

Community Redevelopment Agency
Regular Meeting
February 11, 2025

The Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) of the City of Titusville, Florida met in regular session in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 555 South Washington Avenue, on Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

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Call to Order/Determination of a Quorum

Chairperson Connors called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Present were Chairperson Andrew Connors, Vice-Chairperson Herman Cole, Jr. Col USAF Retired, and Members Megan Moscoso, Jo Lynn Nelson, Dr. Sarah Stoeckel, Greg Aker and Jim Ball, Executive Director Scott Larese, Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Attorney Richard Broome, and Sr. Administrative Assistant Emily Campbell were also present. Sr. Administrative Assistant Emily Campbell completed the minutes of the meeting.

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Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Connors asked for a moment of silence and then led the entire assembly in the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*. Sr. Administrative Assistant Emily Campbell read the procedure for public comment.

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Approval of Minutes –

Motion: Member Nelson moved to approve the minutes of the Community Redevelopment Agency meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, as submitted. Vice-Chair Cole seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

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Special Recognitions and Presentations – None.

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Old Business

FY 2024 Annual Accomplishments – Executive Director Larese advised this item was for informational purposes and reporting.

This action addressed the City of Titusville's Goal 1.b Quality of life to enhance the appearance of the City, Goal 2.a to commit to funding capital improvement plans including infrastructure, Goal 3.b to plan for future capital obligations, Goal 4.a, 4.b, 4.c, 4.d, 4.e, 4.f - Economic Development, and Goal 5.b to continue the effectiveness of current advisory boards. This also addressed several goals, policies and objectives in the Titusville CRA Plan. This met Goal 1.3 requirements for effective achievement of redevelopment goals, Objective 1.3.1 to meet CRA requirements and ensure implementation of specific goals, policies and programs, and Objective 1.4.1. to ensure the operations of the Community Redevelopment Agency are compliant with Florida State Statutes.

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New Business

FDOT CRA Speed Study – Executive Director Larese advised that staff was requesting direction which heavy pedestrian areas the CRA Board would like heavy pedestrian warning signs placed so staff can order these pedestrian warning signs for requested locations. Staff was requesting direction on locations to request evaluations for the Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons (RRFB).

At the January 2025 meeting, the CRA Board asked staff to investigate additional signage for pedestrian safety at the crosswalks in downtown Titusville. Staff contacted Michael Sanders with FDOT and was advised heavy pedestrian warning signs could be requested for heavy pedestrian areas at no cost. These signs could be placed in the beginning, midway and the end of heavy pedestrian areas for motorist guidance for pedestrian safety.

Staff also requested information about the Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB). Staff was advised the CRA Board could request a specific area to be evaluated by the FDOT to find out if the crossing location met the specific criteria in the FDOT engineering manual for a RRFB. There was no cost for the evaluation or the install of the RRFB. Staff was requesting direction on locations to request evaluations for the RRFB. Staff also asked if there was any possibility now or in the future the lights on the Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons would be issued in red. That was not an option per Michael Sanders.

At the January 2025 CRA meeting, the Board requested staff to obtain an update on the Southbound US 1 resurfacing project and the northbound US 1 project. Staff made that request to FDOT Tyler Burgett, Project Manager. Staff has not received an update as of this report. Staff would continue to obtain an update on these projects to report to the CRA Board.

Member Nelson stated that the problem area in downtown was from South Street to Sand Point Park. She stated that she was in support of adding flashing lights near the Pritchard House and United Methodist Church. She was not in support of raising the speed limit.

Vice-Chair Cole stated that he planned to bring this issue up at the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization meeting on February 13, 2025.

Member Ball reviewed the study. He stated that he was in support of the Titusville Police Department giving tickets to combat the speeding in downtown. Member Ball stated that he did not think the City was able to convince the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to lower the speed limit below 30 mpg. Member Ball stated that he was in support of adding more flashing lights at the crosswalks. He stated that he noticed there was a disparity in the colors of the signage that said crosswalk ahead, and wanted to update all of them to match and be bright yellow. He also was in support of the addition of FDOT signs that state law required motorist to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks.

Member Aker stated that he was in support of adding a traffic light at Julia Street.

Executive Director Larese advised that the City could put out a public service announcement and an information campaign to inform the public.

Member Nelson was in support of the City placing the portable speed limit signs that alerted drivers when they were speeding in the downtown area.

Chairman Connors stated that he was in support of adding this issue to the lobbying efforts for Tallahassee and applying political pressure. He stated that he was also in support of a public service announcement.

Member Ball stated that the CRA Development plan put a priority on safety and it was one of the CRA's goals to improve pedestrian safety and that included community policing.

Commander Wright advised that he would be giving a presentation of the Titusville Police Department's CRA Pedestrian Study at the CRA meeting on March 11, 2025 5:30 p.m.

Member Stoeckel stated that if the CRA wanted to advocate to the state, then the City needed to provide data to the state with all the information and their concerns.

The Community Redevelopment Agency provided the following recommendations, adding flashing lights near the Pritchard House and United Methodist Church, update crosswalk signs to all match in bright yellow, the addition of FDOT signs that state law required motorist to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks, public service announcement, information campaign, advertising and community policing.

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Performance Standards and Measurements - Tracking open and closed businesses in Downtown -
Executive Director Larese advised that this item was informational only.

At the November 2024 CRA meeting, staff was requested to add tracking of open and closed businesses in the downtown CRA to the Performance Standard and Measurements.

Redevelopment Planner Sue Williams stated that staff could track the businesses opening through the City's BS&A database and business tax receipts. She stated that it was not as easy to track the businesses that were closing because they were not required to notify the City. She stated that she walked and drove through downtown to review the businesses at least twice a year for the directory maps, but that process was time consuming.

Redevelopment Planner Sue Williams advised that there was a new retail store called Sunflower Moon at 333 and 335 South Washington Avenue. She stated that Badcock Home Furniture changed their name to Royal Furniture. She stated that the Daley Trade was moving out of the downtown.

Member Stoeckel discussed tracking the openings for businesses and the occupancy rate for the businesses in downtown Titusville.

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Petitions and Request from the Public Present

Stan Johnston discussed the sewage spill that occurred in December of 2020 and the fountains at Sand Point Park. He stated that sewage was toxic and contained pathogens, chemicals and viruses, etc.

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Executive Directors Report

Executive Director Larese submitted his written report and advised that all items were informational only.

Executive Director Larese advised that the Farmers Market was being held at City Hall in the parking lot on February 16, 2025.

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With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.