CORAL GABLES PROPERTY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:35 a.m.- 9:51 a.m.

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1			
2	Property Advisory Board Members		
3	present via Zoom:		
4			
5	Valerie Quemada, Chairperson		
6	Jack Lowell, Vice-Chair		
7	Alberto Manrara		
8	Edmund Mazzei		
9	Jonathan Leyva		
10	Richard Barbara		
11	Nancy Pastor		
12			
13	Also present:		
14			
15	Julian Perez, CFM Director, Zeida Sardinas, Asset Manager		
16	Francesca Valdes,		
17	Business Development Coordinator Leticia Perez, International Business		
18	Development Coordinator Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant Economic Development Department		
19			
20	Fred Couceyro, Director Carolina Vester, Assistant Director Parks & Recreation Department		
21	ranks a Recreation Department		
22			
23			
24			
25			

- 1 (Begin recording of meeting.)
- 2 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: So I quess we
- 3 can go ahead and call this meeting to
- 4 order.
- 5 So Julian, please go ahead.
- 6 MR. PEREZ: Yeah. Madam Chair,
- 7 again, this is Julian Perez, the Economic
- 8 Development Director for the city. And
- 9 thank you for the opportunity to be able
- 10 to give you quick a report.
- 11 And again, thank you to my colleagues
- for allowing me to move forward with my
- 13 quick report.
- I'm extremely happy to inform you, as
- I did with the city commission a week or
- so ago, that the grant program has been a
- 17 total success and that as if today, um,
- the Miami-Dade County has approved 59 of
- 19 the 60 applications that qualify. So
- that's the completion rate of 98 percent
- and that is \$786,000 that has been
- 22 distribute to our business community.
- In addition to that, um, we have
- already received or been reimbursed for an
- amount totalling \$647,658.85 and that is

- 1 80.9 percent or 81 percent of the total
- 2 amount that we have distribute, or the
- 3 \$800,000.
- 4 So, again, there's only one
- 5 application that we're still working on
- 6 and -- to complete this process.
- 7 The second grant, very quickly,
- 8 that's the technology grant, and that
- 9 grant has also -- it's also moving along
- very, very well. We had our first webinar
- series, it was a two-day webinar series,
- it was Wednesday and Thursday of last
- week, if my mind serves me correctly, and
- it had to do with digital technology and
- it was the Google partners who put that
- 16 webinar together. It was very well
- 17 attended, both days, and a tremendous
- amount of information was provided to the
- 19 participants.
- The next webinar will be online
- 21 technology to streamline business process,
- and that is going -- I think we're going
- to have that one in a few weeks.
- 24 So we're moving along with the grant
- very well and so I'm really looking

forward to the next one as well as the

- third webinar, which is the innovative
- 3 e-commerce technologies for small
- 4 businesses impacted by COVID-19. And that
- is going to be partners from Silicon
- 6 Valley who's going to do that one. And
- 7 the second one, again, which is the online
- 8 technology to streamline the business
- 9 process, that is going to be our
- 10 University of Miami partners that are
- 11 going to do that.
- So as you can see, it is a -- it's --
- I would say that it's a grant that entails
- a number of experts and partners helping
- the city of Coral Gables small business
- 16 community.
- 17 And if there's any questions, I'll be
- 18 more than happy to entertain those
- 19 questions.
- 20 MR. MANRARA: What are the criteria,
- 21 again, for applying for the grant? Has it
- 22 got to be a Gables resident or just a
- 23 Gables business?
- MR. PEREZ: For the second grant,
- 25 which is the technology grant, it has to

- 1 be a Gables business, small business.
- 2 MR. MANRARA: No residents
- 3 requirement.
- 4 MR. PEREZ: No. No, it's a business,
- okay. That's for the technology.
- 6 Because, remember, this is geared to
- our small business community. The same
- 8 thing with the grant.
- 9 And, by the way, on the grant side we
- 10 had 149 proposals submitted to us.
- 11 Unfortunate, we only had fundings for 60.
- MR. MANRARA: Okay.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Does anybody
- have any questions on what Julian just
- 15 presented?
- Okay.
- 17 MR. PEREZ: All right.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Go ahead.
- 19 MR. PEREZ: Again, thank you so much,
- 20 Madam Chair.
- 21 And thank you so much to my
- 22 colleagues for allowing me to make this
- 23 quick presentation.
- See you later.
- 25 MS. SARDINAS: Thank you, Julian.

1 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Thank you,

- 2 Julian.
- 3 MR. PEREZ: You're welcome. Bye-bye.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay. So up
- 5 next is the minutes, but obviously we
- 6 really can't approve them because we are
- 7 not present, so should we just hold off, I
- 8 guess, for next --
- 9 MS. SARDINAS: Yeah, I put there
- 10 review in case --
- 11 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: We can review
- 12 them.
- MS. SARDINAS: You know, of if you
- had any -- any changes or things or any
- additions that you wanted us to make and
- then next time you can vote on them.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay. So let's
- 18 go ahead and do that.
- 19 So any comments on the minutes? Any
- additions, anything?
- 21 Okay. So we will go ahead and mark
- that to approve next time.
- MS. SARDINAS: Okay.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: And then I
- guess now we're up with Burger Bob's.

1 MS. SARDINAS: And -- yes, well, this 2 is the CIP project. So there's a CIP 3 project that's going to happen at the -at the -- actually the entire building 4 that encompasses Burger Bob's and the Granada Pro shop, the Granada Golf Course 6 7 Pro Shop, and so I asked Fred and Carolina to join us today to give us the quick 9 presentation that we had given the 10 community so that you guys will be aware 11 of what's going to happen there in the 12 next few months, and Fred will give us a timeline and they'll explain exactly 13 what's going on, so I'm not going do more 14 of a preamble and let them go ahead and 15 tell you what they're planning. 16 17 MR. COUCEYRO: Thank you, Zeida. 18 For those of you who don't know me, 19 I'm Fred Couceyro, I'm the Community 20 Recreation Director, have been for quite 21 some time. 22 And also with me is Carolina Vester, who's the Assistant Community Recreation 23 24 Director. And what we're going to do is 25 we're going to just do a quick recap of --

- of the presentation that we sent to the
- 2 community, um, regarding the Granada Golf
- 3 Course Pro Shop building.
- 4 Now, for those of you that are
- familiar with the golf course, it's the --
- 6 it's a historic -- it's a historic golf
- 7 course and they -- what -- the pro shop,
- 8 while not being a 1920's building, it's
- 9 more of a 1950's era building, hasn't been
- 10 updated in quite sometime. So this
- 11 project that we're going to go over is
- 12 what the pro shop conceptual design that
- we presented, we had an input period of
- over a month, and I'm going to let
- 15 Carolina speak to a lot of the public
- input and the entire process that we put
- together and how we are working with our
- 18 -- our projects and deferred main -- to
- 19 not have deferred maintenance as we move
- forward with the new projects and the new
- 21 process that we put together.
- 22 Carolina.
- MS. VESTER: Hi, good morning. And
- thank you for allowing us to present this
- 25 to the board.

1 I just wanted to share a little back 2 story with you. Our Parks Department is basically the stewards of a large 3 inventory of sites and facilities and 4 parks that includes up to 62 different sites. So as Fred mentioned, we've really 6 looked at a more proactive approach when it speaks to some of the deferred maintenance that we've had to deal with 9 10 over the years. So when we look at any of these projects, we have a funding matrix 11 12 that's a five-year funding matrix, which allows us to fund and basically schedule 13 14 projects in advance. Occasionally if the 15 funding is not all there for the first 16 year, it allows us to increase the funding 17 year after year so if maybe a project is a 18 larger, over a million dollar project, we 19 can go ahead and cycle that funding over a 20 period of three years. So that allows us 21 to plan in advance and, you know, 22 hopefully at some point catch up with a lot of the deferred maintenance that we 23 had inherited. 24 25 Some of the things that we looked at

1 when we looked at the approach of when we 2 do this project, and especially with this 3 project, originally that project came to us with lower funding to just do some of 4 the aesthetics inside the building, so replacing the carpeting, you know, 6 7 basically just a kind of aesthetic look of the building. So we really wanted to 9 focus on some of the safety first, you 10 know, looking at the overall safety. And 11 we had a site meeting with our CIP team as 12 well as the actual users of the building and the Parks teams to look at what are 13 14 some of the safety things that need to be addressed in that building. Are there ADA 15 concerns in that building? And one of the 16 17 things that the city did really well, they did a overall audit on all the sites in 18 19 the city, so anytime a project comes up 20 we're able to retrieve those documents, 21 those audits, and go back and say, okay, 22 well, if we're going to do this we're going to need to address these ADA issues 23 24 that came up to us in the past. 25 And then, of course, we also focused

on the user needs. So, you know,

- 2 sometimes you have a project team that
- 3 comes and just says, okay, we're going to
- 4 do this and they never speak to the actual
- 5 users. And Parks we're very, very, very
- 6 in tuned with what it takes to run
- 7 facilities and we take the time to speak
- 8 to the user, so the staff that's there.
- 9 And the current staff that's there is
- 10 actually managed by the Biltmore Hotel,
- 11 the pro staff, and of course on the
- 12 adjacent side you do have Burger Bob's
- 13 with the restaurant.
- 14 So we speak to them as well to look
- at what is it that they need within the
- 16 budget, and then, of course, we look at
- the aesthetics and we look at the budget
- and see what we can do, you know, to go
- ahead and phase this project.
- 20 One additional item that came up with
- this project, aside from the interior, was
- we really need to shore this building up
- for hurricanes and that was a big bulk of
- the project. So I'll go ahead, and if I'm
- 25 allowed to share the screen, I will go

Page 13 1 into the --2 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Yenisis, can 3 you let Carolina --MS. GOMEZ: Uh-huh. 4 Okay, Carolina. MS. VESTER: Okay. 6 Perfect. Are you able to see this? (All answered in the affirmative.) 9 MS. VESTER: Perfect. So as Fred said, we had a design 10 11 presentation meeting back in December with 12 the community, and because of COVID we've 13 also had to change things on how we -- we 14 move these projects forward. We kind of 15 stayed stagnant for a while and we have a 16 lot of projects in cue and it was a shame 17 that we were holding off on these, because 18 some of them are related to safety, some of them had, you know, a concern of a 19 20 timeline, they were tied to grants, 21 etcetera, so we really wanted to make sure we continue with the public input process. 22 23 So we, in our department, developed a 24 unique input timeline and process where we 25 open up the community input for 30 days.

So we created a dedicated website where 1 2 anybody can go in, they can assess the 3 designs before the actual community meeting and then provide us with some very 4 good input before the meetings. So that allows us to curtail some of the responses 6 beforehand, go back to the architect if we need to, go back to the project team before the meeting if we need to quickly 9 10 make some adjustments to the design. And then, of course, we have the community 11 12 meeting. And when we do go out to the 13 community we look at the actual site and we door hanger. So we basically create 14 15 these nice little door hangers and we go 16 to each site within 1,500 feet of the 17 property to each homeowner and distribute 18 these door hangers to make sure that the 19 actual community that's affected by this 20 project is informed and is able to 21 participate in this community. 22 Our community meetings have been virtual, was via Zoom, similar to this 23 meeting, and we allow for the community to 24 25 join and put their comments in through a

chat and we read each one of these
comments following the presentation and

are able to respond to those comments.

And then as a follow-up meeting to that meeting we go ahead and look at the comments that were given to us during the meeting, we retrieve any of the public input that was given to us through public notice, via mail, via email, via social media, and we put all of those comments together and then we schedule a follow-up meeting with the entire project team and look at what things need to be addressed, what things can be addressed within the budget, and what things might need to be deferred for future project time. So that's exactly the same thing that we've done with this project.

And here you can see, we -- right out front we go over the requirements with the community as we start the community meeting.

So a little bit of history, and one of the other fun things that we do with these projects as they come to us, is we

look back at the history, we look at some

- of the original plans, we try to marry
- 3 what was originally designed in these
- 4 locations. So this was originally a
- 5 nine-hole course, which it still is today.
- 6 It was constructed in 1922 by William
- 7 Langford of the gold architectural firm of
- Langford and Moreau. And the pro shop
- 9 building was actually added later to the
- 10 course in 1962. And then again we found
- some original drawings from 1987 when they
- had a brief renovation in the building
- there.
- 14 It's approximately a 5,000 square
- foot property and consists of about 3,500
- square feet one-story golf course pro shop
- 17 building, and of course adjacent you do
- have the eat-in diner of Burger Bob's.
- 19 So here's an aerial satellite of the
- 20 building itself. It did receive a brand
- 21 new roof over the last year. So the
- 22 entire roof was -- was redone, which
- 23 speaks again to our project. Some of the
- things that we can't move forward, if the
- 25 structure is compromised we really are not

1 going to be moving forward into an

- 2 interior project. So we really had to
- 3 wait until the roof project got done first
- 4 so that we could address the rest of the
- 5 building.
- 6 Here's the existing site plan. And
- 7 when we actually walked the building we
- 8 looked at not just, you know, improving
- 9 the aesthetics and the ADA and the safety
- of the building, we really looked at how
- 11 can we improve the flow of the building,
- is there underutilized space. And one of
- the things that we quickly identified was
- the pro workshop area here that's listed
- on this map. And if you've walked in this
- building, it is basically a hodgepodge
- office with lockers in it with electrical
- 18 equipment, just quite an awry of different
- things that's quite underutilized and we
- 20 really wanted to make it safe for the
- 21 staff that's working in there. We wanted
- to see if we can maybe add some space to
- 23 the building that allows for when we have
- 24 golf programs to kind of have a room in
- 25 there for programming.

Another interesting thing that we 1 found is there's an actual little office 2 3 here and the entrance to the office is inside the women's restroom. Well, that 4 definitely limits the access to that office. And good solution that we found 6 is when we were looking at making the building hurricane resistant, especially with the windows and doors, we found that 9 this door is not actually under the frame 10 11 and could not be made hurricane proof. 12 quick solution, let's move the door up to the frame of the building and make a 13 separate entrance here, so that you have a 14 15 real entrance to that office that doesn't 16 make you go through the women's restroom 17 to access the office. So -- that is our 18 general approach and we really, really try 19 to have a well-rounded approach when we 20 look at any of these projects to look at 21 every possible angles, you know, within 22 our budget that we can do and address to 23 improve the space. 24 So here are some -- so here --25 What's the -- what's MR. MANRARA:

- 1 the total budget for this project?
- 2 MS. VESTER: We'll go to that at the
- 3 end.
- 4 MR. MANRARA: Okay.
- 5 MS. VESTER: I'll go over the
- 6 timeline and the total budget.
- 7 MR. MANRARA: Great.
- 8 MS. VESTER: And then we can address
- 9 any other concerns or, you know,
- 10 suggestions that the board has.
- 11 So here is that hodgepodge space that
- 12 I mentioned. You have some mechanical
- equipment up here. You have the office of
- the pro shop staff there. You have the
- 15 lockers. You have cables everywhere. It
- 16 clearly is not a safe or well-used space,
- 17 so that is one of the areas that we
- mentioned right here in the presentation.
- 19 This is the actual panoramic view of
- 20 the pro shop. You have the little counter
- 21 right here. You have one of the entrances
- right here and exits or vice verse on
- 23 either side. And then you have a
- 24 walkthrough window here with a door to
- 25 Burger Bob's.

1 Here's some of the existing exterior

- views. This is normally where the users
- 3 pick up their carts once they've, you
- 4 know, booked their tee time. We also have
- 5 the pull carts that normally sit outside
- 6 here. And again, this is the storefront
- 7 window which is all planned to be replaced
- 8 with hurricane proof windows and doors.
- 9 And then here's the updated site
- 10 plan. So one of the things, before we get
- into the building, I wanted to share is,
- 12 again, we looked at ADA. So it turns out
- we really didn't have, you know, an ADA
- path to the building to access. So we're
- 15 looking at some parking improvements here
- to provide an ADA spot, stripping, as well
- as a correct ramp into the building that
- 18 will allow for a correct ADA access.
- 19 So that was very, very important. So
- this will actually be the ADA accessible
- 21 entrance to the pro shop building.
- In addition, we have the women's
- locker rooms, the men's lockers rooms, the
- activity office that I mentioned with the
- 25 correct door right here. We have a

- 1 storage closet right here, janitorial
- 2 closet.
- 3 And then we have the large pro shop
- 4 area. We have the -- Burger Bob's area
- 5 that, for the most part, will be
- 6 untouched. The office, a separate
- 7 mechanical room that's not sitting in
- 8 somebody's office and then a separate
- 9 multipurpose room.
- 10 And here's just a more zoomed in
- 11 version of the same plan.
- 12 And the exterior porch here will not
- be touched. So basically what we're doing
- on the outside is predominately the
- 15 storefront windows and doors and then the
- ADA access to the building.
- 17 And as part of this project we are
- looking at some of the utility points, you
- 19 know, sewer, drainage and all that stuff
- as well so that we address these things as
- we address the interior of the building.
- MR. MANRARA: Question.
- MS. VESTER: Uh-huh.
- MR. MANRARA: The door from the pro
- 25 shop into the snack shop, is that ADA

- 1 accessible with WAZ(ph) compliant?
- 2 MS. VESTER: I will have to check
- 3 with the CIP team. I believe we are also
- 4 replacing, as an add alternate, this
- 5 storefront part of the building as well as
- 6 the ceilings and floors. So that's
- 7 something we're going to have to work out
- 8 with the tenant because it does affect
- 9 their operations and, you know, that
- 10 tenant has already had quite a lot of
- 11 operational --
- 12 MR. COUCEYRO: That is correct,
- Carolina, you're correct, we do have all
- that as an add-on alternate, but, from
- what I understand, the width now, you --
- 16 you don't need the 16th, because it's not
- 17 a turn point. So the width is -- is -- we
- 18 barely meet it but we meet it. And the
- only thing is what we'd look at is the
- change in gradient, if there's anything on
- 21 the floor, if there's two different kinds
- of surfaces, that's it.
- MR. MANRARA: Okay. Thank you.
- MS. VESTER: Our hope is, you know,
- 25 to have consistency throughout the

1 building as, you know, it would be the

- 2 same flooring and ceiling, but it is an
- add alternate and it's something that'll
- 4 have to be worked out with the tenant at
- 5 the time.
- 6 So here's more of a layout plan. So
- you can see this could be, you know, a
- 8 layout of the multipurpose room, you can
- 9 have tables and chairs in there for
- 10 programming, the office space. We'll
- 11 replace some of the furnishing in the pro
- shop. We'll have some activity space,
- maybe, you know, a TV area. The users
- right now, we do have a ADA spot where
- they're able to go ahead and use the
- 16 computer and track their scores, so
- that'll be there. Some, you know,
- 18 paraphernalia sales items, pro shop items,
- and then of course the pro shop desk.
- 20 Both lockers rooms will receive, you
- 21 know, completely new faucets, you know,
- 22 made ADA accessible, new lockers. So
- everything will be outfitted brand new in
- those restrooms.
- 25 So this is an east elevation of the

- 1 building. As you can see, this will be
- 2 the actual hurricane proof storefront with
- 3 the store windows and that will be
- 4 throughout the parameter of the building.
- 5 Here is a kind of render view of what
- 6 it would look like for the sales counter
- 7 at the pro shop. So a more modern feel.
- 8 Something that we really look at is we
- 9 kind of have developed a city standard in
- some of our new buildings, one of them
- 11 being the adult activity center off of
- 12 Andalusia as well as the new renovated
- 13 Kerdyk Biltmore Tennis Center. So they
- 14 kind of all have a similar, you know,
- 15 high-end modern Coral Gables feel and
- 16 look.
- 17 And if you look at the actual
- 18 storefront frames, you know, this color is
- similar to the color that you'll find if
- 20 you travel over to the Biltmore Kerdyk
- 21 Tennis Center.
- 22 And here is some of the details just
- for the restrooms so you can see, you
- know, it's basically a complete gut job
- with new restrooms, ADA accessible

1 restrooms, new lockers and the entire

- 2 space.
- 3 MR. MANRARA: Who is the architect?
- 4 MS. VESTER: The architect here is --
- 5 we have Nati Soto, so it's Ferguson
- 6 Glasgow Schuster and Soto. So you can see
- 7 right here there's their little logo in
- 8 the bottom left.
- 9 Here's some of the proposed finishes.
- 10 So we have, you know, a different color
- 11 palette.
- 12 These are the ceiling tiles that we
- will keep the ceiling tiles but just have
- it a nicer more modern look. And we're
- 15 proposing larger panel ceiling tiles to
- 16 provide some of that more modern look.
- We are looking at the nice flooring
- 18 which kind of simulates woods but it's
- 19 actually tile, similar to what's at the
- 20 adult activity center.
- 21 We -- for the bathrooms we're
- 22 proposing this around the kind of mirrors
- 23 to give it a little bit of color. The
- 24 lockers and benches will have this color
- 25 palette.

1 So it's a pretty modern, neutral

- 2 color palette with some, you know,
- 3 splashes of color.
- 4 And the shower wall, etcetera.
- 5 And then the architect provided us
- 6 with a basic visioning board of kind of
- 7 elements that could be put in there or
- 8 kind of look. So this is not saying that
- 9 this stuff is going to go in there but
- 10 this is kind of a visioning of what we
- 11 envisioned. And here is actually a
- 12 picture of the adult activity center that
- I mentioned. This was one of our newer
- buildings that we had on the ground floor
- of the garage across the palace behind
- 16 Miracle Mile.
- 17 Again, here's some of the ceiling
- 18 inspiration of these longer ceiling tiles
- 19 to give it a more clean and modern look.
- They're all acoustics so that'll assist
- 21 with the noise.
- 22 Some multipurpose room furnishings.
- 23 Some restroom inspiration of what the
- 24 counters would look like.
- 25 Movable furnishings for, you know,

1 programming space. Some nicer, you know,

- 2 chairs -- I'm not sure if you guys can see
- 3 that, sorry.
- 4 The nicer comfortable chairs for
- 5 members to sit and enjoy, maybe watch a
- 6 game on TV.
- 7 So some of the improvements that
- 8 we've addressed is, you know, again,
- 9 replacing the exterior storefront windows
- and doors with windstorm resiliency,
- improve the ADA access for the public,
- have an ADA designated parking location in
- the building, a path to the entrance
- doors. We've put a big focus on energy
- 15 efficiency improvements to the building.
- We are going to add camera
- 17 surveillance equipment throughout the
- building on the pro shop side as well as
- on the exterior. So that will be a big
- 20 add-on and something that also do as we
- 21 address new improvements throughout our
- 22 park system is adding surveillance cameras
- to our buildings and parks.
- We'll do some entrance landscaping
- 25 improvements.

1 And, of course, some of the 2 enhancements will be the new pro shop sales desk cabinetry, a lounge area with 3 TV, a multipurpose room, an ADA accessible 4 quest desk with computer access for them 5 to enter their scores, new small 6 management office to include secure IT equipment, we'll update the small volunteer activities office so that you 9 10 don't have to go through the bathroom with 11 cabinetry, there will be a new HVAC 12 equipment system and mechanical room. 13 And then we'll do some modern interior finishes which we already shared 14 15 with some of the graphics. We'll do some 16 LED lighting, modern and efficient 17 plumbing fixtures. Everything will be 18 ADA. 19 Our new restroom amenities will 20 include lockers, benches and, yes, this is 21 always a funny one, baby changing tables. 22 Even though we don't think our golfers are going to be walking with babies but it's 23 still something that we should have. 24 25 often, not necessarily golfers, are

- 1 walking into the building.
- 2 Renovated janitor's closet, new
- drinking fountain with a bottle filler,
- 4 which is something that we've converted as
- 5 we design things now with COVID in mind,
- 6 you know, it's good to have bottle fillers
- 7 so you have to put your face and mouth so
- 8 close to the drinking fountain. New
- 9 floors and ceiling tiles.
- 10 And then this graphic here we put up
- 11 with the aerial view of the building so
- that you can see what the staging plan
- 13 will be once construction starts. So our
- objective is to keep the course
- operational while the construction is
- happening to the building, because, of
- 17 course, why not? You know, the course is
- 18 still open and usable.
- 19 So we'll go ahead and put a temporary
- 20 pro shop trailer in the parking lot where
- 21 you'll be able to go ahead and book your
- tee times and get your cards from and that
- trailer will, of course, be ADA and have a
- 24 restroom inside the trailer.
- 25 Right now Burger Bob's does use the

1 restroom inside the building, so that will

- also be made accessible to Burger Bob's
- 3 when that pro shop temporary space will be
- 4 open.
- 5 So that's something we'll coordinate
- 6 with Zeida and the tenant.
- 7 So just to summarize, and you guys
- 8 asked about the estimated project cost,
- 9 the budget that we have right now to have
- 10 added on all these additional items is
- 11 750,000. We've gone ahead and proposed
- the design to our advisory boards and
- we're sharing it with you, too, which is
- 14 great to have an additional board that is
- able to give us some input.
- 16 The original community meeting was
- 17 held back in December. We did receive
- quite a lot of input but not necessarily
- about the pro shop. Most of the input
- 20 that we received from the community was
- related to what improvements would be done
- on the Burger Bob site, and right now this
- 23 project wasn't, you know, designed to fund
- that part of the building. So that's
- 25 something that could easily be identified

- in future years. And like we mentioned,
- 2 we did add just so we could have it
- 3 throughout, proposed continuity of the
- 4 design, you know, adding the floors and
- 5 ceilings to Burger Bob's.
- Now, for sure the storefront, that
- 7 will be added to Burger Bob's and that may
- 8 affect them for a duration a time
- 9 operationally while they put the impact
- 10 windows on.
- 11 From there we'll go to design
- construction documents which we're hoping
- will be completed by Spring 2021.
- 14 And then we'll do permitting and
- bidding in the Summer of 2021.
- 16 And then construction will most
- 17 likely take place from Fall '21 all the
- way to Winder 2022. So it's a pretty
- 19 lengthy construction time for the interior
- of that building.
- 21 And that's it. So we're open to any
- 22 questions, comments, from the board.
- MR. MAZZEI: I have a question, Ed
- 24 Mazzei here.
- 25 Why isn't there in the plan upgrading

- of Burger Bob's area, the equipment and
 everything else? It seems to me this is
 one building and should be done
- 4 throughout.

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MS. VESTER: So our department, which 6 is the Parks Department, we have a separate budget from other departments in the city and we do that five-year funding cycle that I mentioned earlier in the 9 introduction of the meeting. And with 10 11 that we look at our assets and what we can 12 fund within those assets within the 13 allotted amount. So this project was 14 actually a deferred project from a couple 15 years back that we've kind of reformatted 16 to meet some of those ADA and safety 17 needs. Burger Bob's doesn't fall under 18 the park's purview or budget. So we have 19 shared it with the Facilities Department 20 under, you know, under public works to see 21 if we can do additional improvements and 22 funding, but that's something that's going 23 to have to be requested as part of the

So we've made that suggestion and

city's budget cycle.

1 recommendation as we walk through the

- 2 building and we looked at that.
- 3 You know, something that's
- 4 interesting to note, too, and we weren't
- 5 aware, again, because it's not really
- 6 under our purview, but all the equipment
- 7 actually that Burger Bob's uses is
- 8 supplied by the City of Coral Gables. So
- 9 it's quite a unique setup that he has
- there in that building and restaurant.
- 11 MR. MAZZEI: Well, as an advisory
- 12 board member I would like to see the
- Burger Bob Facilities people coordinate
- 14 with Parks and Recreation and let's make
- this a one-stop project.
- 16 MS. VESTER: Yeah, and, I mean, these
- are conversations we'll definitely have
- with Zeida and with the whole Public Works
- 19 CIP team. One of the concerns, too, is it
- 20 might affect the tenant, you know,
- 21 negatively. If we do do a lot of
- 22 extensive renovation in there he might be
- 23 closed down for a lengthy period of time
- 24 again. And that's something we had early
- 25 discussed with him and I don't think he

1 necessarily was interested at the time.

Things might have changed, but when

3 we originally talked to Bob, you know, he

4 was already kind of hesitant with the work

5 that we had proposed doing in there

6 because it would shut him down for some

period of time and that was also a

funded, Number 1.

8 concern.

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9 MR. COUCEYRO: There are also -10 there are also a couple of considerations,
11 first of all, obviously the budget would
12 probably double, which currently we don't
13 have the -- the Parks and Recreation
14 Department or the CIP does not have that

Number 2, also, as Carolina mentioned, it's a contracted space and right now it is with Burger Bob's but, as we do with other contracted space throughout the city, and Zeida could probably expound on that and you as the board, you work on all these spaces all the time, usually the contracted tenant is working in step with the city for those improvements, from what I understand.

1 That's how it happens in our other

- 2 properties. So, you know, for -- I don't
- 3 know, from my purview, it's -- especially
- 4 because we've done with our Parks
- 5 properties, it's not normal process to
- 6 build out something for another contractor
- 7 to come in and profit from. But there
- 8 could be extenuating circumstances,
- 9 obviously, with the type of property and
- the type of relationship that the
- 11 contractor has with the city, but that
- 12 would be from a city purview, not
- 13 necessarily from Parks and Recreation and
- improving a recreation space.
- MS. SARDINAS: So, Ed, just to
- 16 expound on that for a minute. As Fred
- said, he's correct, usually in the way
- 18 that -- that -- since I started, I have
- seen and the way things have been done in
- the past has been that, you know, when we
- 21 partner up with an operator, that operator
- is, you know, investing into the space and
- 23 -- in order to be able to have their
- vision or whatever it is that they're
- 25 going to do to operate and to -- and to

1 make whatever profit and run whatever

- 2 business it is that they're going to run
- 3 within the space. But -- excuse me.
- But the -- the lease for Burger Bob's
- is coming up. It's coming to an end on
- 6 August 31st. I think that the plan when
- 7 the lease was renewed the last time was
- 8 that it would coincide when eventually all
- 9 of this renovation needed to take place,
- 10 because it was an idea that even with
- doing the impact and all that, we're going
- to have to close down the restaurant for a
- 13 little bit of time because we have to take
- 14 all the -- so we wanted to kind of leave
- ourselves in a position where, you know,
- we weren't in this contract and we going
- to have to have an issue at that time we
- 18 could do that.
- 19 The idea -- the ideal situation would
- 20 be that in renegotiating this contract,
- either with Burger Bob's or whether it's
- opened up for bid, that the partner,
- whether it's Burger Bob's or anyone else
- or how we do it, which we haven't come to
- a decision on that yet, would partner with

1 the city to be able to do the renovations

- 2 inside as everybody else has done in all
- of the restaurant spaces that we have, so
- 4 that's --
- 5 MR. COUCEYRO: And Zeida -- Zeida,
- just to specify, we also -- we're hopeful
- 7 of being able to make certain improvements
- 8 to that space, you know, obviously
- 9 updating the ceiling tiles, the flooring
- and obviously the exterior glass wall. So
- there are going to be some improvements
- but we're not going to overhaul the
- 13 kitchen and overhaul the back of the house
- 14 during this project.
- 15 MS. SARDINAS: Correct.
- MR. MAZZEI: Well, my -- my
- 17 additional comment to what has been said
- is that since you're going to be doing
- 19 ceiling work in there, flooring and glass
- all around, during that period of the time
- 21 the back of the restaurant work could be
- done and to keep Burger Bob in business if
- 23 he wants to stay in business, you could
- have a food truck with outside table area,
- etcetera. So there's ways to work around

this and I would request that this be

- 2 looked at closely so that it's a one-stop
- 3 shop project.
- 4 Do other board members have any
- 5 thoughts?
- 6 MR. MANRARA: I have thoughts.
- 7 MR. MAZZEI: Please.
- 8 MR. MANRARA: I would even take your
- 9 idea a couple of steps further. The
- 10 calendar, as it moves, doesn't forgive.
- 11 Unfortunately, it's not Mr. Bob's best
- friend right now. As the calendar keeps
- moving his situation becomes more tenuous
- and little bit of what could come in the
- 15 future I think has already been observed
- and Zeida and Julian, in your efforts to
- help him, you found that sometimes it's
- not as easy as you think when you want to
- 19 help someone. So, unfortunately, the
- 20 future of Burger Bob for long-term with
- 21 Mr. Bob managing it, it just is not going
- 22 to -- you know, it's going to happen, I
- mean, the calendar just doesn't allow it.
- 24 So I would hope that would be
- 25 considered would be -- let's call the

1 concept of Burger Bob where that name

- 2 might live on with or without Mr. Bob in
- 3 charge of it. But that this would be
- 4 developed in a way in that where a lot of
- 5 these facilities are operated in other
- 6 golf courses. One of the ones that I
- 7 think is an obvious missing item is a 19th
- 8 hole type concept, which is where there's
- a bar where the golfers come after they've
- 10 done their round and they have a beer and
- 11 they chat over, you know, this hole, that
- hole, etcetera. And we all know that in
- the business of restaurant operations, one
- that has a bar generally generates
- 15 significant revenue and to a lot of
- 16 restaurants it's a significant part of
- 17 their economic success.
- 18 Unfortunately, the way Burger Bob is
- operated now that doesn't exist. So we're
- almost tying the hands of any operator,
- 21 whether it's the current Mr. Bob or some
- 22 future person. If that is not factored
- in, it's almost like we're asking them to
- 24 operate with one hand tied behind their
- 25 back and making it more difficult.

1 Now, this -- you have to jump through 2 a lot of hoops to have the city allow something like this to happen, the 3 neighborhood, etcetera, but literally 4 across the street from Burger Bob there's 5 already a facility which we call it the 6 7 Coral Gables Country Club that allows, you know, liquor service, etcetera. I agree, it might be for special functions, but for 9 10 many, many years there was a bar in that location. So it's not a concept that 11 12 would be totally new to the neighbor or the area. 13 14 So I would hope that wherever --15 whether it's on the short term or the 16 longer term, when this facility is really 17 reviewed from a long-term viability, that that would become an item of serious 18 19 consideration. And if I saw Fred and 20 Carolina kind of nodding their heads, and 21 Zeida, I'm sure it's not a new idea to any 22 of you and hopefully it'll be something where the city seriously evaluates and 23 considers and obtains the proper community 24

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input.

1 So, Ed, although what I think would 2 you're suggesting may be viable or 3 interesting in the short-term, I just don't -- I wouldn't necessarily jump to 4 support it because I think we need a bigger picture than just maybe fixing the 6 7 restaurant equipment for the present operation. I think that would be 9 short-term and probably missed-used funds 10 because it doesn't address the longer 11 term. 12 The second thought I had, and this 13 sounds strange coming from me, is some of 14 the things that we're hearing in today's, 15 let's call it, society and political 16 climate. And there seems to be a 17 significant move to erase gender 18 differences. And yet you spoke about a 19 men's locker and a women's locker and a 20 men's restroom and a women's restroom. 21 concept that, you know, I certainly grew

up with and I wouldn't find strange, but

wrong, but I thought they have been some

now that you're hearing, and maybe I'm

executive orders that say, you're not

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going to get federal money if you intend

- on continuing to recognize that there are
- 3 gender differences. And that -- I don't
- 4 know if Fred or Carolina, in the
- 5 discussions that you had for this
- 6 renovation, if the concept of having a uni
- 7 -- I don't know, unisex or non-gender
- 8 specific restroom and locker room would be
- 9 the appropriate response so that the city
- 10 does not jeopardize its ability to
- 11 continue to get federal funding for future
- 12 projects. Because this is how the federal
- 13 government is saying, if you insist on
- following in this approach, you risk
- 15 getting federal funds in the future or
- 16 maybe not even risk, you will outright
- 17 lose them.
- And I don't know if this is a process
- or a thought that was considered. Maybe
- you can, you know, comment on it, but it
- 21 may -- it may not be so significant today,
- 22 but in the near future it may become an
- important concern. And once you've done
- women locker and men's locker, somebody
- 25 may say, oh my God, we really needed to do

- 1 this in a different way.
- 2 MR. VESTER: We actually refer to
- 3 them as, you know, family restrooms, so
- 4 you kind of encompass everything, the
- 5 gender, the family aspect. When we do
- 6 have an opportunity -- and that's
- 7 something that we're looking at the youth
- 8 center, for instance. The youth center
- 9 doesn't have family restrooms. That's a
- 10 larger footprint where as we look at
- 11 renovating that space we have to look at
- the usage of the space, we have special
- needs population that, you know, is
- 14 programmed out of that space as well that
- might need somebody to accompany them to
- assist them that may not necessarily be
- female or male versus the child that might
- 18 be female or male. So that we refer to
- more as a family restroom and we are
- 20 looking at improving certain sites that
- 21 have the space, let's say, to add those in
- addition to the existing restrooms.
- Now, you bring up a good point and
- where space is limited, like the pro shop,
- it's very limited in space and because we

1 have to make it ADA, so that kind of

- doesn't help when it comes to space, um,
- 3 it's hard to do that in that footprint.
- 4 It's something we'll share with the
- 5 CIP team and thoughts, especially as you
- 6 mentioned, you know, building for the
- future which is our vision here, we're
- 8 trying to build for the future. We'll
- 9 bring that back to the CIP team and to the
- 10 architects to see what can be done or what
- 11 suggestions can be done with the existing
- space. But it's something that's very
- 13 close to our minds just because we do look
- 14 at it every day from different
- 15 perspectives with our special needs
- 16 population.
- MR. COUCEYRO: Yes, and there's quite
- a bit of different things that we're
- 19 looking at. It's not only the family --
- 20 you know, the unisex, it's -- it's looking
- 21 at gen -- whether there's a gender, all
- 22 different types of classifications now
- that weren't -- we're encountering with
- our parents with children and what their
- 25 identification is in terms of even -- some

they don't identify with any gender, so

we've had to deal with this. So we're

3 well aware of it.

4 In terms of the regulations that we

5 have now, that's why Carolina touched

6 based on like the diaper changer, although

7 it seems -- it seems sometimes silly to

8 think, oh, is a golfer -- but -- so we

9 were looking at some of those regulations.

10 Alberto, you make a good point and

it's something that we're continuing to

12 look at and -- and we'll share. I just

don't know how we would fit that in within

this -- this footprint right now. You

know, down the line, if you're looking at

16 -- when you look at the restaurant if

there's improvements there that maybe

18 there's a way to do a one-off somewhere,

19 because you got the plumbing that runs

along the side of the building so you

21 might be able to do something there, but

we will definitely share with the CIP

team. I just don't know what we can do

24 within this footprint on it.

25 MS. VESTER: There is a separate

1 restroom behind Burger Bob's, which is

2 more a staff restroom, that also we're not

3 touching just because it'll affect the

4 entire back of the kitchen. So that's

5 something that could be looked at.

But again, if you do create a family
restroom, it has to be ADA accessible. So
that really is a whole separate project

9 that we'll have to look at in the future.

And I think what you mentioned

11 earlier, Mr. Manrara, is, you're right,

12 you know, building for the future, since

there isn't certainty with that tenant, if

we were to renovate that space, that space

may not work for a future use or tenant.

And it's not just changing out equipment,

17 you know, we took a moment to look at

18 everything back there and it's a quite

19 extensive renovation that needs to be done

20 to just comply with new codes and

21 everything on the back kitchen. So it

would take a lot of money, budget, and,

you know, additional scope of work to get

that done.

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MR. MANRARA: Okay.

1 MS. SARDINAS: And Alberto, just to 2 follow up, again, because the lease is 3 coming to an actual end and following up on some of the comments that you made 4 about time and so and so forth, we also have to consider that if -- if he is not 6 7 the eventual operator, who -- whatever the operator is that comes in, may want a kitchen that looks different or -- or has 9 10 certain -- every chef or every person that comes in to operate a kitchen wants a 11 12 kitchen the way they the kitchen, so it's 13 -- it's also -- right now that equipment 14 that's there, yes, belongs to the city and 15 -- and we've been maintaining it for him all this time and he is the only one that 16 17 has that caveat within his contract, um, 18 but going forward if that was the case 19 that's not the -- the -- what we would 20 prefer to do, because it does place then 21 other burdens on our personnel that is not 22 something that we normally take care of. 23 So, um, again, um, that's just kind 24 of to give more a rounded -- on what it is 25 that we're trying to accomplish.

Page 48 1 So does anybody have any questions? 2 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: 3 So we can go ahead and I guess discuss a little bit more the -- Burger 4 5 Bob's and the lease and everything that has been transpiring, so I guess that's on 6 7 you, Zeida. MS. SARDINAS: So, yes --9 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Hold on, it 10 seems like Fred had something else to say. 11 MR. COUCEYRO: Oh, no, no, I was like 12 -- I'm sorry, I was just saying if we were 13 done talking about the project, thank you 14 very much for having us and we appreciate 15 being here before the board. 16 MS. SARDINAS: Thank you, Fred. 17 MR. COUCEYRO: As always, a pleasure. 18 Thank you guys. 19 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Thank you for your time and thank you both for your 20 21 explanation. 22 MR. MANRARA: I do have a question. 23 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Oh, Alberto has 24 a question. 25 MR. MANRARA: On the budget itself,

1 and perhaps somebody like Richard, our

- 2 board member, could comment on this since
- 3 he has gone through a project that has at
- 4 least some similarities.
- 5 The budget to do the -- the work on
- 6 the building you said is 750,000. If you
- divide it by a building 5,000 square feet,
- 8 without even deducting the space that
- 9 Burger Bob's occupies which is not going
- 10 to receive the substance or the larger
- 11 portion of the work, comes out to \$150 a
- 12 square foot. And ab -- I'm not by any
- means very knowledgeable in these things,
- it just sounds like a really big number
- for the work that you indicated is going
- 16 to take place.
- 17 Can anybody comment? Does that seem
- 18 like a reasonable thing, 750,000 for the
- 19 work that's been described?
- 20 MS. VESTER: Just keep in mind that
- 21 we're really not just renovating the
- space, we're having to change out large
- utilities, I mean, the entire HVAC system.
- So it's not just renovating the space,
- 25 it's, you know --

1 MR. COUCEYRO: And a large portion of

- 2 the exterior is --
- 3 MR. MAZZEI: (Inaudible).
- 4 MR. COUCEYRO: A large portion of the
- 5 exterior, all of the glass, that's --
- 6 that's probably what, over 50 percent of
- 7 the exterior, is being removed and -- and
- 8 be replaced.
- 9 MR. MAZZEI: Yeah, I don't have a
- 10 problem with it.
- 11 MS. SARDINAS: So Richard, do you --
- 12 MR. BARBARA: Yeah, I -- I think,
- though, they're going to spend 750,000
- grand. And if the finishes get nicer they
- may spend a little more. And the longer
- it takes, they're going to spend even
- more.
- And, by the way, that's the other
- 19 problem with going back to, you know, this
- 20 concept of doing the whole thing. Number
- 21 1, these people would get skewered if they
- 22 did that. Let me explain why, okay,
- 23 because we're not going to redo the way
- the city improves its properties for this
- one property.

1 Can you imagine the city pours money 2 into building a new restaurant, which, by 3 the way, they do on the basis of whatever they think a new restaurant should look 4 like, and then you bring in a new tenant who benefits from the improvements and 6 doesn't like them, so then he goes in and make more improvements. So then the 9 city's money just got wasted.

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And, let's assume for a second, which, by the way I thought Ed had a good question, why wasn't it done that way?

Let's assume that it was done that way and we had a kumbaya setting where Parks woke up and said, man, before we wind up this whole machine let's go talk to Facilities and see if we can do this together which would probably be a first in all of government, okay, that would have been a different scenario. But to go back now and suggest now that the Facilities people should find it in a budget and prepare a plan.

Did you this, this is already going to get done in 2022. Bob's never going to

see this golf course. Have you seen Bob?

- I mean, so -- so, you know, the reality of
- 3 the matter is that if -- if we started
- 4 that now, they wouldn't break ground until
- 5 2023.
- 6 So, you know, I think that -- I think
- 7 the best thing we can hope for is that
- 8 when the -- you know, as the months
- 9 progress on this year and -- and other
- 10 potential suitors come up then maybe
- 11 somebody shows up that's willing to put
- some money into this space, which is, by
- the way, like we do it at every other city
- 14 property, and maybe that timeline gets
- accelerators, you know, with the power of
- 16 private enterprise, you know, and the
- 17 whole thing gets done.
- I agree with Ed in concept, the whole
- 19 thing should get done. It's just one of
- these things that, unfortunately, it just
- 21 doesn't -- it just doesn't work that way,
- 22 you know. So, um, but in terms of.
- MS. VESTER: Just to let you know,
- Richard, we did actually, in the initial
- 25 site meeting, we did bring on Facilities

1 to look at the site and that's how we were

- 2 made aware of the equipment being owned by
- 3 the city, of the extensive cost and work
- 4 that would need to be done in the kitchen
- 5 just to bring it up to code. And they're
- 6 actually, you know, handling the portion,
- 7 it's not part of this budget, separate
- 8 financial is the actual drainage that's
- 9 being done as part of this building,
- 10 that's being done by that Facilities
- 11 portion of the city.
- So, you know, we did bring them to
- the table, it's just we're limited with
- what we can do financially.
- MR. BARBARA: And, by the way, when
- 16 you want to put in a bar, you're going to
- have to comply with FOG2.0, which is the
- 18 county's issue now. So, guess what,
- 19 you're going to be ripping up floors,
- 20 you're going to have to install new grease
- 21 traps. I can assure you that the grease
- trap there is 10,000 years old and made
- out of concrete. That's like six strikes.
- The new ones, they have to be plastic and,
- 25 I mean, it's a debacle. So -- so get

- 1 ready, when they do -- whoever builds a
- new place there, they're going to spend a
- 3 million bucks.
- 4 So, you know, that -- restaurant
- 5 retrofitting nowadays is -- is more
- 6 painful than it needs to be because of
- 7 FOG2.0. You need spill-outs for the --
- for the actual bars, the grease from the
- 9 bar has to be caught.
- I remember talking to the guy at the
- 11 county, I'm like, there's no grease at the
- bar. He's like, yes, there is and we call
- it science. And I was like, all right.
- So, you know, I mean, it's -- it's a
- 15 debacle, you know.
- But yeah, 750, they're going to spend
- 17 easy.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay. Any
- other comments, questions, concerns?
- 20 All right. Then we'll --
- 21 MS. VESTER: If you guys want to stay
- 22 up-to-date on the project you can go to
- 23 the City's Parks's website, which is
- 24 parksprojects@coralgables.com and we'll be
- 25 putting up the -- as soon as we get

- 1 started with -- you know, after the permit
- drawings we'll put up a timeline, progress
- 3 reports and everything. So that's part of
- 4 our transparency process that we've
- 5 implemented with all of our projects. So
- 6 you can always stay up-to-date on anything
- 7 that's going on with any of our Parks
- 8 projects and all of our assets.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Thank you so
- 10 much, Carolina.
- 11 Thank you, Fred, both for your time
- and the presentation. Much appreciated.
- MR. COUCEYRO: Thank you, guys.
- MR. MAZZEI: Thank you.
- MR. COUCEYRO: Always a pleasure.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: You're welcome.
- 17 Okay. I think -- I think, Zeida,
- 18 you're up for Burger Bob's.
- 19 MS. SARDINAS: Yes. We -- we have --
- it's 9:25 we're -- we're running close to
- 21 ending. I just want to run really quick
- and tell you that, Number 1, all of the
- issues we were having with his reporting
- and everything finally got resolved. His
- 25 accountant forwarded us some -- manually

done but Florida Sales Tax reports, which

- I was able to then put the item on the
- 3 agenda because I had the reporting in
- 4 place. He has been making his payments at
- 5 the new rate. And he did make a \$2,000
- 6 payment towards his deferred rent. He's
- 7 going to try to continue to make periodic
- 8 payments to lower that balance, even
- 9 though we deferred it to the end of the
- 10 lease but he says that he's going to try
- 11 to bring that down little bit little.
- So, so far, things are working fine.
- The same thing with the country club,
- they have started to make their payments
- 15 -- their deferred payments.
- 16 That take me into the rent report,
- which, as you can see, is in good shape.
- 18 There was a small hiccup there with the
- 19 cinemas payment but it's just that they
- 20 didn't send it out. I spoke with them
- 21 this week -- we spoke with them this week
- and we should be getting the check for
- 23 January and February so we're -- everyone
- is up-to-date with that.
- 25 The other thing I wanted to tell you

was that we had -- there is a roofing

- 2 project which has been in the works for
- 3 quite a while with the country club, it's
- 4 a \$1.5 million project that is finally
- 5 gone through procurement and renegotiation
- 6 and it is -- the pre-construction meeting
- 7 with city staff is scheduled for this
- 8 coming Thursday at 11:00, so it will be
- 9 starting. We are redoing the roof on that
- 10 entire facility, all the roof on that
- 11 entire facility. We are very hopeful that
- we'll be -- that will be a huge
- improvement because it's going to solve a
- 14 lot of the issues that we have with water
- intrusion and things of that sort with the
- roof and, hopefully, make the property
- 17 watertight and -- going forward.
- 18 So that had been something that I
- 19 think had been in the city's radar for
- 20 quite a long time and we finally were able
- 21 to get that going. Since I arrived it had
- been in the works, so we finally got it
- and so it's starting.
- 24 So I just wanted to let you guys know
- 25 because I know it's a been a subject for

1 us in the past to talk about. We talked

- 2 about it last year and one of the -- one
- of the reasons that we did, as you
- 4 remember, is because he was having some
- leaks. And, also, just to let you know,
- 6 it did take a little bit longer because
- 7 the original estimates that we had kind of
- 8 were not what we thought, so the price
- 9 went up and we were able to renegotiate so
- 10 now we are -- we are ready to start.
- 11 So that's that.
- 12 The other thing I wanted to mention,
- I didn't put it in the agenda, I just
- wanted to let you know, it will be an item
- 15 coming up in the commission agenda that
- 16 you will see, it is an item that finance
- 17 asked us -- you know, we kind of helped
- them to put together for the commission.
- 19 We need to write -- do a write-up as
- 20 uncollectible for the Ortanique balance
- 21 that was left when they left. As -- as
- 22 you were all aware, they owed the city
- 23 money going back a few years from issues
- 24 that came back all -- that were there from
- 25 all the way from 2016. So that has hit

- the board several times and, as you're
- aware, finance wanted to just put that on
- 3 the agenda.
- 4 We have gotten legal opinions that
- 5 have looked at the lease. Unfortunately,
- the lease didn't have a personal guarantee
- 7 on it so there -- we've -- the litigation
- 8 estimates are quite high and we do not
- 9 think that it behoves us to move forward
- 10 with that. So we are taking that to
- 11 commission and will be on the -- on the
- 12 agenda for February 22nd. So I just
- 13 wanted to let you know that that was --
- 14 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: How much --
- MS. SARDINAS: I'm sorry.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Sorry, Zeida.
- 17 How much was the outstanding that was
- 18 uncollectible?
- 19 MS. SARDINAS: Right now it's about
- 20 174,000 -- close to \$175,000.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay.
- MS. SARDINAS: Plus we're going to be
- 23 making a payment on their behalf -- I also
- had them on a payment plan for unpaid bid
- 25 tax assessments, so there's another like

1 45 -- \$4,800 or \$4,500 for -- that we need

- 2 to pay the bid on their behalf because
- 3 they also left -- they had been making a
- few payments -- they made a few payments
- 5 after I was able to get them on a payment
- 6 plan for that but, then, you know, that's
- 7 when they stop paying, so I went ahead and
- 8 we're going to take care of that with the
- 9 bid as well.
- 10 So just so that you're aware, that
- it's -- it was basically more for finance,
- because they need to write off the amount
- and also to -- to -- for the commission to
- decide not to move forward with litigation
- 15 because we do not think that it behoves
- the city to spend money on litigation when
- we're not going to be able to recuperate
- 18 anything.
- 19 So I just wanted to make you aware,
- so if you saw it on the agenda. It's not
- 21 really kind of a property item, it's more
- 22 a finance item to authorize her to write
- off the receivable as uncollectible.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay.
- 25 MS. SARDINAS: So that's it for me.

1 I think Francesca wanted to just give

- 2 you a little quick update about what's
- 3 coming --
- 4 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay.
- 5 MS. SARDINAS: -- with any businesses
- 6 we have.
- 7 MR. MANRARA: I'd like to comment on
- 8 this for a second, if I may?
- 9 MS. SARDINAS: Oh, sure. Go ahead,
- 10 Alberto.
- 11 MR. MANRARA: If you could change the
- 12 screen, please.
- 13 The -- I'll tell you what troubles me
- 14 a little bit with this -- obviously the
- reality is that this is not going to be
- something you can collect against probably
- a corporate entity that no longer exists.
- 18 What is troubling is that when all
- this process was ongoing, and this
- 20 preceded some of the current board
- 21 members, Ortanique never was able to
- demonstrate that they had been negatively
- impacted, at least in a material way,
- 24 because of the Miracle Mile renovations.
- 25 And it just seems like -- almost like, are

1 they getting away with it? And it's

- 2 unfortunate, because this is obviously --
- 3 it's money that's impacting the city
- 4 residents, like myself and many of you who
- 5 are on this board.
- 6 And then I guess to additionally poke
- 7 your finger in the eye, is the fact that
- 8 now the city has to come out of pocket and
- give money to the bid, roughly \$4,500, as
- 10 Zeida has indicated, on top of this. I
- mean, it's like pouring salt in the wound.
- I hope we all learn our lesson on
- 13 this. I advocated at the time having --
- 14 working with Ortanique, so I'm -- but
- 15 somehow, you know, we were hoodwinked in
- some respect. Because, again, every time
- 17 we asked for information as to how bad is
- it for you, the numbers did not support
- their claim for being necessarily
- 20 materially hurt and we, the city, you
- 21 know, bent over backwards to help them out
- 22 and this is what we get in -- in, you
- know, in response, we get stiffed.
- 24 So I just wanted to kind of share
- 25 that, because I'm -- I'm disappointed that

- 1 this is what it's come to.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay. Thank
- 3 you, Alberto.
- 4 MS. SARDINAS: I think -- I think in
- 5 all -- in all -- all-in-all the lesson is,
- and it is something I've been trying to
- observe and -- and I've told you guys, in
- 8 some of the renewals that I did for leases
- 9 happen to fall within COVID while we
- 10 weren't meeting so we didn't get to talk
- 11 about them, like No Boundaries and
- 12 Graziano's, but I do want to tell you I
- was very adamant when those renewals
- happen that we have at least a good two
- months of deposit and of -- and of
- expenses on our side, on the city side,
- for everyone. And if that's not the case,
- that we institute some sort of, um,
- 19 personal guarantee to these leases so
- that, you know, we do have some recourse
- if something should happen and that we act
- 22 -- you know, that we act in an expeditious
- 23 manner when there's an issue. So if
- they're late, that we -- we get a letter
- out on time, that we do all these things,

- 1 so that we -- we can certainly try to
- 2 avoid anything of the sort.
- 4 on track with the tenants that we have as
- 5 -- as you guys monitor the rent report and
- 6 we're trying to do that, but that has been
- 7 something that the manager, our manager,
- 8 is very adamant about, that when we
- 9 continue to sign these contracts we have
- these things in place to kind of protect
- 11 us better.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: And perhaps on
- any -- any of the rent renewals, I'm not
- sure if -- as we update leases, to go
- ahead and put in that personal guarantee,
- 16 because I personally would not accept,
- 17 especially on some of these properties,
- anything less than having that personal
- 19 quarantee. It really does add an extra
- 20 layer of protection, a financial
- 21 protection for you when you find yourself
- in these cases.
- So, okay, any other comments,
- questions, so that we can move along to --
- 25 to Francesca and then adjourn?

- 1 Francesca, you're up.
- 2 MS. VALDES: Hey, hi everyone. Just
- 3 really quickly wanted to share some news
- 4 that's happened on -- in our downtown. I
- 5 know we've spoken in the past about Seasy
- 6 Mediterranean coming. They did a soft
- 7 opening last week and they did -- their
- 8 official opening is today, so that's in
- 9 the former BurgerFi space. If you haven't
- 10 been down the Mile, that has just opened,
- 11 so that's exciting.
- In addition, we had a very quick
- turnaround, I was very impressed with how
- fast our city departments helped this
- concept come in, which is called EFG, not
- 16 the -- not the easiest to roll off the
- tongue but it's called Shop EFG. It is a
- 18 pop-up shop that's coming to 225 Miracle
- 19 Mile.
- Now, this is a men's and women's
- 21 relator. It's sample sale style where
- they are selling extremely high-end
- 23 clothing at a discount. So the first one
- 24 -- it's going to open tomorrow. They only
- 25 signed their lease on Friday. So that's

1 when I say, like they contacted our

- department to help, the broker contacted
- 3 me, we -- we really helped them out. But,
- I mean, from Friday to Thursday opening is
- 5 pretty quick. So -- so tomorrow it should
- open, the first concept that will be sold
- 7 is Brunello Cucinelli, Italian -- Italian
- 8 cashmere, beautiful clothes.
- 9 The same -- then the following week
- is Loro Piana, another Italian brand.
- 11 And then they're actually going to
- 12 have Gucci. So this could bring some
- interest to the downtown. We'll see how
- that goes.
- In addition, Zoe Riva(ph), that is a
- women's clothing line. It had been in
- 17 those Alhambra shops which were -- you
- 18 know, there's a two-story building on
- 19 Alhambra that has some kind of incubator,
- small retail in it. They've moved out of
- 21 there onto the Giralda Plaza, which is
- 22 great because Giralda Plaza obviously is
- 23 very restaurant heavy and it's really good
- 24 to add in some retail there.
- 25 In addition, on the second floor of

the 120 building, which is where Sweet

- 2 Green and Coyo Taco is, there is going to
- 3 be a pop-up art gallery there. So we have
- 4 that -- that opening now as well.
- 5 And so lastly we have two -- two
- 6 different restaurant concepts that I just
- 7 became aware of this week that are coming,
- 8 La Jamoteca is a Spanish market and cafe,
- 9 that is coming to the 300 block of Miracle
- 10 Mile. That's coming to 371 Miracle Mile
- and they'll probably open this summer. So
- we're working to help them come in.
- 13 And La Artisan Donuts, so we're
- getting our own specialty donut shop here
- in Coral Gables and that's coming to Ponce
- de Leon.
- 17 So that's that on some of our new
- 18 businesses coming. We really have a lot
- opening, so as kind of our representatives
- in the community to should be sharing that
- 21 news and be sharing all of the great
- 22 things that are happening in our downtown
- is really -- would be really nice.
- So, lastly, everybody should know
- 25 that Illuminate Coral Gables opens on

1 Friday. This is very exciting for us.

- 2 Obviously the city is the largest sponsor
- of Illuminate. It is a socially distant
- 4 illuminated fine arts festival and you
- 5 will be able to see it in different areas
- 6 around Coral Gables. I will email you
- 7 guys the link. There are also a couple of
- 8 opportunities with it. If you are feeling
- 9 very safe and that you would like to be
- out in our community, the fireflies, which
- are part of the exhibition, they're
- illuminated pedicabs, are looking for
- volunteers who would like to ride those
- around the downtown. Now, you're not
- allowed to pick up any guest, it's just to
- actually ride them around, which is fun.
- 17 And there's another volunteer opportunity
- 18 which is to be kind of a docent on the
- 19 street, obviously masked, there are
- 20 sanitation stations, and guiding people
- 21 from one exhibit to the other.
- 22 So I'll go ahead and email you guys
- both the volunteer signup, if you're
- interested, plus just the website so you
- 25 can familiarize yourself. But Illuminate

Page 69 will be -- I mean, obviously you can go 1 2 seven days a week, but the illuminated 3 specialty projections are running Wednesday through Sunday from 6:00 to 4 10:00 p.m. Great opportunity to come have 5 dinner in the downtown, check it out, see 6 7 this great illuminated art festival that's happening. And, of course, Kiki Smith has been 9 installed over at Giralda Plaza, which is 10 in addition to Illuminate. 11 12 So that's everything. 13 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Thank you, 14 Francesca. 15 Questions, comments? Anyone? 16 Okay, go ahead, Alberto. 17 MR. MANRARA: I have a couple of 18 questions, sorry. 19 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: It's okay. 2.0 MR. MANRARA: Ever since I was in 21 kindergarten I couldn't pass up commenting

or questioning, so at 70 years old I'm not

Thank you so much, Francesca.

just want to start with, you generally

going to change.

22

23

24

25

1 have a lot of good news, things that are

- 2 happening, businesses coming in. I'm
- 3 happy to hear that it isn't just
- 4 restaurants, that you do have the
- 5 traditional retail, clothing, etcetera,
- 6 stores, and some high-end things, which is
- 7 nice. But I'm just wondering is -- do we
- 8 have a process to have the -- this good
- 9 news be shared with the public through
- 10 public press releases and so on?
- MS. VALDES: (Shakes head.)
- MR. MANRARA: You do, okay, great.
- MS. VALDES: So that's -- that's a
- 14 great, Alberto. We definitely share on
- 15 Instagram quite a bit. That's a -- that's
- 16 a format that we share.
- We work also with Martha, who's the
- head of communications for the city, so
- she could put some of this information on
- e-news.
- 21 While I share with you guys -- and
- obviously it's public record so it's
- 23 really shared with everyone -- places that
- have come under lease, we are hesitant to
- 25 fully announce places too strongly that

are under lease but things still happen.

- 2 They're under lease, they're under
- 3 construction, they lose their financing,
- 4 they walk away, these kinds of things
- 5 happen from time to time, so with that we
- 6 usually wait until a little closer to the
- 7 opening when we know -- like Seasy, it's
- 8 open, it's going on, you know, go there.
- 9 So we kind of wait a little bit, or
- if it's a -- a group that has sent out
- 11 their press releases, is a very strong
- group, then, of course, we share that as
- 13 well. But -- but we do like to -- to be a
- 14 little bit careful with stuff that's just
- 15 under lease.
- Now, you know, the shops that opened
- this week, those are all things I'm
- 18 sharing with Martha so that she could put
- them on e-news or our residents know, and,
- of course, our commission, too.
- 21 MR. MANRARA: Great.
- There's been an elephant in the room
- of the city of Coral Gables, which has
- been this so-called desire to change the
- 25 zoning on Miracle Mile. And there was a

Page 72 commission meeting yesterday, I don't know 1 2 how that was addressed, if it passed or if 3 it was deferred, can you share with us, quickly, what -- what's happened to 4 Miracle Mile? 5 MS. SARDINAS: That item was deferred 6 7 for the next meeting. MR. MANRARA: Okay. So obviously --9 MS. SARDINAS: That specific -- it 10 was --11 MR. MANRARA: Go ahead. 12 MS. SARDINAS: It's been bifurcated, 13 okay, so specifically the Miracle Mile 14 portion has been deferred for the next 15 meeting. 16 MR. MANRARA: And the craft section, 17 was that approved or -- or denied? 18 MS. SARDINAS: You know, I was -- I 19 -- at that point in the meeting I was -- I 20 was not on so I will get back to you on 21 that. 22 MR. MANRARA: Zeida, it's okay. I 23 can -- I can reach out to other people and find out. 24 25 But what pertains to us as a property

1 advisory board and because the city has,

- obviously, property on Miracle Mile,
- 3 whether it's the former Ortanique space,
- 4 the theater, and -- and the little spaces
- 5 all the way to the corner there on
- 6 Salzedo, we have not really had a whole
- 7 lot of conversation or really none at all
- 8 in our board with what this proposed
- 9 zoning may mean or may not mean to the
- 10 city's property and the future of it. And
- 11 I'm just wondering, Valerie, if in the
- 12 future we could have something in the
- agenda that kind of addresses that,
- particularly now that it's been deferred,
- 15 because it would have some impact and --
- 16 and to the work Francesca and -- and Zeida
- 17 are doing with potential tenants and --
- and working with existing land, you know,
- 19 property owners, this -- this could be
- very, very significant change that could
- 21 alter the whole, you know, role of Miracle
- 22 Mile and how it operates and its success,
- 23 etcetera, and we just -- our -- our group
- has had zero conversation about it.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: I agree.

MS. SARDINAS: Alberto, we -- that 1 2 deferral is not for the -- the meeting on 3 the 22nd. If I remember correctly from last night, I believe the Miracle Mile 4 item was deferred to the first week -- to the first meeting in March, so, um, what 6 -- let's wait to see how things pan out on that, if they actually vote and it -- and 9 it gets resolved and whether things stay 10 as they are or there are changes, and then I'm happy to ask for Mon to come and --11 12 and -- and speak to you guys and explain 13 to you, wherever we -- you know, wherever 14 the commission ends up, right, like what are the changes and what that affects and 15 what that means for city property on the 16 17 Mile, absolutely. 18 MR. MANRARA: But, Zeida, let me just 19 -- one second. That approach goes back to 20 some issues that our board has had going 21 back even before my joining the board, 22 which is now going into like the third year or something like this, which is that 23 24 a lot of times we are standing at the 25 station watching as the train is leaving.

1 And we've had -- we have basically failed,

- if you will, on our -- on our mission,
- 3 which is to provide comments and advice to
- 4 the commission on things that may affect
- 5 property that is owned by the city.
- 6 Clearly the zoning change is going to
- 7 affect property that affects the city and
- 8 yet our board hasn't had a change to even
- 9 consider it, analyze it, or even to be
- 10 able to fulfill our roll in providing
- advice or comments to the commission. If
- 12 we give them advice after they voted, I
- don't know, it's interesting but it has no
- impact.
- 15 MS. SARDINAS: Well, I would tell you
- 16 that I'm -- I'm more than happy to ask for
- 17 Mon to come before, if you -- if you want,
- but I believe the meeting is -- let me
- 19 see --
- MR. MANRARA: Because maybe we can
- 21 have a special meeting, Valerie, because
- 22 this is a significant items, there's a lot
- of community on this and --
- MS. SARDINAS: Yeah, the meeting
- happens the day before your meeting, so

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1 it's on the 9th --

2 MR. MANRARA: Yeah, it's --

3 MS. SARDINAS: -- and it's before

4 your meeting, so yes.

5 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Let me talk, I

6 guess, to Julian and Zeida and if -- and

7 what does the board think, does -- would

the board like a meeting prior to, to

9 discuss this?

10 MR. MAZZEI: Yes, I would suggest,

also, a zoning attorney give us some

thoughts from an independent standpoint.

13 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay.

Jonathan, do you have any comments?

MR. LEYVA: (Nods head.)

16 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: No. Do you --

one way or the other?

18 MR. LEYVA: No.

19 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay.

20 MS. SARDINAS: Okay. But a zoning

attorney, that is what -- an independent

zoning attorney, I don't know that I would

23 be able to -- to have an independent

24 zoning attorney. I mean, I would have to

25 have the city contract an independent

zoning attorney to come and what attorney

- would we contract that's --
- 3 MR. MANRARA: I don't know that I
- 4 would think that that would be as
- 5 important or necessary.
- 6 MS. SARDINAS: Staff?
- 7 MR. MANRARA: What I'm asking for us
- 8 to consider is what is the impact of the
- 9 property owned by the city, which is our
- mandate, that's what we're tasked to do.
- 11 Let's stay within the scope of who we are
- and what we're supposed to be doing.
- 13 And right now this thing is moving
- forward and we haven't even had the first
- 15 discussion about it. Maybe just bringing
- 16 -- you're talking about Ramon -- is it
- 17 Trias, the -- the gentleman from Planning
- 18 and Zoning?
- 19 MS. SARDINAS: Ramon Trias, yes.
- 20 MR. MANRARA: Trias.
- MS. SARDINAS: Yes.
- MR. MANRARA: You know, at a minimum
- let's hear what he says, he's going to
- have to some pros and cons, we can ask
- 25 him, and then maybe our board feels that

1 we can have some sort of solution, either

- 2 supporting some of the proposed changes or
- 3 maybe not supporting them. But right now,
- 4 we haven't done anything. We haven't said
- 5 anything.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Would we be
- 7 able to maybe move our meeting before that
- 8 -- that meeting and -- and change the
- 9 meeting date for that particular month?
- 10 MR. MAZZEI: Have a week before?
- 11 MS. SARDINAS: Yes.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Yeah,
- 13 basically.
- MS. SARDINAS: The issue is, is that
- in order for you to be able to do that you
- 16 need to take some sort of vote and we are
- 17 not in a position to -- to take. You
- 18 could -- I don't know what the provisions
- 19 are for you calling a special meeting
- 20 prior to the meeting that you have, so if
- 21 you let me just research that a little bit
- I'll get back to you guys.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay.
- MS. SARDINAS: And I will let you
- 25 know what -- what I need to do.

1 MR. MANRARA: Zeida, there is

- 2 precedent for us having special meetings.
- When they were considering that firehouse
- 4 on Cartajena Circle we had a special
- 5 meeting.
- 6 MS. SARDINAS: Right.
- 7 MR. MANRARA: Because it was -- it
- 8 was the city's interest that we reconsider
- 9 that and we voted to support it, yada
- 10 yada, so -- so it may be unusual but it's
- 11 not unheard of and we can do it.
- MS. SARDINAS: No, no, absolutely,
- any board can do that. I just don't know
- 14 -- I haven't read up on your procedure and
- 15 I don't know what -- what it is, so I just
- 16 need to --
- 17 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Research.
- MS. SARDINAS: -- to check that,
- 19 yeah, just real quick, on what -- what it
- 20 entails to do that.
- 21 If it's just something that the chair
- can do that they -- sometimes it's just a
- 23 matter of, you know, you can do it be
- email, have the chair call it or, you
- 25 know, I don't know. There's only four of

- 1 you here right now. And, again, we're not
- 2 meeting on --
- 3 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Officially.
- 4 MS. SARDINAS: -- so we don't have
- 5 quorum, we don't -- so I don't know -- I
- 6 don't know exactly what it entails.
- 7 It may be as simple as an email that
- 8 the chair wants to have a special meeting
- 9 and that's fine. Or another board member
- wants to call a special meeting and then
- 11 we'll see if we get -- and I can, you
- 12 know, send out emails and if everybody is
- 13 -- is on board with doing it we do it, so.
- MR. MANRARA: And I want to commit to
- participating in person, so that if we --
- MS. SARDINAS: But let me --
- MR. MANRARA: -- need in-person
- 18 numbers, you can count on me right now
- 19 that I will attend the meeting in person
- if that's what we're going to discuss.
- MR. MAZZEI: Me, also.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay.
- MS. SARDINAS: Okay. So I will -- I
- 24 will find that out.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay.

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1	MR. MANRARA: Thank you.
2	CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: I guess get
3	back to us, Zeida.
4	MS. SARDINAS: And get back to you,
5	yes.
6	CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Okay. Thank
7	you.
8	Okay. We're past our time, so
9	anybody else with anymore comments or
10	questions?
11	MR. MANRARA: I move adjournment.
12	CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Fabulous.
13	MR. MAZZEI: Second.
14	CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Great.
15	Thank you all. Appreciate it. Have
16	a wonderful day.
17	MS. SARDINAS: Thank you.
18	MR. MAZZEI: Thank you all.
19	CHAIRPERSON QUEMADA: Bye.
20	MS. SARDINAS: Bye-bye.
21	(Recording ended.)
22	
23	
24	
25	