

City of Coral Gables City Commission Budget Workshop
Agenda Item A-2
Budget Workshop
July 27, 2016
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Jim Cason
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Vice Mayor Frank Quesada
Commissioner Jeannett Slesnick

City Staff

City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
City Attorney, Craig E. Leen
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Management & Budget Director, Keith Kleiman
Interim Chief Information Officer, Raimundo Rodulfo
Parks and Recreation Director, Fred Couceyro
Automotive Division Director, Steven Riley
Parking Director, Kevin Kinney
Police Chief, Edward Hudak
Assistant Public Works Director, Jessica Keller
Finance Director, Diana Gomez
Aquatics Supervisor, Carolina Vester

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item A-2 [0:00:00 a.m.]

City Commission Meeting
July 27, 2016
Agenda Item A-2 – Slide presentation of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget Estimate.

Slide presentation of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget Estimate.

Mayor Cason: (INAUDIBLE) and the Fiscal Year 2015-16 major accomplishments, followed by a slide presentation on the 2016-17 budget estimate, and finally, a resolution setting the tentative millage rate of 5.559 mills for the fiscal year 2016-17 annual operating budget, to be submitted as preliminary disclosure to the Miami-Dade County Property Appraiser. As I mentioned last year, this is a workshop, not a public hearing. So, there won't be any public comment. That will be reserved for the two meetings in September when we discuss the budget and welcome any citizen input at that time. So, with that, I'll turn it over to the City Manager.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And those meetings have been set and they are after 5 o'clock. The September 13 being the first one. We're very excited. We do have three items today. We felt it was important that before you look at the actual numbers for the 2016-2017 budget, we wanted to take time to look at the accomplishments, what you all did with the monies that were available last year, and then to also look at our strategic plan. You wanted us all on the same page. Well, I'm happy to report we're not all on the same page, but we're all on the same forepages and each of the departments are working together on moving the strategic plan forward. So, before we begin the budget items for today, we'd like to show a video that talks about all the different departments working together to accomplish the objectives important to the Commission.

(Video presentation made.)

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So I hope you can tell we listened. We listened to each of your priorities and what you want to do in taking our city forward. I hope you can also tell how proud I am to get to work with so many great employees in the City, all departments, all employees really pushing that through. I know that was a long presentation, but I think it speaks to the amazing things each of these departments have done this year and it was worth telling.

With that, I'm going to bring Keith Kleiman ahead so that he can walk through next year's budget.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Thank you, Madam Manager. Good morning, Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners. We're here to discuss the FY17 budget. And as we go through it, if you have any questions, please just stop me and we will do our best to answer. If we do not have the answer, we will get the information for you and distribute it to everybody. The first slide is of significant dates that some have passed already and some are in the future that is just an introduction to the budget calendar for FY17. The first date was the first budget workshop we had. It was on May 4, and that's where we discussed all your capital projects and priorities. June 1 is a major date for us because it tells us the property appraiser's first estimate for our taxable values. Those values are included in the July 1 book that we gave you a month ago. On July 1, we submitted the book to you. Also, on July 1, we got the official certified taxable values from the property appraiser. And we fared well. We actually got a small influx of money. We'll go through those details later on in the presentation. The next dates are July 5 and July 15. Those are when we received the state's estimates. Now, by Charter, we have to have our budget submitted to you by July 1, so we do our best to estimate what the state is going to give us. We use past trends. That is all we can use. There's nothing available to us before that. So, typically, we do well. There are three items. There's the revenue sharing. There's half-cent sales tax, and there's the communication services tax. Now, yesterday, Diana mentioned that there's a snag in the CST, the Communication Services Tax because of a refund that was basically forced on us by AT&T. So, we're going to go through those details at the very end of the slide, but just know that these are revenue adjustments that we accounted for. The expenditure budget is exactly the same before and after these changes. Okay, July 27, today, is your budget workshop. And then also -- now, this is something that we've never really had any individual briefings subsequent to this budget workshop. So, if any of you want that to happen, please, just inform the Manager and we'll be glad to sit down with you and go over any item you want in further detail. August 4 is the day we have to certify the millage rate to the property appraiser. So, at the end of this session today, you'll be voting on a tentative tax rate. Now, this

is not adopting a tax rate. This is just the rate you're going to use right now for the initial budget and that'll go with further discussion at the two budget hearings in September. September 13 is the first budget hearing. You will adopt the official budget and the tentative tax rate at that point. And September 27, we will present the Capital Improvement Plan to you for adoption, as well as the second reading of the ordinances for the adopted budget and the tax rate. Okay, slide 3, this is a high scale, high range estimate of a summary of the City, of the City's budget for FY17. You'll see it's a balanced budget of \$183 million. And one thing I'd like you to note -- and we're very proud of this -- if you look at the annual revenues as \$172 million, that number is higher than the operating budget and the debt service put together. Those two numbers, the operating budget and debt service, are your recurring expenditures every single year. This is something to test that you would want to look at in this budget and all of the budgets and be confident that that number is always higher than the combination of this number and that number, okay, because you want -- that \$171 million is all recurring revenue. The City is proud that we do not use one-time monies to fund recurring expenditures and that is our goal. Now, to further that goal, we are using the remainder of the recurring revenues in your capital plan. Our goal there is to constantly build the capital plan on recurring revenues so we don't dip into assigned fund balance to cover one-time capital projects. Okay, so, again, you have an annual revenue budget of \$172 million. We're bringing in from assigned fund balance all the numbers in this column right here, 3.5 million from the Capital Improvement Fund, 3 million from the Coral Gables Impact Fee Fund, 1.3 million from the General Fund -- that is not from our uncommitted reserves. We set aside funds at the closing of the FY15 CAFR in anticipation of needs that we knew were going to happen for the new action plans. So, basically, that's where the money is coming from. Parking Fund to cover capital projects of \$1.1 million. Sunshine State Debt Service Fund, we're utilizing fund balance. That is going to the General Fund, which is reducing the amount we're putting forward to debt service because we have the money and we're transferring the money to capital improvement. It's a one-time use of money for one-time capital projects. The Roadway Improvement Fund, more capital projects. Trolley Fund, storm water, sanitation, and the Retirement Fund funds the administration of retirement. The expenditure budget that we set is \$158 million. Your new capital plan is \$15 million. And the

ongoing recurring debt is \$7.9 million. Slide 4, revenue increases affecting the budget. Overall, we have \$7 million of revenue increases, 50 percent of which comes from property tax. We are taking full advantage of the increase in property tax values and putting it to good use. The stormwater fees, you'll see \$1 million. That is due to the recent increase in the fee. It is going directly to fund balance for future use for sea level rise. Utility service taxes and sewer service taxes are going up, but that's just the trend. We're doing very, very well there. Sanitary sewer fees, that is also due to the fee increase. That is going to cut the wastewater charges that are passed through to us by the County, plus it's going to fund the additional headcount that was mandated by the consent decree. Automobile fees, that \$362,000 is just increased usages, increased activity. And mainly, as Kevin had mentioned in the video, Pay by Phone is doing well. Swimming fees are up. And happily, this is the first year since I've been here -- and I can't tell you when it happened before that -- we are turning a profit at the pool. This is the first time. So, we have about \$50,000 going into fund balance for that proprietary fund. So, kudos to Fred and to Carolina. They have done an excellent job in managing that pool and their staffs, of course. Okay, franchise fees have gone up. The Biltmore Complex has gone up. Actually, you can see all these fees have just gone up. Most of them are just trends. Revenue decreases.

Vice Mayor Quesada: What's parking rental?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I'm sorry?

Mayor Cason: Permits?

Vice Mayor Quesada: The last slide, the parking rental at the bottom.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes. There's one garage that has some shops in it, and these are just escalations...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Got it, okay.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: To their rental fees.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Oh, okay. I got you.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD).

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Which fees?

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD).

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: No. No, we have not. That is basically the ongoing contract. Our -- the revenue we get from them is revenue based, so as their revenue is going up, we get a bigger portion of that.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But in June, you did approve a sanitary sewer -- certain increases because of mandates from the County...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Oh, yes, yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: That we had to pass through to our residents.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD).

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yeah, no other fee increases. Okay, revenue decreases. These are one-time items that were in the budget that may or may not recur for next year. We'll reappropriate them during the first quarter of FY17 if the work has not been completed. We can go through those. The first -- and you're going to see \$24 million. That is the streetscape, for the most part. There's other small amounts in there. There's the trailer, the

streetscape, and I forgot, there's one more. I'm blocking it right now. But for the most part, \$23.4 million, I believe, was for the streetscape. That's the bond issue. We will reappropriate those dollars starting in the first quarter of FY17. The Building Better Communities Bond Program, that's GOB. There are four projects associated with that. Those are grants. Again, once the smoke clears, we see what is spent in the current year, we will reappropriate that in FY17 as well. Same thing for the Miami-Dade County road impact fees. There are, I believe, two projects there, and they'll be reappropriated, again, in the first quarter. Intergovernmental revenues, those are small grants. They're one-time items. Now, the golf fees and the tennis fees, we took the snapshot back in May, and when we looked at the revenue then, it looked like it was going to decrease. So, basically, being conservative, that's what we put in. We had a discussion with Fred yesterday and the revenues now will be coming in. So, for the adopted budget coming in in September, we will be looking at these revenues and probably come to a higher number.

Mayor Cason: That's because it was closed so much.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes. Maybe it was a ramping up, but Fred is very, very sure that the money has come in and we're going to adjust these fees and you'll see a higher amount coming up.

Commissioner Slesnick: And the tennis courts were closed also besides the golf course.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes. The Biltmore tennis was closed, right. So, that would cover both of those. But again, it started up slowly. The Granada Golf Course, I believe, opened in November, but I'm not sure when the Biltmore course opened. But they are up to speed and the revenue is coming in, so again, we will adjust this. Slide 6, expenditure changes affecting the budget. There you have the personal services. And just a note of humor here. This is not misspelled, though it typical is, but that misspelling happened about 40 or 50 years ago when the terminology just started. So, just to respect the history, I have left it in here. It should say personnel services, not personal services, but that's the way it started back then.

We -- in budget terms, when I first started -- I hate to admit it, 35 years ago, we called it PS and OTPS. PS is Personal Services; OTPS, Other Than Personal Services. So, just a historical note. It's not misspelled. We know what we're doing. It's just I wanted to just respect history, so that's why you have it there. Okay, so your total salaries budget is \$64.2 million. That's an increase of \$3.2 million. Most of that went to some increases and changes we did. I have details. If anyone wants to hear the details, I do have those.

Mayor Cason: You know what I'd like to see would be -- not today, but in the next couple of weeks, just a percentage of our budget going to total personnel services, budget back -- looking back a number of years. What's the trends?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay.

Mayor Cason: I mean, in most organizations like this, it's salaries.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

Mayor Cason: But what we don't spend on salaries is available for capital improvements, obviously, so just to see how it's been over the years.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay. We'll include a separate line for benefits as well, so you'll see the percentage there. Okay, so now you can see a reduction over time of 310,000. That is not to the budget. When this budget is prepared, as we do every single year, we are comparing the amended budget of FY16 to the adopted budget of FY17. The amended budget of '16 includes transfers from salary surplus into the overtime account to cover some of the vacancies, and we had an extraordinary large amount of vacancies in both Police and Fire which have been tackled. Right now, we're down to, I think, 11 vacancies in Police and we have no vacancies in Fire. But we transferred about \$300,000 between the two departments and that's that \$300,000 decrease right there.

Mayor Cason: In general, at any one time, I seemed to recall that we have something like 80 vacancies across the whole organization.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

Mayor Cason: And that money that's budgeted, we budget for those.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

Mayor Cason: So, that -- some of that goes into capital -- goes into reserves and accounts for -- Is that correct?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes, we did. At the close of every year, we take the surplus and we break it up to where we know we're going to need it. Okay, now, also, if you look at the retirement, we are not reducing the retirement budget. This \$1.5 million is actually -- there's two components to it. We made an extra payment in FY16. That was actually FY15's extra payment. So, this reduction is just because the amended budget includes funds from FY15 that paid that extra payment. The extra payment for '16 was \$2.2 million. It was \$1.8 million in FY15, okay. Now, also, we did an increase -- every single year now we're going to increase the amount -- this was decided by the Commission with an index, so it's a 1.25 percent index. It's about \$330,000. So, that's the difference between \$1.8 million and that. And you'll see -- so it looks like it's decreasing, but it's not. This number, 26.5, is actually higher than it was last year by about \$330,000, okay. And you'll see this other large number here, worker's comp, a decrease of \$800,000. And this is -- honestly, this is congratulations to the City. Our experience has been improving since 2011, and therefore we lowered the budget to recognize that.

Mayor Cason: At one time, it was four or five million, wasn't it?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes. I have the numbers. I think in 2011, it was \$4 million and has steadily gone down.

Mayor Cason: That's great.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Last year, I believe it was 1.3. We're a little higher so far this year at 1.6. Okay, moving to Slide 7, expenditure changes affecting the budget. This is the OTPS, the Other Than Personal Services. And a lot of these are -- you'll see the negatives are one-time items in the budget that were there as mostly reappropriations from prior years, so they're coming out of the budget. They're one-time purchases. Some of the larger increases, professional services and repairs and maintenance and the parts and supplies. A lot of those items, if not most of them, are due to the new strategic plan. We have details of that. If anybody wants to hear the details, I'll be more than welcome to share them. This slide is the result of the meeting we had on May 4. These are your priorities. And I'm happy to say, the next slide, this is what we've done with them. We've managed to fund all but two, though, in Column 1, the CGTV, we are planning that for FY18. And in Column 5, the Wi-Fi installation, IT is here. They can discuss what Wi-Fi we have right now, if anybody is interested, and what this is for the future. So, I'm going to bring Raimundo up.

Interim Chief Information Officer Rodulfo: Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners, City Manager and City Clerk. We have already completed a number of Wi-Fi deployment sites, which includes City Hall, 427 Biltmore Way, the Passport Office, the new one, Public Safety building, Youth Center, various areas of the Youth Center, including the playground and some of the classrooms. We have completed Venetian Pool, a phase one of Facilities, Economic Development office, the new office, (INAUDIBLE) Center. And this year we have already funded and we are completing Philips Park, Riviera Park, six classrooms at the Youth Center, and the Salvadore Tennis Center, and another area of the Facilities complex for Public Works desk areas. What we were planning to do in 2017 was the Fire Station 2 and 3, Biltmore Tennis

Center, patio area of the museum, Ingraham Park and Jaycee Park. That was what we were planning for 2017.

Mayor Cason: Does the senior center -- the new senior center have Wi-Fi?

Interim Chief Information Officer Rodulfo: Yes. They are (INAUDIBLE). That was completed. And in 2018, once the streetscape project finishes, the conduits that will allow us to install the fiber for the backbone to connect the access points, we were planning to do that area of the public, add the Wi-Fi for, you know, for the street level coverage only, for Miracle Mile, Giralda and Andalusia, and also the Merrick Park, but that's after the streetscape project provides that.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And Mr. Mayor, if you want, I'm sure Rodulfo can do a memo that summarizes what has been accomplished already, what is proposed for next year, and what the year after.

Mayor Cason: It'd be important...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But you can see significant improvements...

Mayor Cason: Yeah, I think that's great. It'll be important also to get it out in eNews where you can get Wi-Fi if you go to -- because this is new to me. I think it's great.

Commissioner Keon: (INAUDIBLE). I'm sorry.

Interim Chief Information Officer Rodulfo: That will be after the streetscape project finishes installing the conduits with the fiber. I would assume that, you know, if not next fiscal year, in the following one we'll be able to...

Commissioner Keon: More than a year away?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Excuse me?

Commissioner Keon: More than a year away?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Well, it's tied to streetscape itself.

Commissioner Keon: Right, which should probably finish by...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We hope.

Mayor Cason: They hope.

Commissioner Keon: We hope, okay.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right, I think we're expecting 18 months...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: So the timing is such that if we include Wi-Fi in the FY18 capital plan, that should be the perfect timing to implement that.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: If we're ahead of schedule, we can budget earlier on that, but we wanted to wait. We are laying the conduit now so that as the streetscape is completed, we can also do the Wi-Fi.

Commissioner Keon: You know, that is such -- you know, for people, if you travel, those hotspots are so important to be able, you know, to find, particularly for overseas visitors or whatever else to be able to so you don't incur roaming charges when you're trying to look for something. You can log on to Wi-Fi and find what you're looking for and take, you know, advantage of the city guides and, you know, all of the different resources that are available in the City. It is -- it really is a very essential element in, you know, improving our visitor experience here in the city.

Mayor Cason: Don't forget to put it on the -- next to our new sofa.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah. I love that sofa.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay. Thank you, Raimundo.

Interim Chief Information Officer Rodulfo: Thank you.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: So, now if you go through to Slide 10 and I think it's through to 14, this is your capital improvement budget for new monies for FY17. For capital equipment, it is almost \$1.8 million. For facility repairs, \$1.5 million. Now, I want to also tell you, we are increasing -- you're going to see it on the next page, actually. At the top, historic facilities, City Hall, \$750,000. That brings the total available for the City Hall Complex, and that includes 427, the cottage and this building, to about \$4 million. So, I know that project is going to be starting very soon.

Mayor Cason: Can you talk about on the first page, recycling containers in parks. Are these just for trash or is it actually recycling?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I'm going to bring Fred up.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: As Fred comes up, it is a recycling cans, recycling opportunities on site. The other -- you are not seeing pet waste because -- the pet waste stations because we went ahead and funded them for this year, so you might want to also talk about that.

Mayor Cason: And are these going to be high-tech -- I noticed in places in California where they have solar-operated...

Commissioner Lago: Solar panels and...

Mayor Cason: And they compact them and they reduce -- you don't have to pick them up for a month or...

Commissioner Keon: It's when the lights go on...

Commissioner Lago: I think those were...

Mayor Cason: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: Is when you pick them up.

Commissioner Lago: I think they're averaging like five to ten thousand dollars per unit, is my understanding.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: For the recycling, it is a joint project with Public Works. That's why John is up here. But to answer the pet waste question, we do have -- we ordered about 100 pet waste units. Now we're working on how we are going to distribute them through the City. We do have some staffing coming in this budget that's going to have dedicated pickup for all those waste stations, so we're working on -- there are certain areas we've already earmarked that are going to have stations there. But then we're looking at what kind of process

we'll have as our residents identify areas that need a station and we have to -- how we're going to do the pecking order, so to speak, and where we're going to put these hundred stations. But we do have a hundred, so we should be able to provide quite a few stations throughout the City.

Mayor Cason: What about the discussion we had a couple weeks ago about larger recycling home containers so that you can put more stuff -- instead of those little teeny red ones, the bigger ones? I know it's a lot of money, but is that being contemplated anywhere in here?

Unidentified Speaker: Madam City Manager can probably answer this better, if I say this wrong. But I believe we're looking...

Mayor Cason: Don't say it wrong.

Unidentified Speaker: To find money in this year's budget.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But we're doing it this year rather than...

Unidentified Speaker: We're going to advance it...

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Unidentified Speaker: Rather than wait for next year's budget.

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Commissioner Lago: And what was the final outcome. We had had several discussions over the past year. I think we actually showed it -- I think I or Commissioner Keon showed it at one of the Commission meetings, like the Mayor mentioned, those units that compact and they run off

solar energy. They're being used at University of Miami. Other cities have them. I know they were expensive, but did we contemplate including that in the budget this year or no?

Unidentified Speaker: We did not include it in the budget this year. Those solar packing facilities or devices are really optimal for situations where your staff does not visit it regularly. In other words, if your staff is going to be in the park anyway, it doesn't reduce the travel time or that kind of thing for the recyclables or they have them in trash. We could look at that in the next year.

Commissioner Lago: But let me give you an example.

Commissioner Keon: Or by Ingraham Park.

Commissioner Lago: What about like, say for like Miracle Mile? You know, instead of servicing on a daily basis, you know, you could probably service it every other day or every third day and use this type of technology to free up our workforce to concentrate on other areas throughout the City.

Unidentified Speaker: We could look at that, but right now our staff will be on Miracle Mile every day doing litter pickup and doing other types of service. So, that doesn't preclude us, though, from looking at that and...

Mayor Cason: Look at the economics of it and see if it makes sense in terms of...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Unidentified Speaker: Yeah.

Mayor Cason: (INAUDIBLE) cost...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But the City...

Unidentified Speaker: We could do an evaluation for you.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Already is needing to do regular garbage pickup, and so as they're doing the garbage pickup, they can pull the recycling, I would assume, no?

Unidentified Speaker: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: But you know, at like -- on Cartagena Circle, there -- for the Cocoplum where they seem to meet a lot for people on bikes and walking and whatever, on the weekends, on Saturday, by Saturday evening, those -- the trashcans that are there are full and overflowing. And you know, so -- they're still overflowing on Sunday, so by -- over the weekend, unless you put multiple cans there, you know, there may be some places within the City where there is, you know, particularly heavy use, like on the weekends when, you know, you don't have people picking up the trash and picking up the garbage or whatever, that -- you know, I don't know the cost, but you may want to -- it's really more for sightliness than anything else.

Mayor Cason: Yeah, try a couple of them out in some of those places like that.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, but the Cartagena Circle is particularly -- you know, I notice every weekend the -- you know, by Saturday evening, the garbage cans that are there are overflowing and they're not picked up until Monday. So, more waste just accumulates next to them.

Unidentified Speaker: That'd be a kind of a place -- that would be a...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Unidentified Speaker: Good place to try out one of those.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, so if you want to do a trial or whatever, that could be a good place, but something needs to be addressed at that particular meeting place. I'm sure there's other ones in the City, but I know that one because I go by there all the time.

Unidentified Speaker: We could look at that. We do have some park attendants that are cleaning up on Sundays, so as they go to Ingraham Park, they could hit that circle.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Unidentified Speaker: And also, we do have -- we did -- with NRP funds, we were able to purchase quite a few garbage cans, and you'll start seeing those trash receptacles. They're being replaced in our parks.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: We just replaced Pierce Park. We're doing Phyllis Park.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: So, we might be able to add one or two...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: In that circle because we have them in stock right now.

Commissioner Keon: And I noticed sometimes the ones at Ingraham Park aren't necessarily full, but the ones on the circle are full.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: That's where people...

Commissioner Keon: Because people park there.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: That's where they park to use the trail and run.

Commissioner Keon: That's where they park to use the trail, the park and different things.

Unidentified Speaker: And were you speaking of the solar compactor one for that area or just increasing...

Commissioner Keon: Well, possibly.

Mayor Cason: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: I mean, if you were going to look at pressing it...

Commissioner Lago: It'd be a good opportunity.

Commissioner Keon: It would maybe be an opportunity.

Mayor Cason: Probably in some of the high-volume...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Mayor Cason: Infrequently picked up relative to the rest.

Commissioner Keon: And the thing is, I think, for like some of the parks, you want your staff there frequently anyway to clean up the park, so you don't need to only pick up trash like once a week. But where you have very high volumes, you know, you may want to try it or look at it. But you know, you can go do the work and you'll decide.

Unidentified Speaker: Yeah. Well, specifically for the -- for this budget request, the one for the parks and the right-of-way, that envisioned separate recycling containers or a combination of trash, where it would be marked landfill and recycle in the same container, and we can work that out with Parks depending on what they have in stock already and that kind of idea. But the main point for this one was to make sure that we had a recycling presence in our major activity centers and parks and the downtown area, and we'll work out the details on how exactly that looks.

Commissioner Keon: I know also with (INAUDIBLE) when they have activities, I think they're -- I often get emails back and forth between (INAUDIBLE) and I guess Graciano's or somebody else and that site because somebody's -- it's not their garbage. It's somebody else's garbage. But I think, you know, with events, they just -- there's a lot of garbage. There's a lot of trash. And so, those types of -- you know, that type of thing that has the ability to not be massive in size but can compact, you know, may be a good thing for, you know, that site during activities. I don't know how movable they are or how portable they are, but you know, it does look -- I noticed that it's just because of the volume of, you know, bottles and all kinds of trash and whatever. There's just a lot of trash there, you know. And you'd have to use so many cans and you don't want dumpsters there to be able to accumulate, so it maybe -- you know, that -- those - that type of element may be a good solution for those places, too, where there are lots of events.

Commissioner Slesnick: Fred, while we're talking about centers of high activity in Coral Gables, especially on weekends, I really liked the bicycle repair small little -- I don't know how - they cost around \$1,200 or so.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: Yeah, the fix stations, yeah.

Commissioner Slesnick: Fix stations. That would be nice to have one where we do identify because of trash, another bike station around City of Coral Gables.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: Yeah, I think we do have -- we're working with Public Works on the master bike plan and part of that is the stations and also, you know, bike racks, as you see like those decorative bike racks that we have on Venetian Pool now. That's what we're trying to do.

Commissioner Slesnick: And then if we do have the bike racks, you have more people at that point, so we need more trash pickup.

Parks and Recreation Director Couceyro: Thank you.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay, so once again, for capital improvement, capital equipment, \$1.8 million. Facility repairs, 1.5. Motor Pool, this is the ongoing comprehensive replacement program. It's increased by the CPI over year, that's \$3.2 million.

Commissioner Lago: Can we go back to Motor Pool?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Sure.

Commissioner Lago: I'd like -- I just want to talk a little bit about it. I know that this year we had some, you know, pretty groundbreaking efforts in regards to non-gas use vehicles. So, I wanted to see if we're trending -- are we moving forward in continuing to buy vehicles that are getting away from fossil fuels. What do we have on the agenda for that?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: With that, I want to bring Steve Riley up, our Automotive director.

Commissioner Keon: Let me tell you, the response that Steve Riley provided for us to people that asked about buying American and...

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: Different things, it was a great response. I mean, it was really such a great, detailed response. It was so helpful in talking to people. Thank you.

Commissioner Lago: And by the way, just besides the fact -- besides I'm calling you up for some questions, I also wanted to congratulate you because, you know, we're moving in the right direction and I've gotten a lot of comments from individuals who see the Leafs on the streets and they're -- you know, they're like, hey, I can't believe the City, you know, made that investment and it's a move in the right direction.

Automotive Division Director Riley: Right now, for 2017, we're looking at ten additional Leafs. They might be Leafs and/or the Chevy Bolt, not the Volt, but the Bolt. The Bolt is now scheduled to be in production or available for fleet sometime in mid- to late 2017. That vehicle in excess will get in excess of 200-mile range, which will then help alleviate some of the range anxiety. And that will be a total of 30 pure EV cars on our way to our eventual goal of 78, which will be 60 percent of our total administrative fleet. It's nice to know in talking with one of the directors with sales for Nissan for Leaf nationwide is that he believes currently if we stay on the course that we are, that we will have the highest percentage of pure EVs than any other government fleet he has sold these vehicles to, so...

Commissioner Keon: What did he call them?

Commissioner Lago: EV.

Commissioner Keon: EV?

Automotive Division Director Riley: Electric vehicles, pure EV.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay. That's the acronym for them?

Automotive Division Director Riley: Yeah, electric vehicles.

Commissioner Keon: EV? Okay, thanks.

Automotive Division Director Riley: Additionally, we looked at right typing, which is reducing the size of the vehicle if we can down to the lowest size possible and eliminating underutilized vehicles. Just some quick stats here. From 2013 when we actually started the budget -- that was the last budget we had which had a reduced capital budget. In 2014-15, that fiscal year, we had the increase. Well, since then, we've -- before that, we had a total of 725 pieces and almost 367 were over life cycle. Basically, 50 percent of the fleet. And of that, 650 were all called rolling stock. That's our major pieces of equipment, large trailers and vehicles. We had 88 trailers and 562 vehicles. As of today, we're down to a fleet of 682, with a total reduction of 43. Throughout the entire -- since I've been here, I've reduced the fleet by 87 pieces. That is from basically reducing spares and equipment that was no longer utilized or didn't meet utilization standards. We reduced the trailers by 10 and reduced the vehicles by a total of 14. Once again, that's not only significant as far as reducing the fleet, reducing energy consumption, but also, the overall capital requirement because we all know that the largest cost to vehicle ownership is not maintenance and repair or fuel. It's depreciation.

Commissioner Lago: Quick question. In regards to Chevy Bolt, how is it in comparison, the price point when you compare it to the Leaf?

Automotive Division Director Riley: Well, right now Nissan has some very good incentives. Well, we're still going to take part of the federal tax incentive, which is still out there. The federal tax incentive, they're waiting to get I think at least 500,000 EVs on the road before that's gone. I don't know if that's going to exist next year or not. But they're looking at keeping the same incentives. That would drop the Leaf price, which was when I programmed it in the budget, about \$33,000, down to what we bought it for this time, which was \$20,028.

Commissioner Lago: Significant.

Automotive Division Director Riley: It is significant because last year's contract price, it was sitting almost at \$33,000.

Commissioner Lago: So, that's why it's a good opportunity to take advantage of that federal...

Automotive Division Director Riley: Right.

Commissioner Lago: Tax credit, I guess. Is it a tax credit or is it just a subsidy?

Automotive Division Director Riley: It's a combination of Nissan incentives, a reduction in price, and the federal tax incentive. We're not eligible as a municipality, but we lease it for a period of one year because according to the federal tax program, that -- the lease has to be in effect for a period of one year. At that time -- we pay the lease upfront, minus one dollar per car. At the end of the one year, we pay the one dollar to the leasing company...

Commissioner Lago: You option to buy.

Automotive Division Director Riley: And we get the titles.

Mayor Cason: Great. Could you send me a list of the operable excess vehicles? You know, we donated two to one of our sister cities, which the two fire engines are in Antigua now and they're extremely happy. I know the volunteer fire departments in several cities are looking for old pickups, anything, or anything that's for us is no good; for them, it's gold. So, if you could send me a list of what's...

Automotive Division Director Riley: We have just one right now, which is a rescue unit. I think the...

Mayor Cason: Not so much on the fire side now, but just regular vehicles that are still -- still will run but that we're not going to use anymore.

Automotive Division Director Riley: A lot of the vehicles that we get, I wouldn't recommend to another city.

Mayor Cason: If there are any that are recommendable, let me know. If not...

Automotive Division Director Riley: Because they're very old. They're very old.

Commissioner Lago: And in reference to the rescue unit, I want to talk to you about it because there's a local municipality, a very small municipality that's looking for a rescue vehicle.

Commissioner Slesnick: Well, that's great.

Automotive Division Director Riley: It's a standard rescue unit. It was taken out of service last year. It's in fully operating order, and we were initially looking at possibly donating it to another city.

Commissioner Lago: That's what I'm saying. There could be an opportunity for a donation if we're going to donate it.

Commissioner Slesnick: And off the top of your head, what's the average price of a new fire truck?

Automotive Division Director Riley: These are customized pieces of equipment, so it really depends.

Commissioner Slesnick: Well, I mean, if we annexed anything or want extra fire trucks, I mean, just...

Automotive Division Director Riley: For a pumper, about 650 to \$700,000. For an aerial unit...

Commissioner Slesnick: With ladders.

Automotive Division Director Riley: Eight hundred to nine hundred thousand dollars.

Commissioner Slesnick: Okay.

Mayor Cason: Thank you.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you, sir. Great work.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Wasn't the last fire truck that we purchased recently, about a year and a half ago...

Mayor Cason: Ladder truck, the nice long, hook and ladder.

Vice Mayor Quesada: The ladder -- yeah, wasn't that about a million dollars?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It was 1.2. The last ladder truck was about two years ago, and that was one, which I think was in the video...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Which they're designing right now.

Commissioner Slesnick: Have fire truck prices gone down?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I don't know.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I know that so much of it depends on how it's customized...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: For our particular department.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: We can get that information for you.

Commissioner Slesnick: No, I was just wondering because we are talking about buying some more fire trucks, and I know one broke down yesterday in the city. So, I mean, we need to have the right amount. And if we annex High Pines, we're going to need another fire truck. And as we build our new unit up here on North Ponce, we're going to -- well, in the Ponce area, will need -- make sure we have top-grade equipment.

Automotive Division Director Riley: The one for 1.2 was a different type of fire truck. It was called an aerial platform truck. It actually has a platform. The one we're buying right now is

107-foot stick. It's called a squirt, and it has a waterway on it. That's the difference in the price. Also, we bought some additional equipment to outfit that truck, but...

Commissioner Slesnick: And we are building higher buildings, so the fire trucks go up to a hundred feet, the ladders.

Automotive Division Director Riley: The ladder that we're buying right now is a new one, and it's 107 feet total reach.

Commissioner Keon: I think that the sprinkler systems and the different things that are now being required in commercial buildings and buildings of that height really, you know...

Commissioner Slesnick: Especially the newer buildings.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, in the newer, but we don't have any old buildings up that high.

Commissioner Lago: But we're not building...

Commissioner Keon: I mean, our buildings are new.

Commissioner Lago: Any buildings that are taller than Biltmore. So, I mean, if our existing ladders should be able to reach the Biltmore...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We're going to have the chief answer that question, sir.

Unidentified Speaker: The height concern, you know, you're talking about a hundred-foot ladder truck and the angle -- the climbing angle has to take into effect and how close you can get to the building. So, the angle of it -- you know, when you're looking at 100-foot, you're looking at about a five- to six-story elevation. The new truck that's being purchased, the ladder truck,

it's really a fire engine with an addition of a ladder on top, and that's what we use down in the south end because of the delayed time -- you know, getting a ladder truck to go down into the south with tree coverage and stuff might be a delay getting it down there, so we have this ladder - which we currently have one down there now, and I believe it's a 60-foot ladder. We're just increasing the size of this one to 100 foot.

Commissioner Slesnick: We are having fewer fires, aren't we, because of all the new technology?

Unidentified Speaker: To say we're having fewer fires, we're about the same trend every year, you know, as far as fully involved building fires, fire calls, investigation, air conditioners on roofs, smoking, so different calls that would use the ladder truck in itself.

Commissioner Slesnick: By the way, I got so many letters about the firefighters serving down at Miami Edgewater, and so compliments to the department.

Unidentified Speaker: Thank you.

Mayor Cason: They can get the robotic planes out of the trees, too. The...

Unidentified Speaker: The drones?

Mayor Cason: The drones. So, that's...

Commissioner Keon: Drone recovery.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I got another question for you, going a different topic, but in this realm. I don't know if there's any other questions for the Chief?

Commissioner Lago: Thank you, Chief.

Vice Mayor Quesada: With the switching over to electric vehicles, what does that do with mechanics, maintenance? Are our mechanics currently prepared to service those vehicles? Do they have to get additional training, certifications?

Automotive Division Director Riley: We are working with...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Have you anticipated that?

Automotive Division Director Riley: Yes. We are working with Nissan at this time. They have a training center in Miramar, and we are, at this time, trying to get scheduled to get in there to get our guys trained.

Vice Mayor Quesada: And how cost -- have we taken into account the cost for that? I mean, I'm assuming that's a cost that we're going to incur in the upcoming year to train those mechanics.

Automotive Division Director Riley: Well, the training is free.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Oh, it is? Okay.

Automotive Division Director Riley: For Nissan, yes. The training is free because we're a major purchaser of their vehicles. There's no cost there whatsoever. And as far as the maintenance, we anticipate there's going to be a significant reduction in maintenance. Obviously, we're only seeing these vehicles once every six months.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I understand that.

Commissioner Lago: Right, I have...

Vice Mayor Quesada: But you can't assume...

Commissioner Lago: Vice Mayor, I have two friends of mine who have electric vehicles, fully electric vehicles.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, but it's a little bit different from using it in a personal setting and using it in a commercial setting. And my concern is, are all our electric vehicles Nissan or do we have any other brands other than Nissan?

Automotive Division Director Riley: The ones that are out there right now are the Nissan and the Bolt that are pure EV. The Volt is a hybrid, and it only gets about -- well, about a little over 50 miles on the battery.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Okay, but no, but my question is...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But we don't have Volts in our...

Vice Mayor Quesada: You're telling me...

Automotive Division Director Riley: Say again.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I'm sorry?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But I'm just clarifying the Commissioner's -- Vice Mayor's concern is any ones that we have, can our crews properly address the maintenance? Because we don't have any Volts, V-O-L-T, but we may by Bolts, B-O-L-T, in the future. So, he just wants to make sure that our team is well equipped to maintain those vehicles.

Automotive Division Director Riley: Yes, yes.

Commissioner Keon: Is there a lot of maintenance required?

Vice Mayor Quesada: And the existing training, you're telling me Nissan -- I'm sorry, my apologies.

Commissioner Keon: No, go head. I'm sorry, go ahead.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So you're telling me that we're getting -- our mechanics are going to get training from Nissan...

Automotive Division Director Riley: Correct.

Vice Mayor Quesada: For the Nissan Bolts with a B?

Automotive Division Director Riley: No.

Commissioner Lago: No, Leafs. No, Nissan Leaf.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Nissan Leaf, I'm sorry.

Automotive Division Director Riley: It's a Chevy.

Commissioner Keon: It's a Chevy Volt.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Chevy Volts.

Commissioner Lago: Chevy Volt.

Vice Mayor Quesada: I'm sorry. You're right. I thought it was the Volts. I'm getting confused. So, for the Chevrolet hybrid vehicle, our mechanics equipped to maintain those vehicles and service those vehicles?

Automotive Division Director Riley: We haven't bought any yet. But as soon as we do...

Vice Mayor Quesada: I guess what I'm saying is...

Automotive Division Director Riley: Nissan...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Anticipate either additional cost or additional training for those employees...

Automotive Division Director Riley: Right.

Vice Mayor Quesada: To make sure that we can service and maintain them properly. That's it.

Automotive Division Director Riley: Correct. And it's important because they run on AC.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah.

Mayor Cason: One of the -- I think one of your objectives years ago was to reduce the type of different brands of vehicles, to try to standardize...

Automotive Division Director Riley: Correct.

Mayor Cason: Because your repair -- the little store, as I would call it, that you have there for all spare parts, would reduce the inventory. And so how's that working?

Automotive Division Director Riley: Well, we bought predominantly Ford vehicles for the work trucks and things like this. It's important for standardization not only for training for familiarization with the mechanics, but also for the parts...

Commissioner Keon: The parts.

Automotive Division Director Riley: For our testing equipment that we have to have to make sure that we have the right software subscriptions that we can plug into -- these things are becoming more and more complicated to plug in and check the status of the vehicle. So, we try to standardize the fleet in that aspect, and we're doing a fairly good job of it. We don't...

Mayor Cason: Great, good.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Just to add to this, when I first got here six years ago, our budget for parts was about \$775,000. We went to a height of \$1.1 million because our fleet was in such bad condition. Now, we -- actually, last year, I believe we spent \$990,000 or something to that effect, right?

Automotive Division Director Riley: Yes.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I think -- was that the number? So, we're heading toward a similar number this year, so we are now -- we're making progress because we're replacing the fleet.

Commissioner Lago: And another important thing that, you know, as we continue to replace the fleet with fully electric vehicles, also take into account we're going to be spending no money on

gas, so that's another huge savings for the city. So, I think we're like -- again, I'm asking my colleagues to stress the importance and to understand the importance of not only the environmental impact, but also the financial impact of changing over to 100 percent electric vehicles. Chevy Volt, Bolt or Leaf, they're all great products. Obviously, I would love to buy American. I sponsored legislation which, you know, is pushing the idea of buy American. But I think beyond that, we need to stress the importance of going beyond, you know, 60 vehicles, 80 vehicles and taking advantage of the federal tax credit, which is the same thing that's going on now with the solar programs. I took advantage of that. It was a 30 percent cost savings to myself, which we paid back on my taxes. So, eventually, that money's going to run out. You know, there may be a change in policy. There may be a change in leadership. So, you know, we need to be very clear that if we don't take advantage of these available monies in the federal government now, we may run out. So, if we can buy 10, 20, whatever's available that meets our needs, you know, I think we should support it as much as possible.

Automotive Division Director Riley: And additionally, Mayor, you had a question last time in regards to how many vehicles max we've replaced under this increased capital funding. There will be a total of 186 vehicles at the end of fiscal year 2017, which basically represent 29.7 percent of fleet will be replaced under this new capital. I'll give you another example. In 2013, when I started doing the initial estimates of what the costs are for replacements, the approximate cost to replace the fleet at that time was \$15.1 million of those vehicles that were over life cycle. That included extending the life cycle on vehicles simply because we didn't have the money to replace them. As of right now, we're looking at about \$7.5 million currently over life cycle. So, we're making a huge dent in this. I hope to, as things progress and we start looking at other vehicles that are underutilized, we're going to start reducing even more, make it more efficient, more lean, and at the end, we'll actually be able to reduce the overall yearly capital cost for replacement.

Mayor Cason: Thank you. That's great.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Just to address the Vice Mayor's concern, if any additional costs come up with the electric vehicles, we are over budgeted in the fuel account. We were at an all-time high several years ago when gas was close to four dollars a gallon. We left that there because, again, we didn't know when gas was going to go back up. So, even still, we have a surplus there. We use it right now for one-time needs within Motor Pool. And if something does come up, such as additional training or something extraordinary, we do have the funds available.

Commissioner Lago: Could you do me a favor...

Vice Mayor Quesada: And that's great. I like the fact they're being very conservative about it. I just want to make sure that they're anticipating that.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right, yes.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Which I'm satisfied that they are.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: Could you do me a favor? Could you find out with the 20 electric vehicles that we purchased recently and potentially the 10, what were the cost savings in regards to fuel this year? Not now...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay.

Commissioner Lago: I'm just saying...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right, yeah.

Commissioner Lago: Whenever you have a chance...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay.

Commissioner Lago: In the next week, two weeks.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Sure.

Commissioner Lago: I just want to get an idea.

Commissioner Keon: How do you monitor what the cost is for electricity to charge those batteries? Is it negligible? Is it -- how do we...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: You know, I don't have an answer to that. We will find out.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, I wondered how you...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Because they have dedicated charging stations in the garage.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: So, there's got to be some meter that tells us what we're using.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah. Do people pay for that or they just plug in?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: No. Other people who use it have to pay for it. The City, of course, does not. The ones in the garage, the City does not pay -- it pays for it, but it's -- the employees don't; the departments don't. It's charged from there.

Commissioner Keon: Oh. I mean, I just wondered if it's a free -- you just -- you know, you can plug in...

Parking Director Kinney: We are in our promotional period.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Parking Director Kinney: So, right now if you plug in in the garage, you get your electricity. There is -- you have to join the ChargePoint, which is a nationwide system.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

Parking Director Kinney: But right now, if you charge in the garages, it is free.

Commissioner Keon: It's free. But eventually...

Parking Director Kinney: There will be a charge...

Commissioner Keon: You join a...

Parking Director Kinney: And it's essentially...

Commissioner Keon: You give them a credit card...

Parking Director Kinney: The cost for the...

Commissioner Keon: And it comes back, okay.

Parking Director Kinney: Cost of the utility...

Commissioner Keon: Can you look -- then you must know what does it cost to -- or what the amount of electricity and what the going rates are to fully charge, I don't know, an average-sized car, I don't know, yeah.

Parking Director Kinney: Since we're not actually paying for it through the meter right now, I can't tell you.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

Parking Director Kinney: We just pay our monthly electric bill, but I will get that number.

Commissioner Keon: But through the meter, you could tell how much is being used.

Parking Director Kinney: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: So, then you can estimate from there what it would cost.

Parking Director Kinney: Right.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, I'd like to see the difference.

Commissioner Lago: Mayor, if I may. I have a request. It has nothing to do with the budget. It's just reminding -- since we're talking about the parking garages. Can you have someone

monitor the existing parking garages that have designated EV parking spaces? Because once in a while when I drive by, you know, non-EV vehicles are...

Unidentified Speaker: Always.

Commissioner Lago: I didn't want to say always because then, you know -- non-EV vehicles are sometimes taking advantage of that preferred parking, so it would be...

Commissioner Keon: Because it's close to the elevator.

Commissioner Lago: But there's a point that it says EV, so...

Parking Director Kinney: Those -- actually, the language on those signs was specifically dictated to us when we made the museum a LEED facility.

Mayor Cason: Yes.

Parking Director Kinney: And it's very difficult language on the sign to enforce. Now, obviously, if I see an SUV there, it's very easy. But if I see someone with a car that we would say is not fuel efficient or a hybrid, but you know, they see it -- there's an interpretation issue because there's no clear definition.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, then we got to change the language on the sign. Is that what you're suggesting?

Parking Director Kinney: And since we put in the EV stations we have, those are for electric vehicles only. So, I'm trying to get permission to change the language on the sign so that we get...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Who do you need to get permission from?

Parking Director Kinney: Well, like I said, it was to get the certification for the museum, so I need to work through that process and make sure I'm not impacting their requirements.

Vice Mayor Quesada: But what -- is it like a federal government entity? Is it a state entity?

Parking Director Kinney: Well, it's the LEED program.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And I think it says like fuel efficient or something...

Parking Director Kinney: Yes. Right now...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Rather than the EV itself.

Commissioner Keon: Are diesel considered fuel efficient?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We've had this discussion with...

Parking Director Kinney: But see, we've now installed four electric vehicle spaces, and those are for electric vehicles only. So what I would like to do is maybe if they will let me just say hybrid only in the other spaces.

Commissioner Lago: That'd be perfect. Thank you.

Commissioner Keon: Well, I wanted to know if diesel was efficient. Does diesel qualify?

Parking Director Kinney: If it's a diesel hybrid and it's not a big SUV, maybe.

Mayor Cason: No Hummers.

Commissioner Lago: You want to take -- is your car diesel?

Commissioner Keon: No. It's a big SUV.

Mayor Cason: Alright, thank you. Continue.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay, moving to Slide 10, Historic Facility Repairs/Restorations, \$800,000. Parking Repairs, and that includes your citywide signage, multi-space pay stations, lot lighting and additional funds for Garages 2 and 6. I know this is very important to the Commission, so we've covered all of that.

Mayor Cason: On the multi-space pay stations, we're hearing that those are very revenue successful. I mean, the more we put those in, the more revenue we -- how much more do we have to do to complete the whole -- get rid of all the parking meters and have something that's going to generate more money for us?

Parking Director Kinney: The multi-space pay stations are really successful on a revenue point simply because it gives people multiple ways to pay...

Mayor Cason: Right.

Parking Director Kinney: For their parking. They don't have to have a pocket full of quarters.

Mayor Cason: Right.

Parking Director Kinney: With the current installation that's happening now and what's scheduled for 2017, we will be at about 60 percent of the city will be covered. But I want to

caution us because the future for us is more along the lines of no equipment. Right now, we're at 60 percent of our transactions on the street happen through Pay by Phone. So, I'm comfortable with the incremental steps because at some point we may think about reducing the amount of equipment on the street and that may be when we get the 75 or 80 percent on transactions.

Mayor Cason: And maybe new technology will allow for like you drive in and it reads it -- puts it on your SunPass bill or something. There must be some technology like that.

Parking Director Kinney: Well, vehicles that are being built now all have their individual IP addresses and they're wirelessly connected to the world. And there will come a point where when you pull up to the curb, you know, there may be a text message on the screen in your car or a voice that comes on and says, "Welcome to Coral Gables. Our parking rate's \$1.75 an hour. Have a great day," and you just walk away.

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Parking Director Kinney: That will happen.

Commissioner Slesnick: Have our number of tickets written by our meter maids and so forth gone down this year because of that?

Parking Director Kinney: Typically -- well, I wouldn't say directly because of that, but typically in areas where we have pay stations, you do find a fewer percentage of vehicles that are in violation. But there are -- if you walk down the street, you can see violations. So, we typically run around 10,000 citations a month and that has not changed very much.

Commissioner Slesnick: At all with the new pay stations?

Parking Director Kinney: In the areas where the pay stations are, I would say, yes...

Commissioner Slesnick: Okay.

Parking Director Kinney: There are fewer violations. But there's other places and there's things other than nonpayment. There's issues like parking in a handicapped space. There's issues like parking in a fire lane or, you know, blocking traffic.

Commissioner Slesnick: While you're here, how long is it going to take to get the Aragon parking lot finished? People ask me that all the time because I...

Parking Director Kinney: They -- well, no, the good news is I walked out my door this morning and I saw them laying the conduit for the lights.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: He lives very close to that parking lot.

Commissioner Slesnick: And I'm on (INAUDIBLE), so I just want to know.

Parking Director Kinney: I will tell you I went on a two-week vacation after Fourth of July and I fully expected to see pavement when I came back and I don't think you can understand how disappointed I was that it was still gravel. But it is now moving forward, and I believe it should only be three or four more weeks.

Commissioner Slesnick: Okay, are we putting trees or shade?

Parking Director Kinney: There is a plan for landscaping in that parking lot. And that's one of the main reasons we decided to do the renovation is because it needed to be improved as far as getting rid of some of the asphalt.

Commissioner Lago: When you say landscaping, do you have an idea, or that hasn't been defined yet?

Parking Director Kinney: Well, I know -- you know exactly what they're putting in?

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD).

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I'm sorry. Can you come up to the mike? So, we're bringing the parking lot -- the three parking lots, making it one, and bringing it up to standard also from ADA.

Parking Director Kinney: Yes. One of the issues was all of those places were substandard. There was not adequate ADA spaces. And there was, on most of the facility -- most of that block, there was one -- two trees, one real tree and two little trees, but as part of the planning process, we wanted to do adequate landscaping

Unidentified Speaker: The parking lot next to (INAUDIBLE) is that Lot 7?

Parking Director Kinney: Yes.

Unidentified Speaker: So on Lot 7, we used sabal palms, Green Island Ficus and bromeliads, and the intent was to do something very similar for this parking lot because we can put them in tight spaces and they're bulletproof, strong plants that will...

Commissioner Keon: Do the roots from ficus affect the -- I mean, is that a good choice for ficus to serve as -- ficus trees?

Unidentified Speaker: No, the trees would all be sabal palms.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, yeah.

Commissioner Lago: And the ficus as ground cover.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

Unidentified Speaker: And that's a shrub. It's in the middle of Ponce and Le Jeune. But it's called Green Island Ficus.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay. Great.

Commissioner Lago: But let me ask you a question. I mean, those trees, do they really limit the SRI value? I mean, because you're not really getting a lot of coverage of all that asphalt.

Unidentified Speaker: Well, the spaces we have to plant are pretty small, tight spaces. And the - those palms have a pretty big canopy. And then at the ends, where we have a little bit more space, we might be able to put some small trees, and there's one large tree that we're going to save.

Parking Director Kinney: We are preserving the large tree that's there.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah, at the corner.

Parking Director Kinney: Yeah.

Commissioner Slesnick: But it'd be great to have another shade tree or two because the summer's just so hot in the parking lots.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah. I just -- I don't see those palm trees. I've never -- I don't see those palm trees providing...

Commissioner Slesnick: They don't give a lot of shade.

Commissioner Lago: Any sort of cover.

Parking Director Kinney: Well, we do have some significant spaces in the corners.

Unidentified Speaker: Yeah, on the east and west ends, there's some more space there.

Commissioner Keon: But you know, trees stain a lot of -- there's a lot of staining from trees that drop their leaves. They stain cars and that's the benefit of the palm trees. You can trim them and the palm are...

Unidentified Speaker: And the palms is instant shade. How long is the lease for on the parking lot?

Commissioner Keon: It's a narrow trunk and they do provide shade and they don't stain your cars when it rains.

Parking Director Kinney: It's three years plus extensions, but our hope is to make it a long-term.

Unidentified Speaker: Okay, because the palms will provide instant shade within the first, you know, six months. When they get put in, the fronds are cut off, but then when they leaf out, the trees that would be planted will provide shade for...

Commissioner Lago: Ten years.

Unidentified Speaker: Yeah, five, ten, fifteen years. So, we want to try to balance either instant shade and what can fit in the space.

Commissioner Keon: Right. Thank you.

Mayor Cason: Thank you.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay, moving on, Public Safety Improvements, \$2.6 million, and that does include the next section for the CCTV. You see it's \$500,000. Parks and Recreation Amenity Improvements. We have -- that is one of our capital project matrices that we've prepared. It's about \$1.4 million influx of funds for all parks projects, and that's to start replacing them on a regular cycle.

Commissioner Lago: Quick question. In regards to the purchase of land, the line item of \$300,000, what does that put us up to date right now? I think it's 1.2 million.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: That should bring us to 1.5.

Commissioner Lago: One point five?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I think so, by FY17.

Commissioner Lago: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Now, remember, sir, that doesn't include park impact fees. This is only your \$300,000 a year for purchase of land.

Commissioner Keon: On the CCTV, how many more segments is it to complete the whole CCTV...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I think the budget is showing three to -- we should bring up (INAUDIBLE) -- Chief?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And Raimundo will probably be able to answer as well.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I think budgetarily it's showing 500. I'm not -- I think across the board, but I don't know if it's a full...

Commissioner Keon: Was the 500 -- is that -- that doesn't complete it. I'm sure we're doing it in segments.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right, there's different segments.

Commissioner Keon: So, how many segments -- with this allocation, how many -- what's the total number of segments that we're -- that is -- for the CCTV?

Interim Chief Information Officer Rodulfo: This year, in what we call the first phase, we have 11 sites and the Crime Intelligence Center. And for next year, they are planning to add additional sites in different phases. So, they are concentrating in the highest priority locations at this moment.

Commissioner Keon: Right. But I wondered when -- do you know the -- like what's the full complement for what we anticipate with CCTV -- I mean, what -- to get coverage throughout the City, how many phases -- I mean, how is that decided?

Mayor Cason: How many (INAUDIBLE) and where are we in terms of the cameras?

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, of coverage.

Police Chief Hudak: And again, because of the two-phased project of it, both the license plate readers and red-light cameras, we can interface that as well. The geofencing number, I'll have to get the exact number for you of whether it's 15 or 18 locations. And again, starting in a circle around the city, which...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Police Chief Hudak: Is the overall plan, I'll get the answer for you exactly for...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Police Chief Hudak: What this \$500,000 does for the beginning. We've identified the start of the construction on our southernmost points and in some of the other ones in between. The other interface that we're looking at too is also doing the contract work now through Miracle Mile and that area, so we're...

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Police Chief Hudak: Laying that ahead of time. We'll get you the exact number of what we are putting toward this half a million dollars for this year.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, and it's kind of what's the remaining. I mean, I just wondered what it would -- how long does it take to fully fund.

Police Chief Hudak: Again, I'll have to...

Commissioner Keon: You don't know.

Police Chief Hudak: Get the answer for you on that, exactly where...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Police Chief Hudak: We're at because I would anticipate, you know, to have a fully-functioning program, we're going to find out just how much this ties into other things.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Police Chief Hudak: So, if we start bringing private sector areas that we can see into those, there may be additional IT-related costs for budget stuff that we would want to bring in...

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

Police Chief Hudak: And put into that area. For hardware, I know the second phase is a half million, and we'll get you the answer exactly what that will get you in a roundabout area. We have moved through the analysis of what we're doing. We've actually moved a camera from one area that we didn't do and we changed that to Ingraham Park, I believe. So, we were able to put something over Ingraham Park because we moved it from another location that feasibility didn't pan out. So, those kind of movements will be -- you know, I don't want to say these are definitely -- they're all going to be there because they may move. And we assess that -- the committee assesses that as we move along.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Police Chief Hudak: But I'll get you the exact number of what this amount would cover for this fiscal year.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, thank you.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And Keith, you have multiple years still in the funding for the CIP?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes, yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, this is not...

Commissioner Keon: That's why I wondered how many...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Yeah, I think they have, what, at least three more years on the CCTV?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I think two more after 17.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, that's kind of what I...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Again, that is just the placeholders for us.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Because we're trying to make the plan as comprehensive as possible.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, okay.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: And also, just -- actually, Diana reminded me, in your budget books, we have the available dollars for any of the projects that are in this list here that are existing already. So, you'll see...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: The existing dollars, the new money, and then a total available, okay. There just wasn't enough room on these slides to put all that information on here. Okay, going to Slide 12, Transportation and Roadway Improvements, \$2.8 million. As you can see, there are several sidewalk components to this.

Mayor Cason: Good.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: All Commission requests, and we've actually tackled them all. Utility repairs and improvements...

Commissioner Keon: Let me ask you a question about alleys. I -- someone just sent me an article out of one of the public journals on revitalizing your alleyways or whatever. And they talked about -- a lot about paving alleys with more permeable materials, but what if -- do we do that? Did you see that article too?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: I did.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, me too. I thought one of the interesting things about it, particularly with regard to the Mile, you know, behind the Mile because, you know, there's the connection between our parking garages and the thing that they -- the alleys are so visible. But it also -- I mean, it just talked about the drainage and whatever. What material would they use?

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: There's a number of different types of materials, and we are actively looking for this next fiscal year with the appropriation to pursue some grant funding. We contacted the grant writer. There's a number of grants that may be available. They're more expensive...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: But they're, you know, much more attractive. You know, we've programmed this assuming that we're going to move forward with standard asphalt paving, but they're much more attractive. They're more functional. And particularly in the areas around the Mile where we're investing so much money, I think that those alleys around the Mile where we have people going from parking spaces to the Mile, they should be more attractive.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: And so, we will be looking at that in our department for ways that we can implement those.

Commissioner Keon: Great, great. Yeah, that's -- it was more the Mile that I thought of when I read that article, but didn't know what those materials are.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Yeah.

Commissioner Keon: So, when you find out maybe (INAUDIBLE)...

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Yeah, it's a combination of pavers and pervious pavement. And also, even in some of our parking lots, we want to take a look at pervious pavement...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: And the possibility of, you know, a roadway where it's feasible. We might want to test some areas. We were talking about testing some areas, actually, at Public Works to see how it functions.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, if we can reduce the amount of asphalt with more permeable type of surfaces.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Yeah. We are very proud of...

Commissioner Keon: (INAUDIBLE) so much better for our (INAUDIBLE) water.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: Our staff because they actually bring this stuff forward and they want to implement it. So, the idea of being a more sustainable Coral Gables has absolutely trickled down from the top down...

Commissioner Keon: Oh, great.

Assistant Public Works Director Keller: And I'm very proud of them.

Commissioner Keon: Thank you. Yeah, that would be a great thing if we can do that. Thank you.

Commissioner Lago: Good stuff.

Mayor Cason: Thank you.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: We have the final category, Utility Repairs and Improvements for almost \$2 million. The total capital budget, \$18 million, that includes vehicles -- if you look in the budget, you'll see it says \$15 million. But add the 3.2 for vehicles and it

comes out to 18. Slide 14 shows our headcount. We are proposing a headcount of 831 full-time employees. That's up two from last fiscal year, and those two are from proprietary funds. There's a nighttime manager for parking, and a mandated maintenance worker for Sanitary/Sewer. Our goal is to not increase the general fund's headcount as much as possible, and we reutilized vacancies. We're looking at all our vacancies, and we've used them for better purposes and reclassifying them.

Mayor Cason: Good because every extra employee brings a pension.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It does.

Mayor Cason: And a big one.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

Commissioner Slesnick: Our security people, like at our new purchase over on Ponce and at City Hall, do they come under City employees...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: No.

Commissioner Slesnick: Or that's a separate service?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: That's contract.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Mr. Mayor, in your comment on pension, we paid close attention to. The Teamster contract allows new employees to choose a 401, and so we're slowly getting out of the pension business for new employees because the election has been very popular.

Mayor Cason: Good.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right. In addition to that, we're bringing on part-time employees, where appropriate, instead of hiring full-time employees.

Commissioner Lago: Just for a footnote for the future as we ramp up and we're on the way in regards to the construction for Miracle Mile. Let's make sure that we have somebody or, you know, the necessary people allocated so when the Mile is done that we can provide the necessary maintenance and security. I know that Police does a great job, but you know, whatever we need, additional forces for the Mile, whatever we need in regards to maintenance, we're making a huge investment...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: That's going to bear fruit, but let's keep it spectacular.

Mayor Cason: And remember, we changed one of the ordinances to require that the businesses keep the chewing gum off the new beautiful sidewalks because that will soon ruin it.

Commissioner Lago: But yeah, but we still need somebody there who is making sure that everybody's complying.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And so, we're having good discussions, I think, with the business improvement district that we're going to be in charge of repairs and bigger maintenance, and that we really want them to have the day to day, that feet on the street, you know, gum, oil -- sometimes the program is called block by block, where it is a clean and safe program as an extension of the Business Improvement District.

Commissioner Lago: Well, I mean, listen, the Business -- I think the budget for the Business Improvement District last year was almost seven figures, so I mean, the money's there. Let's -- we made the effort. It's been 30 years in the making, and let's make sure that we allocate some of that almost seven-figure budget to maintaining the streets.

City Attorney Leen: Mr. Mayor, you know, by law, as you mentioned, we do require them to maintain the sidewalk next to their property, so there's a policy perspective, which the City Manager's working on, but there is a legal requirement.

Mayor Cason: Are we, in terms of our receivables, are we making -- we put all of the garbage stuff on the tax bill, but are we -- there were some other components done by the BID. There were fines. Are we making progress in terms of collecting money that is owed to the City? Because at one point, it was \$3.5 million. I think it's gone significantly down, deadbeats.

Commissioner Lago: Solid Waste and any other, you know, fees in reference to Code Enforcement or anything that's outstanding?

Commissioner Keon: I think there's some lease issues.

Finance Director Gomez: In terms of the collections...

Mayor Cason: How much money is owed to the City by people that have not paid us, and then what can we do about it?

Finance Director Gomez: So, when we first -- with the solid waste -- let me start out with the solid waste. We started with close to \$3 million of unpaid. We have collected 91 percent of that.

Mayor Cason: Hooray.

Finance Director Gomez: So, there's very little balance outstanding that we'll eventually get because it was on the tax bill. There's some payment plans...

Commissioner Lago: We should recover that this year.

Finance Director Gomez: Yeah, exactly. There's some payment plans that we had offered initially, and so -- to people who have successfully still been paying on it. We are continuing with those. Others that did not meet their obligations, we did -- we are putting those on the tax bill, so we will get them moving forward. In terms of other collections, we don't really have a lot of issues. We don't have as large of an issue that we did have with the solid waste with the other collections, our licenses and alarms. You know, we do pretty much successfully collect those. There's always a little bit of outstanding, but we continue to send out notice and collect that, so we don't see as much of an issue. The dollar amounts are not as large as with the solid waste.

Mayor Cason: Do you have a ballpark figure?

Finance Director Gomez: Of total outstanding?

Mayor Cason: Yeah.

Finance Director Gomez: I can get that for you. I don't have it off the top of my head.

Mayor Cason: Thank you.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Commissioner Lago, you had raised an issue at one point about parking citations unpaid. We have the best stick in town because five or more unpaid parking tickets allow us to scofflaw. We'll take your vehicle. You'll pay it back. You'll pay all

the tickets back before you get your vehicle. It's a very inconvenient way of thinking that you're skipping the Parking Department.

Commissioner Keon: Can I ask about the...

Commissioner Lago: Good.

Commissioner Keon: I know -- I think the Manager -- I know I had spoken to you once before about, you know, the billing that our rescue for transport, it is covered by people's insurance. I mean, I know that we do send out bills. I wondered -- and I have heard from different people how, you know, they're so offended by it and whatever. And I said I -- you know, it's -- and I asked Cathy to look at whatever the letter is. There's something that goes with it along with that, but whatever. Do we, you know, collect anything? I mean, does the insurance pay us? And what happens with that? Is it often done or no? Or is the opportunity, you know, if we help people with the insurance forms or whatever, you know, that we would collect more?

Finance Director Gomez: So, we do have a third-party servicing company that helps us...

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay

Finance Director Gomez: Manage the billing for EMS.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Finance Director Gomez: And so, we do -- it is a charge that is typically covered by insurance and Medicare and Medicaid, so...

Commissioner Keon: It is?

Finance Director Gomez: It is.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

Finance Director Gomez: And so, a lot of times when the residents receive the bill, it's probably because we weren't able to collect insurance information at the time of the pickup.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Finance Director Gomez: So, we're asking them in that bill to provide insurance information, if not already provided. But typically -- I can't speak for every single insurance company -- it is covered at a hundred percent.

Commissioner Keon: Right, but does -- when you send the bill and what you're looking for is information, do you have on the top of it, "This is not a bill"?

Finance Director Gomez: Well, so it's...

Commissioner Keon: And like, you know, a hospital...

Finance Director Gomez: Sometimes, it is a bill.

Commissioner Keon: Will send you out and they'll say, this is not a bill, and they're asking for information.

Finance Director Gomez: So...

Commissioner Keon: You know.

Finance Director Gomez: The way that I recall the statement that is sent out, it is a bill because sometimes it's that they don't have insurance and it's not...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Finance Director Gomez: Always the fact that they do have insurance. But it does tell them, if the insurance is covered -- if they're asking -- it does ask for them to provide insurance information. So, a lot of times -- it does say that the insurance information is required. Sometimes, some people don't have insurance, perhaps, and that's why...

Commissioner Keon: But then they would tell you, I don't have insurance.

Mayor Cason: Let's hear from the Fire Department about what happens on the ground.

Commissioner Keon: So, it's more when people have insurance that you collect on it?

Finance Director Gomez: I'm sorry?

Commissioner Keon: It's more -- I would think it would be more our goal that when people have insurance, we would collect on that insurance.

Finance Director Gomez: Right, and that is the goal, and that is what we do.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Finance Director Gomez: So, we do collect from the insurance company. The company that we use to administer the bills, they do -- a lot of times -- again, the bills that are sent out is usually a way to say this is the bill. If you have insurance information, please provide it to us. But if there

is a balance outstanding, if they have a copay or something, it'll say it on there that insurance has already covered X dollars and this is their responsibility.

Mayor Cason: How many calls do we get a year?

Commissioner Keon: A lot.

Unidentified Speaker: A year we do about close to 8,000 calls a year, 60 or sometimes a little bit greater than that is EMS calls. Going back to the billing question, the billing provider that we have that provides that service for us will make every effort to collect or to collect the information needed for the patient for their insurance provider. So, not only do they use our EMS report, sometimes they go ahead and work with the hospital to obtain that information. When you do receive a form at home, it'll have a 1-800 number that you can call that'll guide you as to what exactly is it that they're asking you for. In addition to that, some of our patients will call the Fire Department, and in that case, we'll facilitate that transaction for them.

Commissioner Keon: I just wondered, you know, what -- for the amount billed, what do we collect? Do you know what the billing and the collection rates are?

Unidentified Speaker: Off the top of my head, I cannot. I could tell you that...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Unidentified Speaker: Our billing provider does provide us a payor mix, which is it'll tell us what percentage of the patients that we've transported had what form of insurance, whether it's an HMO, a provider insurance, Medicare or Medicaid. And from there, then that'll give us a percentage of collection. I'm reserved to give you a certain number.

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

Unidentified Speaker: I can tell you that our collection rate and in some form or fashion is greater than 50 percent.

Commissioner Keon: Okay. And it's only for transport; is that right? Is it for the call? It's only for transport.

Unidentified Speaker: No. It's only for the transport that we...

Commissioner Keon: The transport...

Unidentified Speaker: Facilitate to the hospital.

Commissioner Keon: Is what's covered under insurance. Okay, yeah. I just wondered what we billed and what we collected. Okay, thank you.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay, moving to Slide 15. We're proposing a millage rate of 5.559 mills, which is the same as FY16.

Mayor Cason: And we're -- our options on that, we're really in some way foreclosed by the unexpected communications bills of how much do we have to repay?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Well, overall, the entire payment is the slide coming up.

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: The entire payment is about \$800,000, seven hundred and change.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: That's the refund...

Mayor Cason: The refund, right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: To the State...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: To AT&T for overcharging the residents.

Mayor Cason: And had we not had to do that, we might have been able to do some other things.

Commissioner Lago: I want you to be a little bit more clear in reference to that because, you know, we -- this Commission and, obviously, Commissioner Keon and myself, we've only been here three years, and Commissioner Slesnick's new. But this Commission, for five years running, has lowered the millage rate, which to my opinion, no other city has done that in South Florida. I want you to really explain to the residents why we're giving AT&T \$800,000 because it really hasn't been publicized in the papers.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: No, actually it hasn't. I mean, we found out about it on the 15th of July.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: So, you know, it was after we prepared our budget. We were very clear to them. So, this is a lawsuit that was settled back a few years and -- where AT&T was forced to repay its clients for overcharging on internet services.

Commissioner Keon: Overcharging?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: On internet services.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: So, I mean, I don't know the specifics of exactly what they were doing, but overall, that's the very simplistic description of it. But then they applied for a credit to the State for all of the taxes that were paid on that because they had to pay those back as well. So, the State paid them back, but then we have to pay the State back.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, so it's the reimbursement for the tax...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: And they're smoothing it out over 15 months, it's about \$48,000 a year. It started with the June payment.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Forty-eight thousand a month, you're saying?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: A month.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, \$800,000 hit on the budget, unanticipated because of that. And so, what you'll see is we had hoped that we could come to you and say, you know, the July 1 property value estimate was higher. Our revenues, we were conservative, came in a little bit better. But, the good news is we were conservative in our estimates, and we came in a little bit better. The bad news is, the AT&T rebate took it all, and so we'll go through that as one of the slides.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right. We can actually -- since we're discussing it now we can just go right to that slide. Okay, as you can see, there isn't much more to this slide, but you can see that the budget, \$183 million, is the same budget after the changes occurred.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: This is your Slide 19.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes. This is your Slide 19. It's in the back of the packet. And you'll see the additional property tax that we got for the changes between June 1 and July 1 is \$191,000. The half-cent sales tax brought us in another \$143,000, and the state revenue sharing, another \$100,000. That was \$433,000, which we were hoping to offer to you to do whatever the Commission wanted to do with it.

Mayor Cason: Right.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Unfortunately, now, the Communications Services Tax went down by \$800,000. Now, if you do the math, \$48,000 times 12 is not \$800,000. In addition to the decreases due to this, because of bundling and usage, whereas landlines are going away, there's been a steady decrease in our revenue from CST. Last year, we budgeted \$4,050,000. Due to the trend, we budgeted just \$4 million for this year. A bigger hit actually occurred. It's an additional \$200,000.

Commissioner Lago: It's happening quick, rather quickly.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It's happening quicker than they thought and quicker than we thought. So, now that \$200,000 is the only component of this that's going to be recurring. The other piece of it is going to go away at the end of FY17, so we'll jump back up. But we're still now -- we have to anticipate now, as people stop using landlines and as prices get more competitive with communications products, that CST is going to continually go down. Okay, so we have to be ready for that.

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Commissioner Slesnick: While we're on this page, are we anticipating -- property values in Coral Gables went up almost \$200,000 from one month to another. That's not what we were already anticipating. This is an additional...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: That's just the difference between the estimated values we got from the property appraiser on June 1. That's the rough estimate. They've gotten much better at their rough estimates. And then the July 1 is the actual certification of the taxable value.

Commissioner Slesnick: Okay, so we can anticipate that we would have \$200,000 a month in additional revenue because...

Commissioner Keon: No, annually.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We've spent it.

Commissioner Slesnick: We've spent it. Okay, just checking.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It's an annual increase.

Commissioner Keon: It's our annual number.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: The June 1 estimate we base our budget on because our reports are due to you July 1, the same day that the property appraiser gives their final...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, the final was almost \$200,000 more in property value increases -- property tax increases than...

Commissioner Slesnick: Anticipated.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: June 1, but that, as you'll see, he has taken all of those better than expected revenues, added to it some transfers to our general -- from our general fund, not our reserve -- operating reserves, but our general fund to meet the deficit of \$800,000 caused by the AT&T refund.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: We had hoped that we would be able to show you some new revenues that you all could add to your priorities in terms of what you wanted to do with it. Unfortunately, courtesy of AT&T, we're not able to do that.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Well, we may still -- we are going to look at the swimming revenues and the golf revenues, but that -- I can't tell you what those are going to be at this point, if any. But we do anticipate they will go up.

Mayor Cason: Right.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: So, we'll come to you for the adopted budgets in the -- on September 13. And if we have any additional estimates, we'll share them with you.

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Commissioner Keon: So, the -- when you give us a number for -- is there a number in here for annual revenues related to property taxes?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes, 75 million.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, here, I'm sorry.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It's at the very beginning.

Commissioner Keon: Seventy-five million.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

Commissioner Keon: So, is there -- does that already account for the 190,000?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: No.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, so this is plus 190 whatever?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, thanks.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yeah, I know sometimes it's confusing. We're one of the few cities that has to have a budget by July 1, and it's just too late -- it's too early for when the final numbers come in.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: The only thing I want to caution about the swimming revenues and how excited we are with the great job on the increased usage, we're starting to hear

some feedback from the neighbors about parking and the overflow issue. So, we need to figure out how to best manage that.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah. I sent you an email about that. I know that -- I imagine my colleagues also received that. We need to be -- I think we need to be very diligent and be very careful because it's not only the parking. It's just the fact that a lot of residents who want to use the facility feel that, again, it's becoming a little bit congested, and that there's a lot of people who -- we welcome everybody from South Florida to come to Coral Gables. We -- you know, and appreciate our beautiful city, but we also got to, you know, put our residents at the forefront before we consider anybody else. So, I think it's becoming a little bit of an issue. And I get a lot of calls from residents who tell me that recently we had the issue of parking on swales under control. But as of late, people are just -- you know, they're disregarding those no parking signs. It's becoming more and more difficult.

Mayor Cason: Maybe our revenue will go up.

Commissioner Lago: Maybe this is what we don't want. Maybe in this line item, we don't want our revenues to go up.

Mayor Cason: But and maybe the solution is to raise the swimming fees and that will...

Commissioner Lago: For nonresidents.

Mayor Cason: Bring more revenue and fewer people.

Commissioner Slesnick: Commissioner Lago, I want you to know, I've been getting a lot of those same calls, especially on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, where -- and I drive that way all the time. But I've never had -- really realized how much they're going over, two and three blocks from the pool. And I asked for a breakdown on the fees and the usage of the pool and Fred sent

that to me or somebody from your department. Thank you, Fred. And we do have annual membership fees for the pool, so there are some people that -- from Coral Gables that use it all year round. But five percent of the people that use the pool are from Coral Gables. Is that right? Five percent, and the rest of the people are from out of Coral Gables. So, less than 2,000 people use it by paying the daily fees from Coral Gables, just in the last 40 days. And 30,000 people from out of Coral Gables used the pool. So, 30,000 compared to 2,000...

Commissioner Lago: That's significant.

Commissioner Slesnick: And that's about 800 people a day. So, that's why we're getting all those cars because on Saturday and Sunday, you have 1,000 people using the pool.

Commissioner Lago: And the issue is that it's landlocked and, you know, there's a sliver of green there that, again, people park in, which I want to leave it green. I don't want to even consider...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And it's slated for the dining club project.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So we'll bring you that information. I'm glad that you brought it -- I don't know that all the Commissioners were copied with it, so we'll make sure that that happens.

Commissioner Keon: I think we were.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But I just wanted to be cautious...

Commissioner Keon: I think we were. Carolyn sent it out.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah, she did.

Commissioner Keon: Carolyn sent it out.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I just want to be cautious when we look at revenues coming in from swimming. While we can easily absorb the golfing increases for right now, we may be at capacity already for the Venetian Pool.

Commissioner Keon: I think you are.

Commissioner Slesnick: Or if we just raised it for out of city residents.

Commissioner Keon: Well, I think it -- is it \$5 or -- there was a cost differential for residents...

Commissioner Slesnick: There is.

Commissioner Keon: And nonresidents, yeah.

Commissioner Slesnick: But the nonresidents need to have...

Commissioner Lago: Yeah. What I would like to see -- I mean, again, I would love to see my opinion and my colleagues'. I'd like to see if we're going to reduce it for individuals who don't live in Coral Gables, I'd like to see a reduction for residents that do live in Coral Gables.

Commissioner Keon: No, but I'm asking...

Commissioner Lago: It would be an offset...

Commissioner Keon: Well, there is a differential. What is the...

Commissioner Slesnick: It's low for the residents of Coral Gables.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Commissioner Slesnick: But I was there last week, and I talked to 20 different people, none of them were from Coral Gables.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Commissioner Slesnick: And one father was there that showed up with three of his kids, and they didn't stay at the pool because they said it was too crowded. And this was like Saturday morning, around 11 o'clock or so. And the pool is beautiful. By the way, the kitchen facilities over there -- I mean, everybody was having a wonderful time, and we do have a lot of camps using the park during the summer. But everybody had a wonderful time. The facilities look great. But there were people that were leaving because it was just too crowded and those were Coral Gables people.

Commissioner Keon: So, what is the difference in the admission fee for residents and nonresidents?

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: Currently, the nonresident fee for adults is \$13. That's ages 13 and above. And then for children, ages 3 through 12, that's \$8. We did raise those fees last year...

Commissioner Slesnick: Right.

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: By one dollar per person, and we did not increase the fees to actual residents, so it's just for nonresidents.

Commissioner Keon: What's the fee to residents?

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: I believe it's \$5.50 for adults.

Commissioner Keon: It's 18 for an adult?

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: No, no, no, 13.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, 13.

Commissioner Slesnick: For residents.

Commissioner Lago: For nonresidents.

Commissioner Keon: No, no, for nonresidents.

Commissioner Slesnick: And how much for residents?

Commissioner Lago: Five fifty.

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: Five fifty.

Commissioner Slesnick: That's reasonable.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah. I mean, I would...

Commissioner Keon: For residents, it's fine.

Commissioner Lago: Be in favor...

Commissioner Keon: I think you just need to test what (INAUDIBLE) and not for nonresidents.

Mayor Cason: Well, right now you're cutting off at 600 or 700?

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: Six hundred.

Mayor Cason: So you're already rationing the pool.

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: Correct.

Mayor Cason: But the other way to ration is to raise the price.

Commissioner Lago: But the issue there is there's no way to -- there's no additional parking that can be built in that area, number one. So, have people, like the Mayor said, take Uber or park on downtown and then maybe take a taxi or walk over, but there's very limited...

Commissioner Slesnick: But there are a thousand people there on some days.

Commissioner Lago: Very limited, so...

Commissioner Slesnick: Because they come and go. They come and go.

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: We've seen a change in trend. The numbers haven't changed from last year to this year, so there hasn't actually been a physical increase in numbers. We actually close the doors and shut down for capacity of 600. We reduced that by a hundred. The year before it was 700. So, the doors close earlier. People have caught on. They want to still get in, so they're showing up earlier and they're waiting in line. And you know, they're -- we open the

doors on the weekends at 10 am. People are already waiting out there at 9, 9:30 am, trying to wait in line trying to get in. So, it's more of a large cluster at a certain timeframe. And also, we only have two terminals at the front desk to ring people up, so a lot of guests have complained that they have to wait 30 minutes just to get charged admission to get into the facility.

Commissioner Lago: So, let me ask you a question. If you have a resident -- the doors are closed and we're at capacity, if you have a resident that comes in and says, I'd like to enjoy the pool, what is the procedures that we have in place?

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: Unfortunately, at this point, because we're doing it at capacity with headcounts, the residents would not be able to go in the pool. The only provision we make is for members.

Commissioner Lago: Is there any way that we could have some sort of like, kind of like a buffer where we don't include ten people and we leave that little bit of buffer, that opening so that if we have a resident that comes in, they can come in over a nonresident?

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: It could be done. It's very difficult when you're handling those large volumes of people and you see one person coming in and they've been waiting out in the...

Commissioner Lago: No, I'm asking -- I know how difficult your job is on Saturdays because I drive by there and I'm mesmerized by how many people are coming. And I know this facility's incredible and people want to come to the City of Coral Gables, but I just want to do something where we reward people for being in the City of Coral Gables.

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: But we've talked about several solutions, and we're also doing a cost comparison right now on not just swimming pool facilities in the county, but also historic facilities because we're both. So, the fees could definitely be increased based on the fact that we're just not a swimming pool. We're a special facility. We are a historic attraction, and we

want to make sure we preserve that historic attraction. In regards to parking, one of the things that has happened is not so much that we had some -- a relocation of royal palms on the De Soto Boulevard, and that's where people used to park on the swales diagonally, and that probably took away thirty-some spots, and that's why they're parking in the triangle lot.

Commissioner Lago: But I mean, it looks spectacular though.

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: It's beautiful. We love it.

Mayor Cason: How about...

Commissioner Lago: And my big concern is not really the money. Again, this is not really an issue about money for me. Maybe you may disagree. I think this is an issue about servicing the residents before anything.

Mayor Cason: How about something like you can get online and purchase something like you do for a movie and you just show it so you don't have to -- you have a line for if you bought them electronically, you just go in and you have a certain number. After that, you don't issue any more. They're good for the day, like a movie ticket.

Commissioner Lago: Reservations.

Parks Director Couceyro: We're looking at several of those strategies, including fee increase. And you will see something coming to the Commission in the future because we're working on several strategies, which will include certain price increases. We're looking at some way to accommodate the residents by that type of thing, maybe an online registration. We're trying to see what would be the best operational way to work that because we don't want Carolina mentioned is having them come in when there's 200 people in line and then, you know, it's a

strain on the staff to try to mitigate that. So, we're looking at ways to try to do that because we understand that there has been some demand from residents.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I think this also speaks to the importance of the strategic plan because in the past we used to measure number of attendees as an indicator of success. And now you're seeing a measurement of resident satisfaction, resident participation and how we can increase those figures, not necessarily the overall. But I will tell you, Venetian Pool has done a phenomenal job.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: You saw that we got a platinum again for the third year in a row, which is safety excellence. So, despite the tremendous popularity, the lifeguards have continued to make that pool incredibly safe. So, it is a good news/bad news situation. I just didn't want you to get too attached to that new revenue...

Commissioner Keon: Oh, yeah, no.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Because that new revenue may come with a lot of conditions.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay. And actually, I'd like to clarify just one thing. I misspoke. I had said we're going to revisit golf and swimming. I meant golf and tennis. So, this was a very productive conversation, but I had no intent on revisiting swimming, but it was a very productive conversation.

Parks Director Couceyro: Thank you, Keith. We appreciate that. Thanks.

Commissioner Slesnick: The staff there were very accommodating, very professional with the number of people coming in. They handled it well. So, that part was great. And also, the people that were around the pool directing children and so on. Fred, do we have something now at the tennis courts where the people can call in and make reservations? Do you have that? Maybe we could do that.

Parks Director Couceyro: Yeah, we do have a service where they call...

Commissioner Slesnick: Is it electronic? Can they...

Parks Director Couceyro: Not yet.

Commissioner Keon: We need to go electronic.

Parks Director Couceyro: Yeah, we're working on that. We're working on a system either trying to incorporate it with our new Parks and Rec software, but we are working on a system. Right now, it's just a call in, but we are working on a computerized system.

Commissioner Slesnick: Could we do that for the pool?

Parks Director Couceyro: There's a possibility that we can look into.

Commissioner Lago: What about potentially -- I just got a text from a friend that mentioned it to me. What about potentially running a trolley from a parking garage to see if we...

Commissioner Keon: Well, I think Carolina said that in her memo that she sent out.

Aquatics Supervisor Vester: Actually, I did meet with some of our direct neighbors adjacent to the Venetian Pool, and we had talked about the parking and how to alleviate the parking because

there were two complaints about parking. One was the volume of parking. Two was the garbage left behind from people. And one of the discussions was -- and I mentioned it to the residents how they would feel about bringing back a trolley stop to the Venetian Pool. The first year that the trolley was implemented, there was a stop at the Biltmore Hotel and the Venetian Pool that went down Biltmore Way to Miracle Mile. And the residents loved the idea. As a matter of fact, with all the construction that's been going on, it's harder to park at Miracle Mile. They would love to take the trolley from their homes directly to Miracle Mile, so they were very much in favor of that idea. So, if there's something that can be done, I think that would be a great solution to accommodating some of the traffic patterns and parking.

Commissioner Lago: Good stuff.

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you. Good work.

Commissioner Slesnick: Before we get off it, I really -- I don't like to see the fees raised for children, and I think it's good on both nonresidents and residents. But for the nonresident adults, it could go up four or five dollars, which might, again, increase our revenue, but cut down on the number of people coming in the pool.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: I think it's something that we want to look at. We certainly don't want kids without their adults so we...

Commissioner Slesnick: No, no.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Want to just look at what -- I'm sure they can come back with a strategy for increasing...

Commissioner Slesnick: I'm not talking about kids without adults. I'm just talking about adults coming there with three or four kids. That's a big fee to pay if you raise it for the children or if you have three or four kids in your family or a guest. I just -- I don't -- I really don't like to see the kids penalized as much as I would like to see a little bit more from the adults that come with them, just so it cuts down on the cars.

Commissioner Keon: Well, I think when people pay -- you need to be careful too -- and you'll do that when you do your analysis. When people start paying a real premium, they sort of camp out for the day. When it's not such a premium, you know, you could go for two or three hours and then you could leave. But when you're paying, you know, \$50 for a family to get into the pool, it's a daylong activity.

Commissioner Slesnick: And they're bringing their lawn chairs and all sorts of things. And I mean, you see them get out of the cars. And they park at that really nice apartment building -- a condo building that's...

Commissioner Keon: Oh, yeah.

Commissioner Slesnick: South of the pool. They don't even allow their residents to park in their circular driveway. They make them park in the garage. So, each Friday, Saturday and Sunday when they have 30 cars out there on their parkway, it's just -- it's not fair to them.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah. Oh, well, you created a wonderful attraction. Good job. You just figure out how to manage it.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And the discussion is all because you said golf and swimming rather than golf and tennis, so we'll get back onto our chart.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay. If we move to -- actually to Slide 16, you're going to see average taxable values of homesteaded property. The 2012, 13, 14, and 15, are those tax years. The 2016 tax year is actually for the 2017 budget. That is an estimated amount. It's capped at 3 percent. It actually is higher because the increase came in for the June 1 numbers as 4.82 percent for property tax values and 5.09 for July 1, so we're capping it at 3 percent to our homesteaded property. The proposed millage rate is 5.559 mills. And the estimated portion for Coral Gables taxes is \$3,285. It's \$95 more than last year.

Mayor Cason: Okay, so eight dollars a month.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right, exactly.

Mayor Cason: And for people watching, people get confused and they say, oh, you're raising taxes. No, we're not raising taxes. Your property value went up. The millage rate, the only thing we can control, stayed the same.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay, well, just to clarify. In the eyes of the state, this is a tax increase. It is because we left the tax rate the same...

Commissioner Keon: It's not a rollback (INAUDIBLE)...

Mayor Cason: We didn't do the rollback, right.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right. Even with the rollback rate, that's a misnomer a well. The definition of a rollback rate says we're bringing in the exact amount of taxes we did in the prior year and it doesn't work that way. It's considerably less.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah, but we should do everything we can to make sure that we publicize the fact that the millage rate has stayed the same.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes, absolutely.

Commissioner Lago: It's important.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It's very important because other cities do increase and we are not. Next slide is one of our favorites, and we did a minor change to it from previous years. We highlighted in blue the full-service cities, which there are five.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, good.

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: And you can see where Coral Gables stands at number 24. Now, just as a caveat, we don't have updated information from the other municipalities because they haven't had their hearings. They haven't set tax rates yet, so we're using prior year information for them and the County. Ours is still up to 5.559.

Mayor Cason: So, we're still -- we can still say we're the second-lowest millage rate for full-service cities.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And I had a discussion with Jackie, the former village manager who now sits on the Pension Board, as my appointment. I said, how do you do it for Key Biscayne? But she said the vast majority of properties are non-homesteaded, so their increases are much more aggressive in taxes.

Mayor Cason: Foreigners, Argentinians.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And the good news for us is so many of our occupants are actually residents.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes, exactly.

Commissioner Slesnick: And can you clarify for people too, a full-service city means?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: That we have Fire and Library.

Commissioner Slesnick: And Police.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Well, we don't have Library, I'm sorry. We have Fire.

Commissioner Slesnick: We have Fire and Police and...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Well, Police -- most have Police...

Commissioner Slesnick: Garbage pickup.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: And garbage pickup.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But we -- but the fact that, as a full service, we're doing it all as opposed to some cities that may have their services from Miami-Dade County.

Mayor Cason: And the other key thing is that we're had a pension program since 1930, is it, '35?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I'm not sure when it started. It's been there for a long time.

Mayor Cason: We've had it for a long time, where some of the new cities don't have all of that water under the bridge to have to amortize.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right. Yes. Ours is a legacy issue that we are dealing with.

Commissioner Keon: In the difference in the County tax rate for these other municipalities, is it Fire and Police?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: The most part is Fire.

Commissioner Keon: Is Fire.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: There's Library in there as well, but that's a much smaller component.

Commissioner Keon: Oh, okay. So, that's really the difference...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: So, that's the difference between our 5.8 and everybody's 8.3?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right. Okay, the next slide, also one of our favorites, which shows what your tax dollar is buying by component.

Commissioner Lago: And again, I know that we've gone over the millage rate and the implications of the millage rate, but I think this is probably the most important slide of the day...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: When it comes to education...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

Commissioner Lago: For the residents and the business community because people...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

Commissioner Lago: Are not aware exactly what the breakdown is in reference to where your tax dollars are going.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Exactly. They don't understand.

Commissioner Lago: And it's interesting to see that almost 40 percent goes to the School Board.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes, exactly.

Commissioner Lago: Forty percent goes to the School Board, how much goes to the County, almost 30 percent. So, in between the County, the School Board and the region, we're talking over 70 percent of your taxes.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right, exactly.

Commissioner Lago: So, 71 percent.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right. And we give most of the services, if not all.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

Mayor Cason: Right, so when people say Coral Gables is so -- such high taxes, it's not true.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Nope.

Mayor Cason: It's just not true. We've been at 29 cents for the last five or six years.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It's been just hovering right around there.

Commissioner Slesnick: For how many years?

Mayor Cason: Five or six years.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I've been here now, this is my sixth year.

Mayor Cason: Since I've been here.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It's been the same since then.

Mayor Cason: Since we've been here.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: It really hasn't changed.

Mayor Cason: So, that's good for them to understand that of the tax bill that you pay, only 29 cents of -- from every dollar...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Of every dollar.

Mayor Cason: Is for Coral Gables.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Exactly, right.

Commissioner Slesnick: And if we annexed the two areas we're talking about, their dollar -- the taxes are still lower for Dade County services, except they'd pick up the Coral Gables better services maybe. But their value from the County would go down because they're picking up the Coral Gables rate. So, their taxes would go down -- I mean, their taxes wouldn't go down, but it would be comparable to what they would be paying now and just a little bit more.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I think as of yesterday when there was a discussion item, there's a slight increase for them, and there's the one open item of -- I think it was from debt service that the County still has. And in all fairness, it shouldn't come with them. They should be letting that go and they'll be paying our millage rate.

Commissioner Slesnick: But, in essence, their property taxes would not be going up that much...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right. It's not a major increase.

Commissioner Slesnick: Because they're being charged a higher amount now by Dade County, full service of Dade County.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But we still need to negotiate that fire district fee...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And the Commission may decide that if you want to move forward with annexation, it would be subject to the County not charging those residents that fire district fee.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

Commissioner Keon: Absolutely.

Commissioner Slesnick: Yeah.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Exactly.

Mayor Cason: Okay.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: So, we've done through the slides and that is it. Are there any questions? We'd love to answer your questions.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, question for you. Actually, I wanted the City Attorney in on this, but I guess he stepped out for a second. Professional services, it's up a million bucks. Saw that. Can we drill down into that a little bit more?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yes.

Vice Mayor Quesada: One of the conversations that we've had in the past related to professional services, related to -- there's quite a few outside attorneys that we use because they're specialists in their field and it's made sense for us, and they help us actually save money when we do it that

way. I wanted to see if I can get a further breakdown into that, if you have it today, or I don't know if you want to save it for the next time.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Well, for the breakdown, anything specifically the expenditures on legal services or on the increase that we have here?

Vice Mayor Quesada: Both.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Okay.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Are you looking at the full budget?.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I'm looking at the total professional services budget. It is almost -- it's \$14.6 million.

Vice Mayor Quesada: What are you -- I have the budget in front of me. What are you looking at?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I'm looking at Slide -- it's actually Slide 7.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Oh, you're looking at the slides.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: You can see it says...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But that's also tree trimming and -- I mean, it's all...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, I just wanted some of the details. I wasn't aware of that.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Yeah. So, we increased tree trimming by \$294,000. We have a lot of new areas.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Is that because of the tree succession plan?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Tree succession plan and new areas, new parks. We are trying to -- we have a real comprehensive program to cover all of the maintenance. Since I've been here six years, there have been so much more installation of trees and landscaping, so we have to take care of them. That's \$294,000. One of the items in the action plan for Public Works, \$240,000, for contracted project management. And \$250,000 to rewrite the Zoning Code. And \$225,000 for Economic Development for business plans and environmental -- economic development.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Okay, so there's...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: We did increase legal services by \$100,000, in addition to an increase in headcount for the Attorney's Office.

City Attorney Leen: Yeah. So, what happened was in the last few years, legal services -- the outside legal services went up to over \$2 million at one point. When Cathy came in -- the City Manager came in, we met and we decided to bring Legal Services within the City Attorney's budget and give me full control over them. And then we set a target of \$1.2 million.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Yeah, I see that.

City Attorney Leen: Which I -- you know, I thought was low, but I thought was a reasonable compromise. No, it was a reasonable compromise. And so I raised with staff the idea that it might go over, and if it did go over, I just didn't want to compromise our legal, you know, work.

We like to win every case. We want to always be correct when we give you a legal opinion. And by the way, when I say -- so I don't mean that as a -- it was a reasonable compromise.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And we also don't have the Mediterranean Village...

City Attorney Leen: Yes.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Anymore, which was a large outside counsel ticket item.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Oh, yeah. That was a big one.

City Attorney Leen: I felt it was a reasonable compromise, and I did support it when it came before you. I just want to be clear about that. But we had a back and forth and a discussion because part of the goal was to get those costs under control and bring them within my supervision. Then in the next budget -- this has been an ongoing conversation between the City Manager and I -- and you also, Mr. Vice Mayor, we talked about this with because I care deeply about your view on this because you are an attorney and you've always provided views on this, which I think have been very helpful to my office. The -- so what we did next was, in this year we're establishing an additional Assistant City Attorney position. So, now the structure will be there's the City Attorney, the Deputy City Attorney/City Prosecutor, and then two Assistant City Attorneys. And they are going to -- basically, those Assistant City Attorneys are going to match the two Assistant City Managers. And so, each one of them is going to be assigned departments. And so, it's going to set up more of a delegation type situation, where I'll be supervising, as opposed to doing half the work myself. I'll still be doing a lot of work, but it'll be more in a supervisory capacity. The next thing we're doing is that each of the Assistant City Attorneys and the Deputy will be -- and myself -- assigned to special counsels, and we will try to do some of the work for the special counsel and send it to them in a package, and then get feedback from the special counsel. And this actually was an idea of the Vice Mayor, which I thought was a great idea, and we're setting that up as we speak. It's going to be set up over the next two or three

months. In terms of the fees that were set, I did come back to the City Manager and I asked to increase them, and we agreed on \$1.3 million, which in conjunction with the additional Assistant City Attorney position, in my view, is a very reasonable amount. And I'm very thankful for that actually. I think that it shows our different departments working together, and it's been part of a two-year conversation. But this year, for example, we will exceed, likely, the outside counsel expenses. The thing is, I just don't want to compromise any of them. I do feel that it's reasonable. The long-term trend is down for outside counsel fees. And now with the establishment of two Assistant City Attorneys, I believe that those fees will continue to go down.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, I'd like to give the other elected officials and anyone else who's listening some of my perspective on this. Typically, what has happened -- the City Attorney and I have had some disagreements on this area in the past. I don't know if you guys are aware or not. The reason is, when you -- attorneys specialize in certain areas. So, when we have a difficult pension issue, it's -- you're going to get better advice from someone who's been doing it 30, 35, 40 years only in the pension area than an attorney who's been out 5 or 10 or even 20 years that doesn't specialize in that area. Just giving one example. That's why it makes so much sense to hire a lot of outside counsel because you're hiring specialists, just like in any other field. They're specialists in that area. So, Craig and I have always had a bit of a disagreement as to how many in-house counsel we should have because my feeling has always been that you can hire a lot of in-house counsel and we can reduce that number of using -- that amount of outside counsel work, but you're not going to get that same experience or advice that -- great advice which comes with age and experience and with gray hair, and that you're not going to get from some of the less seasoned attorneys.

Mayor Cason: Dark-haired counsel.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Correct.

Commissioner Slesnick: Well, it's like in the annexation. It's very specialized.

Vice Mayor Quesada: And there are people that specialize in those areas that are going to know the -- you know, how things are going to play out, rather than someone who's been doing it for a short period of time. So, that's why he and I had a disagreement where I had -- he's convinced me of late -- and I agree with it -- is, you know, sort of taking this path of bringing in, you know, highly qualified counsel to be in-house full time, which I think Craig has done a great job with the new additions that we have, and basically working up everything to 90 and 95 percent, and then bringing in that outside counsel to add the experience portion of it. And that's something that I've done in the past with other companies that I've worked with and you can do that. You can get an attorney with less experience to work it up as far as they can get it, show that work to the outside counsel to give their benefit of their experience, so now you're paying that outside counsel for a handful of hours and of work, very small -- instead of having them work at \$500 an hour for 100 hours, you're paying \$500 an hour for three or four or five hours. So, that's sort of the approach that -- I don't want to say compromise, but it was the City Attorney's thought that, you know, we've been going back and forth and I think it makes sense. So, we're going to get the benefit of all that experience and we're making the right decisions based on the right -- you know, the most experienced advice, and at the same time, we're bringing the cost down, so it's a little bit of a blend on sort of how at least the conversation between the City Attorney and I have gone to get to, I guess, this point.

City Attorney Leen: And there is a true benefit to having these special counsel. Jim Linn is probably the leading pension attorney in the state of Florida for municipalities and he used to be the chair of the Municipal Lawyers Section, a really smart fellow. Raul Quintero, who we're using on the COLA case, he's very expensive, but it's a big case. And he's -- he may -- if not the best, one of the best attorneys in the state. He may be the best for going to the Florida Supreme Court. He's a former Supreme Court Justice. You know, so we always try to have the best...

Commissioner Slesnick: And a Gables resident.

City Attorney Leen: Yes. Cori Lopez-Castro, who we use on a number of these cases, she's been successful every time. Adolfo Gimenez -- we have -- and so what I'm doing is you're going to be receiving a list, and ultimately, all these counsel work for you. So, what we're doing is we're going to prepare a list with City Attorney and the Assistant City Attorneys of counsels and special counsels, each for -- for each category, each subject matter they work on. I'm going to provide that to all of you, the City Manager, City Clerk, and you'll see the team that we've put together. And then my goal -- and I want to do this because I think it's important. I think it's setting up a very professional sort of in-house law firm in our office, which also relies on outside counsel, special counsel, but they're established special counsel. I think over time, the goal is to have -- be able to really budget for legal costs for the next year and have a sustainable model so it doesn't go up and down, up and down. Now, the one concern -- I just have to raise this -- is every once in a while, you have a huge case and there's really -- you can't budget for it. You just can't or something comes up and the Commission wants to do something and my office always needs to be ready to do that for you. I'm your legal counsel. I always have to be able to provide legal services. So, one thing that we've worked out with the Finance Department and the City Manager's Office is a contingency fund. Right now, those -- the things that go into contingency are things like the COLA case because it was such a large case. The -- a report similar like we're doing the annexation report, Henry Iler, for example. Some of his fees will be in the contingency. A situation like the climate change report. If that comes up during the year and hasn't really been contemplated prior to that, we could use that as a contingency. And the idea behind that is that it just -- it's not something that we can really plan for in advance. I guess the long and short of it -- I don't mean to talk too long -- is I'm very happy with the current situation. My goal is to try to meet the target. The City Manager has worked with me very well. I have no complaints. I'm very happy with that. So...

Commissioner Slesnick: I want to ask a question.

City Attorney Leen: I just wanted to give you an historical perspective.

Commissioner Slesnick: On page 74...

City Attorney Leen: Yes.

Commissioner Slesnick: With the personal/personnel in the orange and then the operating expenses -- I mean, I can see personal/personnel going up just with the cost of living and so forth. But the operating expenses have really quadrupled easily. Is that because -- I mean...

City Attorney Leen: That's -- they've actually -- they've gone up more -- they've gone up a lot...

Commissioner Slesnick: Yeah.

City Attorney Leen: But that's because that's the incorporation of the outside counsel fees. Those used to be in another part of the budget.

Commissioner Slesnick: Okay.

City Attorney Leen: And just so you know, those used to be higher. And then part of that was because -- there were two reasons. One, Mediterranean Village was very expensive.

Commissioner Slesnick: Well, that's what I thought, the Mediterranean Village. Now, do we get back a part of that from developer costs? I mean, do you budget something...

City Attorney Leen: Some of it was paid for by the developer, but we far exceeded that. I mean, to be perfectly honest...

Commissioner Slesnick: Okay, but I mean...

City Attorney Leen: The other thing is that it used to be that I didn't fully control legal costs. The City Manager's Office -- and this predates Cathy -- controlled those to some extent and could bring in their own counsel. Now, everything is done through my office, so that's why because I have the oversight, I was willing to agree to put it into my budget, and that was part of the agreement that the City Manager and I made.

Commissioner Slesnick: But speaking of your budget, I mean, it looks like you've really had a field day here as far as expenses. But with the Agave Mediterranean Village and the new Gables Station and so forth, and also annexation, when we do things like that, do you have a special way of setting up what your fees should be for coming in there, or can you charge that against the developer? And I know you said it was much more for Agave Mediterranean Village.

City Attorney Leen: We've adopted an ordinance...

Commissioner Slesnick: I just don't want it to look like you're having a picnic here...

City Attorney Leen: Well, it does. There's nothing I can -- no, no. I appreciate that, but there's...

Commissioner Lago: Well, I mean, but...

City Attorney Leen: Nothing I can do about it except to tell you that the total amount of outside counsel fees and my office's fees, my understanding is that it has gone down from when it got up to \$1.8 million...

Commissioner Lago: Yeah, but...

City Attorney Leen: \$2.1 million.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And many of...

Commissioner Lago: But Craig, we have to...

City Attorney Leen: Yeah.

Commissioner Lago: Also mention...

City Attorney Leen: So, this is more of an accounting issue, yeah.

Commissioner Lago: When you have the increase of the fees in reference to outside counsel, we were dealing with litigation with FP&L. And number two, we're dealing with litigation from the trolley station, which was ongoing for years and years. And correct me if I'm wrong because I was involved in that negotiation myself. The Commission appointed me to deal with the negotiations for the trolley station. It was -- the City's commitment alone I think was over a million dollars in reference to outside counsel there, and that was a two- or three-year process.

Commissioner Slesnick: And that's reflected in here in the green column?

Commissioner Lago: Yeah, well, I mean, again, I don't have it in front of me, but I mean, you can see the reason why you had that...

Commissioner Slesnick: Page 72.

Commissioner Lago: The reason why you have that ramping up.

City Attorney Leen: I want to be perfectly clear. What happened was we took a fund from another part of the budget and put it in my budget.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah.

City Attorney Leen: And so it went up by that amount, but that amount has been going down every year.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So, the total costs were spread over several different departments and different departments were allowed to hire their own counsel. We did not agree with that. It has to be through the City Attorney's Office. So, we took it from those other departments. So, the concept of a field day -- it actually just redirected monies that were spread out throughout the budget and placed it in there so that no one can hire an outside counsel without going through the City Attorney. Both of us felt that was really important.

Commissioner Lago: I think it's very beneficial to do it that way, in my opinion. Again, I leave it up to the Vice Mayor who's an attorney. But I think it's very beneficial because you have the ultimate control and you know what the costs are on a daily basis and on a monthly basis and on a weekly basis. So, that can be monitored directly by Craig instead of having to go through another director at another department.

Commissioner Slesnick: You're able to find it.

Commissioner Lago: Yeah. You're able to contact the outside counsel immediately and have a one-to-one conversation, not dependent on another director.

City Attorney Leen: But it has been going down. I just wanted you to know that it's been going down...

Commissioner Slesnick: No, I know. I just want people to realize that you're not just spending money.

City Attorney Leen: No.

Commissioner Slesnick: But you are -- and it's very important to win these lawsuits too.

City Attorney Leen: It is. And we're growing and we're doing a lot of neat things, you know, and we're being very successful. We want to provide you the best legal services possible. I know that our citizens expect that and I know you expect that.

Mayor Cason: Well, the proof is in the last six years, we haven't lost a single case, to my knowledge.

City Attorney Leen: Not in court.

Mayor Cason: And we've had some very significant things.

Vice Mayor Quesada: No, no. We get excellent legal advice. It's not coming down on you on that. It's just, you know, the analysis of what it is, what it costs to be able to get the great legal advice that we get.

Commissioner Keon: So, the difference is in, Commissioner Quesada, Vice Mayor, is that if you're hiring outside counsel and it's their firm that's doing all the background, you're paying a lot of money for, whereas if we do the background and do the research, we really reduce the cost to outside counsel.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Correct.

Commissioner Keon: So, by hiring additional people, we actually are...

Commissioner Slesnick: Reducing.

Commissioner Keon: Better using the money...

Vice Mayor Quesada: Correct.

Commissioner Keon: For outside counsels.

Vice Mayor Quesada: We're going to have more upfront costs...

Commissioner Keon: Yeah, okay.

Vice Mayor Quesada: But the back end costs that you can't anticipate, you can't really budget all of that accurately for, we can control it a little bit more. But then again, there's a caveat to that. There's some situations that you can't do all the background. So, what it is is, it's going to be a learning process for Craig to determine what kind of situations make sense and what don't.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

Vice Mayor Quesada: And it's also going to be a learning process for the outside counsel that we currently use to understand, hey, we don't want you to create that memo and spend 25 hours creating that memo. We want you to review our memo...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right.

Vice Mayor Quesada: And just make additions to it.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

Vice Mayor Quesada: It's that kind of thing. And do you concur or disagree with our analysis and tell us why, and it's that kind of thing. And in my experience, it's a learning process for everyone involved, but in the long run, it will save costs. So, that's it.

Mayor Cason: Do you have another -- was that your issue?

Vice Mayor Quesada: That was it. That was what I really wanted to get into.

Mayor Cason: Anyone else have questions? I think you were open for questions. Anyone else? Observations? If not, I think we can get to the resolution, which is A-3.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Thank you very much.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Thank you so much.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And Mr. Mayor, just so you know, if they do have questions, we are ready up until the September 13 meeting to meet individually with all of you to go over whatever questions you have.

Mayor Cason: Right. And then of course, the...

Vice Mayor Quesada: One last thing...

Mayor Cason: Go ahead. No, go ahead.

Vice Mayor Quesada: One last thing is, I had never seen anything like this before. This is nice. I like this.

Commissioner Slesnick: Oh, yes.

Vice Mayor Quesada: So, if we could continue doing this every year...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: That is on your strategic plan.

Commissioner Lago: Do you want to -- also, do you want to discuss certain items today or is it better that we kind of highlight, you know...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Well, again, if you have any questions -- and actually, once you review some of these items for the hearings coming up...

Commissioner Lago: Well, I mean, as the representative for the museum, I want to have a discussion about the museum. I don't know if today's the appropriate time to do that or if maybe we can save it for another meeting.

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: You can ask. Dona Spain is here. If you want, feel free to ask.

Commissioner Lago: No. Again, I ask my colleagues, do you want to have the discussion now or do you want to save it for another day?

Commissioner Slesnick: I'd like to discuss the museum.

Mayor Cason: Do we have anybody from the museum here to...

Commissioner Lago: I know Commissioner Withers was here before, but I'm not sure if the director's here.

Commissioner Keon: How do we -- where is it broken down what we give here or how we allocate money to the museum? Under what...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Historical Resources.

Commissioner Slesnick: Historical Resources.

Vice Mayor Quesada: Page 131.

Mayor Cason: Let me tell you what I would like to see, and I've never seen it up 'til now, which is a really close look at how much we're giving to the museum in terms of, you know, building improvements and all of the things that are going to it, and then what is -- I would like to know from the museum where are they getting their money. How much are they getting from companies? They hired a developer -- somebody to develop a business plan to get money from our 180 corporate headquarters here. But I've never seen how much money is coming in, what are they getting from dues, how many members. I'd like more of a business plan to see what's going on rather than the City just continuing to...

Commissioner Lago: Well, I mean, I don't have -- I think it's a great idea. I think we can hopefully put something together like that by our next meeting, which is scheduled for September 13.

Mayor Cason: September 13.

Commissioner Lago: What I'd also like to see from the museum, which I have -- and I haven't sent it out to everybody, but I'd like for the museum to make it, you know, known to all the Commissioners and to the Mayor, please, and to the City Manager and the City Attorney, a breakdown of similar institutions in South Florida. I have the list. For example, the Bass

Museum, FIU, Museum of Contemporary Art, which is the MOCA, or as we call it now, the PAMM, University of Miami, Lowe Art Museum, the HistoryMiami. You have the Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, and the Zoo Miami, which will give you a detailed breakdown of what -- how much funding they get from local governments and parent institutions. For example, how much money does the PAMM get from the County on a year in, year out basis, which will kind of give us an idea of what the budget is for the museum and how our funding...

Mayor Cason: But it would be nice -- I agree with that -- to have it in one spot though. How much have we been providing? It may not be obvious to people because we have the cultural grants. Some comes in from our Cultural Board, which allocates it. Some comes in from a line item that we put in. But what I don't know is, what is the museum raising on its own with their new fundraiser. Anything, zero?

Commissioner Slesnick: Development director. I think he or she just started. He.

Mayor Cason: He.

City Attorney Leen: He just started. But I mean, there's...

Mayor Cason: And what is their plan? What is -- because I mean, we could go on forever, the City paying all of it. Or -- but I gather the museum, which is more than a museum, but is trying to raise money from the private sector as well to be able to do more things. And I just have never seen what have they raised. What is their plan? How many members do they have? Are they charging sufficiently for events, or is it they're just giving away things free that could be charged?

Commissioner Lago: Well, I mean, what we'll do is for the next -- when we meet on September 13, I'll have staff prepare something which will encompass your request. But I also want to

make you aware, the museum is not only just a museum, it's a repository for the City. It's a meeting place for the City.

Mayor Cason: Cultural center.

Commissioner Lago: It's a cultural center. It offers social activity and connectivity through the jazz events during lunch. People meet at the plaza. It's a great resource for this community. And again, you know, it has the City of Coral Gables on the cover and it represents what the City of Coral Gables is all about. So, we're going to prepare something, but I want you to be aware that every major institution in South Florida has a parent. And the museum, again, it has great programming. You're going to hear about some of the great shows that are forthcoming that are getting a lot of support not only locally, but throughout the state of Florida, like we're having a great show in reference to Cuban Art from the 1900s, 1950s, 1960s, contemporary, modern, vanguard art. I think it's going to be something which is going to draw a lot of the Cuban community and also there's a huge contingent of individuals throughout the country who are not Cuban, who are not Hispanic, that are avid collectors of Latin American art and they're going to be involved through lending their own personal collections, which is a collection which is traveling from the museum in Tallahassee. So, we'll get down to the nitty-gritty in regards to programming, but I want to show you a little bit more about what the museum does, you know.

Commissioner Slesnick: I really want to latch onto that too. I was on the museum board for six years when we were up and getting running and getting the funding for the large addition, for the fuel gallery next door, which cost \$2 million, which is now a great asset to the city. But this is a cultural mecca, and the museum anchors the Books & Books and the cinema and Actor's Playhouse. And we have such a wonderful opportunity to have more and more people come to the museum. And for a long time, I know the museum gets the reduced rate in rent, but I really feel strongly that, just like Vince says -- Commissioner Lago says, we should have -- every museum has a parent. And I really would like to see a line item in the budget that the museum can count on each year for the next few years or whatever because it's a struggle to keep

nonprofits going. And again, it's not only just a museum. It's a hub of Aragon, Giralda, near the restaurants, everything over in that section of town and such a wonderful asset for the City of Coral Gables, and I don't think it's fully appreciated how many opportunities they offer for our citizens to use that facility. I mean, all the nonprofits, a lot of nonprofits rent out that -- the Counselor Corps rents out the museum on a regular basis. They don't charge a lot, so they're basically underwriting -- I mean, if you want to another hotel, they'd charge you three times what the museum charges for using their facilities. So, I really would like to see it promoted more.

Mayor Cason: I would expect it -- I mean, September 13, that's the opportunity for the museum to come back, provide the information, make the case to the citizens why what you're suggesting and what they've suggested over the last few years, that they want a line item, make the case, show us what they're doing in totality; where their money comes from, what their goals are in terms of raising money with the new person that they've hired, and they'll probably make the case. But I just think that would be the -- it's time to make a very solid business case as to why they...

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: Right. And we can let you know what we supply as the billing services and things like that.

Mayor Cason: Right. And all those things are all over the place, so I don't -- I've never seen them in one package or here's how much -- Since it was open, we've been providing as the city, and I just think it's...

Commissioner Slesnick: That's good.

Commissioner Keon: A business plan.

Mayor Cason: Solid information. A business plan, yeah.

Commissioner Keon: I'd like to see -- what about the -- our tourist office is there. Do we cover the cost? Is there -- you know, is that an item in our budget, the tourist office? Do most city -- who usually takes care of a tourist office?

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Well, it's a kiosk.

Mayor Cason: It's electronic.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: It's an electronic kiosk.

Mayor Cason: It's just a...

Commissioner Keon: That's all? There's no one -- doesn't the person that's at the desk...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: There's a receptionist that covers the whole museum.

Commissioner Keon: Right.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: But the visitors center is...

Commissioner Keon: Is only a kiosk? If the person that's at the desk in there, do they distribute a map? Do they -- if people ask questions?

Management and Budget Director Kleiman: I can't answer that.

Commissioner Keon: I mean, I would hate to...

Commissioner Lago: Yes, they do.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah. You know what it is, I would hate to see the only interaction opportunity for a tourist coming into our city is a machine.

Commissioner Slesnick: They do have a person there and we used to cover...

Commissioner Keon: Right. Well, I know that there is a person there. So, I would hope -- or maybe we could look at whether part of or, you know, there is some contribution toward that person as someone to interact with than just a kiosk or just a machine. I mean, I know for any of us -- I mean, I just came back from traveling all over, and you know, I went into the tourist office in lots of cities, and there was always somebody there that said, hi, can I help you, you know. What do you need? That's, you know -- that, to me, would be...

Commissioner Slesnick: It's friendlier.

Commissioner Keon: I don't want to -- you know, don't ever tell me our tourist office is a machine.

Unidentified Speaker: No, absolutely agreed. And my understanding is that the receptionist there does function as that personal contact in addition to the kiosk.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, so why don't we look at maybe what, you know -- in that business plan, we can ask them -- you know, I'd like -- if we use that person for that person, you know, do we contribute to the cost of that person?

Unidentified Speaker: My understanding, again, is as part of the grant that we provide to the museum, that is one of the things we ask for in return.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, and so the museum will tell us whether or not that's what they think.

Commissioner Slesnick: Well, the person used to be -- part of her salary was paid for by the City. I think it was half, 50-50. And then when the City -- when the museum got a grant last year, her position is funded solely by the museum. Is that -- Caroline.

Commissioner Keon: Okay, well you look that up.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: This is a -- the museum discussion...

Mayor Cason: Let's look at it -- let's -- don't get in the details...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: Is a really important one.

Mayor Cason: This time, but...

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: The museum is a really important anchor in our community. We -- the problem with the part-time receptionist last year was the museum worked that person fulltime, and so it exceeded the -- you know, it's called the Fair Labor Standards Act. We could not manage those hours in a responsible way, so we had to make those adjustments. But you know, we are...

Commissioner Keon: Okay.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: The community is linked to the museum. We recognize that. We're trying to make good, sustainable decisions for how we are best stewards for the money, the role of culture, how much we contribute to culture and your desire to have that cultural fund increase and how do you do that. So, it's a very important discussion that I think

when, you know, the September 13 or if you want to have it at a prior Commission meeting, it's your prerogative as to when to best discuss that.

Commissioner Lago: I would like to put a discussion point for September 13 just based on the museum. So, I'm going to ask the museum to be prepared to discuss everything from programming, the requests, you know, what we've done over the last few years, like to cover the Mayor's discussion points and see how -- see what they're requesting from the City and how we can continue to be their partner because they plan an essential role in this community.

Mayor Cason: And what they're requesting and how we can help in terms of grants, like we did before with letters to the Governor and the -- you know, whatever else is out there that we can be supportive.