

City of Clearwater

*Main Library - Council Chambers
100 N. Osceola Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33755*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 18, 2020

9:00 AM

Main Library - Council Chambers

Community Redevelopment Agency

To ensure public safety and comply with the Governor's Safer at Home order in response to the COVID-19 virus, the Clearwater City Council will hold a public meeting on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. using communications media technology.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-69, issued by the Office of Governor Ron Desantis on March 20, 2020, municipalities may conduct meetings of their governing boards without having a quorum of its members present physically or at any specific location, and utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic or video conferencing, as provided by Section 120.54(5)(b)2, Florida Statutes.

Rollcall

Present 5 - Chair Frank Hibbard, Vice Chair David Allbritton, Trustee Hoyt Hamilton, Trustee Kathleen Beckman, and Trustee Mark Bunker

Also Present – William B. Horne II – City Manager, Micah Maxwell – Assistant City Manager, Michael Delk - Assistant City Manager, Pamela K. Akin – City Attorney, Rosemarie Call – City Clerk and Amanda Thompson – CRA Executive Director

To provide continuity for research, items are listed in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

Unapproved

1. Call to Order – Chair Hibbard

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

- 2.1 Approve the March 16, 2020 CRA Meeting Minutes as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk.

Trustee Hamilton moved to approve the March 16, 2020 CRA Meeting Minutes as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

Karen Flaherty submitted an eComment regarding the road improvement in the East Gateway and police patrol, which was read into

the record by the City Clerk (see page 16).

Jerry Maguire said he moved to Clearwater in 1970 and expressed concerns regarding Scientology.

4. New Business Items

- 4.1** Approve amendments to The Ring, LLC grant agreement and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.

The Community Redevelopment Agency trustees approved a development agreement on October 30, 2017 with The Ring Workspaces, LLC (grantee) to establish a co-work space at 600 Cleveland Street (One Clearwater Tower). The CRA's investment of \$600,000 in the project was contingent on specific environmentally friendly building standards, the provision of parking, construction timelines, performance reporting and office space for the city's "Clearwater Business SPARK" program among other requirements.

The CRA trustees amended the development agreement on January 14, 2019 to remove the requirement for an outdoor terrace and update annual reporting requirements. The Ring Workspaces, LLC opened in April 2019 and has reached 100% occupancy with 144 members as of March 2020. After a year of operations, the grantee has requested the following changes to the grant agreement for the SPARK membership:

1. Relocation from Private Office 210 to Private Office 205, from a 4-desks office to a 1-desk office respectively.
2. Unlimited use and access on a first-come-first-served basis to The Ring "Main Conference Room" on the Third Floor of One Clearwater Tower.
3. 30 hours/month conference room bookings for the Ring Multi-Media, Senses, Zen Conference Rooms (Multi-Media room fits up to 50 people for larger meetings).
4. The proposed changes have been approved by SPARK administrator Audra Aja and will allow SPARK to better serve their clients through increased privacy for individual meetings and increased space for Clearwater Business SPARK partner workshops.

The grantee still has an obligation to operate the co-workspace through 2024. That obligation is backed by a performance mortgage on the site located at 630 Laura Street and the performance mortgage will be reduced by 20% for each year of operation as a co-workspace.

The Ring remains an exciting investment in support of downtown redevelopment goals to attract high tech businesses and activate the downtown core. It contributes to building a positive brand for downtown as a unique co-workspace designed to support a high level of health and well-being.

In response to question, The Ring representative Janelle Branch said CDC guidelines have been implemented throughout the workspace. The layout change reduced the capacity; areas that previously had 12 seats now only have 4 seats, allowing the 6-ft. social distance guideline. She said desks have been separated, allowing 6 ft. in between each desk. The city-rented office space for SPARK will only have one desk; when the group meets, it is recommended they use one of the larger conference rooms.

Trustee Hamilton moved to approve amendments to The Ring, LLC grant agreement and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

- 4.2** Approve a design by Klar and Klar architecture for a dynamic public plaza space at the intersection of Cleveland Street and Gulf to Bay Boulevard to be incorporated within the larger Cleveland Street Streetscaping Phase III project.

The purpose of this item is to request that the CRA Trustees approve the final design, "Scheme C," for the Mercado/Festival Plaza public space in the Downtown Gateway neighborhood. The plaza will be integrated into the Streetscape Phase III construction work that will begin this fall. There is an established project budget of \$500,000 from County TIF funds to build the plaza.

Staff hosted two neighborhood meetings on February 27, 2020 with a total of 30 attendees. Klar & Klar Architects presented three concept designs for the Festival Plaza and solicited feedback from attendees. An online survey including the concept designs was conducted as well with a total of 17 responses. When asked which concept respondents preferred, there was an even split between the three options with a desire to choose colors and a design that would be memorable. Respondents also requested to see more color options, to provide built-in activities (like chess), to provide more shade, more landscaping and sustainability features. Residents also requested a fountain or sculpture that honored the story and people in the Downtown Gateway.

At the March 16, 2020 CRA meeting, the CRA Trustees directed staff to select the design that best reflected the Mexican heritage of the neighborhood and to prepare more color options. Based on this feedback, staff directed Klar & Klar to further develop the design for "Scheme C" to incorporate the trustees' and residents' suggestions. The final design is a contemporary version of the type of covered plaza found in traditional squares in Mexico. It provides a flexible event space, ample shade, places for landscaping to be added and vibrant colors. Due to high maintenance costs, it was not possible to provide a fountain. In lieu of a fountain or sculpture, staff is proposing to hire an artist to work with the community to create a mosaic wall that tells the stories of the people of the Downtown Gateway once the plaza is constructed.

APPROPRIATION CODE AND AMOUNT:

Funds are available in CRA Project cost code 3887552-94895, Gateway Mercado, to fund this design.

CRA Executive Director Amanda Thompson and Klar & Klar representative Tim Knowles provided a PowerPoint presentation.

In response to questions, Mr. Knowles said the structural engineer and Tencel fabric structural engineer have been engaged. The plaza structure will be wind rated per the building code; the fabrics will not flop around. He said Omni design is working on the Tencel fabrics and is also working on the bandshell project. Ms. Thompson said the proposed wall with mosaics will be adjacent to the strip commercial center and will have a fenced area. She said the entire intersection will be redone. Mr. Knowles said the planters will be spaced to create a barrier from vehicular traffic.

Comments were made that the renderings provided gives the appearance the plaza will be located at the beach. It was suggested the renderings should depict the actual surroundings. It was suggested that solar be used for the perimeter lighting and picnic tables be incorporated. Staff was directed to provide pricing and maintenance information for the Tencel fabrics.

Ms. Thompson said the CRA will not be staffing this space 24-7 and will rely on partners to activate the space. Staff does not want to set up an environment that encourages illicit activity and sets up a barrier for others who may not feel welcome or safe.

One eComment opposing Item 4.2 was received and read into the record by the City Clerk (see page 17).

Trustee Hamilton moved to continue Item 4.2. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

4.3 CRA Two-Year Strategy Discussion

The CRA Trustees adopted an 18-month strategy to guide implementation of the 2018 Downtown Redevelopment Plan that ended in March 2020. CRA Trustees will discuss recommendations for a new two-year strategy to continue

redevelopment efforts from 2020-2022.

CRA Executive Director Amanda Thompson provided a PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion ensued with comments made that diversity of experience in Downtown is needed, that the closing of the 400 and 500 blocks of Cleveland Street has received positive feedback, and that the 500 and 600 blocks on Cleveland Street need to improve in order to continue the downtown connection.

In response to questions, Ms. Thompson said community policing is an allowable use for CRA funds because it is an enhancement of policing on top of the base level of service. Approximately \$100,000 is spent on community policing through an interlocal agreement with the City for enhanced policing in the Downtown Gateway and Prospect Lake areas. The City Manager said the enhanced community policing was in response to concerns raised by CRA residents and businesses who felt they were not getting enough policing and felt the CRA should be responsive.

In response to a suggestion, it was stated that the enhanced community policing was a result that many residents outside of the CRA felt the Downtown and East Gateway receive special treatment and a policy decision was made to use CRA funds for the additional service.

In response to a question, the City Attorney said the City could have a voluntary form for business tax receipts that gathers demographics; staff has not looked into if requiring demographic information is allowed.

Comments were made that it would be nice to have a workforce housing project on the Old Clearwater Automotive MLK site or the Royal Palm Economy Inn site, to work towards another Waters Edge caliber project in the Downtown core, to obtain one more destination restaurant partner in the Downtown who is known in the community and to consider a movie theater or an improv theater in Downtown.

One comment opposing Item 4.3 was received and read into the record by the City Clerk (see page 18).

- 4.4** Approve a grant agreement with Chestnut and Myrtle, LLC in the amount of \$500,000 to incentivize the construction of new rental housing as part of a mixed-use development at

708 Chestnut Street and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.

The CRA received an incentive request from Chestnut and Myrtle, LLC for \$750,000 to renovate an existing blighted building at 708 Chestnut Street to create a mixed-use development with 5,425 square feet of commercial space, 14 apartment units and 17 parking spaces. The proposed project would result in a significant renovation of a dilapidated building on a highly visible corner in downtown.

The 2018 Downtown Redevelopment Plan provides five questions that serve as a policy framework for considering incentive requests. Staff has considered each of those questions when forming a recommendation.

1. Is the request compliant with Federal, State and Local laws?

Yes, grants to support the construction of housing developments are legal uses of CRA funds.

2. Is the request aligned with the 2018 Downtown Redevelopment plan?

Yes, the construction of new rental housing is a high priority in the downtown plan and CRA strategy. The proposed project meets several policies and objectives in the 2018 Clearwater Downtown Redevelopment Plan including:

Policy 18: The design of all projects in Downtown shall incorporate pedestrian-scale elements that create and maintain an inviting pedestrian environment

Policy 5: Buildings and developments should be people oriented

Policy 6: Support shared parking for mixed uses

Objective 4A: Encourage redevelopment that contains a variety of building forms and styles

Objective 1F: Allow for a variety of residential densities and housing types to provide for a range of affordability and mix of incomes consistent with the Character Districts

Objective 1G: Continue to utilize a variety of incentives to encourage the construction of new residential uses to locate Downtown

3. Has the private sector attempted to implement without incentives?

The current economy does not support the construction of new multi-story housing without public subsidy. In the past twenty years, every multi-story housing development has benefited from City and/or CRA subsidy. The amount of subsidy has ranged from \$354,000 to \$1.9 million. Without this incentive, the applicant will renovate the existing building to create a one-story office building and surface parking lot or will demolish the building and place the land up for sale.

4. What is the expected return on investment from a financial and public benefit perspective?

The applicant has proposed to renovate and expand the current building for

a total project costs of \$3.3 million, including \$750,000 that has already been spent to purchase the property. The current property is blighted and has been vacant for decades. The 2019 Municipal Taxable Value is \$602,200

which generates \$7,346 in City/County/DDB revenue to the CRA.

The proposed CRA grant of \$500,000 is 15% of the total project costs or \$35,714 per housing unit. Under state housing guidelines (SHIP) program, the maximum contribution is \$45,000 for renovating units. New construction contribution limits are higher, and developers typically receive a development fee of 12%.

Increased downtown residents are critical to supporting local businesses and providing additional foot traffic on nights and weekends. This project would serve as a model for other single-story commercial properties in the CRA that would benefit from renovation and adding residential units. Although this is not income restricted housing, it provides an affordable rental option that downtown sorely needs. There are only two apartment complexes in downtown, The Nolen and APEX 1100, which charge \$1.60-\$1.80 per square foot. The proposed project will be closer to \$1.50 per square foot.

5. Does the site have adequate utilities and infrastructure to support the request?

Yes, there are adequate utilities to serve this site as well as multiple points of vehicular and pedestrian access.

As outlined in the grant agreement, staff recommends a grant of \$500,000 for 14 apartment units contingent on construction of Exhibit B. The project must receive a Certificate of Occupancy within 24 months of the signed grant agreement. The housing units must remain apartments for a minimum of five years. The grantees have provided a restricted deed and personal guarantee as well.

APPROPRIATION CODE AND AMOUNT:

Funds are available in the Downtown Redevelopment Fund, CRA project code 3887552 94714 for this grant.

Applicant representative Brian Aungst said the proposed project is an opportunity to activate and rejuvenate a blighted property in the downtown core. The project also incentivizes more affordable housing that will serve the workforce. He said the economy does not support construction of multi-family housing in Downtown without a subsidy. In the last 20 years, there has been no multi-family development in downtown that has not either received city grant funding, FHA affordable housing tax credits and/or CRA grants. He said the city subsidies ranged from \$354,000 to \$1.9 million. The tax credit program is highly competitive and highly

litigious; the Madison Point project was in litigation for over 1.5 years with a project in Largo. He said when the City agrees to invest in affordable housing that goes for fair housing tax credits, it is a multi-year process with no guarantee. He said the Trustees are being asked to approve \$500,000 for a project that is in excess of \$3.3 million with a guarantee that it will be built. He said he shared a proposed amendment to the agreement and restrictive use agreement to require the applicant to maintain the 17 on-site parking spaces and a minimum of 8 off-site parking spaces that will be within 350 ft. of the property. He said agreements in principle from neighboring land owners have been obtained; these spaces could be used for residents, customers or employees of the retail establishment or complex. CRA TIF funds are not ad valorem tax dollars; these funds are the incremental increases of the tax dollars paid by downtown property owners, which are the funds being used to incentivize the applicant. Mr. Aungst said there is \$1.5 million available in CRA TIF for other projects. The applicant will be required to provide evidence that the requested \$500,000 is being invested into the building and to maintain the 14 units as rental units for a minimum of five years, to include the parking spaces. He said the project is located in the southern portion of the downtown core; the corridor is highly trafficked coming off the beach. The proposed mixed-use residential project will compliment the future PSTA stop anticipated at the former Tampa Bay Times building.

In response to a concern, the City Attorney said DDB members are elected officials of the DDB, not the City. There is no legal relationship between the DDB and the CRA.

In response to questions, Mr. Aungst said the agreement requires the rental units and parking be maintained for five years after the certificate of occupancy is issued; after the 5-year period, and grant agreement and restrictive land use agreement terminate and the property will be unencumbered by any agreement. Ms. Thompson said to keep in mind that the applicant is not an affordable housing agency but private developers who are not in the business of filing income requirements that are state or federally mandated. She the CRA is getting 14 units at \$35,000 per unit; the CRA could not construct a housing unit for \$35,000. Mr. Aungst said the applicant is not a housing authority and he was not sure the applicant could legally restrict residency based on income; the units will be subject to the fair housing act. The project offers no amenities that would be anticipated in a luxury condo. He said the rent will be approximately \$1.50 per square foot. He said the outparcel to the west is owned by the individual who owns the Walgreens; the parcel is not for sale. He said the

developers have significant credit resources; there is no loan or mortgage on the property as it was purchased with cash. At this point, the budget is conceptual and the developers are not going to invest significant funds for something the City does not want; if the CRA does not want the project, they will go to plan B. He said the project will be concrete block construction; the smallest residential unit will be 560 sq. ft. and the largest unit will be 1,044 sq. ft. Assistant City Manager Michael Delk said the parking requirement in the Downtown area was eliminated from the city code. The proposed project would not be approved in a suburban general area because it would not meet the parking requirement.

Concerns were expressed that the timeframe restricting the rental units and parking spaces is too short, that 14 apartments will not energize the downtown. It was stated that the project is not perfect but should attract future investment and good use of CRA funds.

In response to a question, Ms. Thompson said the project will not go to CDB but building permit. If the applicant chooses to sell the property, staff wanted to ensure the CRA funds would be used for the residential units no matter who owns the property for a reasonable amount of time. She said a \$45,000 annual income would be expected to spend \$13,500 in rent annually; the applicant anticipates charging a \$1,125 monthly rent. In the downtown environment, shared parking is the best solution and a compatible use. Ms. Thompson said there will be need for some type of office use because not all will be able to work from home; after COVID, some larger companies may keep a percentage of their employees working remotely. At this point, the downtown towers are almost 100% occupied.

One individual opposed limiting the restrictive use agreement to five years and suggested increased the timeframe to 20 years.

The City Attorney said the development agreements with Waters Edge, Station Square and Residence Inn varied from a 10-year to 20-year term. The term was not an issue because, for example, Waters Edge was a condominium that will not convert to another use. Staff can request the applicant for a longer period legally, whether the applicant finds that acceptable is a different issue.

Trustee Hamilton moved to approve a grant agreement with Chestnut and Myrtle, LLC in the amount of \$500,000 to incentivize the construction of new rental housing as part of a mixed-use development at 708 Chestnut Street, to include the amendment

regarding the parking spaces, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried with the following vote:

Ayes: 3 - Chair Hibbard, Vice Chair Allbritton and Trustee Hamilton

Nays: 2 – Trustee Beckman and Trustee Bunker

4.5 Approve the Community Redevelopment Agency's COVID-19 Recovery Program and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.

The purpose of this request is to establish CRA Trustee approval of a comprehensive approach to mitigate the negative economic impact of the COVID 19 pandemic on businesses and residents in the CRA area. The proposed collection of programs is designed to provide short term and long-term support to small businesses and to support the ongoing engagement of Clearwater residents with downtown. Many of these activities were already part of the CRA's approved FY 2019-2020 budget and have been shifted from in-person to virtual activities or moved up in the implementation timeline because of the urgent nature of the COVID 19 crisis.

Direct Business Assistance

Staff recommends participating in the City of Clearwater Back to Business Grant and Professional Services Program developed by the Economic Development Department. CRA funds may be used to support businesses located the CRA. The proposed budget contribution is \$250,000. If approved, this will require an amendment to the 2018 Downtown Redevelopment Plan before funds can be transferred.

As our community and downtown businesses recover as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, it is important to remind our residents and visitors that downtown is "back in business" once social distancing restrictions are lifted or adjusted. The CRA proposes a variety of promotional campaigns throughout the remainder of 2020 and potentially into 2021 to highlight this new reality and as we strive to foster a vibrant, resilient and connected downtown. Among these initiatives includes a six-month traditional advertising campaign and targeted media pitch in local media outlets, as well as a paid social media campaign highlighting Downtown Clearwater restaurants and retail that are back open for business. In addition, the CRA will develop a photo and video campaign with a marketing provider featuring local businesses and leaders, highlighting why business leaders have chosen to open in downtown, why they've chosen to stay, and how they're meeting the needs of our community. The proposed budget is \$25,000.

The CRA will partner with local restaurants to leverage its advertising efforts by providing Clearwater residents vouchers to dine at downtown bars and restaurants. The CRA's voucher program will promote Downtown Clearwater's ongoing revitalization as a dining destination by providing \$20 vouchers for use by residents at local restaurants, cafés and bars within a specified period of time. The restaurant/bar will collect the voucher and submit to the CRA for reimbursement at half the value (\$10). The CRA will maintain financial records of submitted invoices and payments to food establishments with sufficient evidence and documentation to meet accepted accounting procedures. The proposed budget is \$25,000 which will provide 1,250 meals in downtown establishments.

In the next 6-9 months, staff recommends establishing a zero to low interest revolving loan fund that can be used by small businesses to establish or expand their operations in downtown. The budget impact is TBD. If approved, this will require an amendment to the 2018 Downtown Redevelopment Plan.

Community Engagement & Public Space Improvements

Creative placemaking, or the integration of arts and urban design, is an important tool in connecting residents to downtown and to each other. With social distancing requirements, staff anticipates that it will be several months before large scale public events will be safe or even desirable to attend. The CRA will continue to build on its public arts initiatives and programs to provide new murals, new performance options and streetscape enhancements so that downtown will become an even more beautiful place for enjoying walks, outdoor gatherings and fun, free entertainment.

The 2018 Clearwater Downtown Redevelopment Plan principles call for downtown to be a vibrant place for public expression, to enable the arts and to create a more socially resilient community by connecting neighborhoods to downtown. As our community adjusts to expectations and requirements for social distancing in the COVID-19 era, the CRA is thinking about how we meet arts and entertainment needs within this new reality. The CRA proposes a series of virtual and social distance-friendly cultural programming through 2020. Activities would include online performances, self-guided and virtual art tours, and wellness programs that highlight downtown's assets and partner with local leaders and artists. Ex's: A self-guided art tour of downtown's Sculpture 360 program; a virtual happy hour performance via Facebook Live with a local guitarist; a Zoom meeting yoga session or author discussion. The proposed budget is \$25,000.

Staff proposes to work with the Cultural Affairs Coordinator to identify 2-4 sites for new murals throughout the CRA with a proposed budget of \$50,000. The CRA Trustees and the DDB directed staff to issue an RFP for the Cleveland Street Lighting Project in January 2020. This project will be a

combination of up-lighting and 3D projection mapping on the trees and select building on Cleveland Street from Osceola Avenue to Missouri Avenue. It will be a living work of art that will attract visitors to walk up and down Cleveland Street. Staff recommends establishing a project budget of \$300,000 with a \$50,000 contribution from the Downtown Development Board.

Funding for these programs is outlined below:

- \$250,000 Participation in the City Back to Business Program funded from CRA CIP ULI Implementation 3887552- 94885
- \$50,000 “Back in Business” and Restaurant Promotion Campaign funding from CRA CIP Downtown Events and Activities 3887552-94889
- \$50,000 Artist Public Works Mural Program funding from CRA CIP Downtown Events and Activities 3887552-94889
- \$25,000 Online Performance Series funding from CRA CIP Downtown Events and Activities 3887552-94889
- \$300,000 Cleveland Street Lighting Project funding of \$250,000 from CRA Streetscape and Trails CIP R1901 and \$50,000 contribution from the Downtown Development Board
- \$TBD Zero interest revolving loan fund for small business

In response to questions, CRA Executive Director Amanda Thompson said the operating budget includes funds for a utility infrastructure study; staff is working with Engineering and Public Utilities to identify the consultant. Staff will structure a grant program to build the infrastructure improvements if directed after presenting the completed study.

One comments in opposition was received and read into the record by the City Clerk (see page 18).

In response to a question, Ms. Thompson said the DDB funds are from the DDB district and the CRA receives an increment of that which is then returned back to the DDB, less CRA staff administrative fee. All of the grant programs are applied to the entire CRA area. An individual in the East Gateway with a business opportunity is eligible to apply for CRA grant.

The Trustees recessed from 10:54 a.m. to 11:09 a.m.

Trustee Hamilton moved to approve the Community Redevelopment Agency’s COVID-19 Recovery Program and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

4.6 Small Business Presentation

Presentation from small businesses in the Community Redevelopment Agency area on their experience during COVID 19 and their plans for recovery as

shelter in place orders are modified.

CRA Executive Director Amanda Thompson said representatives of the businesses in Downtown wanted to share how the COVID shutdown impacted their businesses.

Kara Lynn said the shutdown impacted the restaurants in Downtown, with several that closed. She said she was able to stay open for 2.5 days out of the week but had to cut staff in half. She was grateful for the assistance CRA will be providing, which will help her get back on track. She the closure of the 400 and 500 blocks of Cleveland Street has been well received and had provided hope for the downtown restaurants open. She said one of the biggest challenges is getting attractions that will bring people to Downtown.

5. Director's Report – None.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Attest

Chair
Community Redevelopment Agency

City Clerk

Community Redevelopment Agency on 2020-05-18 9:00 AM

Meeting Time: 05-18-20 09:00

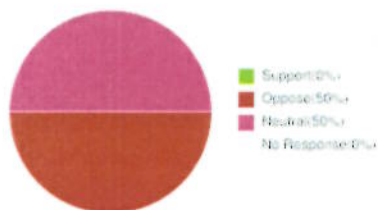
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Community Redevelopment Agency on 2020-05-18 9:00 AM	05-18-20 09:00	14	4	0	2	2

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



CRA
Rev'd
5/18/20
R

Community Redevelopment Agency on 2020-05-18 9:00 AM

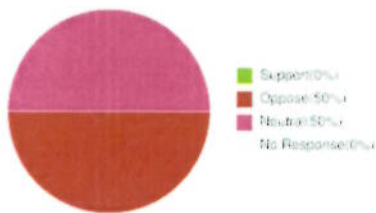
05-18-20 09:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
3. Citizens to be Heard Regarding Items Not on the Agenda	1	0	0	1
4.2 ID#20-7626 Approve a design by Klar and Klar architecture for a dynamic public plaza space at the intersection of Cleveland Street and Gulf to Bay Boulevard to be incorporated within the larger Cleveland Street Streetscaping Phase III project.	1	0	1	0
4.3 ID#20-7627 CRA Two-Year Strategy Discussion	1	0	0	1
4.5 ID#20-7737 Approve the Community Redevelopment Agency's COVID-19 Recovery Program and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.	1	0	1	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

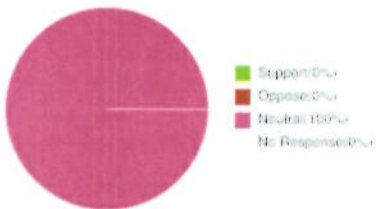
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for 3. Citizens to be Heard Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

Overall Sentiment



#3

Kathy Flaherty

Location:

Submitted At: 10:50am 05-18-20

As a resident and business owner of the East gate area - an area full of dilapidated homes / businesses, missing sidewalks, high crime and general blight, I am much looking forward to the main road improvements in the Eastgate area. I am also looking forward to Imagine Clearwater being completed.

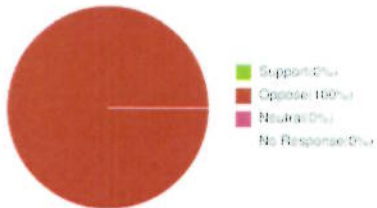
As there is much work that will be done on the roads and the downtown core the CRA needs to make sure that the funds are spent wisely. The CRA currently does not seek bids for contracts under \$100,000.00. I feel that

#16

this no bid limit is to high and needs to be lowered. I also ask that the new Council to review all current contracts and do so annually to make sure the community is getting the best services at the best cost with their funds. In addition please use code enforcement more to deter blight - at the present time they only do periodic inspections - maybe more inspectors could be hired. My last concern is the expanded (since 2017) police patrol area being funded by the CRA to fight crime with no additional policeman. What is the need for increased patrols in the downtown core and Prospect park area- is there a high crime rate - prostitution and drug dealing? Are more policeman needed?

Agenda Item: eComments for 4.2 ID#20-7626 Approve a design by Klar and Klar architecture for a dynamic public plaza space at the intersection of Cleveland Street and Gulf to Bay Boulevard to be incorporated within the larger Cleveland Street Streetscaping Phase III project.

#4.2 Overall Sentiment



Kathy Flaherty

Location:

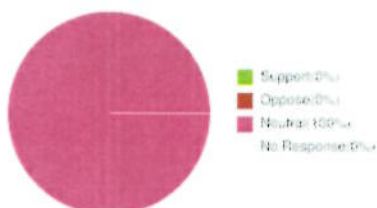
Submitted At: 4:43pm 05-07-20

I strongly oppose this project. This design is not a community design. it is a design for an urban ghetto area. It consists of a concrete pad with metal poles with decorations on top of the poles. The 2 community meetings - I attended one - the CRA persons only presented 3 designs - each design the same but with different decorations and pole placements. No input from the community other than that. Previous designs incorporated food trucks and trees and benches - those had community input I went to those meetings. Where are those designs - the city paid thousands of dollars for those. Please do not design this area around the homeless in the area - maybe move the homeless food center and day labor business - those two businesses should not dictate the design of the the community. Lots of residents walk or ride bikes - persons that live here not just visiting for free food or looking for a job - would like a nice place to sit in the shade and relax. I think those people should take precedent.

Also at the meeting the CRA persons presented an outdated plan of the whole project - who does a presentation with no good plans. This project is already starting out poorly - please take the time to get the plan right.

Agenda Item: eComments for 4.3 ID#20-7627 CRA Two-Year Strategy Discussion

Overall Sentiment



Kathy Flaherty

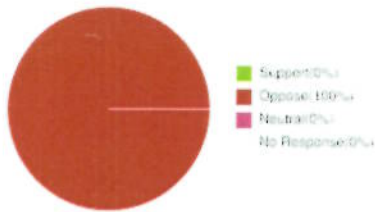
Location:

Submitted At: 4:50pm 05-07-20

4.3 The previous mission statement was basically to promote downtown businesses south of Missouri Ave.. Lots of funds were given to the Downtown Development Board which only serves a portion of the CRA's area. I think the mission should be to promote all businesses in the CRA boundaries and finish existing projects with community participation. The CRA Board needs to be for the entire downtown area not just the downtown core.

Agenda Item: eComments for 4.5 ID#20-7737 Approve the Community Redevelopment Agency's COVID-19 Recovery Program and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.

Overall Sentiment



Kathy Flaherty

Location:

Submitted At: 4:58pm 05-07-20

4.5 This plan does not include all of the CRA's area - why only promote downtown core restaurants. The CRA already gives hundreds of thousands to the downtown development board - they could give the funds to those businesses. The CRA needs to be focused on all businesses not just the downtown core as is always the case. The CRA is funded by monies to improve blighted areas not just the downtown.