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**Sustainability Committee Chairperson**

David Doeblner – Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg

**Members of the Sustainability Committee**

Jeremy Waks- Appointed by Mayor Dan Gelber

David Doeblner – Appointed by Commissioner Micky Steinberg

Mohammed Islam - Appointed by Commissioner Mark Samuelian

Luiz Rodrigues- Appointed by Commissioner Michael Góngora

Richard Conlin – Appointed by Commissioner Kristen Rosen-Gonzalez

Mike Gibaldi - Appointed by Commissioner Ricky Arriola

Max Litt - Appointed by Commissioner John Elizabeth Alemán

DATE: May 29, 2018

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Sustainability Committee

A meeting of the Sustainability Committee was scheduled for Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Manager's Large Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall.

**The attendees were as follows:** Dave Doeblner, Jeremy Waks, Luiz Rodrigues, Mike Gibaldi, Mohammed Islam, and Max Litt

**City Staff:** Elizabeth Wheaton, Director of Environment and Sustainability; Michelle Huttenhoff, Economic Development Manager; Flavia Tonioli, Sustainability Manager; Yanira Pineda, Sustainability Specialist; and Alyssia Berthoumieux, Sustainability Specialist.

**Members Absent:** Richard Conlin

## MINUTES

**1. Minutes**

- a. **MOTION:** Motion to approve minutes of the April 24, 2018 Sustainability Committee meeting. Motion made by Max Litt, seconded by Mike Gibaldi.

**2. Sustainability Committee Work Plan**

a. **2018 Items**

- i. Plastic Free Campaign – Ms. Yanira Pineda presented the item. She explained to the committee that Mayor Gelber gave staff direction to develop a campaign and business program that would incentivize businesses to reduce the use of single-use plastic. The campaign would be created by an outside marketing and advertising company and staff would work with local non-profits to help spread the message. Ms. Pineda presented a mock-up of the plastic free Miami Beach webpage which would eventually serve as an information and registration hub for residents, visitors and businesses. Ms. Elizabeth Wheaton explained an ordinance regarding plastic straws was going to first reading at the June commission meeting and the policy implementation would be phased out similar to the polystyrene ban to help the city with building a case. Mr. Dave Doeblner inquired on the possibility of implementing an “auto straw”

initiative/policy which would require businesses to only serve straws upon request. Ms. Wheaton mentioned this effort could be incorporated into the campaign and during the outreach of the ordinance.

- ii. G.O. Bond Projects – Ms. Elizabeth Wheaton presented the item. She provided the committee an overview of the General Obligation (G.O. Bond) and how this process would help fund a series of projects in the city through a public vote in November. Projects could range from sea turtle lighting to installing water retention areas and smart meters in parks. She stressed the G.O. bond has been designed as a public process and the involvement of the community is essential in helping make these projects possible. Ms. Wheaton explained that residents could submit feedback online, at city hall, or during one of the community meetings. She added more information on the process and the projects which could be found on the G.O. bond website. Ms. Flavia Tonioli explained interest rates are low and it would be a great opportunity to get the bonds issued at the moment which would allow the city to save money over time. She added the city has a good credit rating and as climate change and sea level rise risks increase, the rating could potentially change.
- iii. West Lots Discussion – Mr. Max Litt, Committee Member, introduced the item. He expressed the importance of incorporating resiliency into the future West lots projects such as ecosystem services valuation into the economic analysis, increased transit options, increased active open spaces including green infrastructure and stormwater management features. Ms. Michelle Huttenhoff explained to the committee that the west lots project consists of eight city lots from 79-87 streets, parallel to North Shore Open Space Park. The city hired Dover, Kohl, and Partners for the Master Plan for the North beach neighborhood. Several neighborhood charrettes were held and it was determined that the goal for these properties was not typical. She added that Dover, Kohl, Partners has been tasked with compiling recommendations and presenting them at the upcoming June Commission meeting for further direction. She added resiliency has been a dominant topic within the conversation. Jason King with Dover, Kohl, and Partners presented the two different scenarios that were proposed for this area and added that they're working on integrating additional sustainability elements. Luiz Rodrigues, Committee Member, inquired on whether housing options have been considered. Mr. King explained there has been a lot of push back for affordable housing options because the lots are viewed as an opportunity for passive and active green space. Mr. Doeblinger suggested workforce or micro-housing options. Ms. Huttenhoff explained the lots could be a great way to showcase different projects such as blue and green infrastructure or even solar demonstration projects. Ms. Wheaton stressed resiliency should not just be one side component but a series of elements included throughout the entire process while considering different uses and how they could provide the maximum amount of benefits to the community. Mr. King concluded to Committee members the master plan is in planning phase and continues to be open for discussion and ideas.

### **3. Public Comment**

- a. Members of the public addressed the committee.

### **4. Next Meeting**

- a. June 26, 2018