilities located within the City Center District. The remaining fifty percent is allocated equally among North Beach, Middle Beach, and South Beach for capital projects that enhance Miami Beach's tourist related areas and various arts and cultural programs. Ms. Brooks then stated that instead of 4 categories, the 50% of QOL funds are broken into 5 categories, where transit is the 5<sup>th</sup> category. Transportation Manager Jose Gonzalez added that staff is actively pursuing grants to help fund the project. The Committee recommended that Staff research bus ridership in Middle and North Beach and that the item be pursued for the future and referred the item to the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee.

**July 25, 2012**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Discussion of FY 2012/13 Capital Project Prioritization Status Update**

**ACTION**

**The Committee recommended the item be brought to the full Commission for approval.**

The Committee did not discuss the item.

**2. Repair and Reconstruction of Seawalls**

**ACTION**

**The Committee requested a copy of the seawall study along with the prioritization**

list.

Public Works Director Fred Beckmann presented the item.

The City evaluated its seawalls in 2003 and developed a report that prioritized their repair. Since that time, the City has improved many of the seawalls. In December 2011, the City completed a Seawall Assessment that re-evaluated the 74 remaining seawalls that have not been improved and are not part of a neighborhood project about to enter construction. The seawalls were assessed in two ways: condition and maintenance priority. Conditions were assessed on a scale of 1 to 6, where 1 means the seawall is in critical condition and 6 means that the seawall is in good condition. Maintenance Priorities were assessed on a scale of 1 to 3. A rating of 1 means low priority and 3 means high priority. This fiscal year, the City is addressing the seawalls that have a Critical Condition rating and a Medium Maintenance Priority – there are no Critical seawalls with a High Maintenance Priority. These seawalls are Muss Park, Wofford Park, 10<sup>th</sup> Street, and Bonita Drive. All seawalls being repaired or replaced will be built to a minimum elevation of 3.2 feet NAVD. This is based upon the 2011 Citywide Stormwater Master Plan. This minimum was set based upon anticipated sea level rise and the expected design life of seawalls. This requirement will also be enforced for private seawalls that are being repaired or replaced. Commissioner Jorge Exposito asked where the elevation would be measured from. Mr. Beckmann stated that it would be 3.2 feet above high tide. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked that a copy of the study be given to the Commission.

### **3. Collins Canal Seawall Repair/Dade Boulevard Bike Plan**

#### **ACTION**

**Staff is to give the Commission a report in approximately three months regarding the status of the project and provide details of mangrove planting.**

Public Works Director Fred Beckmann presented the item.

Approximately 3,100 feet of seawall on the north side of the Collins Canal, between West Avenue and Convention Center Drive, is in poor condition and requires replacement. The City received a grant for this work in the amount of \$1,383,885. The City is also constructing approximately 5,000 feet of bike path along this corridor from 17<sup>th</sup> Street to Park Avenue with a grant in the amount of \$2,873,896. The seawall grant expires on December 31, 2012 while the bike path grant expires on July 31, 2013.

The project is fully permitted and has been approved by the Historic Preservation Board. It has also been endorsed by the Transportation and Parking Committee, the Disability Access Committee, the Bikeways Committee, the Belle Isle Residents Association, the Miami Beach Convention Center, the Greater Miami & the Beaches Hotel Association, and the Miami Beach Senior High PTSA. The contractor, Harbour Construction, is scheduled to complete the work in October. Presently, it is constructing the barrier wall that sits atop the seawall. Upon completion of the barrier wall, it will install the lighting, the bike path, the irrigation and the landscaping. At the request of the City, the contractor will install a temporary bike path along a 650-foot section that is too narrow to plant trees. While continuing the work, the City is pursuing two designs in parallel that could provide for trees in that area: planting mangroves in the canal or shifting the Dade Boulevard curb to the north to provide a planting area. The City met with regulatory agencies about planting mangroves in Collins Canal during the permitting process. At that time, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) had indicated that

it would not be allowed due to concerns over sea grass habitat and that the reduction in the navigable width of the canal. Since that time, certain residents have put staff in contact with the County Coastal Habitat Restoration Coordinator. After numerous meetings, he indicated that he would assist in an attempt to obtain approval from FDEP and the Army Corps of Engineers. As a result, of further conversation with these agencies, the City is putting together a design plan of the proposed planting for further discussion with these agencies. It was noted that this effort will have a long permitting process that will last six months to one year.

The City is also considering shifting Dade Boulevard to the north by eliminating a left turn lane into Publix, which is adjacent to the western end of the 650-foot non-landscaped area. Publix has recently contacted City staff and indicated that it would oppose the elimination of the left turn lane. If approval is ultimately obtained from Publix and FDOT, the City could begin the design exception process with the County. The work would be completed 14 months after beginning the design exception process. Should the City approve removal of the turn lane and approve the shift, it is estimated that the cost of this work would be \$2,100,000 to \$2,300,000. At this time, the project is currently \$800,000 under budget. Therefore, the City would need to provide approximately an additional \$1,400,000 to modify the roadway to allow for the planting area.

Commissioner Michael Gongora asked what could be done to make the project greener. Mr. Beckmann stated one option was to plant mangroves, which staff is pursuing with the County and that he expects that the \$800,000 would cover the cost of planting the mangroves. Commissioner Jerry Libbin stated that he felt that the planting of the mangroves was not what the residents were looking for; that they were asking for shade trees and a wider sidewalk. Mr. Beckmann stated that staff is continuing to pursue the waiver and talk to Publix. Discussion ensued. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked what the maintenance cost is of shade trees versus mangroves. Parks and Recreation Assistant Director John Oldenburg stated that the mangroves do not require maintenance and that the maintenance cost for shade trees is approximately \$15-25 per year per tree. Chairperson Weithorn then asked how many trees would be planted. Mr. Oldenburg stated that there would be approximately 100 trees planted. Chairperson Weithorn then stated that she agrees with Commissioner Gongora that the City has tried to make the project green and asked what the end date for this was. Mr. Beckmann stated that he would send the Commission a report in approximately three months regarding the status of the project. Commissioner Exposito asked what size of mangroves would be planted and how long do they take to grow. Mr. Beckmann stated that he would get back to him regarding that.

#### **4. Wolfsonian-FIU Master Plan/Washington Avenue Enhancement Plan**

##### **ACTION**

**The Committee asked that the item be brought to the August 22, 2012 Finance and Citywide projects Committee meeting to discuss granting the \$150,000.**

Assistant City Manager Jorge Gomez presented the item and went on to introduce Regina Bailey, assistant director for Special Projects and Academic Initiatives at the Wolfsonian. The FIU-Wolfsonian Museum made a request to the City to fund a museum facilities master plan. This master plan will create a general vision for the development of the museum's properties and facilitate the investment of \$10 million of County bond funds earmarked for the Wolfsonian. The museum is requesting \$150,000 for this effort. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked where the funding would come from. Interim City

Manager Kathie Brooks stated that it could come from Resort Tax. Commissioner Michael Gongora asked if the \$10 million would be used on properties on Miami Beach only. Ms. Bailey stated that it would be spent only in Miami Beach. The Committee asked that the item be brought to the August 22, 2012 Finance and Citywide projects Committee meeting to discuss granting the \$150,000.

## **5. Discussion of Parking Lot Projects**

### **ACTION**

#### **None Required**

Capital Improvement Projects Director Fernando Vazquez presented the item.

At the July 9, 2012 Finance and Citywide Projects Committee meeting, during discussion of the FY 2012/13 proposed Capital Budget, the Committee requested additional information regarding the surface lot projects. Photographs of the proposed surface lot projects were presented. Discussion ensued. Chairperson Deede Weithorn stated that in looking at the pricing of the surface lots previously, the pricing didn't seem appropriate for simple surface and remilling. Mr. Vazquez stated that the costs presented were the original costs and that they are being reviewed and updated as necessary.

## **6. Discussion of Scope and Anticipated Results from the proposed Transportation Improvement and Implementation Plan.**

### **ACTION**

#### **The Committee recommended funding the Miami Beach Transportation Improvement and Implementation Plan.**

Public Works Director Fred Beckmann presented the item and went on to introduce Transportation Manager Jose Gonzalez.

The Municipal Mobility Plan (MMP) was completed in 1999 with a 15 year horizon and is about to sunset in 2015. Sixty percent of the projects listed in the MMP have been either completed or are in various stages of project development; others are either not feasible or need further study. The 2025 Comprehensive Plan has a goal to maintain and improve a sustainable, safe, convenient and energy efficient multi-modal transportation system which is focused on the mobility of people, not merely vehicles; recognizes levels of service and parking needs; is coordinated with the regional transportation network; and balances the needs of all current and future users. The study would be funded from the People's Transportation Plan. Mr. Gonzalez added that staff is actively pursuing grants to help fund the project. Mayor Matti Herrera Bower asked that the comprehensive plan connect the City's transit with other transit, such as the South Florida East Coast Corridor (SFEC) Study which proposed railway corridor between downtown Miami and Jupiter. The Committee recommended funding the Miami Beach Transportation Improvement and Implementation Plan.

## **7. Proposed Capital Renewal and Replacement Projects**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended the item be brought to the full Commission for approval.**

At the July 9, 2012 Finance and Citywide Projects (FCWP) Committee meeting, the Administration presented the proposed project specific appropriations for FY 2012/13 for all Funds, including the General Fund Capital Renewal and Replacement Fund. At that time, the Committee requested a list of the unfunded projects. The Committee reviewed the list of additional projects which had been identified that could be upgraded, if additional funding were available. The Committee recommended the item be brought to the full Commission for approval.

## **8. Proposed Information and Communications Technology Fund Projects**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended the item be brought to the full Commission for approval.**

The proposed FY 2012/13 Information and Communications Technology Projects were discussed at the July 9, 2012 Finance and Citywide Projects Committee meeting. At that time, the Committee requested that Administration provide a schedule outlining the funding for each project recommended by the Information and Communications Technology Steering Committee. Commissioner Jerry Libbin asked if the License Plate Recognition (LPR) listed for both the Police and Parking Departments were the same item. Chief Financial Officer Patricia Walker stated that the Parking Department's license plate readers are both handheld and installed on vehicles, which is accompanied by a software program that the City can implement in the Parking Department to replace the decal program. Furthermore, Ms. Walker stated that the LPRs for the Police Department would be accessing Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) information that the Parking Department LPRs would not be permitted to access. Commissioner Libbin then suggested that the Police Department purchase at least four (4) LPRs. Assistant Police Chief Mark Overton stated that the Police Department will be purchasing five (5) LPRs. The Committee recommended the item be brought to the full Commission for approval.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

## **9. Presentation Regarding the Use of Public Surveillance Cameras**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee asked that a comparison of the amount of lighting and crime be done.**

Police Chief Ray Martinez gave a brief history of the item and went on to introduce Lieutenant David Hernandez, who presented the item.

Chief Martinez recommended that if cameras were installed that they are not monitored and that the City move forward with a pilot program. Commissioner Michael Gongora stated that he was in favor of more police presence in the problematic areas instead of cameras. Chief Martinez stated that he would recommend more police personnel before

moving to a closed circuit television system. Mayor Mattie Herrera Bower stated that she felt that more street lighting would be effective in deterring crime and that without monitoring the cameras would not be as effective. Commissioner Jerry Libbin asked why the department was requesting 12 cameras that could pan, tilt, and zoom. Lieutenant Hernandez stated that they were trying to keep the costs down. Commissioner Libbin then asked if other cities where cameras are already being used have fixed cameras or pan, tilt, zoom cameras. Lieutenant Hernandez stated that a combinations of cameras. Commissioner Libbin stated that he agreed with Mayor Bower in that if the cameras were not monitored they lose their effectiveness. Mayor Bower also stated that she felt that the cameras were an invasion of privacy. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Jorge Exposito asked what Law Enforcement Trust Funds (LETF) could be used for. Chief Martinez stated that the department typically utilizes LETF for equipment, such as swat or specialized equipment. Commissioner Exposito then asked if there were height requirements for the cameras. Lieutenant Hernandez stated that the cameras would be at street light level. Commissioner Exposito was concerned that at the street light level, the view of cameras would be blocked by awnings and umbrellas and felt that it would be more effective to add staff rather than cameras. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked where this request came from. Chief Martinez stated that it was referred from the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee. Chairperson Weithorn then asked if the cameras were not purchased, what would the department spend the funds on instead. Chief Martinez stated that they would look to purchase a mobile command vehicle. Chairperson Weithorn then stated that she felt that more research regarding the closed circuit television system needed to be done and that it should not be funded this year but should be considered in the future. Mayor Bower then asked that a comparison of the amount of lighting and crime be done.

## **10. Review of Duties - Office of the City Clerk**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended that should the Charter amendment pass, an item regarding who the Special Master should report to be discussed at a Legal Oversight Committee meeting.**

City Clerk Rafael Granado presented the item and gave a brief synopsis of the memo.

The functions of the Office of the City Clerk are currently compartmentalized into three (3) Divisions: Office of the City Clerk; Special Master; Central Services (Print Shop and Mail Room). There are currently thirteen (13) full-time employees and one (1) part-time employee in the Office. If the electorate approves on November 6, 2012 to amend the Charter, establishing the City Clerk as a Charter Officer responsible for performing the designated duties listed in Resolution 2012-27962, whose compensation shall be established by ordinance, and whereby the City Clerk shall be appointed and removed by and accountable to the City Commission instead of the City Manager, the duties of the Office of the City Clerk would be performed by 5 full-time employees. If the Charter amendment is approved, the following duties should be transferred: Agenda Preparation; Special Master; Central Services functions; customer service functions (passport processing and 604-CITY). Said duties could be performed by eight (8) full-time employees currently in the Office of the City Clerk.

Commissioner Jerry Libbin asked if the number of employees would change if the Charter amendment were to be approved. Mr. Granado stated that the Assistant City Clerk had retired but has stayed on a part-time basis but is in fact a full-time position which would be filled by the permanent City Manager. The Committee recommended that should the

Charter amendment pass, an item regarding who the Special Master should report to be discussed at a Legal Oversight Committee meeting.

## **11. Discussion Regarding Festival of the Arts**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended reinstating the funding for the Festival of the Arts as part of the FY 2012/13 budget process.**

Commissioner Jerry Libbin presented the item and introduced James Echols, Co-founder of Life is Art, Inc. Mr. Echols requested that funding for the Festival of the Arts be reinstated. Mayor Matti Herrera Bower asked what the funding was. Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks stated that the last time the Festival of the Arts was funded it was approximately \$49,500. Commissioner Libbin stated that he was in favor of reinstating the funding for the Festival of the Arts. Commissioner Michael Gongora asked Mr. Echols how he would revive the event. Mr. Echols stated that he has good relationships with artists throughout South Florida and would enhance the marketing for the event through not only traditional means but also by using social media. Mayor Bower stated that she felt that the funds should be awarded to the winner of a Request for Proposal (RFP) or grant. Commissioner Gongora stated that he would be in favor of reinstating the funding and would discuss how it gets distributed at a later date. The Committee recommended reinstating the funding for the Festival of the Arts as part of the FY 2012/13 budget process.

## **12. Budget Briefing Discussion: Status Update on FY 2012/13 General Fund Operating Budget**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended all positive impact/minimal service impact, efficiencies listed.**

**The Committee recommended discussing the potential enhancements for the Police Department at the August 22, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meeting and approving the potential enhancements listed except for the Police Department and Fire Department/Ocean Rescue requests.**

**The Committee recommended that at the next Executive Session the Police Department Maximus Study be discussed.**

Interim City Manager Kathie Brooks presented the item.

Police Chief Ray Martinez presented potential reductions and enhancements for the Police Department and Fire Chief Javier Otero presented potential reductions and enhancements for the Fire Department.

Commissioner Jorge Exposito asked what was the percentage of beach robberies of personal items that are stolen from beach-goers and asked about the status of the beach lockers. Police Chief Ray Martinez stated that those types of stolen items are classified as a larceny and not a robbery, which occurs person to person. Assistant Police Chief Mark Overton stated that snatched items such as cell phones makeup

approximately 5% of robberies and 16% of robberies are purse/bag snatches. Real Estate, Housing, Community Development Director Anna Parekh stated that staff is working on the feasibility of beach lockers and that documents are being prepared for the City Manager's approval.

Ms. Brooks presented the positive impact/minimal service impact, efficiencies. The Committee recommended all positive impact/minimal service impact, efficiencies listed. The Committee reviewed but did not recommend the potential service adjustments. Ms. Brooks then presented the proposed additions and service enhancements (see attachment). Commissioner Jerry Libbin asked for clarification on the enhancements for the Police Department. Commissioner Libbin then asked why Real Estate, Housing, and Community Development Department was requesting to add a full-time leasing specialist. Anna Parekh, Real Estate, Housing, and Community Development Director, stated that the number of leases/contracts that needed to be managed has increased. Mayor Mattie Herrera-Bower asked if the revenue from the contracts would cover the cost of the leasing specialist. Ms. Parekh stated that it would.

Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked if it was Ms. Brooks's intention to take away the duties related to the Condominium Ombudsman position from current employees, create a Condominium Ombudsman position, assign those duties to the new position and not hire a new employee. Ms. Brooks stated that it was. Commissioner Libbin then asked for the status of the discussion regarding hosting the Miss USA® pageant. Acting Assistant City Manager Max Sklar stated that the dates for the pageant had not been finalized but it would not fall during Memorial Day Weekend, a three year contract was requested and that he would get the information and reply to the Commission. Commissioner Libbin asked if the Committee wanted to discuss the Police Department Maximus Study. The Committee recommended that at the next Executive Session the Police Department Maximus Study be discussed. The Committee recommended discussing the potential enhancements for the Police Department at the August 22, 2012 Finance & Citywide Projects Committee meeting and approving the potential enhancements listed except for the Police Department and Fire Department/Ocean Rescue requests.

### **13. Discussion of Proposed Law Enforcement Trust Fund Projects**

#### **ACTION**

**The Committee tentatively approved the FY 2012/13 budget request.**

**Staff is to follow up with Commissioner Jerry Libbin regarding maintenance costs of the mobile command unit, Panasonic tough books, and tasers with video capability.**

Police Chief Ray Martinez presented the item.

The Committee reviewed the FY 2012/13 Federal & State Confiscation Budget Request. Chairperson Deede Weithorn suggested replacing the funding request for the Surveillance Camera Pilot Program, \$500,000, with a Mobile Command Unit. Commissioner Jerry Libbin asked for clarification on the 5 year plan. Chief Martinez explained that there are recurring expenses that are funded through Law Enforcement Trust Funds (LETF), such as payment to the Legal Department to handle Confiscations and grant funding. Commissioner Libbin then asked of the items on the FY 2012/13 request, what items may need to be funded from the General Fund in subsequent years. Chief Martinez stated that maintenance for the Mobile Command Unit would need to be

funded as well as the Panasonic Tough Books and tasers with video capability. Commissioner Libbin asked that staff follow up with him regarding the costs of maintenance. The Committee tentatively approved the FY 2012/13 budget request.

**August 22, 2012**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Discussion: Status Update on FY 2012/13 General Fund Operating Budget**

#### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended moving forward with operating budget and bringing the item to the full Commission.**

At the July 25, 2012 Finance and Citywide Projects Committee (FCWPC) Budget Briefing, the Committee directed that additional information be brought back at the August 22, 2012 FCWPC meeting. Interim City Manager Kathie G. Brooks presented the item and stated that The General Fund Operating Budget had incorporated changes since the July 25, 2012 FCWPC meeting. The changes are noted as follows:

- Potential Efficiencies and Minimal Impact Reductions – No changes from the July 25, 2012 FCWPC meeting.
- Potential Service Reductions – Discussions at the July 12, 2012 FCWPC meeting raised concerns that the service reductions that were identified, impacted programs for youth in the community. As a result, the Police Department has withdrawn these recommendations and is also revising their potential service enhancements as a result.
- Potential Service Enhancements – The potential service enhancements relating to the Police Department have been adjusted to reflect a correction to the Internal Affairs Enhancement and the exclusion of new vehicles, fuel and maintenance and depreciation costs for the additional Police Department union positions being proposed (these costs will not impact the FY 2012/2013 budget since the additional Police Department union positions will not be eligible to be issued a vehicle until the successful completion of his/her probationary period). Please note that the vehicle costs will impact subsequent years. These longer- term cost impacts associated with the issuance of vehicles have been reflected. In addition, as noted above, the Police Department is withdrawing the second part of their recommendation for Internal Affairs at this time, pending evaluation for FY 2013/2014 after hiring of the existing Command position and the addition of the proposed new Investigative Supervisor.
- Potential Revenue Enhancements —

As a result of these changes, the estimated surplus for FY 2012/2013, should these potential efficiencies and enhancements be incorporated, is approximately \$900,000. This surplus could be used to further reduce the millage; however, given that the one-

time pension credit of \$2.2 million in the General Fund will expire for FY 2013/2014, an alternative for discussion is to set the surplus aside for FY 2013/2014.

Chairperson Deede Weithorn stated that she thought they had agreed to hold off on the Proposed Additions and Service Enhancements until they figured out how to pay for them. Ms. Brooks stated that if you do all of the enhancements, they still have the \$900K excess and if any are taken out or are not done, then you will have an additional surplus. Commissioner Ed Tobin asked for clarification on the new major position to understand if the cost is all in what is stated in the proposed budget or if there is another component that would include pension. Ms. Brooks stated that the only thing not included is pension and that is because that doesn't occur in year one and that would be an additional cost. Police Chief Raymond Martinez spoke and stated that he was trying to figure out how he could put more bodies on the street. Commissioner Tobin asked for an explanation on eliminating the request of switching out five sergeants for investigators. Chief Martinez stated he made the decision to hold off on that recommendation until he gets the captain and investigative supervisor on board so that the structural changes are made before the policy changes are done. Commissioner Jerry Libbin pointed out that the vehicle cost being incurred can become excessive moving forward and how do they assure themselves that they will save the monies being stated. Chief Martinez stated the overall budget is coming under budget this year. Ms. Brooks stated usually when overtime exceeds the budget it is due to the fact that there are vacancies. Commissioner Tobin asked about the reserve unit that the City currently has. Chief Martinez stated there are currently 38 positions per the agreement and the City is currently at 19 positions and it is something that can be improved on. It is difficult for an individual working a full time job to learn how the City works for 3 or 4 months without pay to enter the reserve program.

Mayor Bower asked for an understanding on the increased cleaning of Washington Avenue and why is it that Lincoln Road is not being included when there is more traffic and restaurants located there. Commissioner Jorge Exposito asked how much more do they get with the one additional crew at Washington Avenue. Sanitation Director Alberto Zamora stated that one additional crew changes the service from every two weeks to weekly. Public Works Director Fred Beckman stated the budget for the cleaning is reflective of two individuals cleaning and the equipment which is incorporated only in the first year. Mr. Zamora stated that the biggest issue they have on Washington Avenue are the homeless. Chairperson Weithorn and the rest of the Commissioners ask that the efficiency in which the cleaning is being done be looked at.

Ms. Brooks then went on to discuss the Fire Transport Fees. Fire Chief Javier Otero stated that by increasing the fees you only impact Medicare, Medicaid and insurance companies. Ms. Brooks stated that with the current rate of non-payment of 36%, it would be about a \$250K increase with the new rates. Chairperson Weithorn stated they will move forward increasing the rates to that of Miami Dade County. Ms. Brooks then went on to state that the Wolfsonian – FIU Washington Avenue Initiative was being funded from Resort Tax at \$75,000 a year over the next two years for a total of \$150,000.

Assistant City Manager Max Sklar began the discussion on the Parks and Recreation enhancements in explaining that they are trying to increase the rates to at least what the cost is to break even. Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Smith explained the cost breakdown of the rental of the pavilion and the staff that will be placed there which is mandatory. Commissioner Exposito asked if a needy person can get assistance for park rentals in which Mr. Smith stated there is no assistance for rental

of pavilions. The Commission agreed to increase the residential rate to \$125 for the North Shore open space pavilion rental rate.

Mr. Sklar discussed adding a service charge to the Colony Theater for ticket sales. The Commission agreed to add the \$1 facility processing fee and charge 30% of ticket sales for events. It was decided to not establish a \$0.25 comp ticket processing fee.

Chairperson Weithorn opened the floor to public comment. Miami Beach resident Christine Flores stated that she agrees that setting aside the surplus money is a good idea due to the uncertainty of the economy. Richard McKinnon of CWA asked for clarification on savings between the Office Associate IV, Data Entry Clerk, Administrative Aide I and Parking Part-time positions. Mr. McKinnon stated it there doesn't appear to be any real cost savings in these positions per the proposed budget. Chairperson Weithorn requested Ms. Brooks to provide further information on these figures to the Committee.

## **2. Status Report from the engineering company assigned to do the City's Citywide Stormwater Master Plan**

### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended having a meeting with FDOT.**

Public Works Director Fred Beckman presented this item.

Public Works Director Fred Beckman stated the City has completed a draft of a new Stormwater Management Master Plan (SWMMP) that evaluates the existing system and recommends sustainable infrastructure improvements. The Commission instructed Mr. Beckman to meet with the people of the community and that meeting was held on Friday August 17, 2012. It was well attended by 40 residents Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Commissioner Jerry Libbin. Mr. Beckman stated they discussed the SWWP, sea levels and the 30 year program versus the 20 year stormwater capital program.

Mr. Beckman recommended moving forward with the plan, as it is a flexible and an adaptable capital plan. The plan is to modify the stormwater system as sea levels rise by: installing backflow preventers at outfalls, construct new stormwater pump stations, add pumps to gravity systems, create storage for stormwater and raise seawalls to mandated heights. Mr. Beckman stated that at some point, the Commission would have to pass an ordinance to raise all seawalls, but that is not the recommendation as of now. In the interim, the City can monitor the changes in the sea level and refine future adaption strategies or re-prioritize infrastructure requirements as needed. Mr. Beckman stated they have done a lot of regulatory work on this whereas the State has not. Most of the items handed down to the County through DERM are not specific to capital plan changes for stormwater flow as the City of Miami Beach is way ahead of everyone else on this plan. The hardest thing is the underground infrastructure to be sized properly with the right size pumps. Chairperson Deede Weithorn asked are there any neighborhoods not getting pumps that the infrastructure will have to be done later at a later date. Mr. Beckman said that you would see one of two things, neighborhoods without gravity wells will have to be input and in other neighborhoods you will have gravity wells and pumps would have to be installed. He stated that none of this is anticipated for another 15-20 years.

Commissioner Jorge Exposito asked for clarification on the gravity well. Mr. Jason Johnson of CDM explained that testing has to be performed to determine the performance and the saturation rate in the soil. There are requirements in term of performance and elevation of the ground water underneath and how quickly it absorbs depending on the location. Mayor Bower asked if the water is treated before it is pumped. Mr. Johnson stated that it has to be in compliance with DERM that requires a level of pre-treatment. Mayor Bower asks that we remain in constant communication with the County to make sure we are on equal footing if they decide to do something there. Chairperson Weithorn added that at some point, this is not a City of Miami Beach problem, but a Federal Government issue and therefore the 20 year forecast seems reasonable.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **3. Discussion regarding utility rates**

#### **ACTION**

**The utility rates do not need to be raised at this time and bring back the line of credit to the full Commission when ready.**

Chief Financial Officer Patricia Walker presented this item.

Chief Financial Officer Patricia Walker opened by stating that with the cooperation of CIP and Public Works, that they have worked hard to ensure that there is funding for the water and sewer projects that are scheduled for the upcoming year. Ms. Walker stated that she will have to use funding from the line of credit to bridge the gap. She has asked to increase the line of credit from \$30 to \$50 million for this year because of the magnitude of the remaining projects. A bond issue is not foreseen for the upcoming year. Over the next few months, Finance will work with Public Works and CIP to determine the phasing of the major projects that are left that may generate increases for water, sewer and stormwater. Stormwater rates will definitely need to increase a year or two from now depending on the timing of the cash needs. For water and sewer, a smaller bond issue is anticipated that might cause some rate increase a year from now.

### **4. Discussion regarding Building Fees 10% impact**

#### **ACTION**

**The Committee recommended bringing the item back to the next meeting.**

Building Director Stephen Scott presented this item.

On January 13, 2010, the City Commission approved four ordinances for the Building, Fire, Planning and Public Works departments related to the fees for the Building Development Process.

These ordinances went into effect on February 1, 2010 and provided a complete overhaul of the fee structure for the above mentioned departments. Additional changes

were adopted by the City Commission in September 2011 that went into effect on October 1, 2011, including reductions to the fees for certain permit types, a continuation of discounts for permit fees related to certain permit types, a waiver of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustments for 2011 and 2012, and the introduction of a cap on permit fees at 10% of the calculated cost of construction. The Administration had stated that it would return to the Finance and Citywide Projects Committee (Committee) with a review of the 10% cap.

Additionally, at the July 10, 2012 Committee meeting, the Committee asked the Administration to report on the incentives offered to customers for environmentally friendly projects. For certain incentives for the construction of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Rating System approved environmentally sustainable construction. Among the incentives offered for these projects were expedited plan reviews by all regulatory departments of the City, expedited inspections, and monetary refunds of permit fees up to 1% of the value of the construction, subject to the annual appropriation of funds for this purpose by the City Commission. The City Commission has not to this point allocated funds for this purpose.

In addition, with the adoption of the Maximus fee structure effective February 1, 2010, the City Commission implemented permit fee reductions as follows to incentivize environmentally-friendly construction.

Chairperson Deede Weithorn opened by requesting a summary of the building development process. Building Director Stephen Scott stated as a result of an extensive study of the approved fee ordinance, the primary component of that was a 10% analysis of permit fees. Discussed were fee adjustments that they wanted to recommend, taking Planning and Zoning and Public Works to do interior remodeling, make certain discounts permanent and for the first time in three years implementing a 3.7% CPI increase. Mr. Scott wants to offer a 1% discount on permit fees only if the budget allows for environmental incentives. Chairperson Weithorn asked what would that 1% incentive would be. Mr. Scott stated it depends on the amount of projects that have the environmental incentive. Ms. Weithorn asked if this item would come back as a budget item or a separate item. Interim City Manager Kathy Brooks stated it would come as a separate item on the budget. The floor was opened to public comment in which Miami Beach resident Gabrielle Redfern stated this is an important incentive to further projects and to help make the City more sustainable. She was also pleased to see the single family home backup generator program.

Ms. Weithorn made a motion to place the item on the September Agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Jorge Exposito. Meeting adjourned.