

**MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA
TOWN COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Jarvis Hall
4505 Ocean Drive
Tuesday, February 23, 2021
6:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Chris Vincent called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Also present were Vice Mayor Alfred “Buz” Oldaker, Commissioner Edmund Malkoon, Commissioner Elliot Sokolow, Commissioner Randy Strauss, Interim Town Manager Linda Connors, Assistant to the Town Manager Neysa Herrera, Town Attorney Susan Trevarthen, Director of Finance and Budget Lucila Lang, Director of Public Works Ken Rubach, Acting Development Services Director Jhanelle Campbell, Sydney Ramirez of Development Services, Special Projects Coordinator Debbie Hime, Town Engineer Jay Flynn, Human Resources Director Lisa Slagle, and Public Information Officer/IT Administrator Steve d’Oliveira.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. INVOCATION

All present observed a moment of silence.

4. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, DEFERRALS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Interim Town Manager Linda Connors requested that Item 17b be deferred until the March 9, 2021 meeting.

5. PRESENTATIONS

**a. The Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation Enhancement Study
(Jhanelle Campbell, Acting Development Services Director)**

Acting Development Services Director Jhanelle Campbell explained that the Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation Enhancement Study was completed by The Corradino Group, which performed an analysis of the Town’s pedestrian amenities, including sidewalks and crosswalks.

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Kathryn Lyon, representing The Corradino Group, advised that the purpose of this study was to create a vision for pedestrian and bicycle transportation within Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. The goal of the study was not only to assess existing conditions but to enhance connectivity and accessibility to activity centers in the Town, including beach access and commercial districts. Another aspect considered by the study was traffic calming, as most municipalities experience issues related to high “cut-through” traffic on residential streets. These devices include speed humps/bumps, raised crosswalks, and curb extensions.

The Town has implemented several items that are already working, such as creating a sense of place, connectivity, and active transportation. Findings reflected a lack of bicycle infrastructure and pedestrian connectivity in certain areas. Crash data for cyclists and pedestrians was also reviewed. A survey indicated that walking is the primary means of getting around in the Town, followed by driving and biking. While a majority of respondents feel safe, some streets are considered more dangerous due to speeding and cut-through traffic.

Recommendations for improvements to bicycle infrastructure include:

- Increase mileage of bike lanes or sharrows
- Infill of sidewalks
- Removal of obstacles
- Creating more east-west connectivity through mid-block crossings
- Creating safer connectivity through improved crossings with in-ground lighting or flashers at the intersection of Seagrape Drive and Washingtonia Avenue as well as Poinciana Street and Washingtonia Avenue

The study identifies over 55 potential projects, which were scored based upon accessibility, reduction of vehicular trips, mode shifts, effects on the environment, connectivity, safety, and public input. Based on these scoring criteria, three projects were identified as high priority:

- Construction of a sidewalk along Hibiscus Avenue from Seagrape Drive to Bougainvillea Drive
- Crosswalk improvements at Hibiscus Avenue and Bougainvillea Drive
- Crosswalk improvements with in-ground flashers at the intersection of Seagrape Drive and Washingtonia Avenue

The report lists several potential funding options for these and other projects.

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Interim Town Manager Linda Connors stated that she is working on the Town's Community Investment Plan (CIP) with Director of Public Works Ken Rubach and Director of Finance Lucila Lang. The Plan will recommend some of the projects identified in the report to be discussed further at the next CIP meeting. She advised that one option is to incorporate a number of the issues listed in the report into the CIP discussion scheduled for March 23, 2021.

The Commissioners agreed by consensus to discuss the report in greater detail at the March 23 CIP workshop.

Interim Town Manager Connors clarified that Staff proposes the following workshop meetings:

- March 9: discussion of the fiscal year (FY) 2021 CIP, as Staff has identified a number of items planned for construction that cannot be realized in the current fiscal year; Staff would like to discuss other items to include in the CIP in order to move forward with construction
- March 23: discuss the budget schedule for FY 2022, including CIP funding for the next five years
- April 6: discussion of surtax projects, which would prioritize a number of the projects identified in the pedestrian plan; Staff may meet with the Commissioners individually in advance of this meeting to determine priorities and how to move forward

Public Works Director Ken Rubach advised that once the CIP has been discussed further, this will help determine what the Town will apply for with respect to Broward County surtax funds. Once baseline projects for the five-year CIP are established, this will dictate the surtax funds for which the Town may wish to apply. The deadline for applying for surtax funding or making amendments to existing municipal projects is expected in April 2021.

The following Item was taken out of order on the Agenda.

8. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

c. Chamber of Commerce (Eva Marissa)

Eva Marissa, Chair of the Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Chamber of Commerce, thanked the Commission for attending the recent ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Visitor Center

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and Chamber office. The facility has opened and can accommodate up to four individuals at a time per COVID-19 safety protocol.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY DISCUSSION

a. Broward Sheriff's Office – Monthly Report to Commission – January 2021 (Captain Thomas Palmer)

Captain Thomas Palmer of the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) addressed preparations for the spring break season, advising that he has been in contact with Police personnel in other coastal municipalities to discuss these plans. An emergency lane will be implemented near the beach, and beach renourishment has been rescheduled from March 1 to mid-March. This will affect the Town's two beach portals. BSO expects to have enhanced visibility and patrols during this period.

Mayor Vincent asked if it would be possible to reschedule beach renourishment after spring break has passed. Public Works Director Rubach explained that the renourishment project is operated by the Army Corps of Engineers: no further scheduling or staging information is available at this time.

Commissioner Malkoon made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

b. LBTS Volunteer Fire Department – Monthly Activity Report – January 2021 (Chief Judson Hopping)

Vice Mayor Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sokolow, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

c. AMR Report – January 2021 (Chief Brooke Liddle)

Vice Mayor Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Malkoon, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

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8. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

a. Town Manager Report – February 23, 2021 (Linda Connors, Interim Town Manager)

Public Works Director Rubach reported that installation of a crosswalk at Hibiscus Avenue and Bougainvillea Drive has been completed except for striping. This provides connectivity to a new crosswalk on A1A and enables residents and visitors to access the beach more easily. The project was budgeted in the Town's Sidewalk Replacement Fund and cost under \$10,000.

Interim Town Manager Connors advised that as part of an initiative to better reach the community, Public Information Officer/IT Director Steve d'Oliveira will host a video edition of *Town Topics*, which will be available on local channel 78 as well as on the Town's website.

Assistant to the Town Manager Neysa Herrera has undertaken a study to determine what other Broward communities are doing with regard to reopening in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Roughly 71% of Broward municipalities are still not fully open. Staff recommends that Town Hall remain closed at this time, although they are working toward a safe reopening. Ionization cleaners have been added to the Town's air conditioning units to address airborne contaminants.

b. December 2020 Finance Report (Lucila Lang, Finance Director)

Finance Director Lucila Lang noted that there is \$49,931.18 in emergency supplement funding under General Revenues. This amount was reimbursed through a Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) grant, which covered COVID-19-related expenses. The total amount of the grant was \$50,000.

The Town has paid the Visitor Center its first payment, with the second expected to be billed in March/April. Insurance is at 68%, with the commercial insurance package paid in three installments. The final installment of approximately \$26,000 will be paid in April 2020.

Most spaces in Town parking lots are within expectations, except for the Commercial Boulevard meters, which are at 15%. Many of these meters remain closed due to the pandemic. The Town has collected 71% of its budgeted amount from the meters on

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Bougainvillea Drive and Poinciana Street. Eastward Strand spaces were not budgeted in FY 2021, but roughly \$17,000 has been collected from them.

Vice Mayor Oldaker requested additional detail in the future regarding Parking Fund activity. Mayor Vincent also asked for information related to the closure of parking on Commercial Boulevard and El Mar Drive to accommodate outdoor seating, asking if Town parking lots on A1A and El Prado are generating more revenue because of this change.

Finance Director Lang addressed the schedule for ad valorem tax payments, noting that two payments are made in November, two payments in December, and one payment per month afterward. She concluded that she will provide a report the following month to show what has been paid to Broward County thus far.

9. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

None.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

None.

12. OLD BUSINESS

a. El Mar Drive Project (Commissioner Sokolow)

Commissioner Sokolow recalled that at the February 9, 2021 Commission meeting, there had been discussion of next steps for the El Mar Drive project prior to the October Commission meetings.

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment.

It was determined that public comments submitted anonymously would not be entertained.

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Assistant to the Town Manager Neysa Herrera, Acting Planner Sydney Ramirez, and Human Resources Director Lisa Slagle read the following public comments:

- Stewart Pearlmen, resident, found it ironic that a Town-approved marathon path was adjacent to the existing median on El Mar Drive
- Byron and Jo Ann Lavan, residents, requested that further discussion of the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Michael Ross, resident, asked that discussion of the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Thomas Kuecks, resident, asked that no vote be taken on the El Mar Drive at tonight's meeting and that further discussion be postponed
- Bill McGarrity, resident, asked that no vote be taken on the El Mar Drive project at tonight's meeting and that further discussion be postponed
- James Van Dam, resident, was not in favor of any proposals for the El Mar Drive project
- Renee Oneal, resident, did not feel the El Mar Drive project should be done
- Doreen Cameron, resident, asked that a decision on the El Mar Drive project be made at tonight's meeting and stated her support to "fix only what needs to be fixed"
- Deborah Steele, resident, asked that any vote on the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Barbara Cole, resident, was not in favor of any of EDSA's proposals for the El Mar Drive project
- Bengt Pettersson, resident, asked that any vote on the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Monalisa Peterson, resident, asked that any vote on the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Bill Smith, resident, asked that more discussion be held before a decision is made on the El Mar Drive project
- Jeff Yocom, resident, asked that the sidewalks on El Mar Drive be repaired and speeding traffic addressed and a dog play area considered
- Susan Sette, resident, asked that no changes be made to El Mar Drive
- Richard Mueller, resident, asked that any vote on the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Betty Blickman, resident, asked that any vote on the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Florence M. Jordan, resident, asked that any vote on the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall

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- Suzanne Morese, resident, asked that any vote on the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Paula McNally, resident, asked that any vote on the El Mar Drive project be postponed until fall
- Debra Palmer, resident, felt the public did not need further education on the proposals for El Mar Drive
- Ann and Tom Byers, residents, felt the public did not need further education on the proposals for El Mar Drive and asked that further discussion be postponed until fall
- Ted Taft, resident, asked that further discussion of the El Mar Drive project be postponed until Jarvis Hall has reopened
- Cristie Furth, resident, recommended that El Mar Drive's Midcentury Modern style be preserved and embraced

Commissioner Sokolow explained that he had asked for this Item to be placed on tonight's Agenda to determine whether to proceed with sidewalk repairs and/or improved lighting within or outside the existing budget. No discussion or decision on design proposals was intended. Mayor Vincent observed that sidewalk and lighting upgrades could be presented for inclusion in the CIP without additional discussion of other changes to El Mar Drive.

Commissioner Malkoon requested additional information on potential sidewalk repairs. Interim Town Manager Connors advised that she had asked Public Works Director Rubach to identify damaged and/or hazardous sidewalk areas on El Mar Drive. The Town is taking action to address existing hazards, using money budgeted from the FY 2021 sidewalk/street repair line item.

Commissioner Malkoon concluded that he was in favor of postponing further discussion of the El Mar Drive project until October 2021. Vice Mayor Oldaker reiterated his preference for discussion in October as well and encouraged Interim Town Manager Connors to continue casual community outreach to residents.

Commissioner Strauss asserted that his primary concern with the proposed project has been sidewalk repair and safety. He did not see a reason to move forward with any other proposed changes.

b. Town Manager Discussion (Lisa Slagle, Human Resources Director)

Mayor Vincent reviewed the following timeline:

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- January 8, 2021: Interim Town Manager Connors appointed
- February 9: Commission discussed the Town Manager position further
- February 10: announcement posted on Town website that the administration seeks direction on how to proceed in permanently filling this position

Human Resources Director Lisa Slagle advised that if the Commission accepts resumes directly without engaging a consultant, these resumes automatically become public record. Some candidates may not be willing to submit to this at the beginning of the process, as it could jeopardize their current positions. Mayor Vincent noted that this may mean the announcement on the Town website will need to be removed.

Commissioner Strauss recommended sending out a request for proposal (RFP) to a “headhunter” firm to assist with the search, vet potential candidates’ resumes, and provide presentations on top candidates. Vice Mayor Oldaker noted that the Florida City and County Management Association has a senior advisor program that assists municipalities with searches of this nature and suggested that the Town may wish to consider this option in lieu of an RFP.

It was clarified that five candidates have submitted their resumes thus far. The estimated cost of a consultant firm is between \$25,000 and \$30,000 for recruitment, depending upon the Town’s expectations.

Human Resources Director Slagle requested direction from the Commission regarding the scope of the RFP, including the possibility of candidate assessment exercises. The Commissioners directed Town Attorney Trevarthen to draft an RFP for the selection of a professional search firm, to be brought before the Commission for review and approval at the March 9, 2021 meeting before it is sent out.

Commissioner Strauss requested further clarification of the potential time frame for the RFP and candidate search. Town Attorney Trevarthen advised that if the draft RFP is approved at the March 9 meeting, firms would be afforded roughly two weeks to respond. She estimated that the selected firm could be under contract in five to six weeks, after which time the actual recruitment process will begin. Commission consensus to proceed with RFP draft to be brought back for Commission approval.

13. NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2021 Ford Ranger Lease – Buildings and Public Lands Division (Ken Rubach, Director of Public Works)**

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Public Works Director Rubach stated that the Town's current Ford Ranger is 14 years old and beyond its useful life. The new truck will mirror the current Parking Services vehicle with a larger cab and lift gate.

Vice Mayor Oldaker asked if Staff maintains a schedule of its vehicle leases. Public Works Director Rubach confirmed that this could be included in the next Town Manager's Report.

Commissioner Sokolow made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

**b. Polaris Ranger XP1000 UTVs Leases – Public Works Department
(Ken Rubach, Director of Public Works)**

Public Works Director Rubach stated that this Item proposes the replacement of two existing units, which are out of warranty after five years. The recommended carts are used by the VFD, BSO, and the city of Fort Lauderdale.

Commissioner Strauss asked if there is any salvage value to the existing units. Public Works Director Rubach replied that this will be done through the Town's auction program.

Commissioner Sokolow made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

c. FY 22 Budget Schedule (Lucila Lang, Finance Director)

Finance Director Lang advised that Staff will hold a number of budget pre-planning discussions on March 9, 16, and 23. For the March 9 meeting, she recommended discussion of the FY 2021 CIP as well as any budget amendments proposed to come before the Commission at the March 23 meeting. Transfers from the Parking Fund to the CIP and General Fund will be discussed on March 9 as well.

Another aspect of pre-planning is discussion of the Town's five-year CIP, which will cover items in the FY 2021-2022 budget. This will be included as part of the March 23 meeting.

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Vice Mayor Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Malkoon, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

14.COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Oldaker thanked Staff for their work in completing the Hibiscus Avenue/Bougainvillea Drive intersection.

Commissioner Malkoon advised that he, Interim Town Manager Connors, and Assistant to the Town Manager Neysa Herrera had participated in a conference call with the CEO of Holy Cross Hospital regarding a potential vaccination site. Assistant to the Town Manager Herrera confirmed that there have been communications with Assumption Church related to this initiative.

15.ORDINANCES 1ST READING

None.

16.ORDINANCES 2ND READING

- a. Ordinance 2021-01 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, AMENDING AND RE-NAMING CHAPTER 6.5 CODE ENFORCEMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 6.5-5, ENTITLED CONDUCT OF HEARING AND 6.5-13, ENTITLED CODE CITATION FORM, TO CLARIFY THE PROCEDURES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF CITATIONS, IMPOSITION OF CIVIL PENALTIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS RELATED TO CITATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Jhanelle Campbell, Acting Development Services Director)

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment.

Ms. Ramirez read the following public comment:

- Michael and Paula Herlihy, residents, thanked Staff for the proposed modification to address dogs off-leash on Town beaches, and recognized BSO for its efforts to monitor this issue

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Interim Town Manager Connors explained that this civil citation Ordinance provides Code Compliance Officers with tools to enforce items that have been difficult to enforce in the past, including animals on Town beaches and in parks. Enforcement will begin with an educational campaign by Code Compliance Officers and VFD members. This campaign will continue throughout the month of March, followed by implementation of the civil citation program, if necessary, in April.

Commissioner Malkoon asked if the civil citation Ordinance applies to other issues as well, such as noise violations. Interim Town Manager Connors confirmed that the Ordinance can be used to address other infractions as well.

Vice Mayor Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strauss, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

17. RESOLUTIONS – PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. **Resolution 2021-11: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE RANKINGS FOR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS NO. 20-11-01 FOR CONSULTING SERVICES TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION AND OPERATIONS AUDIT OF THE LBTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT; AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NUMBER ONE RANKED FIRM MATRIX CONSULTING GROUP, LTD.; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Neysa Herrera, Assistant to the Town Manager)**

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

Mayor Vincent noted that the most recent previous VFD audit was conducted in 2008.

Assistant to the Town Manager Herrera clarified that the Town budgeted \$50,000 for a fire assessment study in FY 2021; however, the study cannot be completed in time to submit its results prior to FY 2022. Staff recommends that funds be moved to complete the study.

Commissioner Sokolow made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Malkoon, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

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- b. Resolution 2021-12: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, AMENDING AND RE-ADOPTING THE BUILDING PERMIT AND INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Jhanelle Campbell, Acting Development Services Director)**

This Item was deferred to March 9, 2021.

- c. Resolution 2021-13: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ENCOURAGING COMPLIANCE WITH BROWARD COUNTY'S YEAR-ROUND LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION MEASURES AND DIRECTING THE TOWN MANAGER TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAMMING TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC REGARDING LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION CONSERVATION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Jhanelle Campbell, Acting Development Services Director)**

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

Vice Mayor Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strauss, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

- d. Resolution 2021-14: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND THE FLORIDA GOVERNOR TO OPPOSE LEGISLATIVE CHANGES PROHIBITING THE LOCAL REGULATION OF VACATION RENTALS; PROVIDING DIRECTION TO TOWN OFFICIALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Linda Connors, Interim Town Manager)**

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

Vice Mayor Oldaker requested clarification of the next steps for this Resolution. Town Attorney Trevarthen replied that the Resolution will be transmitted to a list including the Governor, Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, Florida League of Cities, and several other organizations, including all Broward County municipalities.

Vice Mayor Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strauss, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

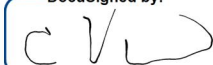
18. QUASI JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

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None.

19. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

DocuSigned by:

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Mayor Chris Vincent

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

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Town Clerk Tedra Allen

3/25/2021

Date

Public Comments – Commission 02.23.2021

1. Stewart Pearlman

We have talked in the last about el mar. I want to point out how ironic that when the city approved the marathon the path, as I suggested to you in the past, was against the existing median. Ironic, no?

2. Byron and Jo Ann LaVan

Dear Mayor Vincent, Vice May Oldaker and Commissioner Malkoon, Commissioner Sokolow, and Commissioner Strauss: It has come to our attention that you are not postponing the El Mar Drive Project hearing until October. Your meeting will be on Tuesday, February 23rd. This is such an important decision you will make, that we wish you would wait until the fall when Jarvis Hall is open to the public for more discussions. We ask you what's the rush. There needs to be more analytical thinking among you and the residents, especially the ones most affected who live on El Mar Drive. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

3. Michael Ross

I would like the following comment read at the February meeting: I would like the discussion concerning the El Mar Design project to be postponed as previously voted on so that the public can attend at Jarvis Hall in the fall. I fully understand the 3 proposed designs and think none of them are appropriate in meeting the desires of the majority of people who use the street. I do not need further education as I have a Ph.D. Thank you,

4. Thomas Kuecks – Resident

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, Please do not vote, or direct staff to vote, on 2/23/2021 to continue to try and re-educate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. I hope that you postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and people can participate and speak in person. The problem is not that citizens are incapable of understanding the plans and need your help to re-educate us. The simple truth is that we clearly do understand the plans and do not like them. I live on El Mar Drive. You do not. I understand. You do not. Don't cram this plan down our throats without our consent and then declare that you have done something great on our behalf. If you do not understand that, then you are the ones needing some re-education. I feel you are not representing our needs at all. It's frustrating and extremely disappointing. Respectfully. Thomas Kuecks. Resident, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea

5. Bill McGarrity – resident

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, Do not vote or direct Staff on 2/23/2021 to continue to try and re-educate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. We want to postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person. I am a resident who walks El Mar daily Thanks! Bill McGarrity, Sea Ranch Lakes North, Lauderdale by the Sea

6. Jim James F. Van Dam

We (even seasonal residents who ONLY spend >\$20,000 per year in taxes and HOA expenses plus additional \$\$\$ for 5-6 months of bars, restaurants, gas, groceries etc etc etc in LBTS) have had plenty of opportunity to be informed about El Mar Options. If we wanted what is being pushed by LBTS governance, my wife and I would have bought a condo on Galt Ocean Dr. It's got everything you want - faster traffic, bigger truck parking, ruder car drivers (if your a walker) no neighbors chatting in the streets, fewer pet owners. fewer casual bikers, less friendly shopping - in fact none of the casual inefficiency that makes El Mar Dr and LBTS feel like an actual neighborhood that you'd like to live in - but you get the point. Current El Mar Dr. ambiance is what brought us here. Everyone who spends daily time on El Mar gets it. And is willing to pay whatever price in inefficiency that entails.

7. Renee O'neal

Please do not try to educate me on wasting my tax-payers money for a project that does not need to be done. I fully understand what you are trying to do. Stop wasting tax-payers money on trying to fix something that is not broken. Just plant some.

8. Doreen Cameron

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, I understand you will be discussing the El Mar reconstruction project again during your February 23, 2021 meeting. If so, thank-you, I am happy to hear this as I was disappointed the decision would be postponed until Jarvis Hall reopens in October for further consideration. Apparently though you now feel residents could use re-education on the EDSA Design Plans. I doubt this as I feel you have done an excellent job of informing the public. I'd like to let you know I am a staunch supporter of "Option 4" to fix only what needs fixing. **However**, I am asking that you simply make a decision, one way or the other, at your meeting on Tuesday. This unsightly road desperately needs renovation, lets get on with something. Please, just consider the facts, the input you have received, make your best decision and start work now, over this coming summer. Doreen Cameron, Sea Ranch North

9. Deborah Steele

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, do not vote or direct Staff on 2/23/2021 to continue to try and re-educate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. We want to postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person.

10. No Name

Please do not vote on el mar until city hall is open as promised on previous zoom meeting. Listen to your resident and voters who elected you. What is the motivation to push this issue through the back door for Commissioner Sokolow?

11. Barbara Cole

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners- Tonight offers you, the administration, and staff the opportunity to redeem yourselves in the eyes of those you represent! It's time to go back to the successful formula we had in 2010! Bring back round table discussions, commissioner liaison participation and commissioner agenda items and listen to those who elected you rather than impugning them with negative triggers such as making us "understand" and "re-educating" us! Tell EDSA goodbye! If the Town Engineer threatens to not sign off on El Mar fixes wanted by the people he should step away or resign! Use another headhunter company not our former Town Manager and take the time to vet them and the candidates with a litmus test of our town and its Protect and Preserve ideology and active residential participation which is the key to a successful outcome! Any new projects such as the Pedestrian Study requires a 180 from the rollouts and disasters of the Holiday Inn and El Mar Drive Design Projects! They require targeted data from the neighborhoods they impact brought to the commission from staff and contracted entities that take the lead in decisions from the commission on how to proceed! Now is the time to roll up your sleeves and show us you all finally get it and the last 2 faltering years are in the rear view mirror for good! Thank you.

12. Bengt A. Pettersoon

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, do not vote or direct Staff on 2/23/2021 to continue to try and re-educate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. We are educated enough and want you to postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person. It is appalling that you do not listen to the vast majority of Lauderdale by the Sea residents or do not honor the 3-2 vote

against the project already cast. So much for listening to the will of your constituents. Please leave this beloved treasure and symbol of LBTS alone!

13. Monalisa Pettersson

Do not vote or direct Staff on 2/23/2021 to continue to try and re-educate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. We are educated enough and want you to postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person. It is appalling that you do not listen to the vast majority of Lauderdale by the Sea residents or do not honor the 3-2 vote against the project already cast. So much for listening to the will of your constituents. Please leave this beloved treasure and symbol of LBTS alone!

14. Bill Smith

Good afternoon, I understand the El Mar Dr project is going to be discussed at the upcoming meeting although it was tabled until October at last meeting. Don't quite understand that change. In any event I can't see how anything can be approved against the over 90% of residents not in favor. It seems obvious there needs open discussion in a in person forum or possibly a working committee that could ferret out the objections leading to a design that still works for everyone. I still am not sure if different design costs have been debated or even established as well. I would think a pre-requisite for any major project. Thank you for your time.

15. Jeff

Dear Mayor and Commissioners - The public is educated on the El Mar Design project and think it's a total waste of time and money to destroy a perfectly good landscape for no reason. Fix the sidewalks, deter speeding, or allocate police resources to deter speeding, and leave the median alone. Why not talk about the swept under the carpet topic of providing a fenced in area for dogs to get their much-needed exercise instead of calling the public morons and destroying a beautiful landscape?

16. Susan Sette

PLEASE LEAVE EL MAR DRIVE ALONE!! We the residents love it just as it is! Maybe you people trying to make El Mar Drive a parking lot should come on the weekends and see how many of us residents are out there walking, jogging, riding bikes, walking dogs and babies. We wouldn't be able to do that if in fact you get your way and turn it into a parking lot! I'm assuming you people making these decisions probably don't live in the area so it really doesn't effect you. PLEASE LISTEN TO THE RESIDENTS WHO THIS CHANGE WILL ACTUALLY EFFECT!! DON'T MAKE OUR BEAUTIFUL, SAFE STREET A PARKING LOT!! Thank you.

17. Richard Mueller

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, Do not vote or direct Staff on 2/23/2021 to continue to try and re-educate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. We want to postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person.

18. Betty Blickman

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners,
Do Not vote or direct Staff on 2/23/2021 to continue to try and re-educate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. It is INSULTING. Our prior votes have indicated that we want to POSTONE THIS PROJECT UNTIL Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person. We voted you into office so you can speak for us, but you aren't doing that. There is no emergency to this matter. Please listen to what your constituents are saying.

Florence M. Jordan

Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, Do not vote or direct Staff on 2/23/2021 to continue to try and re-educate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. We want to postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person. We do not need Truck parking on this beautiful drive. I believe you are the ones that are incapable of understanding that the people of this beautiful town do not want this project or these plans. The people of this town voted you into office and you should be listening to them. Thank you, Florence M. Jordan.

19. Suzanne Morese

We DO understand the different plans presented for EL MAR DRIVE. Most of us were relieved and happy that the discussion of this topic was delayed until it would be possible to attend meetings in person again. Please don't disappoint your constituency and continue with the last decision to postpone this discussion (and postpone any changes) until we can all meet in person and attend the meetings. I do think, at that time, you will realize that many of us who are opposed to your plans for EL MAR DRIVE do, in fact, understand the options and still prefer to leave that beautiful street as it is.

20. Paula McNally

PLEASE do not vote or direct staff on 02/23/2021 to continue to try and reeducate us on El Mar Drive with the EDSA Design Plans. We want to postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person. I do not think it is reasonable to make such an important decision during this time of the pandemic. Many owners/residents are not even here this year and may be unaware of what you are suggesting. Even if they are snowbirds / Canadians, whatever...we are all taxpayers and should have a say such an important decision. El Mar Drive is the hear of our beautiful community...please don't ruin it!!

21. Deborah Palmer

We do not need to be educated on the three plans proposed for El Mar.. we know what they are, have viewed them and read about them. We don't like them!! We are in favor of plan 4... fix what needs fixing and leave the median alone.

22. Ann & Tom Byers (150 Words)

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, & Town Staff. With all due respect, we don't need to be re-educated on the three Design Plans. We understand the plans. We have ready many articles on the topic, attended and participated in Zoom meetings and visited the life size models of all three plans. A less costly and invasive fourth design plan needs to be considered: enhancing sidewalks, lighting, end median landscape. Preserve lovely seaside drive we value as it is – we don't need the noise, disruption, and considerable expense of the three proposed El Mar Plans. We want to postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open. We want the opportunity to participate and speak on this major decision. Please reconsider EDSA's three proposed plans for El Mar Drive. We get it. We don't like it. We want to protect El Mar Drive. Consider Plan 4.

Ted Taft (116 Words)

Dear Commission members – My family are long time residents of LBTS, I am on the Board of Leisure Mar (a 65 unit condo here for 50 years), and also spoke via video at the last session dealing with the El Mar Design project. As you heard in my comments and the vast majority of others, we strongly favor option 4. We are upset to hear elected officials saying we “don't understand” and the job of the commission is to “re-educate us”. We ask that you postpone this project until Jarvis Hall is open and we can participate and speak in person. PLEASE!!! Thank you. Ted Taft, Leisure Mar condo on El Mar Drive, Board of Directors.

23. Cristie Furth (302 Words)

I am speaking tonight on the agenda item regarding re-educating citizens about the EDSA El Mar plans. We may have found the missing link. When Interim Town Manager Linda Connors recently took a walk all around El Mar with a resident she mentioned how hard she works to convince new El Mar property owners not to tear down the original hotels and properties instead urging them to preserve their original footprints and restore them in keeping with the Mid-century modern theme of Lauderdale by the Sea. The resident pointed out to Ms. Connors in the moment following that El Mar Drive is the same! Just like the vintage El Mar properties the Town encourages owners to preserve and restore the low-rise height limits Lauderdale by the Sea Citizens fought tooth and nail to protect - 100 year old El Mar Drive is the trifecta of mid-century modern Lauderdale by the Sea assets, thankfully salvaged over the decades from the grip of greedy developers and Commissioners who just did not understand or just did not care. Citizens do understand that our Lauderdale by the Sea treasures must be preserved and protected yet thoughtfully restored to their original prime. For this community-affirming perspective to flourish the people must be included each and every step of the way - not ignored, demeaned, or scapegoated as has often been the case by Town Officials on the El Mar issue. Commissioners and Town Staff, please learn from your mistakes. Do not go to war with neighborhoods when they disagree with you. Don't push massive projects when citizens cannot participate in person. Please do consider El Mar Drive as to how it works so well in so many ways and how we can keep it, embrace it, and brainstorm ideas together to proudly brand it! Thank you.