CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

PROPERTY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

VIA TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 8:35 a.m. to 10:09 a.m.

Page 2 Property Advisory Board Members: 1 2 Valerie Quemada, Chairperson Jack Lowell, Vice Chair 3 Alberto Manrara 4 5 Edmund Mazzei 6 Jonathan Leyva 7 Nancy Pastor 8 9 10 Also Present: Julian Perez, Director of Economic Development 11 12 Zeida Sardinas, Asset Manager 13 Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant Economic Development Department 14 Ramon Trias, Director of Planning and Zoning 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 2.2 23 24 25

- 1 MR. LOWELL: All right, so we'll start the
- 2 meeting. Do we have minutes from the previous meeting?
- 3 MS. SARDINAS: Yes. We have minutes from two
- 4 previous meetings because we had not met quorum.
- 5 MR. LOWELL: Do we take them together, or do
- 6 you want to do them separately?
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: You can do them separate.
- 8 MR. LOWELL: So first date is -- why don't
- 9 you introduce the minutes, please?
- MS. SARDINAS: It's January 13th, the January
- 11 13th minutes are up for approval.
- MR. LOWELL: Perfect timing.
- MS. SARDINAS: Okay. For the purposes of the
- 14 minutes and the court reporter, Jonathan Leyva is here
- 15 now.
- 16 MR. LOWELL: All right. Do we have a motion
- 17 on the minutes?
- 18 MR. MANRARA: Well, I'd like to discuss about
- 19 the -- I didn't see minutes. I only saw one set of
- 20 minutes in the information that was sent, and it was the,
- 21 I guess, verbatim 37 pages of minutes, which, whew, I've
- 22 never seen that to be minutes of any meeting where you
- 23 have a verbatim report. This is a first one for me, and I
- 24 don't think that's a good thing to have, and I wish we had
- 25 known that that was going to happen, you know, before we

- 1 were presented with 37 pages of verbatim report as in a
- 2 court reporter.
- Minutes are generally very brief, often only
- 4 action items. I mean, imagine if the commission here in
- 5 Coral Gables presented verbatim minutes, all the things
- 6 that go back and forth between the commissioners and the
- 7 mayor, you know.
- 8 But relevant is the decision and perhaps some
- 9 points on the discussion that led to the decision, but
- 10 this whole back and forth, I don't know. I'm not
- 11 comfortable with that at all, and so I don't know how to
- 12 vote here. I only saw one package, one minutes.
- 13 MS. SARDINAS: The January 13th minutes --
- 14 and I'm sorry they weren't attached to your packet. I
- 15 didn't realize that, but they were in the minutes before.
- 16 It's just that last time we didn't meet quorum.
- 17 MR. MANRARA: Right, and so consequently, I
- 18 mean, who remembers -- I certainly don't remember those
- 19 minutes, so I couldn't vote on it.
- 20 MS. SARDINAS: Well, we did speak about them
- 21 in the last meeting, that if anybody had -- we reviewed
- 22 them in the sense that I remember Valerie specifically
- 23 reviewing the minutes and saying, "Does anybody have any
- 24 issues?" And at that point, you didn't.
- But if you don't feel comfortable, that's

- 1 fine. We can bring them back next time.
- 2 MR. MANRARA: That's my feeling. There's
- 3 lots of other people.
- 4 MR. LOWELL: What's the pleasure of the other
- 5 committee members? You want to defer this, or we vote on
- 6 it now?
- 7 MS. PASTOR: Me too.
- 8 MR. LOWELL: All right. I think the other
- 9 members of the committee are comfortable voting on those
- 10 particular minutes, so the motion has been made. It's
- 11 been seconded.
- MS. PASTOR: I second.
- MR. LOWELL: All right. All in favor, please
- 14 say aye.
- 15 (Thereupon, the board members responded accordingly.)
- 16 MR. LOWELL: All right. Next, the minutes --
- 17 MR. MANRARA: Wait. I did not vote in
- 18 favor --
- 19 THE COURT REPORTER: Wait, wait.
- MR. MANRARA: -- because I don't --
- 21 THE COURT REPORTER: Time out, time out.
- 22 MR. LOWELL: Are you abstaining from voting
- 23 no?
- MR. MANRARA: Well, I don't know, whatever
- 25 the proper record. I mean, abstaining, I don't know what

1 that means. I'm not ready to approve something I'm not

- 2 sure what I'm approving.
- MR. LOWELL: You're abstaining, okay, good.
- 4 Next section of minutes is --
- 5 (Reporter clarification.)
- 6 MR. LOWELL: Ed Mazzei made the motion.
- 7 MS. PASTOR: Nancy Pastor seconded.
- 8 MR. LOWELL: And everybody voted with one
- 9 exception favorably. Next section of minutes.
- 10 MS. SARDINAS: Okay. The next set of minutes
- 11 are the ones from the February 10th meeting, and those
- 12 were attached and are the ones that the court reporter did
- 13 off of the Zoom meeting that was held.
- MR. LOWELL: I presume your same comments
- 15 apply?
- 16 MR. MANRARA: Well, did you read all 37
- 17 pages?
- 18 MR. LOWELL: I didn't read Page One.
- 19 MR. MANRARA: Okay. Well, there were 37
- 20 pages attached or that's what it's purported to be, the
- 21 meeting, the minutes of the last meeting. It almost, it
- 22 defies the description of what minutes are, to present 37
- 23 pages.
- Julian, you know, I don't know what you're
- 25 doing with your other boards, but it just seems odd to me

- 1 that we would present minutes that are 37 pages that cover
- 2 all the discussion word by word verbatim.
- I don't know. I mean, I'm perplexed at this.
- 4 Who decides this, and why are we even having to deal with
- 5 it?
- 6 MR. PEREZ: Julian Perez, director of
- 7 economic development for the City of Coral Gables.
- 8 There's other committees -- I'm sorry.
- 9 There's other boards in the city that use the same
- 10 process. We are in a position right now in the department
- 11 where we're one person short. We are also undertaking
- 12 many other activities.
- For example, right now I'm involved with the
- 14 new maps that are coming out, flood plain management maps
- 15 that are coming out, the risk maps, and we just don't have
- 16 the resources at this time to be able to dedicate a
- 17 person.
- 18 MR. LOWELL: Will you have the resources to
- 19 present these minutes at our next meeting?
- MR. PEREZ: No, no, sir, not at this time.
- 21 We're one person short, and we are not in the process of
- 22 now replacing that position that we just lost, Jordan that
- 23 moved on, and you know, we need to use this process.
- And I understand what you're saying, but you
- 25 know, it's, what we're doing here is we're covering, you

- 1 know, the whole process here, so what can I tell you?
- 2 There's other boards that are using this same thing.
- 3 And to tell you the truth, it is a good
- 4 process. Why? Because everything that has been discussed
- 5 here is recorded. It's part of the record, and you are
- 6 making very important decisions as to, you know, our
- 7 city's assets, and we need to make sure that everything is
- 8 recorded so that two or three years from now when we have
- 9 an issue with property, something like that, we can easily
- 10 come back to those minutes and be able to track, and so
- 11 that's --
- 12 MR. LOWELL: So let me get this straight.
- 13 You have a recording of that meeting. You have a set of
- 14 minutes which exists. You don't have a copy for this
- 15 board. When will you have a copy for this board?
- 16 MS. SARDINAS: No, no. The minutes are
- 17 attached, Jack.
- 18 MR. PEREZ: The minutes are attached.
- 19 MR. LOWELL: The minutes are attached?
- MS. SARDINAS: Yes, they are.
- 21 MR. LOWELL: There were meeting minutes for
- 22 this meeting?
- MS. SARDINAS: What was not attached to your
- 24 package were the minutes from the January meeting.
- MR. LOWELL: Okay.

1 MS. SARDINAS: Because they were attached

- 2 during that meeting.
- 3 MR. LOWELL: We voted on that one, all right,
- 4 so the February minutes were attached to our minutes?
- 5 MS. SARDINAS: They are attached.
- 6 MR. LOWELL: They are attached?
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: Yes.
- 8 MR. LOWELL: 37 pages?
- 9 MS. SARDINAS: Yes, they are, because they're
- 10 verbatim, so what ends up happening is, is that I also
- 11 want to bring to everyone's attention, we are in a Zoom
- 12 meeting and we are recording the meeting, so the meeting
- 13 is recorded --
- MR. LOWELL: Understood.
- 15 MS. SARDINAS: -- of everything that is said,
- 16 and the minutes are basically a transcript of everything
- 17 that's been said in that recorded meeting, which is the
- 18 same thing that happens, more or less, in commission,
- 19 okay, that the meetings are recorded, video recorded. We
- 20 are being video recorded right now in Zoom.
- 21 MR. LOWELL: All right. That being said, are
- 22 the committee members comfortable voting on the set of
- 23 minutes?
- MR. MAZZEI: I am.
- MR. LEYVA: My comment on that --

1 MR. LOWELL: Ed Mazzei has moved to approve

- 2 those minutes. Do we have a second?
- 3 MR. LEYVA: I have a second and a comment --
- 4 MR. LOWELL: Please make your comment.
- 5 MR. LEYVA: -- for my fellow committee
- 6 members. This is a public hearing. You know, I don't
- 7 think we discussed anything controversial. We speak to
- 8 the topic, and our thoughts are part of what is public
- 9 domain, so I have no issues with verbatim minutes as is
- 10 customary on other boards. I think that, I hope that
- 11 other members agree.
- MR. LOWELL: Any corrections, changes or
- 13 additions to the minutes? All in favor, please say aye.
- MS. PASTOR: I just want to change that I was
- 15 present at the last meeting.
- 16 MS. SARDINAS: It was reflected, right,
- 17 Yenisis? We ended up fixing it.
- MS. GOMEZ: Yes, yes.
- 19 MS. SARDINAS: And updating the minutes.
- 20 MS. GOMEZ: It was updated on the calendar.
- 21 (Inaudible).
- 22 MR. LOWELL: All right. So all in favor,
- 23 please say aye.
- 24 (Thereupon, the board members responded accordingly.)
- MR. LOWELL: All opposed?

1 MR. MANRARA: I am voting against having

- verbatim minutes. It's crazy.
- 3 MR. LOWELL: Okay, so one negative vote and
- 4 it passes. All right.
- 5 Next we're moving to Miracle Mile zoning
- 6 update, the noncontroversial zoning update. We're down to
- 7 four stories. Are you going further lower?
- 8 MR. TRIAS: Well, no. Actually that's what,
- 9 where we are right now, so as you have said, it's
- 10 completely noncontroversial. Nobody had any issues.
- 11 I'm here to answer any question you may have. We've had
- 12 many meetings --
- MS. GOMEZ: Hold on. The court reporter --
- 14 you need him to introduce himself?
- 15 THE COURT REPORTER: Yes.
- 16 MR. TRIAS: My name is Ramon Trias, and I
- 17 work here. I'm the head of planning in the city.
- 18 As you know, we've had many, many public
- 19 meetings recently. Some of them have been more extensive
- 20 than others.
- We had one last night, we had the first
- 22 reading of the final consensus idea that the commission
- 23 decided to vote, and generally speaking, it's four stories
- in height and 50 feet, the same FAR as there is now, which
- is three, or 3.5 for Mediterranean Bonus Level Two, and

- 1 the only practical way to achieve all of this is to have
- 2 remote parking, which they also, they also agreed on.

3

- 4 So there's remote parking that allows to have
- 5 the building be just the actual square footage of the
- 6 building, no parking on Miracle Mile.
- 7 And then the four-story, there's an emphasis
- 8 on having a set-back to be able to have terraces to have,
- 9 for example, outdoor restaurants and those types of
- 10 activities further up in the building.
- 11 So those are the main ideas that came out at
- 12 the end, so if you have any questions or any issues.
- 13 MR. LOWELL: Yes. So can you explain the
- 14 parking provisions, specifically how many, how much
- 15 parking and how close does it have to be to the site?
- 16 MR. TRIAS: Yeah. The "how much" hasn't
- 17 really changed, and that's something that fluctuated a
- 18 little bit through the discussion, but at the end, at the
- 19 end the commission decided to keep the same parking
- 20 requirements for hotels, which in our code are called
- 21 overnight accommodations, office, so that doesn't change.
- 22 However, what you can do is have the same
- 23 number of parking spaces located within 1,000 feet of the
- 24 building, so if you find, and you're able to find parking
- 25 spaces from someone, you can enter into some lease, for

- 1 example, of those spaces.
- 2 Alternatively there's also what we call
- 3 parking in -- payment in lieu, which is that you can make
- 4 a payment, and I think that the final amount was \$5,500
- 5 per space, again, the same number of spaces, but instead
- 6 of actually finding some other location, you can make a
- 7 payment to the parking department of the city. The
- 8 idea --
- 9 MR. LOWELL: Is it a one-time payment that
- 10 lasts forever?
- 11 MR. TRIAS: Yeah, and the idea is that then
- 12 the parking department will use that money to build
- 13 parking garages and other facilities within the vicinity,
- 14 so that's the big-picture idea.
- The biggest change I think, at least from my
- 16 perspective, is that now one can develop smaller
- 17 buildings. What do I mean by that?
- Well, most of the buildings that have been
- 19 built or most of the projects that have been proposed
- 20 tended to be very large, so only one surprise here and
- 21 there and so on. Now it's going to be much easier to do
- 22 more buildings closer together.
- 23 MR. LOWELL: So the current cost of a new
- 24 parking space in most structures is in excess of \$30,000,
- 25 so 5,500 bucks -- that's the number?

1 MR. TRIAS: Yeah, and that number is based on

- 2 a variety of analyses that were done by a consultant that
- 3 have to do with the economics of parking.
- 4 MR. LOWELL: Is there any limit on the number
- of spaces you can pay for as opposed to build?
- 6 MR. TRIAS: No. There's no upper limit.
- 7 MR. LOWELL: But aren't you going to get a
- 8 rush of developers coming in to pay the parking fee?
- 9 MR. TRIAS: Possibly.
- MR. MANRARA: But what right do they get by
- 11 paying that? What right do they get by paying that?
- 12 MR. TRIAS: The development of the four-story
- 13 building.
- MR. MANRARA: But they don't get parking
- 15 spaces somewhere?
- MR. TRIAS: No, no.
- 17 MR. MANRARA: Okay. So it just gives them --
- 18 and so they can develop higher than four floors, or?
- 19 MR. TRIAS: No. That's within the four-floor
- 20 limit that's being established, yes.
- 21 MR. MANRARA: And could you, Mr. Trias, could
- 22 you update us, what do we have now; what is the change;
- and why are we doing the change?
- MR. TRIAS: Well, that's a very interesting
- 25 question, what we have now because what we have now is we

- 1 have an overlay that allows six stories and 70 feet and a
- 2 few other things. I mean, not everybody can do it.
- 3 So basically what happens is that when you
- 4 include all those other regulations like the minimum width
- of the parcel has to be 200 feet, et cetera, there's only
- 6 a few parcels that can really be developed like that, so
- 7 even though, even though the discussion has been about,
- 8 about the six stories and 70 feet, et cetera, the reality
- 9 is that the regulations are very complicated.
- 10 So one of the consequences of that is that
- 11 there's another regulation that says if you build up to
- 12 1.45 FAR -- FAR as you know, one means the same area as
- 13 the site, so 1.45 in theory is a little bit more than one
- 14 story, but not really because who is going to do a one and
- 15 a half stories, right? If you do up to 1.45 FAR, you
- 16 don't have to provide parking. So what is the consequence
- 17 of that?
- 18 Well, you can do a one-story restaurant, for
- 19 example, without providing parking relatively easily.
- 20 It's very difficult to do anything different than a
- 21 one-story building because it encourages the assemblage of
- 22 a larger parcel.
- So what happens is that what you have on
- 24 Miracle Mile, which many people like and I think there's
- 25 nothing objectionable about it, is that the one-story

- 1 buildings that date mostly from the 1940s and '50s, the
- 2 majority of them do, basically are the best use with the
- 3 code as it was prior to that.
- 4 So the change I think allows for some
- 5 potential development of the smaller increment, of the
- 6 smaller 2,500-square-foot or 5,000-square-foot parcel,
- 7 which right now the only way to develop it is, is
- 8 basically with one-story buildings, from a practical point
- 9 of view.
- 10 Those are the issues that I think all of you
- 11 as very sophisticated real estate professionals understand
- 12 very well, and what has happened is that Miracle Mile, as
- 13 you well know, Merrick built a couple of buildings,
- 14 including the Colonnade, which is a fantastic building.
- 15 However, The Mile didn't really develop until the 1940s or
- 16 so, so it's not part of that early era, early history of
- 17 the city.
- 18 So what has happened is that it developed
- 19 very well for that time, and now we're trying to see what
- 20 the future could be, and that has led to a lot of
- 21 discussion, that has led to a lot of discussion, and the
- 22 last time there was significant discussion was 2001, which
- 23 is when that overlay with the six stories and 70 feet was
- 24 introduced. That was a result of the 10 Aragon and 55
- 25 Miracle Mile building, the very first big building close

- 1 to Douglas which was built at that time, that's when the
- 2 discussion took place.
- 3 MR. LOWELL: Do you support this current code
- 4 change?
- 5 MR. TRIAS: Yes. I think, I think it's very
- 6 good, and I think that the most important thing is that it
- 7 really clarifies what The Mile should be, it is to be,
- 8 because there were some other contradictory regulations
- 9 that we have through the years within the comprehensive
- 10 plan.
- 11 MR. LOWELL: Mr. Mazzei has a question.
- MR. TRIAS: Yes.
- MS. GOMEZ: We can't hear Ed.
- 14 MR. MAZZEI: Ed Mazzei. What I understand is
- 15 there is no addition Mediterranean feature for raising the
- 16 height. Is that correct?
- 17 MR. TRIAS: Yeah. What it is, is that the
- 18 Mediterranean bonus for height does not apply, so it's
- 19 four stories.
- MR. MAZZEI: Yes. Thank you.
- 21 MR. TRIAS: However, for the 3.5 FAR, you do
- 22 have to do the Mediterranean bonus. Otherwise, we give
- 23 them 3.0 FAR.
- MR. LOWELL: So a normally 3.0 FAR --
- MR. TRIAS: Yes.

1 MR. LOWELL: -- with Mediterranean design

- 2 changes, you can get 3.5?
- 3 MR. TRIAS: Yes, and that's already in the
- 4 code. That was not changed. That was also some of the
- 5 discussion that took place, whether to change it or not,
- 6 but that remained as is.
- 7 MR. MANRARA: Do the zoning changes include
- 8 things like requirements that the ground floor be retail
- 9 or that arcades which are mandated in other buildings also
- 10 be included for Miracle Mile?
- MR. TRIAS: Actually, arcades, that's a good
- 12 point because arcades were removed from Miracle Mile in
- order to encourage better retail frontage, so that's one
- one of the changes that were made.
- In terms of requirements of retail exactly,
- 16 we don't have that precise language, but I think, I think
- 17 it's clearly encouraged because right now it's a mixed use
- 18 land use -- I'm sorry, mixed use zoning which clearly
- 19 implies that the ground level is not going to be anything
- 20 but retail, or you know, those types of activities.
- 21 MR. MANRARA: The point where the arcades are
- 22 specifically removed, you would think it would be the area
- 23 where you want pedestrians to be able to walk, not be
- 24 exposed to the heat of the sun or the rain.
- MR. TRIAS: Yes, no, that's a very good

- 1 question which has been a source of discussion for a
- 2 while. Generally speaking, what you're saying makes a lot
- 3 of sense in most of the city.
- 4 However, when you try to do a 100 percent
- 5 retail frontage like Miracle Mile, the arcade is not the
- 6 best architectural solution for the retail store fronts.
- 7 For example, if you look at The Plaza
- 8 development that's being built on Ponce de Leon, it has
- 9 arcades, but not in the retail frontage, so it's a matter
- 10 of being strategic about about where to do it.
- 11 Now, that doesn't mean that the retail
- 12 frontage doesn't have awnings or other things that provide
- 13 some protection for the pedestrians, and in addition, as
- 14 you well know, the project, streetscape project was
- 15 designed in such a way that it encourages the growth of
- 16 the live oaks and so on to provide shade.
- 17 It's a very, it's a very delicate balance to
- 18 achieve the quality of the frontage and the exposure of
- 19 the retail needs and the comfort of the pedestrian, so
- 20 that's what we're trying to achieve on a case-by-case
- 21 basis.
- So in this case, only in Miracle Mile, that
- 23 was the choice that was made.
- MR. MANRARA: But when you say arcades are
- 25 not good for retail, is this like a scientific study

- 1 that's been done, that if you have arcades, sales per
- 2 square foot are less, and if you don't have an arcade,
- 3 sales per square foot are greater and the public has
- 4 greater visibility, or is this just a subjective decision?
- 5 Because I have found that the city's use of
- 6 arcades, for example, if you walk along Alhambra on the
- 7 south side of the street between Salzedo and Ponce de
- 8 Leon, there are retail businesses there and you can walk
- 9 through the arcades and it's very pleasant.
- 10 And anybody who has been to Europe is used to
- 11 seeing a lot of arcades in a lot of retail areas, which is
- 12 one of the things I thought originally when arcades were
- 13 mandated was one of the things the city was trying to
- 14 promote, was that kind of feel.
- 15 And for you to say that arcades are
- 16 detrimental to retail is surprising, particularly given
- 17 our climate. I'm perplexed.
- 18 MR. TRIAS: Well, that's exactly what I'm
- 19 saying, and what happens is that that is the result of
- 20 research. I don't have it with me right now, but
- 21 certainly that has been the testimony of some of the
- 22 experts that have been actually your experts in the
- 23 department of economic development.
- Now, I am not saying arcades are bad, no.
- 25 Arcades work fine. In fact, some of the great cities, one

- 1 of the great cities that has arcades all over the place is
- 2 the City of Havana, for example, a classic city that has
- 3 arcades, has beautiful arcades all over the place.
- 4 Arcades are a good thing.
- 5 However, in this particular situation which
- 6 is mostly a 1940s modern, "modern" for lack of a better
- 7 word, design is not Mediterranean except for the Colonnade
- 8 and so on. That is the nature of the street.
- 9 I mean, when we do design, architecture or
- 10 urban design, we try to look at the specifics of each
- 11 case. The more we do that, the better the quality is
- 12 going to be.
- 13 In this case we had a long discussion on
- 14 this, and we looked at the existing conditions, and it
- 15 certainly was our judgment that arcades were not the best
- 16 solution for Miracle Mile.
- 17 Now, they are the best solution in many
- 18 places in Coral Gables, I'm not saying they're not, but in
- 19 Miracle Mile, it just didn't seem to be the right
- 20 approach.
- 21 Now, if we're wrong, certainly in the future
- 22 the policy could change. I mean, that's the good thing
- 23 about zoning. Zoning is a work in progress, and certainly
- 24 hopefully we all learn from the history of the place.
- MR. LOWELL: So if a developer wanted to

1 provide an arcade in front of their property, they could

- 2 do so?
- 3 MR. TRIAS: Not on Miracle Mile as we have
- 4 today. I suppose that there could be some variance
- 5 process in theory that one could go through, but that is
- 6 not, that is not what is encouraged.
- 7 MR. LOWELL: Are there questions from the
- 8 committee?
- 9 MR. MAZZEI: Yeah. Ramon, is there anything
- 10 in the zoning change or anything in the city plans to
- 11 upgrade the alleys, behind the buildings on both sides,
- 12 which are in horrible condition?
- MR. TRIAS: Well, that's really not a zoning
- 14 issue, but certainly we can look into it as part of the
- 15 ongoing public works program. I think that some, some
- 16 have been enhanced and some will have to be enhanced,
- 17 particularly once the multi-model garage structure is
- 18 built, access, part of the access is going to be through
- 19 the alley.
- 20 One of the, one of the great things, also
- 21 another thing about Miracle Mile is that, and that was
- 22 already in the code, it's prohibited to have curb cuts,
- 23 you know, to have a 100 percent pedestrian area, so what
- 24 does that mean?
- 25 Well, that means that you need an alley, you

- 1 need to have, to be able to have access from behind, so
- 2 that's one of the great things of the legacy of Merrick's
- 3 plan. We have an alley, we have alleys all over the
- 4 place. It was very well thought out.
- 5 Our job is to make sure that they work well.
- 6 Our job is to make sure that they are up to standards and
- 7 so on.
- 8 So I mean, one of the nice things about my
- 9 job is that it's relatively easy because Merrick did such
- 10 a good job, and so as long as we keep going in that
- 11 direction, I think we'll be fine.
- 12 MR. MANRARA: I wanted to ask you, the hotel
- 13 that was being discussed for the corner of Miracle Mile
- 14 and Ponce that was very, very controversial because of
- 15 parking and other things, how is it affected by this
- 16 proposed zoning change that is coming through?
- 17 MR. TRIAS: Well, that project was withdrawn
- 18 so it's not, at this point it's not being reviewed.
- 19 However, if it were to be proposed again, it
- 20 could not have been four stories. That's the biggest
- 21 change that I can see.
- 22 MR. MANRARA: And the parking question has
- 23 been removed?
- MR. TRIAS: Yes. The parking question would
- 25 be allowed. In other words, they would be allowed to have

- 1 parking remotely.
- 2 MR. LOWELL: And the access off the alley,
- 3 that was the other controversy.
- 4 MR. TRIAS: That would be allowed too.
- 5 MR. LOWELL: Okay. Other questions from the
- 6 committee members?
- 7 MR. LEYVA: Yeah, I have a question. Zeida
- 8 I think this is more for you. How do the zoning changes
- 9 affect city property in Miracle Mile?
- 10 MS. SARDINAS: Well, I think it's important
- 11 to realize that, and Ramon can help me also here, so the
- 12 city-owned property on Miracle Mile basically encompasses
- 13 from the Ortanique space, the Miracle Theatre building,
- 14 which is a historical building --
- MR. LOWELL: Yes.
- MS. SARDINAS: -- and then the three store
- 17 fronts that we have, which is Haagen Dazs, the little
- 18 boutique that is now a little art gallery that we have
- 19 going on there, pop up, and Starbucks.
- In reality, you know, I mean, anything can
- 21 happen, but I highly doubt that the Miracle Theatre as a
- 22 historic property would ever be, the city would ever
- 23 reconsider redeveloping that property in any way, so as
- 24 far as that's concerned or the other building is actually
- 25 right attached to it.

1 So zoning change to affect the city to that

- 2 parcel, yes, it gives it a certain by right, you know,
- 3 ability to be redeveloped, but I highly doubt that the
- 4 city would ever consider -- I mean, who knows what is
- 5 going to happen ten years from now, right? But at this
- 6 time it doesn't --
- 7 MR. LOWELL: Yes. So the city has an
- 8 interesting code arrangement for historic properties so
- 9 they can transfer the development rights. Armando Codina
- 10 has used this a number of times. Is that possible with
- 11 the Miracle Theatre?
- 12 MS. SARDINAS: It is, but it's, the city
- 13 hasn't done that up to now. It doesn't mean we won't, but
- 14 we have not sold TDRs up to now.
- MR. TRIAS: Well, and I would make a policy
- 16 comment on this.
- 17 Whenever a city does that, then the transfer
- 18 of development rights program, which is a market-driven
- 19 program, basically doesn't work anymore, so it would not
- 20 be advisable for the city, for the public sector of any
- 21 city to participate in that TDR program, and that's a
- 22 clearly established principle in terms of decisions.
- MR. LOWELL: Explain that more, because I
- 24 think if you provide the funding to preserve the
- 25 historical property, it should work.

1 MR. TRIAS: Well, what I'm saying is that the

- 2 TDR, TDRs as a program, as you mentioned, Armando Codina,
- 3 for example, a few others, it happens -- it doesn't happen
- 4 very often, and most of the time it happens within
- 5 properties owned by the same party, so the TDR programs
- 6 are very, very -- are a fairly minor aspect of
- 7 redevelopment.
- 8 If you infuse the fact that, if you introduce
- 9 the public sector into that discussion, then the market
- 10 forces don't work as well anymore, so I frankly, if
- 11 somebody will ask for my advice, I would advise against
- 12 participating in that.
- 13 MR. LOWELL: There goes my idea for the
- 14 Miracle Theatre.
- 15 MR. TRIAS: It's a good idea if we had -- if
- 16 the program was different than what it really is in terms
- 17 of that, it would be a great idea.
- 18 MR. LOWELL: Other questions from the
- 19 committee members? We're done?
- 20 Thank you very much. Thanks for all your
- 21 efforts. I know this has been a tedious process, and Mike
- 22 Mena did a great job coming up with a compromise I think.
- MR. TRIAS: Absolutely. We had, and we were
- 24 lucky to have hundreds of people who participated, and the
- leadership of the planning and zoning board and the

1 commission were really, really helpful on this, so we're

- 2 almost at the end. Thank you, thank you very much.
- 3 MR. LOWELL: Thank you for coming, Ramon.
- 4 MR. TRIAS: Thank you.
- 5 MS. SARDINAS: So since we brought up the
- 6 Miracle Theatre, I wanted to just bring to your attention,
- 7 yesterday there was an item in the commission agenda that
- 8 was actually placed on the agenda by a commissioner, which
- 9 was Commissioner Fors.
- 10 He put an item on the agenda to extend -- so
- 11 the Miracle Theatre had a lease that had been extended
- 12 through 2030, and they had an option to renew that lease
- 13 365 days before, so in 2029, April 12th of 2029, they
- 14 would have been allowed to renew that lease for another
- 15 ten years, and that would have been the end of their
- 16 options. Right?
- 17 Because they had an original 25-year term,
- 18 20-year term, and then five years that added, then ten and
- 19 ten, okay, which they have already exercised, one ten
- 20 years, so that was the one that was left.
- 21 So what they were asking for, what the
- 22 commissioner was asking, asked the commission to support
- 23 him and it passed unanimously, was to extend their lease;
- 24 in other words, allow them to exercise the option early,
- and so their lease has now been extended to 2040.

In addition to that, we've also given them an

- 2 additional option for ten more years through 2050 which
- 3 they can exercise in 2039. That option is at the city's
- 4 -- you know, in other words, the city will review and it's
- 5 totally at our discretion, so they would put in for the
- 6 option, and at that point we could reevaluate what we
- 7 think at that point, of course, talking about 2039, and
- 8 then the city could at that point decide whether they
- 9 would want to let them exercise that option or not.
- 10 But so that went on yesterday in the agenda
- 11 that was placed on by Commissioner Fors, and it did pass
- 12 unanimously.
- MR. LEYVA: Can you define who "they is?
- MS. SARDINAS: I'm sorry?
- MR. LEYVA: Who "they" is?
- MS. SARDINAS: "They"?
- 17 MR. LEYVA: Because you kept referring to
- 18 "they." Are you talking about --
- 19 MS. SARDINAS: Oh, the rest the commission.
- MR. LEYVA: No, no. I'm saying I'm assuming
- 21 the tenant. Who is the tenant?
- 22 MS. SARDINAS: The tenant which is Actors
- 23 Playhouse, yes.
- MR. LEYVA: Actors Playhouse.
- MS. SARDINAS: Actors Playhouse, so.

1 MR. LOWELL: Are there any conditions to

- 2 those changes to the ownership of the Miracle Theatre
- 3 lease?
- 4 MS. SARDINAS: No. There is, there are
- 5 clauses in that lease, and I can get it to you, Jack, if
- 6 you want to take a look at it with respect to assignment,
- 7 and we have to approve any sort of assignment of that
- 8 lease.
- 9 MR. LOWELL: Do you think there are
- 10 sufficient protections in that lease?
- MS. SARDINAS: I'm sorry, that there are
- 12 what?
- MR. LOWELL: Do you think there are
- 14 sufficient protections for the city in that lease?
- 15 MS. SARDINAS: Yes, yes, absolutely, but
- 16 i mean, I'm happy to send them to you and you can look at
- 17 all the amendments if you'd like.
- MR. MANRARA: Zeida, dear, I'm a little
- 19 perplexed. A lease of -- what was the original expiration
- 20 lease with all the extensions?
- 21 MS. SARDINAS: So they started their lease in
- 22 19 --
- MR. MANRARA: No, no, but what is the
- 24 expiration? Before the commission meeting yesterday,
- 25 where did things stand?

- 1 MS. SARDINAS: 2030.
- 2 MR. MANRARA: 2030?
- 3 MS. SARDINAS: 2030, yes.
- 4 MR. MANRARA: Okay, and, but, 2030, but they
- 5 still had a ten-year --
- 6 MS. SARDINAS: Option, yes.
- 7 MR. MANRARA: -- options, and technically if
- 8 they took all the options, they could go to 2040?
- 9 MS. SARDINAS: Yes.
- 10 MR. MANRARA: And you said something that I
- 11 found -- maybe I misunderstood. The option right is all
- 12 for the tenant, the city cannot -- doesn't approve the
- 13 options?
- MS. SARDINAS: So usually in a lease when you
- 15 have an option, there are certain -- there are all kinds,
- 16 okay, but there's, the way that you like to have them in
- 17 the public -- in the private world is, is that you, in the
- 18 private world, that you provide an option to a tenant, and
- 19 the tenant, unless they are in default and everything
- 20 else, and in the public world it works as well, they,
- 21 unless they're in default or they've done some breach of
- 22 the contract in some way throughout that term that they
- 23 already have, then you can refuse to grant the option.
- 24 At that point the landlord can say, "You know
- 25 what? You've been in default, you've had these issues,

- 1 and we are not granting your option."
- 2 That is basically what is in the Miracle
- 3 Theatre, the language that is in the option, the option
- 4 language that is in the renewals.
- 5 So what we did is we said we would extend the
- 6 lease. We would allow them to exercise that option early,
- 7 so now their lease has been extended to 2040, and we
- 8 allowed them an extra option, but we allowed the option
- 9 that it has to be mutually agreeable.
- 10 In other words, for any reason, the city at
- 11 that point can say, "No, I don't want to renew with you.
- 12 I don't want to let you have this option."
- MR. MANRARA: So one year before the end of
- 14 19 -- of 2040, they need to indicate their intention of
- 15 taking it another ten years, at which time then the city
- 16 can decide --
- MS. SARDINAS: (Inaudible) days.
- 18 MR. MANRARA: -- for no reason at all,
- 19 basically, "No, it's not -- we don't want you to go until
- 20 2050."
- 21 And the reason this comes up yesterday as
- 22 almost like an item that parachutes into here, bypassing
- 23 the entire property advisory board, what was it, an
- 24 emergency --
- MS. SARDINAS: No. The commissioners --

1 MR. MANRARA: -- that this needed to happen?

- 2 MS. SARDINAS: -- the commissioners have a
- 3 right to put items --
- 4 MR. MANRARA: No, no, I know, but the
- 5 commissioners also have set up a property advisory board.
- 6 I mean, what are we doing here this morning?
- 7 Of course, the commission can do anything
- 8 within its power and no one is going to remove that, but
- 9 sometimes you have emergency items that need to be acted
- 10 upon, and then you do them and everybody moves forward.
- 11 But something having to do with a lease
- 12 that's going to expire in 2040 challenges my concept of
- 13 "emergency," and I'm wondering what your department is
- 14 saying to the commission when this is going to come up.
- 15 You say, "Well, Mr. Commission, do you know
- 16 that we have a property advisory board and you have
- 17 appointed them to look at these things and then give a
- 18 recommendation to the commission before you make a
- 19 choice?"
- 20 MS. SARDINAS: Well, the code allows the
- 21 commission to waive all of that process. They have the
- 22 power to do it, so.
- MR. MANRARA: I know, I know, but, but, but
- 24 why? What was the urgency here?
- 25 MS. SARDINAS: Well, that question is a

- 1 question for Commissioner Fors, not for me, because --
- 2 MR. MANRARA: Well, who speaks then from your
- 3 department for the function of the property advisory
- 4 board? There may have been other boards, maybe the
- 5 economic development board may have had some, you know,
- 6 commentary on this matter also. I don't know. I'm --
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: There are three boards that
- 8 have oversight over leases: Yours, property; economic
- 9 development and budget; and the budget and audit board,
- 10 so.
- 11 But like I said, the commissioner has the
- 12 right to place an item on the agenda, and they have the
- 13 right to waive that entire process if they so choose,
- 14 especially with a unanimous vote.
- MR. MANRARA: Did they provide a
- 16 justification for why this was being put on the agenda at
- 17 this time?
- MS. SARDINAS: I'm not --
- 19 MR. LOWELL: The commissioner doesn't have to
- 20 do that.
- MS. SARDINAS: It just happened.
- MR. LOWELL: So now that this has been
- 23 approved in principle, the documentation has to be done by
- 24 your department or by the city attorney's office, right?
- MS. SARDINAS: Yes.

- 1 MR. LOWELL: All right.
- MS. SARDINAS: The amendment was already
- 3 sent to the tenant, and so it's been, it's been, it's
- 4 been, it's been approved by the commission, so
- 5 basically --
- 6 MR. LOWELL: So the amendment was already --
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: -- the signatures now that
- 8 will go through --
- 9 MR. LOWELL: So an amendment, lease amendment
- 10 was already prepared by the city attorney?
- MS. SARDINAS: We had to prepare it for the
- 12 meeting, yes.
- MR. LOWELL: Okay.
- MR. LEYVA: I have a question. Do, does, do
- 15 the options contemplate increases on a year-by-year basis,
- 16 or is it a flat rate over time?
- 17 MS. SARDINAS: No. The Miracle Theatre,
- 18 doesn't pay rent. The Miracle Theatre, the organization,
- 19 Actors Playhouse, does not pay rent. They reimburse the
- 20 city for and the insurance costs of insuring the building,
- 21 but they do not pay rent.
- 22 They have certain other obligations with
- 23 respect to their lease, which is the programming, the way
- 24 they run, all of these things that they obviously abide
- 25 by, but they do not pay rent, so there is no -- and they

1 do, if the insurance increases, obviously they reimburse

- 2 the city. It's a pass-through, but.
- 3 MR. LOWELL: Do you know if the tenant had
- 4 approached Commissioner Fors about sponsoring this?
- 5 MS. SARDINAS: Did the tenant approach
- 6 Commissioner Fors?
- 7 MR. LOWELL: Yes.
- 8 MS. SARDINAS: Yes, I'm sure they did.
- 9 MR. LOWELL: Okay. So this was done at their
- 10 behest?
- MS. SARDINAS: Yes.
- 12 MR. LOWELL: And I'm somewhat concerned the
- 13 way my fellow committee members are about skipping this
- 14 committee.
- 15 All right. Do we want to do anything
- 16 formally about this?
- 17 MR. LEYVA: Can I comment? Understood 100
- 18 percent, Alberto, but we are appointed by the commission
- 19 to act as they need us to.
- 20 If the commission decides that they don't
- 21 need us and they decide to vote on the subject and they
- 22 feel that they have enough information on it, I have
- 23 absolutely no problem, you know, that's their job, and so
- 24 I have nothing to vote on. I think that they acted
- 25 accordingly as they saw fit.

1 MR. LOWELL: Any other comment by committee

- 2 members? Yes, Ed.
- 3 MR. MAZZEI: Yes, Ed Mazzei. I for the life
- 4 of me can't understand why this had to happen immediately
- or sooner, and I would remind everybody beyond this board
- 6 that we exist for a purpose and that we need to be
- 7 involved and aware so we can advise the city which is our
- 8 charge.
- 9 MS. SARDINAS: I just, I want to make one
- 10 more statement in all fairness, and I do because it was
- 11 made yesterday about -- and Commissioner Fors explained
- 12 it, what he -- and you're welcome to look at the tape so
- 13 you could see.
- 14 The issue of extension of lease was just not
- 15 a matter of extending the lease. The Actors Playhouse
- 16 survives basically on grants and donations to the theater;
- 17 in other words, the ticket sales that they actually -- and
- 18 we actually, that was verified through their financial
- 19 statements that they provided and everything else and that
- 20 they provide the city.
- 21 They do not, they do not make enough from the
- 22 ticket sales to cover all of the expenses that they have
- 23 in order to be able to keep their operation running. They
- 24 depend a lot on state, county and art organization grants
- 25 that they apply for, and also for their fundraising, their

- 1 private fundraising and the things that they do.
- 2 So I think the reason, and I did speak to
- 3 Barbara Stein which is the director of Actors Playhouse,
- 4 the reason why she feels that this is something that was
- 5 necessary is because she feels that when she goes with
- 6 this kind of an assurance that she has a lease now that is
- 7 through 2040, okay, that she is able to get donors that
- 8 are more willing to put in because it's seen as a more
- 9 stable institution, right, that has an actual lease and a
- 10 place to operate for a certain, for a longer period of
- 11 time, and that with that, she is able to raise.
- 12 You know, we do have to understand that we're
- 13 very lucky in Coral Gables to have this particular
- 14 theater. There's not communities throughout that have it.
- 15 It is, they do do quality work. They have
- 16 Actors Guild-level performances that they put, which is
- 17 you know, kind of like an off-Broadway type of -- and they
- 18 do provide all kinds of ancillary economic development
- 19 that comes across. Obviously they're not operating right
- 20 now because of COVID and everything else, but they do
- 21 that.
- 22 So we took -- that was part of what went into
- 23 what the commissioner explained, so she is in the process
- 24 also of constantly applying for these grants and for these
- 25 donations that she's trying to get into her fund in order

1 to be able to continue to operate, and that is what she

- 2 wanted, the --
- MR. LOWELL: So since I have nothing to do,
- 4 I'm going to ask you to send me a copy of the lease in
- 5 hard copy. I would particularly be interested in the use
- 6 provision and what change in use can be made just at the
- 7 whim of the tenant, because if I can switch this to a
- 8 CrossFit exercise facility or a bordello or something more
- 9 remunerative, I might do it.
- 10 MS. SARDINAS: There isn't. That was spelled
- 11 out very precisely.
- MR. LOWELL: The use clause is pretty well --
- MS. SARDINAS: I do, but I'll send it to you,
- 14 Jack.
- MR. LOWELL: Yeah, I'd like to read it.
- 16 MS. SARDINAS: That's fine. I'll send you
- 17 those and the amended.
- 18 MR. LOWELL: Thank you so much. Okay. Any
- 19 other questions?
- MS. PASTOR: No. I would have to bet that
- 21 that is subject to city approval, at least that part you
- 22 would think.
- MR. LOWELL: Maybe. All right. We'll pass
- 24 on to the next.
- MS. SARDINAS: Okay. So let's go on to the

- 1 action item that I had talked to you guys about.
- MR. LOWELL: Yeah, Ed, so one more question
- 3 from Mr. Mazzei.
- 4 MR. MAZZEI: Just a comment.
- 5 MS. SARDINAS: Yes.
- 6 MR. MAZZEI: I'm going to have to leave at
- 7 10:00 or a little bit after, 10:05 maybe at the latest,
- 8 so.
- 9 MS. SARDINAS: Okay. This shouldn't take
- 10 very long at all.
- 11 MR. MAZZEI: All right. Thank you.
- MS. SARDINAS: Okay. So I sent you all of
- 13 the paperwork that backs up the item. I only printed out
- 14 the presentation here, but I would like to be able to just
- 15 run you real quick through what this is.
- 16 So this is a surface area parking lot that
- 17 has 34 spaces. It's at 350 Greco Avenue which borders Le
- 18 Jeune Road. It's the parking lot, the surface area
- 19 parking lot that is across the street from Havana Harry's.
- 20 I'm sure you guys have seen it.
- The lot is 13,343 square feet. It has got a
- 22 future land classification of commercial low rise
- 23 intensity. It has commercial zoning, and it is in the
- 24 south industrial mixed use district overlay.
- In May of 2019, given the location of the

- 1 property, and the city had been approached by several
- 2 developers to purchase the property, the commission at
- 3 that point, because the city had been approached by
- 4 developers, because the property was located in proximity
- 5 to major streets such as Le Jeune, Bird Road and Ponce,
- 6 and because the sale of the development would provide an
- 7 opportunity for there to be better development in that
- 8 area, the city has an interest also in activating the area
- 9 to foster more economic development, the commission passed
- 10 a resolution directing the city manager to evaluate
- 11 options for the sale and development of the property and
- 12 to provide recommendations to the commission on how to
- 13 achieve that.
- So we were approached at that time by the
- owners of the two adjacent lots to the south of the
- 16 parking lot, and they expressed an interest in purchasing
- 17 the property from the city, which -- so we went ahead and
- 18 contracted for an appraisal.
- 19 At that time the city provided the appraiser
- 20 with a zoning verification letter from the adjacent lots
- 21 and from our property, and the reason for that is that we
- 22 wanted to see if our property made a difference, according
- 23 to the way that the property was zoned and what the land
- 24 use was, in order to be able to -- what kind of value did
- 25 it have it, did it actually add something that allowed

- 1 them to have additional FAR or additional ability to go
- 2 higher, all of these things, by buying our lot.
- And the appraiser's recommendation or part of
- 4 the appraisals, and you have them there, was that they
- 5 already had what they could do at the maximum they could
- 6 do it. In other words, our lot did not represent any
- 7 additional value to them other than to be able to create a
- 8 more comprehensive project that actually goes from the end
- 9 of the block to the other end of the block and creates
- 10 something that's more cohesive and that will look better,
- 11 so they submitted a purchase and sale agreement to us in
- 12 February. We -- basically they're purchasing the property
- 13 to improve it with the other two lots.
- 14 In addition to the consideration, and the
- 15 property was, the purchase price was 3.5 million, in
- 16 addition to that, to the consideration, the project will
- 17 include 34 parking spaces that will be accessible, so
- 18 they're replacing the public spaces that are in the lot
- 19 now.
- Those will be accessible to the public at all
- 21 times, and they won't be restricted within any parking
- 22 garage that they build with that particular property, the
- 23 city will be able to use those parking spaces at no
- 24 charge. The required spaces are part of, the purchase and
- improvement will be part of the project's overall

- 1 approval.
- 2 The inspection period expired March 5th, so
- 3 we already passed the inspection period, so the contract
- 4 is hard. They have put \$100,000 deposit.
- 5 We are going to enter into a management
- 6 agreement with them to continue to split the proceeds from
- 7 whatever parking fees we collect there until they break
- 8 ground with the actual project.
- 9 And obviously the project -- the contract is
- 10 contingent upon commission approval, and the closing will
- 11 occur 15 days after the commission, we obtain that
- 12 commission approval.
- The appraisals were attached. One which was
- 14 sent in July was for 3.350, and the one that was done now
- in February was for 3.525.
- 16 I have the questions that are in the code
- 17 that the board, that basically established what the
- 18 concerns to the board should be: Does it conform to the
- 19 comprehensive plan and is it compatible with the
- 20 surrounding neighborhood?
- 21 So the property is commercial low rise
- 22 intensity. It is within the limits of the south mixed use
- 23 district. It is in close proximity to the major streets
- 24 like I had mentioned already.
- The sale and subsequent development of the

- 1 property would provide opportunity for it to become part
- 2 of the overall high-quality project in a highly visible
- 3 location that the city has an interest in activating
- 4 economically.
- 5 It has the 34 spaces, and the compatibility
- 6 with the surrounding neighborhood will fully be evaluated
- 7 during the planning and zoning review of the project.
- 8 They have not explained to us what the actual project will
- 9 look like because they haven't designed it yet.
- I analyzed, analyzed the positive/negative
- 11 impacts of the adjacent property. The surface parking lot
- 12 is now mainly used by patrons of the restaurant across the
- 13 street which is Havana Harry's, and its current revenue
- 14 and usage is not very high.
- The purchase is, purchase of the property is
- 16 to further improve it, and we feel that, again, as long as
- 17 we continue to make those 34 spaces available to the
- 18 public at all times once the project is built and that we
- 19 continue to manage the lot between now and the time the
- 20 project breaks ground, that it will work.
- 21 And then the other one is just, is based on
- 22 market value, so, and as you see, the appraisals pretty
- 23 much back up the price.
- MR. LOWELL: So you recommend approval?
- MS. SARDINAS: I recommend approval, yes.

1 MR. LOWELL: All right. Questions from

- 2 committee?
- MR. MANRARA: Yeah. I have several
- 4 questions.
- 5 MS. SARDINAS: And I don't know if Kevin
- 6 Kinney, by the way, was able to come back on. He had to
- 7 be at a BID board meeting, but he said he was going to try
- 8 to sign on after that was done.
- 9 MR. MANRARA: Who is that, I'm sorry?
- 10 MS. SARDINAS: The parking director, in case
- 11 you had questions of the parking director.
- MR. MANRARA: Who is the developer?
- MS. SARDINAS: Jade --
- MR. MANRARA: No, I know the letters, but
- there's typically human beings behind an LLC. Who are the
- 16 human beings?
- 17 MS. SARDINAS: Well, the person that I have
- 18 met with is Jose Boschetti.
- MR. LOWELL: Name again?
- MS. SARDINAS: Jose Boschetti.
- 21 MR. MANRARA: And you don't know anybody else
- 22 who is involved?
- MS. SARDINAS: I also met with Leo, and I
- 24 believe he's the architect. Hold on one second.
- MR. MANRARA: So they want this space owned

- 1 by the city, but they don't really know yet what they're
- 2 going to do with it?
- MS. SARDINAS: There is a project that is
- 4 being designed.
- 5 MR. MANRARA: So you really don't know who is
- 6 behind this?
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: Jose Boschetti is a well-known
- 8 developer. He's got --
- 9 MR. LEYVA: Yeah, he's a well-known
- 10 developer. He's actually a really nice guy.
- 11 MR. MANRARA: No, I had no doubt as to their
- 12 worth as human beings.
- MS. SARDINAS: Leo Gomez, Leo Gomez. I just
- 14 wanted to make sure.
- 15 MR. MANRARA: Okay, because, you know, one of
- 16 the problems that Coral Gables has is it owns very little
- 17 amount of property for the city population size. It
- 18 really -- and it doesn't have the ability to really
- 19 acquire more property.
- 20 And this is a piece of property that is
- 21 supporting one of the things that the parking lots
- 22 typically support which is businesses in Coral Gables, and
- 23 Havana Harry's, a place that probably most of us have been
- 24 to at least once, is a successful restaurant, pretty busy,
- 25 and yet this is an important part of their area, which is

- 1 parking.
- I know that you say that, in fact you say
- 3 here in the write-up that the developer intends, you use
- 4 the word "intends," to provide parking instead of using
- 5 the words, "Will be required to provide parking," and I'm
- 6 a little concerned.
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: The 34 spaces will replaced,
- 8 the 34 public spaces are being replaced. That is in the
- 9 contract.
- 10 MR. MANRARA: Okay, so that is required,
- 11 okay.
- 12 MS. SARDINAS: By covenant, and that they
- 13 will replace those 34 spaces and they will be accessible
- 14 to the public at all times.
- MR. MANRARA: Okay, because here you quote,
- 16 you say, "The purchaser intends for the overall project to
- include a parking garage, " and "intends" is very different
- 18 than, "It will be required to."
- 19 But you're saying that the contract indicates
- 20 that they -- this is not an option for the developer; they
- 21 need to do this?
- 22 MS. PASTOR: Yes. It actually says it here.
- 23 "The purchaser's improvements shall include the 34
- 24 spaces."
- MR. MANRARA: See where it says "intends"

- 1 also in the Question Number Two?
- MS. SARDINAS: "Intends to have a parking
- 3 garage." They do, will have a parking requirement as part
- 4 of their project.
- 5 MR. MANRARA: All right. Is there a street,
- 6 is there a street between the current property owned by
- 7 the developer and this parking garage? It's hard to tell.
- 8 On the drawing, you put, there's like a dark, in my copy
- 9 it seems like a black -- well, I don't know if it's the
- 10 shade or the sun or what it is.
- MS. SARDINAS: Yes. The street actually, the
- 12 way that it works is Granello is here and this is Greco,
- 13 so this is -- you're getting the shadow.
- MR. MANRARA: Okay.
- 15 MS. SARDINAS: So this is (inaudible).
- 16 MR. MANRARA: The little yellow --
- 17 MS. SARDINAS: The yellow is the new
- 18 development being done here.
- 19 MR. LOWELL: It looks like there's an alley
- 20 in between the lots.
- MS. SARDINAS: Yes, there is.
- MR. LOWELL: And the city is going to vacate
- 23 the alley?
- MS. SARDINAS: No. That is part of the other
- 25 project. They are, they -- that is being incorporated

- 1 with the other, the other project --
- 2 MR. LOWELL: But they're associated?
- 3 MR. LOWELL: -- behind, which is the ZOM
- 4 project, remember, with the assisted living facility ZOM
- 5 project that came through, I want to say before COVID
- 6 started, so it's at least a year ago, the assisted living
- 7 facility project that goes behind, you know, that will go
- 8 all the way and has like a triangle and goes like that.
- 9 MR. MANRARA: All right, and the city is not
- 10 advertising this for sale. It's just dealing with the
- 11 one?
- 12 MS. SARDINAS: It was unsolicited. They came
- 13 to us because they owned the other two.
- MR. MANRARA: Right, and is it the city's
- 15 experience that when you just react to one interested
- 16 party, that the city is able to obtain the highest and
- 17 best value?
- 18 MS. SARDINAS: Well, the way that our process
- 19 works is when something like this happens and someone
- 20 comes and presents an offer or is interested, if the
- 21 commission feels that it is something it wants to do, and
- 22 that's why the manager went ahead and checked with the
- 23 commission and they gave him authority to go ahead and
- 24 proceed, is that we go through the process.
- We conduct an appraisal, and then we wait and

- 1 say, "This is the appraisal we have," and they, actually
- 2 the appraisal that we had was for 3.35, and they made an
- 3 offer for 3.5. They made an offer that was higher than
- 4 the appraisal we had at the time. The second appraisal
- 5 came back \$25,000 higher, but we were confident that the
- 6 three five number was fine.
- 7 They had actually put in the contract, if you
- 8 look at the contract, that it would be the average of the
- 9 two appraisals but that never less than 3.5, so I think
- 10 that overall --
- MR. MANRARA: But do you think, do you
- 12 think --
- MS. SARDINAS: That is the process that we
- 14 followed, so.
- 15 MR. MANRARA: Okay, and is the value to the
- 16 developer because it has already lots there and that for
- 17 them the incremental worth of having additional land makes
- 18 it more valuable to them, that if somebody else were just
- 19 going to buy the 13,000-and-change-square-feet space, they
- 20 really couldn't do very much with it because it's a
- 21 relatively small space?
- MS. SARDINAS: Exactly, but they don't need
- 23 -- their lots are sufficiently large that they don't need
- 24 our lot to give them any additional FAR or any additional
- 25 bonuses to be able to build more, bigger, higher, they do

- 1 not, they do not need it, but.
- 2 MR. MANRARA: So they just want to spend
- 3 three and a half million dollars --
- 4 MS. SARDINAS: But --
- 5 MR. MANRARA: -- for the fun of it.
- 6 MS. SARDINAS: -- but it would make for a
- 7 nicer looking project if you go from the one end of the
- 8 street to the other.
- 9 And so that's, you know, rather than leave a
- 10 surface parking lot there which is not really the highest
- 11 and best use for that particular parking lot as it is, if
- 12 it's incorporated into the project and the 34 spaces are
- 13 replaced and the public has access to them and the
- 14 restaurant can still continue to be served.
- 15 And eventually FDOT is doing an actual
- 16 project there on Le Jeune where they will establish a
- 17 crosswalk and all of that, right, make it safer, which we
- 18 had put on FDOT's, Florida Department of Transportation's
- 19 radar, they're taking care of doing all of that.
- 20 It will become a much better workable area
- 21 because now it will integrate with the restaurant in a
- 22 better way. You will be able to cross Le Jeune safely.
- 23 You will be able to park across the street safely, and it
- 24 will be a better project only because it will have more
- 25 frontage and it will look nicer because it will be between

- 1 the two streets.
- 2 MR. LOWELL: Are you done? Ed?
- 3 MR. MAZZEI: Are you finished?
- 4 MR. MANRARA: I just have one other question.
- 5 The attorneys representing the developer, any relation to
- 6 the former commissioner of Coral Gables?
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: I believe so, I believe so.
- 8 MR. MANRARA: So the Quesada who is part of
- 9 the lawyers representing the developer is the former
- 10 commissioner?
- MS. SARDINAS: No, it is not the former
- 12 commissioner.
- 13 MR. MANRARA: Oh, it is not the former
- 14 commissioner?
- 15 MS. SARDINAS: I don't think that is his law
- 16 firm, no.
- MR. MANRARA: Okay.
- MS. SARDINAS: It's not him.
- 19 MR. MANRARA: All right. Thank you.
- MS. SARDINAS: And the lawyer that has signed
- 21 at least all of the things that have come through the city
- 22 has been Valdes, which is one of the partners of the firm,
- 23 but I do believe that, that, that the law firm is either
- 24 his father's or a relative. I'm not sure.
- MR. MANRARA: Oh, so the Quesada may be

- 1 connected to the commissioner?
- MS. SARDINAS: No.
- 3 MR. MANRARA: Oh, you just said it might be
- 4 the father, but then --
- 5 MS. SARDINAS: I think he might be a relative
- 6 or the father or the law firm --
- 7 MR. MANRARA: Okay, but you don't know for
- 8 sure.
- 9 MS. SARDINAS: -- of the father, but I came
- 10 here after that commissioner was gone so I don't know.
- 11 MR. MANRARA: All right, and I have a
- 12 question I guess more for my fellow members of the board.
- 13 Is it your experience, and at least three of
- 14 you, and Jonathan, you probably have certainly more
- 15 experience than I do in this, is it your experience that
- 16 the highest and best value is an appraised value when you
- 17 want to sell a property?
- 18 MR. LEYVA: Let me tell you my experience. I
- 19 mean, appraisals for me don't really mean much. You could
- 20 sell something for higher than the appraised value. You
- 21 can sell something for less than the appraised value.
- I think you got to look at the specific
- 23 project and the specific lot. I think that lot
- 24 specifically has been underutilized for too many years. I
- 25 mean, we've all driven by it and just see it there empty,

- 1 and yeah, they use it as a parking lot for Havana Harry's,
- 2 but even then, I mean, it just, it looks really bad.
- And you know, any, any proposal in terms of
- 4 that, you know, to develop that is pretty, is pretty
- 5 exciting, being a resident of Coral Gables, because it
- 6 does give us another option to be able, you know, for
- 7 entertaining, restaurant, maybe retail. It sounds very
- 8 exciting.
- 9 Now, in terms of price, yeah, so you know,
- 10 the best sale is always you knock next door or vice versa,
- 11 they come to you and they ask for the ability to sell that
- 12 project. You know, I think the appraisal does give you a
- 13 value gauge in terms of the property.
- But you know, I think, you know, indirectly I
- 15 did not answer your question, but I did at the same time.
- 16 I don't know if that was helpful.
- 17 MR. LOWELL: Other comments, other questions?
- 18 Ed, do you have a question?
- MR. MAZZEI: It escapes me now.
- MS. SARDINAS: I'm sorry, Ed?
- 21 MR. MAZZEI: Oh, during, let's say the sale
- 22 goes through and the developer of that property with the
- 23 other two parcels and garage and whatever, during that
- 24 period, obviously Havana Harry's is going to be without
- 25 parking. It could have an adverse affect on their

- 1 business.
- 2 Does the city have any thoughts on how to
- 3 supplement with maybe some shuttle to other parking, et
- 4 cetera?
- 5 MS. SARDINAS: Well, I don't know if Kevin
- 6 came on. Yenisis, is Kevin on the call?
- 7 MS. GOMEZ: No, he did not, no.
- 8 MS. SARDINAS: He did not come on?
- 9 MS. GOMEZ: No.
- 10 MS. SARDINAS: Okay. Why don't I forward
- 11 that question to Kevin and I'll get back to you on it?
- MR. MAZZEI: Yeah, sure. We don't need to
- 13 know the answer today.
- 14 MS. SARDINAS: Because I know that we had
- 15 conversations about how to -- that's why we wanted to
- 16 continue to manage it until they actually were ready to
- 17 break ground, but from the time that they break ground
- 18 until the project is finished, I will find out because we
- 19 did discuss that he could, you know, help them out --
- MR. MAZZEI: Right.
- 21 MS. SARDINAS: -- with street parking and so
- 22 on and so forth.
- 23 MR. LOWELL: Quick question: Behind this
- lot, is there a public alley? It looks to me there's a
- 25 separation between the two lots.

1 MS. SARDINAS: Yes, but I think that is

- 2 being handled through the previous --
- MR. LOWELL: Other project.
- 4 MS. SARDINAS: -- project.
- 5 MR. LOWELL: So that is being vacated by the
- 6 city?
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: I'm not a hundred percent
- 8 sure. I will find this question out for you.
- 9 But what happened, the reason why I'm telling
- 10 you that is because when that project was presented, I was
- 11 sitting on the development review committee, and I
- 12 remember the conversation of the alley from those
- 13 meetings, but again, they were almost like two years ago
- 14 so it's not top of mind for me right now, so I will find
- 15 out --
- 16 MR. LOWELL: I'm sure it's being vacated.
- 17 MS. SARDINAS: -- what is happening with the
- 18 alley -- if we are vacating it for the project in the
- 19 back?
- 20 MR. LOWELL: You vacate an alley for the
- 21 benefit of the adjoining property owner so they each get
- 22 half of the alley.
- MS. SARDINAS: Right, right.
- MR. LOWELL: So that other half --
- 25 MS. SARDINAS: But I don't know if that

- 1 happened or it didn't happen. I remember the conversation
- of the alley, but I don't remember where it ended up
- 3 because development review is very early. It's something
- 4 you do like at the very beginning when somebody comes.
- 5 So I remember the conversation of the alley
- 6 with respect to that project. I don't know what ended up
- 7 happening, but I will find out for you.
- 8 MR. LOWELL: Effectively the site is bigger
- 9 if the alley is vacated, just so you're aware.
- 10 MS. SARDINAS: Yes, and I do remember that
- 11 that one project, the entrance to the actual, it was right
- 12 there, like on that side.
- MR. LOWELL: Right.
- MS. SARDINAS: So, but I don't know where
- 15 that project ended up. I don't know what was actually
- 16 approved, and I know it has been approved because I
- 17 remember it going to commission.
- 18 But again, I only remember that conversation
- 19 from almost two years ago that I sat on that committee, so
- 20 let me find out what the answer is.
- 21 MR. LOWELL: All right. So you want a motion
- 22 from this board to approve this deal, right?
- MS. SARDINAS: Uh-huh.
- MR. LOWELL: Okay. Committee, we're ready
- 25 for a motion, and I've got to leave at 10:00, I've got to

- 1 leave by ten.
- 2 MR. LEYVA: Is it a motion, or do we have to
- 3 answer the questions?
- 4 MS. SARDINAS: The questions --
- 5 MR. MAZZEI: Yeah, we have to answer the
- 6 question, the three questions.
- 7 MS. SARDINAS: The questions are there. I
- 8 put proposed answers, which is what I will forward --
- 9 MR. LEYVA: Okay, okay.
- MS. SARDINAS: -- with your minutes --
- MR. LEYVA: Yes.
- MS. SARDINAS: -- and make them part of your
- 13 minutes. This sheet, this presentation sheet will be part
- 14 of your minutes --
- MR. LEYVA: Sure.
- 16 MS. SARDINAS: -- that has the answers to the
- 17 questions.
- 18 MR. LEYVA: So do we have to propose a motion
- 19 for each question?
- 20 MS. SARDINAS: No. I think you just have to
- 21 propose a motion to recommend, you would want to recommend
- 22 that the commission sell the property.
- MR. LEYVA: Okay. I move for that motion.
- MR. LOWELL: Do we have a second?
- MS. PASTOR: I second.

1 MR. LOWELL: It's been seconded, moved. Any

- 2 questions or discussion?
- MR. MANRARA: Well, I would take exception
- 4 with Number Three because I feel that an appraisal is only
- 5 an estimate, and I asked the questions of the real estate
- 6 professionals, Jack and Ed and Nancy, as to if you owned
- 7 this property or if you had a client, and would you advise
- 8 selling just based on appraised value, you didn't respond.
- 9 But my feeling is that we might know what the
- 10 real value of this property is if it was offered to the
- 11 general public rather than just dealing with one
- 12 prospective buyer, despite the support that the city gets
- 13 from the appraiser.
- 14 So I'm concerned about Number Three, that
- 15 we're just not going through a process here to determine,
- 16 given the market structure, what is the best value.
- 17 MR. LEYVA: So I mean, to expand on my
- 18 comment earlier, I think that I hear you, I hear you 100
- 19 percent, you know, in terms of, in terms of marketing
- 20 property.
- 21 You know, I really do feel that, that at
- 22 times, you know, you may end up marketing the property and
- 23 may end up in the same place that you're at; at times you
- 24 may market the property and end up worse than you're at;
- 25 and at times you market the property and you may end up

- 1 better than where you're at.
- I really don't know in terms of this specific
- 3 lot. It's not -- it's, you know, it's been like that for
- 4 a while.
- 5 But I do also believe that a bird in the hand
- 6 is worth more than two in a bush, and we have an
- 7 opportunity here for the city. It's not like we can
- 8 develop this into a park, you know, and which is a comment
- 9 that we've had in multiple, multiple meetings about, you
- 10 know, the sale of land and utilizing that land for park
- 11 usage. I don't think that this would apply.
- So, so on the contrary, I feel very
- 13 comfortable with Number Three.
- MR. LOWELL: Any other comments?
- MS. QUEMADA: Can people hear me, or no?
- MS. SARDINAS: Yes.
- 17 MS. PASTOR: Oh, Valerie, yes, we can.
- 18 MR. LOWELL: Hey, Valerie.
- 19 MS. QUEMADA: I'm still here. So I'm
- 20 obviously listening to all of this, and I'm sort of erring
- 21 on the side of Alberto. In my opinion with the market the
- 22 way it's been going, it's an incredible market right now,
- 23 and so sometimes knocking on your neighbor's door, yes,
- 24 you get, like Jonathan said, a bird in the hand is better
- 25 than two in the bush.

1 However, looking at today's market trends and

- 2 looking at everything that is going on, I would imagine
- 3 you put that and open that up to a larger selection of
- 4 people and you may be able to drive that price up.
- 5 It really is based on what the desire of the
- 6 city is: Do you want to just make a quick and easy deal
- 7 and it's not a bad price; or do you want to go out there
- 8 and see if you can go ahead and get some more money for
- 9 it? That's just my --
- 10 MR. LOWELL: So Madame Chair, would you like
- 11 to take over the meeting? Because I have to leave.
- 12 MS. QUEMADA: Go ahead, that's fine, now that
- 13 I can speak again, so yes.
- 14 MR. LEYVA: Can we still vote on the item if
- 15 he leaves?
- 16 MR. LOWELL: It's been voted -- it's been
- 17 moved and seconded. Discussions have been had. Go ahead.
- 18 MR. MAZZEI: I have two, one comment, one
- 19 question.
- The property appraiser evaluation in 2020
- 21 land value was \$2,134,880, and if bring that up 15 percent
- 22 or more because the property appraiser is typically below
- 23 market, it's probably two and a half million dollars.
- 24 That's the comment. I think it's a fair market value, and
- 25 I think it's a best use for that property.

1 My question is did you approach Waronker and

- 2 Rosen since their appraisal was July of 2020 to see what
- 3 their updated appraisal would be?
- 4 MS. SARDINAS: No, I did not, I did not, and
- 5 it's, I think that the whole COVID situation kind of led
- 6 -- this should have gone faster, but we're in the middle
- 7 of everything that was going on and kind of, you know, was
- 8 longer than the six months. Right now we're at eight
- 9 months from that appraisal.
- 10 MR. MAZZEI: I'm in favor.
- 11 MR. LOWELL: Great. Let's call for the vote.
- 12 All in favor please, say aye.
- 13 (Thereupon, the board members responded accordingly.)
- MR. LOWELL: I all opposed, say no.
- MR. MANRARA: No.
- 16 MR. LOWELL: One negative vote, and motion
- 17 passed. I'm going to now turn the gavel over to Madame
- 18 Chair, and thank you all for your attention.
- 19 MS. QUEMADA: Thank you, thanks, Jack.
- 20 (Thereupon, Mr. Lowell left the meeting.)
- 21 MS. QUEMADA: Okay. So moving on to the
- 22 asset manager report.
- MS. SARDINAS: We went through that. The
- 24 rent report is attached. I don't know if you had a chance
- 25 to review, if you guys have any questions regarding that.

1 Everything is working fine with respect to

- 2 the rent deferments that we did, and if you see any of the
- 3 ones that have not come through for March, it's just
- 4 because it's the beginning of the month and it just works
- 5 out that way, but so far we don't have any issues with the
- 6 rent report.
- 7 MS. QUEMADA: Any questions or comments on
- 8 the rent report?
- 9 MR. MANRARA: No questions.
- 10 MS. QUEMADA: Sorry, Zeida.
- MS. SARDINAS: No, that's fine, and then I
- 12 just wanted to let you guys know, Francesca was going to
- 13 provide the new business report, but she had to go do
- 14 something else unexpectedly this morning.
- So we also have, we have Julian here who has
- 16 some excellent news that he wants to share with respect to
- 17 economic development and property and business that we
- 18 have coming to the city, so he's going to do the new
- 19 business report for you.
- 20 MR. PEREZ: Julian Perez, again, director of
- 21 economic development. I just want to share a very good
- 22 piece of news.
- 23 We just found out through the Beacon Council
- 24 that we have been working with for a while now on a major
- 25 relocation to our city.

- 1 MR. MANRARA: I'm sorry, a what?
- 2 MR. PEREZ: A major relocation, a new
- 3 headquarter is coming to our city, and that is ACI
- 4 Worldwide Services Corporation.
- 5 We just received a grant -- not a grant
- 6 actually. It was a part of an incentive program with the
- 7 county, and that is the Miami-Dade County Targeted Jobs
- 8 Incentive Fund, and so they were given a little bit more
- 9 than \$200,000, if my mind serves me correctly.
- 10 And this company or this firm that is moving
- 11 to our area, their original headquarters was in Omaha,
- 12 Nebraska. Then they moved to Naples and now over here.
- 13 And the company develops and markets and
- 14 installs and supports a bright line of software products
- 15 and solutions, and they're focused on facilitating
- 16 realtime electronic payment.
- 17 And again, they're making an initial
- 18 investment in our city of over nine million dollars of
- 19 which six million dollars of that is going to renovation,
- 20 and the rest is going to furniture, fixtures and equipment
- 21 and so forth.
- They have committed to creating over 180
- jobs, to be precise 182 jobs within a five-year period,
- 24 and that was part of the incentive program with the
- 25 county, and you're looking at between 23,000 to 26,000

- 1 square feet.
- 2 And so it's just a very interesting
- 3 opportunity for the city as we begin to see more
- 4 businesses relocating into South Florida, specifically
- 5 Miami-Dade County, and obviously, you know, the City of
- 6 Coral Gables also.
- 7 The benefits in terms of property tax from ad
- 8 valorem, according to the application that was submitted
- 9 on their behalf by the Beacon Council to Miami-Dade County
- 10 for this incentive program, the average property tax will
- 11 be in the neighborhood of about \$24,000. I did the
- 12 calculations for the City of Coral Gables, and the average
- 13 for the City of Coral Gables is about \$28,000.
- So we're very, very pleased to see this new
- 15 headquarter coming to our city. This is the second major
- 16 headquarters that we're seeing now within the last I would
- 17 say eight months. The first one was Friesland, and as you
- 18 know that I spoke to you about, and they opened up their
- 19 Latin American headquarters here in Coral Gables, and now
- 20 we have this, this firm now coming to our city.
- 21 So, and then we're working in other, other
- 22 initiatives with the Beacon Council as well as, you know,
- 23 some of the other developers in the area too, and so we're
- 24 very pleased to see this.
- We are also very pleased to see all of the

- 1 economic activity that is right now taking place in our
- 2 city, if you go out and you walk, especially on Wednesday,
- 3 Thursday and Friday nights like I do, through our business
- 4 community or our city, the central business district and
- 5 you see the activity.
- I think that the latest numbers on the
- 7 central business district was a vacancy rate of between
- 8 2.7 and 2.9.
- 9 The only area that is showing high numbers in
- 10 terms of vacancy is Miracle Mile, and we know that, you
- 11 know, that is happening because it's an area that we're
- 12 seeing a little bit of vacancy going on, but that doesn't
- 13 mean that there's other businesses also coming to that
- 14 area.
- 15 There's a number of restaurants coming to the
- 16 area. There's a number of I would say entities that are
- 17 looking at some of the empty space, and from our last
- 18 report that we gave you, we have seen a number of new
- 19 restaurants and other retail is coming to that area too.
- 20 Yes, we have lost a number of restaurants, but I can tell
- 21 you that we are making that back.
- 22 So our reopening plan that we have worked
- 23 very hard on that is based on, you know, having a
- 24 responsible, smart and safe approach to reopening is
- 25 working very well, as well as it is throughout the entire

- 1 State of Florida.
- 2 But again, the department is very, very busy.
- 3 The department is really focused on our mission, and as
- 4 you can see, you know, working with partners like the
- 5 Beacon Council, Enterprise Florida and so forth, we are
- 6 part of a team that is working together to bring these
- 7 businesses to our community.
- 8 So your question perhaps is, you know, so
- 9 what is the role of the City of Coral Gables, you know, in
- 10 this whole effort?
- 11 And our role is, you know, to work directly
- 12 with Beacon Council, provide the information, provide all
- 13 the letters and everything that we can to take that
- 14 business through that second phase of approval, and that
- 15 is the incentive part of it and now coming to the city.
- 16 And so what we have done is, and I mentioned
- 17 this in the past, how we have prepared a team that once
- 18 they get to that point, especially in the renovation and
- 19 the licenses and so forth, we're ready to work with them
- 20 directly with the other departments and my colleagues to
- 21 make sure that they go through the process as quickly as
- 22 possible.
- So again, you know, this is one, and
- 24 hopefully in the near future I'll be coming before you
- 25 with another one too that we're looking at. All right?

- 1 Is there any questions?
- 2 MS. PASTOR: One question: Where will ACI be
- 3 headquartered?
- 4 MR. PEREZ: I understand that they're going
- 5 to be in The Plaza, the new development.
- 6 MS. PASTOR: And do you have a time frame as
- 7 to when?
- 8 MR. PEREZ: According to the application, the
- 9 time frame or the anticipated time frame when the project
- 10 will be completed, and you know, these numbers, they tend
- 11 to change a lot, and what they mean by completed is the
- 12 renovation start of it and so forth, is September of this
- 13 year.
- 14 As part of the agreement with the county
- 15 under the, excuse me, the targeted job incentive program
- 16 is that they need to have, in 2021 they need to have
- 17 contracted 43 jobs, and obviously if you understand how
- 18 this works, how this program works, you know, this is
- 19 performance based, and what do I mean by performance based
- 20 in terms of incentives is that you're not giving money out
- 21 just to attract.
- You're giving money out with a certain level
- 23 of guarantees and performance that you have to meet, and
- 24 the reason for that is that the money comes from the
- 25 general revenue of the county, and so you have to really

- 1 meet those, those goals that I have set forth, and those
- 2 are very well spelled out in terms of the jobs.
- Wery quickly, this is cumulative numbers, so
- 4 in 2021, it's 43; then in 2022, they have to jump to 60;
- 5 then in 2023, to 77; 2024, 95; 2025, 128; and then 2026,
- 6 182 jobs. Okay. Any questions?
- 7 MR. MANRARA: Can you repeat the name of the
- 8 company?
- 9 MR. PEREZ: The name of the company is ACI
- 10 Worldwide Company.
- MR. MANRARA: ACI?
- MR. PEREZ: Yes.
- MS. SARDINAS: Real quick, just I wanted to
- 14 let you know Kevin Kinney signed on really quick.
- 15 Kevin, Ed Mazzei, one of our board members,
- 16 had a question with respect to Havana Harry's parking
- 17 during the construction of that project.
- 18 I explained to them that we're doing a
- 19 management agreement to continue to manage the parking lot
- 20 and people will be able to park there until the
- 21 construction starts, and I also thought that we had had a
- 22 conversation with respect that you would work with them
- 23 with street parking and so on, but I didn't know if you
- 24 had anything else to add.
- 25 And the second questions was related to the

- 1 alley. Even though the board member that made it left, he
- 2 wanted to find out if the alley in the back, and I
- 3 remembered it, I think it had something to do with the ZOM
- 4 project, but I don't know if you remember, so I need to
- 5 find an answer to that question. Are you on?
- 6 MR. KINNEY: Yes. So let's take those one at
- 7 a time.
- 8 Yes, we will be managing the lot just as we
- 9 have in the past until there's, construction starts.
- 10 There's not even a plan for development under review yet,
- 11 so the construction will happen sometime in the future.
- 12 When that does happen, yes, we will manage
- 13 the spaces on Greco and Granello to provide substitute
- 14 parking that will cover the 34 spaces we lose on the
- 15 parking lot.
- 16 The existing alley will remain because the
- 17 two properties will be separated by the alley, but there
- 18 are significant improvements with the ZOM project, but it
- 19 will remain an alley, and the ZOM project is actually
- 20 under construction now, and that will have some impact on
- 21 the on-street parking.
- 22 But we will do everything we can to help
- 23 Havana Harry's, and in fact, as I'm speaking with you, on
- 24 the Havana Harry's side of the street we are doing
- 25 improvements to the street on the north and the south of

- 1 Havana Harry's that add parking in the city right of way
- 2 that can be used by customers at Havana Harry's, so we
- 3 have no interest in hindering the restaurant.
- We're doing what we can to support it, and in
- 5 fact, when the new development does happen, one of the
- 6 things that we've negotiated is additional spaces or
- 7 spaces in the facility that can be used by members of the
- 8 public that are going there as diners or to any of the
- 9 other businesses around that has customers.
- 10 MS. SARDINAS: All right. Thank you, Kevin,
- 11 so much for signing on. I'm glad you were able to. I did
- 12 not remember what had happened to the alley. I was in the
- 13 meeting with the ZOM and I didn't remember.
- MR. KINNEY: Yes.
- MS. SARDINAS: So I think we've gone over
- 16 like by 40 minutes, so they're ready to go. Valerie,
- 17 people are getting up, so.
- 18 MS. QUEMADA: Okay. Thank you, thank you,
- 19 everybody, for Kevin and yourself and the presentation, so
- 20 let's have -- do I have a motion to adjourn this meeting?
- MR. LEYVA: I second.
- 22 MS. QUEMADA: Great. So thank you all. See
- 23 you next time.
- 24 (Thereupon, proceedings were adjourned at 10:09 a.m.)

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