

Summary of Discussion
Broward County Charter Review Commission
Wednesday, June 13, 2007
Broward County Governmental Center
115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 430, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Members Present:

Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair
Commissioner Hazelle Rogers, Vice Chair
Commissioner Hayward J. Benson, Jr.
Mr. Michael L. Buckner, Esq.
Mayor Debby Eisinger
Mr. David Esack
Ms. Patricia Good
H.K. "Petey" Kaletta
Mr. Mark Ketcham
Dr. Mark Lieberman
Commissioner Ted Mena
Ms. Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.
Dr. Irv Rosenbaum
Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner
Mr. G. Wil Trower
Mr. Richard J. Weiss, Esq.

Members Absent:

Mr. Joseph Maus, Esq.
Mr. Robert Penezic, Esq.
Mr. Bruce Rogow, Esq.

Others Attending:

Devin Avery, Vision Broward
Pete Corwin, Assistant to County Administrator
Chedley Etienne, Administrative Assistant, CRC
Ellen Feld, Esq.
Dan Glickman, Deerfield Beach, FL
Samuel Goren, Esq., General Counsel
Yolanda Grooms, Administrative Specialist, CRC
Maria Gross, Assistant Director, CRC
Phyllis A. King, Transcriber, PKING Consulting
Henry Sniezek, Executive Director, Broward County Planning Council
Mr. David Tolces, Esq., Assistant General Counsel
Lisa Vondrak, News Abstracts

Patricia G. West, Executive Director, CRC
Mr. Mel Wilson, Esq., Special Counsel

(A copy of the sign-in sheets identifying those present is filed with the supplemental papers to the summary of this Public Hearing.)

A meeting of the Broward County Charter Review Commission (“CRC” or “Commission”) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 13, 2007 at the Broward County Governmental Center – Room 430, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

I Call to Order/Roll Call

The Chair Lori Moseley called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and requested the roll call by Phyllis A. King, PKING Consulting, Inc. Upon completion of the role the Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum.

II Approval of May 9, 2007 Summary of Discussion

The Chair requested a **motion for approval** of the CRC May 9th Summary of Discussion.

A motion was made by Ms. Good; seconded by Ms. Eisinger. The Chair called for all in favor, I’s were stated and the motion was approved unanimously.

III Chair and Executive Director’s Report

Ms. West advised that everything is on schedule for the full Commission not to meet in July. She advised that there will be some subcommittee meetings held where staff has requested the use of only the first two weeks of July in order to allow staff and the Commission to take a break. She advised that there is nothing more to report as information is being provided on a regular basis as received by staff. **[End of Executive Director’s Report]**

IV. Presentation – Mr. Devin Avery, Executive Director, Vision Broward

The Chair introduced Mr. Devin Avery. She advised that the CRC is happy to have him and wanted an update on conclusions of Vision Broward and what actually happened.

Mr. Avery: Just to start off, I don’t know if everybody knows Vision Broward. Obviously, Commissioner Rogers is one of the Executive Co-Chairs so I know you know but if there is anyone that doesn’t know Vision Broward I can give a little background.

Vision Broward was started in 2003. It was a partnership between Broward County, Broward Alliance, Broward Workshop, Nova Southeastern University, and the Broward League of Cities. Basically they came together to determine after 1986 when Project Horizons was done, to determine how our future would be in the Economic Development Partnership. The Committee then formed a Steering Committee which was 56 organizations ranging the gamut of organizations in our community to bring as much of the community together and start dialoguing the American assembly process to determine what we need to do and what's the direction for our County. Over the course of the year, close to 1,000 people participated and determined a numerous amount of recommendations, which can all be seen on VisionBroward.org. The basic nine (9) are all in the ***Vision Broward a community economic development partnership*** brochure that was handed out.

Basically the project ran in every aspect of our life and we looked at ways of enhancing the community and community value to be able to sustain an economic growth for our community. We looked at the growth of Broward County, which is going from 1.8 million to a projected of 2.8 million. We looked at the growth of the region and we pretty much came to certain conclusions of necessities that need to be taken into account when we are looking at our future.

- **Transportation**

The areas that I was asked to discuss a little bit was Transportation, Growth Management, Housing and I will start with the Transportation because it is near and dear to our heart. The People for Progress came out of the Vision Broward effort was taken on by the Broward Workshop to see if we can get a one-cent sales tax for the dedicated funding for Transportation. As we all know, the ballot didn't pass. But it's still a very important need for our community. We have 1.8 million people. Florida State is one of the largest, fastest growing States in the Union. We will be number three (3) in 2010. Our region is right now the sixth largest MSA (Metropolitan Service Area) in the country. Transit is a big need in order to keep the movement of people for our employers and I think that's one of the – and Transportation is a service. It's a social need. It's not somewhere that you make money, it's something that the government provides and the people help in supporting, in order to allow the Community to be able to move freely, goods and services. So even through the measure didn't pass in 2006. We're hoping that, that will be brought up in Transportation. I know in the Charter it's said that it is an important issue but it should be I think stated a little bit stronger in order to make sure that we understand the need for that in order to keep our economy moving.

Pretty much at that point, we talk about Affordable Housing which is very linked to Transportation. And the other part is Regionalism and that was the one issue that I really wanted to get out.

- **Regionalism**

One of the overall discussion topics was the regional issue in two fold. One is the regionalism as far as our County is concerned, we have 31 cities and how do we all work together and make sure that is an easy flow of information and ideas between the cities and the other is between our Counties to the North and the South as well as the Southeast region. We have been dedicated as the sixth largest MSA in the country, which gives us a different aspect as when we're going to federal grants, federal monies and as a unit of South Florida which would be Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach, we have a stronger argument for funding and for getting any kind of federal aid. Most of the Federal Government programs now require some kind of regional cooperation. At this point in our region, Miami-Dade is the only partner that has a sales tax, so obviously the playing field isn't equal. And in order for us to become a partner in that discussion we need also to have some kind of dedicated funding source. The other issue is we have 1/3 of our population that leaves Broward County to work. And that's a pretty large percentage. So you have a lot of citizens that are now living in Broward County and most working in Miami-Dade but a large percentage also working in Palm Beach and they have to get from place to place. Broward County really has no more land to build more roads and the roads that we have are already at or above capacity. So we formed the RTA (Regional Transportation Authority) more than 3 years ago, which was a great step for us to move forward in Transportation. But we never went to the next level as where we start looking at our Transit and RTA to work in conjunction. That is some of the recommendations that came out. It's very important to realize that RTA runs separately from Broward County Transit, Miami Transit and Palm Tran. So you have Tri-Rail going up and down, providing its own bus services to take care of their trains where BCT is starting to, but hasn't been providing a linkage to that. So you have really no East/West connection for the Tri-Rail and you have Broward County Transit (BCT) working on its own from Tri-Rail. We set up Tri-Rail for a reason, because as a regional area where you have 1/3 of your population living you need to be able to move people from their home to their place of work. And Tri-Rail would give that ability if we can get an equal playing field to be able to take over or to take a part of Miami Transit and Palm Tran and Broward County Transit and help make a system where you can live in West Palm Beach and get to Miami without having to make 3 transfers which is the present system right now.

- **Affordable Housing**

The other issue is when we're talking about housing; Transit assists in creating Affordable Housing. It doesn't give government subsidies when you're dealing with building a house, but because you – with Transit you need to build designated Transit oriented areas and you have higher densities where there's Transit and higher densities equates to lower-cost in housing so that's another part. The other part we're talking about and I know you've talked to Gloria Katz as well on the Smart Growth Partnership, which also comes out of Vision Broward is the ability of keeping densities in the correct areas. What happened was, when we were growing in Broward County, because we had the land were able to spread out and look as an Urban Society. When you're building Transit you're able to keep densities in certain corridors and keep the corridors where you want the parks and where you want – and this is a direct effect on what you were just speaking about. You are able to keep you green spaces because now you're putting the people in communities along Transit routes and you don't have to make a large effect on the rest of the community. I think if you will look into Virginia and how they to the metro, their growth in Arlington, you will be able to see how they were able to do it. They were able to put one Transit, the rest of the area pretty much stayed untouched for the last 20 years but they built up a nice density. Most people are looking to live in communities.

I usually start my discussions and I don't know for all of you who have heard it before. In 1986 when we started Project Horizons, people came here because it was a cheap place to die. That was why people came to Florida. It was very cheap to die. You died here and you sent your body back. Our number 2 by way export was coffins. And still in Tampa it is now number 2. People came down here, they lived here, they took advantage of our beautiful place, they said they didn't want to pay the taxes and they just came here. They would die, send the body and send the money. That time has changed. We live now. Vision Broward was the tipping point to show how we want to start living here. We're no longer dying here we're living. We have communities, we have people who have families and they want to stay here. In order for us to stay here, we have to keep a sustainable economy. Everything we talk about and everything you're discussing has to go down to that basic end. How do people make a living and how are people able to survive in South Florida. If you look at the way it's working right now. People are living in homes that they can't move out of, they can't afford to change and they have no options. What does that mean for our economy? It means that people are going to start leaving because they don't want to be stuck. Nobody wants that feeling of stuck. Maybe they don't change, but they like the idea that they can. They like the idea that it's available to them. And the way we've created it right now is we've created a society where a lot of businesses are

looking and saying if I come to Broward County and I start growing, where are my people going to come. We listened two years ago in one of the leadership forums to a CEO talking about bringing somebody here on \$180,000 salary and they refused the job. Now most people in this Community being that our medium income is \$39,000 would wonder how come they're refusing a job at \$180,000 and the reason is that they can't have a life here. Or the life that they are accustomed to because they can't have that movement, they can't pay the taxes. Because now coming here, and I would suggest that most of us who work for the government our employees would not be able to live here at all right now, the ones that we have, that we want to keep, because the cost of living has gone up that much and their income hasn't. And we don't have the money all the time to be able to give higher and higher salaries, so we have to make adjustments. We have to create an atmosphere where people understand that there is a give and take and we have to work together.

- **Environment**

One of the gives and takes is in our environment, and this a very important part and I think that this is one of the major issues that needs to be put in our charter is talking about the environment. It has also been – it was also discussed very at length in Vision Broward and basically we need to figure out how to sustain our environment in Broward and in South Florida and we have to work it as a region. So there are three major topics that I would say are important for the Charter to understand. One, we have to work as a region – and I think this should be foremost in our Charter. In any capacity that Broward County has to work in cooperation with Miami-Dade and Palm Beach, we need to find those ways and in any capacity that Broward County has to work in cooperation with the 31 Cities, we need to find that way because we can't waste our resources. There is water shortage. We will have water; we have a lot of water in Florida. We're blessed with that, but that doesn't mean that it's going to survive forever and we need to figure out how to better use our water – how to better cooperate when we're building our water retention. When we build a water retention – Think about this, when we're building our bike paths, if we take the same money for the egresses and the monies that we need for our bike paths and underneath those bike paths, put our wiring systems and put our water retention use and cooperate as inter-organizations we would save a lot of money. Instead of building a bike path, that doesn't go anywhere and then water that we need to retain that is being sent back to the ocean. If we start working more cooperatively, we are the Cooperation County of the country. We do cooperate a lot. But we need to be more in the implementation of things, cooperating at a level that is actually affecting the change. So our environment has to be our first and foremost discussion.

- **Turbine Energy**

Just as a side note, the Center for Excellence at FAU is building now, Turbine – and I hope that all of you are aware of this and if you are not, please find out about it, Turbine Energy. We have the potential to use wind power under the water in our Atlantic Ocean. Pompano Beach is the closest area to the Gulf Stream. And that's the strongest current in the world. And right now at the end of the summer, FAU will be putting the first Turbines underwater which will power energy and that energy, if it's tapped into and works well with the environment – and it's supposed to be a very clean energy, will be enough energy for us to provide the entire State of Florida and sell outside. So in our government, we should be supporting as strongly as we can to help this kind of technology so that we can, because there are other governments that use – that sell the energy to the power companies and are able to lower millage rates. So we have the potential of the Gulf Stream current, right at our back yard and we're able to put resources in to make this happen then we as a government should be responsible. All our cities should be responsible to make sure that happens so that we can. It produces hydrogen under water and it also produces desalinization of water from the electrical current.

So think about all these issues that we're all trying to comprehend, find a solution for, -are already being talked about and we need to be a part of that. So that's why I think that the regional cooperation and the ability to discuss the environment is number one. Transportation, we need to bring our people from place to place. They have to be able to live where they want to and get where they need to with ease and that's a government responsibility, not a people responsibility, that's what cities do and we're a city and we need to change our mentality to understand that we are in an Urban Environment and unfortunately if you want the suburban or the other types of rural environments, then maybe that's the people that we need to look and have to look where they're going to move to. Because our environment isn't going to change from the urban society and we just need to make it better. We've made a lot of mistakes in our growth and this is a big part of what the vision is about. Let's learn from those mistakes and I urge you all on Vision Broward.org; on the top right-hand corner, there is an article called *Broward in the 80s* and if you read this article in 1980, the Sun Sentinel 22 part Article came out and in this it talks about our school systems being 45th what are we going to do? We are now 49th. Our health system is in disarray, what are we going to do? Our transportation system, they talked about a one cent surtax in 1980 for Broward County, which would have charged only \$3 or \$4 billion to our community. Now we're talking about one cent sales tax that's going to cost us \$20 billion for the same Transportation System and it's going to be much more difficult. So we had the answers in 1980, we understood where our growth was going and nobody does

anything about it. We need to make that change and in the Charter Review you guys have that potential to make things move a lot quicker than it would be in any other process. This is the area where we need to go and say, we need to make these changes, we need to start thinking regionally. 100 years from now don't think that all our cities are going to be where they are now and our County is going to be the way it is. In 100 years from now, we have to start thinking about what are we doing for our children. Because I'd like to challenge any of you to see you children and my child included in this, have a house and a good job here right now. If we don't make the changes, because I don't think my daughter – I'm setting up my house so that she'll have a place for her husband to go in and live there, because there's no place she's going to be able to afford or anything with all the education that we're going to be providing.

- **Education**

We provide a good education in Broward County and that's a big part of the Vision as well, the Education System and the businesses and the Education working together, we do provide a good education, so good that everywhere else in the Country they are using our children and giving them great jobs but we're not able to keep them here. So if this is the opportunity that we have and we've worked now – Vision Broward started the ball rolling, ran into the Management and Efficiency Study, which goes to the Charter Review. Everything was planned very well. So we've had now the three or four years over the process to build up the momentum to get people on board. This is a community effort. The Community is behind this, they want this to happen. We need as our leaders and as the people who are involved in this to get out to the community to let them know that we're making the moves and the changes. And this is the best forum to do it in because you can do it quickly and relatively easily.

The Vision is very extensive, there is a large support – we're almost at 3,000 people who are constantly on my mailing list alone in the Vision itself. Plus there have been spur-out through the Education Consortium, with the Healthcare Community, with the Transportation Community, with the Smart Growth Community, so there has been a lot of momentum moving it on. But a lot of it is because of slight changes that we need to make. So in our Land Use Policies, we have to give the Cities the ability to do what's right and it has to start with the County. It's much quicker if the County has in its Land Use policies procedure to make it easier for the cities to pick what they need. Every City needs to have their own characteristics. But the County has to give that guideline and then the Cities can say we'll follow what Broward just did because it makes the process much quicker and that's where the County can help out in those kinds of areas. Working in the Environment, the County can help lead the Cities to find those extra

resources and work through the Charter. So the Charter needs to be stronger and the Charter's language needs to be definitive. It can't be just saying we need to make great Transportation. Because that means nothing and it goes nowhere and we know that because six years ago they did that and we still don't have great transportation. We need to say, what we need to do and that's what the Charter can do, that's the power of this Committee you're able to within the few voices, take what the Community wants and make it happen. That's the greatness of this procedure right now is that the County allows for that. So I am thankful that I was able to speak with you and I would love to answer any questions or help in any which way I can.

Mr. Trower asked if Vision Broward has any specific / definitive recommendations for the Charter Review Commission to take on.

Mr. Avery: The recommendations we have as far as for the Charter – See now Vision Broward is a project and I want everybody to understand that, because sometimes people don't realize. We're a project. We brought the Community together, we discussed what we want and now we're trying to educate the public so that we can start moving the implementation. But there isn't a Board – I mean there is an Executive Committee but there isn't really a group of people that are actually as an organization. It's not an organization, it's the one facilitative place where the governments of all the Cities and the County and all the organizations can bring the public into the realm to be able to make these discussions. So when people hear Vision Broward they say "Oh that's where I get my voice in the government" and that's what we're trying to bring out. There's an Implementation Plan and we're looking to talk to them so that they can tell us what we need to do and what we need to change. Because if the Vision stays stagnant it means nothing, so we stay out every year and we try to educate. We did the Environmental Conference this year to try to educate, get more input from the people to see that we're still on the right track. Because if we ever stop doing that then we're not going to know where the people want to be and then we can't figure out how to make that happen. But as far as precise words to it, there isn't anything specifically that says we would like the Charter to say that. There are areas where the Charter, especially like in Transportation, where it says Transportation is important, where it can be a little bit more forceful to be able to make the – I'd say that's what it really comes down to. A Charter, you can't write ten paragraphs for this Charter. That's unrealistic so you have to pick the five words that are going to make the implementation happen. Because that's really what's going to get through, I mean, if you make a 17 page document it's not going to pass and it's not going to be affective. What really has to be is while you're picking your words you have to think is this an actionable word? Does that mean that something is going to happen on it? When the Commission is sitting at their

meetings, are they saying this is what our charge is? This is what the people want, this is where we need to go and that's what needs to be done for the Charter.

Mr. Trower asked what the County Commission's position is on Vision Broward since it has been completed, given that they were part of the original group. He also inquired if there is some kind of roadmap which was developed that they are following.

Mr. Avery: And they have, the County has adopted the project, if you look at their goals they are 100% in link with Vision Broward recommendations. The County marks actually anything that's in the Vision Broward Initiative gets marked on the Agenda that it is a Vision Broward initiative. Every Department in the County has a Vision book and they've taken a look from their perspective what they can do and you'll notice that a lot of things have happened. I mean, yesterday a wonderful thing happened was that the County Commission adopted the U.S. Conference of Mayor's Resolution. That's a major step forward and those are part of the things with the Park Initiatives. And I don't know if a lot of you are from the Cities that have also adopted it and in the resolution it mentions all the Cities that adopted it. We are the largest County in the Country. More Cities in our County have adopted that than any other County in the Country.

Multiple members of the dais – Global Warming – U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Mr. Avery: Most of the Cities in the – We have 20 Cities right now that have adopted it in their own resolutions and now the County Commission using those 20 Cities as support said that they are going to adopt it as well. So now we have a County that is looking to be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified and that's another issue when you're talking about the environment. No building in Broward County should be built unless it's LEED certified or LEED certifiable I should say. Not that it needs to have LEED but it needs to be a green building. We should not at this point in time, in 2007 be building anything that does not cooperate with our environment. It doesn't make sense. LEED should be the minimal of the requirements now and that's what even LEED says. We don't want to be LEED certified forever and say that's a wonderful thing. We want LEED certified to be the minimal of your requirements and then go beyond that. So we shouldn't be building anything. It's not an extra cost and we should be supplying as far as the County and the Cities, making it as easy as possible for those Developers that want to do LEED to do that. Our Education System, our Hospitals, no hospital should be built that's not green. No Education, do you know that they have research now with California 60% better test scores on the basis of going into a LEED

school. Imagine that, they have actual results on this. So I mean, why would we ever want to do something different? This is what the awe factor is. We know what's better, we know what's good and we need just to make sure that people start doing those things. And as a government we have to sometimes tell people, this is what's in the interest of our people as a whole. And you have to remember that most of the people here do not earn over \$50,000. Try to live in our community under \$50,000 is not easy. I know people who take 3 buses to work, get up at 4:00 in the morning because there is no good system for them to be able to get to work easily. So think about what we're trying to do is make it easy for our whole society to work. Think about every time we build a 5 Star hotel. One owner is going to be very well off and there's going to be a thousand more people working for that hotel, who are going to need houses, need transportation and need schooling. If we don't think about that when we're doing our Charter, we're making a disservice to all those people. Because we want that hotel and we want those service workers.

Mr. Benson asked Mr. Avery to what extent he thinks the CRC could embrace the concept of creating a Regional South Florida Branch as recommended within the 9 Key Recommendations within the Vision Broward program and make it part of the deliberations for the ballot.

Mr. Avery: I think it comes down again to the regional cooperation. That the County and the Cities have an obligation to look in every which way to collaborate as a community, that we're one community. I think that's what it really comes down to. The branding issue is a major issue and I don't know if the Charter can really address that kind of a question. But the fact that the Charter can address the concept of regionalism, that regionalism is our future. We compete against China and India not against Tampa and Jacksonville or Atlanta; we don't compete in those terms anymore. And unless compete as a strong 6 million people and think about it, we're 40% of the Florida population. Think what that means if we go up to Tallahassee with one voice. We are a donor County, a donor Region and a donor State because we don't talk with one voice. Everybody is in their own fiefdoms talking in their own little words and wants whatever's good for their little moment. We need to think as a region because in educational issues, if we talk as a region. Who's going to tell us – We don't need Tallahassee to be sending a lot of money but we have an obligation to our children to make sure that they get the right education and we have to think of that as a region. When we're looking for businesses, we think of it as a region. When Scripps came here, Broward County didn't say oh it went to Palm Beach. Broward County said great it's going to Palm Beach. Because we're part of that Biotechnology portion of South Florida. We build that, Nova Southeastern University, FAU are all big in those areas. When the Everglades Restoration came to Broward, nobody said oh this

is terrible. That's an \$8 billion project, please, that's a lot more money than Scripps is putting in Palm Beach. \$8 billion is coming to Broward County for the restoration of the Everglades. That's creating a lot of jobs and it's a regional thing. When the FTA was going to Miami, Broward County and Palm Beach put in positions of support. The reason for that is because it's good for us. We bring our international businesses. We need to cooperate as a regional partner. Because if we cooperate as a regional partner and you go to Atlanta, we're now able to compete in a better light. We have much better Ports, the three Ports together. We have much better Airports, the three Airports working in unison not fighting over who's going to get what. We need to think and 100 years from now I promise you there isn't going to be that much of a difference between Palm Beach, Miami and Broward. It's going to be one community and in 100 years from now, that's what we're working for. This is the beginning of that. This is where we say, we're not going to see these changes. Even if we put Transportation in today, most of us will be dead before there is a good system. We're not doing this for us; we're doing this for our future because there is no future right now. Our children are going to be living here and they are going to have to leave because they can't get what we need to give them.

Mr. Benson advised that he is trying to zero in on language that would be appropriate to speak to the issue of development the South Florida brand or developing the regionalism for the Tri-County area. He then asked Mr. Avery if he would be willing to take on the task of trying to come up with some language and forward it to the CRC for consideration.

Mr. Avery: I don't have a problem with that I can give you some ideas. I would love to.

Mr. Weiss agreed with Mr. Trower and Mr. Benson's request and asked Mr. Avery for language for the Bill of Rights section of the Charter.

Mr. Avery: I will write some suggestions and you can debate it. I will also put a call out to the Committees and ask them to put in specific words and recommendations so you can make a decision on that.

Mr. Buckner regarding Regional Transportation issues asked Mr. Avery in terms of the Charter language and topics how we get from where we are now to where we need to be.

Mr. Avery: In reality, when the Vision was going, people weren't really concerned about looking at the specific of the Charter. They were looking for the generalities of what we need so that 50 years from now we're not sitting and having the same discussion. Now we're trying to work on those policies and the areas that we can make effect to change so that we don't have this

discussion. That's why I implore everybody to read *Broward in the 80s*. There are a lot of things that we need to do. I can't be specific because there isn't really Charter language. I know that the Charter does say that Transportation is important. I guess it's difficult; you guys are in a difficult situation. How do you put something in that's not being – because you don't have the funding also behind being able to say it. So you need to be able to give the ability for the people to move in that direction by giving them the nudge and I guess that's what it is. Transportation has to be more than important. Transportation is a necessity and a service that should be provided by the region.

Mr. Buckner asked what some of the things are that Broward County Transit is doing right that is addressing the needs of the County and possibly the region and what are some examples of things in terms of transportation needs that the County or Region needs to begin to lay the framework for.

Mr. Avery: I think the County has made a lot of good steps now, building a Department for Transportation, the leadership is now perfect in place and understands the problem and has been working on the problem for a long time, so I think the County is doing a lot in that direction. I think as we're looking in the future, there shouldn't be a Broward County Transit. There should be a South Florida Transit because that's what our people need. It's not just getting around Broward, it's getting around the entire region and I think that's where we have to start the discussion now because 20 years from now that should be the next step. Right now we can't do that but we need to start making the little changes right now and they horror. They're working on building a one payment system for our region. We need to do more regional cooperation so that buses go freely between the communities and obviously if the buses are being used more, the more money goes into it and the more it will work. So I think there is a beginning to it because there are the right people in place right now that understand the questions that have been a part of it. A lot of the Transit including the head, has been a part of Vision Broward for a long time and the reality is all of this is going to happen whether we put it in the Charter or not because it's a necessity and we need to move it. But it makes it a lot quicker if it is written down and we start making it a priority.

Mr. Mena asked Mr. Avery why he opposed the expansion of University Drive in Coral Springs if Vision Broward is a part of regionalism.

Mr. Avery: As I've told you before, it's a personal opinion first of all, and my opinion was not opposing, I never said that I opposed it. I said I do not want to see another road built until we

put a Transit System in that is affective. Because it doesn't make sense to me that we keep building roads and keep making the same mistakes without creating some kind of true ability for people to move. By building an extension on University into an area that really it would just – and I agree that it might be an appropriate thing in the future. But until we get the correct Transit working so that we can see if that's really needed I am opposed to them starting that first. My thing is let's build Transit.

Mr. Esack referring to Broward in the 80s and generalities that were discussed asked Mr. Avery if there was anything addressed regarding how to go about implementation.

Mr. Avery: Broward in the 80s they talked about the one cent sales tax. I mean we have to understand that unless we develop a dedicated source of funding for Transit, there is no Transit. So it's a catch 22. But we also have to educate our people why it's necessary and that it's allowing for 30% being paid by the tourist and not all by our people, rather than taking from property tax which right now is where our Transit comes from is our General Funds.

The Chair pointed out that the sales tax effort failed and it is not something that you would put in the Charter.

Mr. Avery: No, I don't think it's something that you would put in the Charter. But I do think that we need to put in some stronger language in Transportation that we need to make it understood or educate so that people understand why important.

Mr. Esack asked Mr. Avery if he could include in the proposed language he is to provide, language specific to the Regional Transit Authority including something that addresses implementation.

Mr. Avery: I will send out to the people that are in those areas and ask them to come up with some kind of verbiage that makes sense for a Charter. Obviously that's what we are looking for as much can make sense in the Charter, as Mike said it's the Charter we're talking about, not just the implementation. After the Charter is done, then we have to go back into the implementation of it because the Charter isn't going to implement anything by itself. So we need to get back into the education and explain those areas and why it's important. But if we get the Charter to speak to regionalism and we get the Charter to speak to the environment then it gives us a platform to start the discussion. **[End of Speaker]**

The Chair thanked Mr. Avery for speaking with the CRC.

V. Review and Discussion of Memorandum from Broward County Planning Council

The Chair opened the floor to discussion of the Broward County Planning Council memorandum dated May 29, 2007 re: ***Proposed Draft Revision to the Broward County Charter Addressing Road Closings.***

A motion was made by Ms. Tanner; seconded by Ms. Eisinger to refer this issue to the Land Use Subcommittee, I's were stated and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Discussion of Subcommittee Meeting Attendance

Ms. West advised that there is concern about the lack of quorum presence at subcommittee meetings with guests invited. She advised that staff will now try to contact members to confirm their actual attendance at meetings to determine that a quorum will be present. A discussion ensued amongst the dais with questions and comments raised by The Chair, Ms. Good, Ms. West.

It was requested that everyone gives as much value to the subcommittees as to the full CRC in order to make every effort to attend those meetings.

VII Discussion of Engagement of Legal Services/Consultants for Subcommittees

The Chair requested each subcommittee Chair explain their position of need to the dais in order to obtain authorization for the requested support services.

1. Transportation Subcommittee

TSC Chair Michael Buckner explained that the TSC is at a point now where it is ready to begin deliberations of possible proposed recommendations to the full Commission for Charter revisions regarding Transportation Issues. He advised that the TSC feels that there will be many issues especially in dealing with a possible consideration of a Mass Transit Authority and any type of affect this might have on the MPO. The TSC feels that it necessary to have research and guidance of legal counsel.

A motion was made by Mr. Buckner; seconded by Mr. Esack to have General Counsel of the full Commission attend future Transportation Subcommittee Meetings. I's were stated and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee

The AGSC Chair Irv Rosenbaum explained that the AGSC needs Legal Counsel in attendance for ethical issues and because of the nature of what the subcommittee is faced with.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Rosenbaum; SECONDED by Ms. Good to have General Counsel of the full Commission attend future Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee Meetings. I's were stated and the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Discussion of Additional Issues for Review by Land Use Subcommittee (Full Committee Vote to Consider the Following Issues):

The Chair opened the floor to discussion and consideration of the following issues proposed to the Charter by Commission Kristen Jacobs during the AGSC Roundtable discussion:

1. Citizens Bill of Rights for Clean Air and Clean Water-Inclusion of Right to Environmental Safety-Preservation of Land & Water.

A brief discussion ensued among dais members which included an explanation of why and how the issue came about and why the CRC should or should not address refer it to the Land Use Subcommittee. After a brief discussion with comments made by Mr. Weiss, Mr. Mena, Mr. Esack and Ms. Norris-Weeks.

Ms. Norris-Weeks MOTIONED, SECONDED by Mr. Rosenbaum to refer the Citizens Bill of Rights for Clean Air and Clean Water-Inclusion of Right to Environmental Safety-Preservation of Land & Water issue to the Land Use Subcommittee. The Chair requested a tally by roll and the motion carried (15 Yes to 1 No).

2. Changes to Open Space Requirements to Allow Open Space to Remain Open In Perpetuity.

A brief discussion ensued among dais members the conversation included an explanation of why and how the issue came about and why the CRC should or should not address / refer it to the Land Use Subcommittee. After a brief discussion with comments made by The Chair, Ms. Good, Ms. West, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Buckner and Ms. Kaletta.

Ms. Tanner MOTIONED, SECONDED by Mr. Esack to refer the Changes to Open Space Requirements to Allow Open Space to Remain Open in Perpetuity issue to the Land Use Subcommittee. The Chair requested a tally by roll and the motion carried (14 Yes to 2 No).

The Chair stated for the record that her voting No is not about the issue itself, but about the amount of work already assigned to the subcommittees. Ms. Rogers added that this is also her concern, and reminded the dais that while subcommittees are meeting input from the public will be gathered at those meetings and the subcommittees might come up with something which was not considered by the full Committee and may feel strongly to bring it back to the full CRC prior to proceeding.

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Issues / Governance (AGSC) Report – Dr. Irv Rosenbaum, Chair

Dr. Rosenbaum advised that the following has occurred with the AGSC since the last full CRC meeting:

- Mr. Norm Ostrau, Chairman, Florida Commission on Ethics spoke to the AGSC this morning and the discussion focused on a number of issues related to ethics.
- Discussed County Commission participating in discussion of remaining in the room post conflict declaration.
- Other issues pertaining to ethics
- Discussed Commissioner Jacobs concern regarding ballot initiatives
- Took a look at topical areas discussed in prior meetings
- Next meeting will be held in July

[End AGSC Report]

Health / Social Services Subcommittee (HSSC) Report – Wil Trower, Chair

Mr. Trower advised that the following has occurred with the HSSC since the last full CRC meeting:

- The HSSC met on May 21st and plans to meet directly following today's CRC meeting.

- Mr. Ralph Stone addressed the HSSC and spoke basically about Housing. A great deal of information has been collected and is provided in the Summary of Discussion if everyone is interested in following up on Mr. Stone's presentation.
- Fort Lauderdale ranks 83rd out of 95 major metropolitan areas in the country in terms of the expense level for people who live here.
- Broward County averages at 42.8% of the average income in order to provide for housing and housing associated cost.
- Growth in terms of housing cost, insurance and taxation are the three drivers causing the stress on the housing market.
- Mr. Stone's indicated that the County, through County, State and Federal is bringing in approximately \$1 million in 2006 – 2007 in order to help with development and stimulation of affordable housing.
- Continuing to gather data and interview people.
- By 2010 Broward County needs 38,000 new affordable units for housing. Clear that there are a lot more needs than there are available funds.
- Discussed ways and recommendations that Mr. Stone had about trying to generate more funding for Affordable Housing.
- Mr. Jim Carras, Broward Housing Partnership is scheduled to present to the HSSC today along with Ms. Cindy Arenberg, Director, Children's Services Council to finish discussion about Children's Services.

[End HSSC Report]

Land Use Subcommittee (LUSC) Report – Commissioner Hayward Benson, Vice-Chair

Mr. Weiss advised that the following has occurred with the LUSC since the last full CRC meeting:

- An extensive group of speakers have presented from local government, the County including Ms. Carolyn Deikel of the SFRPC.
- Has completed education regarding the Comprehensive Plan Process and the Committee members now have a good understanding of how the City's Comprehensive Plan interacts with the County Plan.
- The LUSC is now hearing nothing and are very surprised by the lack of interest and lack of any major push one way or another to change the Planning Council.

- Due to concern the LUSC sent out almost 500 pieces of correspondence in an additional outreach effort.
- A couple of comments were received in response but overall very little response.
- There have been no votes and are not feeling any pressure on the issue which was thought to be controversial.
- The Committee continues to waiting to see if the mail out solicits any type of response.
- LUSC does not see creating or that there is an issue that needs to be addressed; however the issue does still remain open.
- The LUSC remains open to issue suggestions on Planning Council.
- Reminded the dais that even Ms. Eichner of the League of Cities was not advocating changes in the Planning Council.
- Two new issues have been referred and the LUSC intends to begin dealing with them at the next meeting.
- Pointed out that Mr. Penezic's suggestion and plans to follow through to ensure nothing is being missed.
- The Chair, Lori Moseley plans to visit the LUSC.

A discussion ensued between Ms. Tanner regarding the possible need for correction in the Planning Council Initiative item which she moved to refer to the LUSC and what she thought was the lack of a 10 vote. Mr. Goren explained that the motion had 10 votes and the item was sent for discussion / review and it may have no support coming from the LUSC. He explained that it by no means tags the conclusion.

The Chair explained that the Planning Council Initiative was a letter which made it a little different because the letter was sent to the entire Charter Review Commission. The other items were brought up in Committees.

Mr. Goren advised that there is no legal commitment that the CRC needs to consider if the subcommittee chooses not to bring it back.

- The next LUSC meeting will be held Friday, June 15 and will be chaired by Commissioner Hayward Benson, Vice-Chair in Mr. Weiss' absence.

[End LUSC Report]

Public Safety Subcommittee (PSSC) Report – Dr. Mark Lieberman, Chair

Dr. Lieberman advised that the following has occurred with the PSSC since the last full CRC meeting:

- Still in educational and information process.
- Chief Robert Pudney, City of Plantation spoke on May 9th on the topic of Pros and Cons of Volunteer Fire Departments.
- Minimal Standards Discussions including the Role of the Broward County FRC and possibly giving them the authority to Develop and Implement Fire Rescue Minimum Standards. The PSSC asked Legal Counsel – Mel Wilson, Esq. if this was possible and answer was that it is possible. The PSSC continues to look into this.
- Mr. Richard Carpani, Director of BSO Communications presented and discussions involved technology of communications with Fire Rescue and Police in Broward County and their Strategic Vision.
- Discovered that there is a Committee under the FRC called the Regional Public Safety Communications Committee (RPSCC). Looked at their role and they involve all municipalities with communication for Broward County.
- Looking at formerly connecting that committee to the FRC as a Charter amendment.
- Asked Mr. Carpani back to speak again today to speak at the PSSC's fifth meeting.
- Having presentations by John Curry, Executive Director of Administration for BSO and Pete Corwin today.
- Plans to wrap up the educational process and begin to deliberate the ideas to bring them back to the full Committee in the future.

Ms. Rogers asked Dr. Lieberman how the PSSC views Cities getting their own radio stations.

Dr. Lieberman advised that Mr. Carpani brought the ***Broward Regional Public Safety Communications Strategic Vision*** which reflected proposed station locations. He advised that he will ensure that Ms. Rogers receives a copy. He stated as far as what to think about it, he thinks personally that they are doing the right thing, but the dais has not had the discussion.

Ms. Rogers advised that she heard that key cities were getting their own radio stations and she was trying to see if this was discussed and if the County does have a method of communicating by radio with all of the cities in terms of regionalism and communications.

Dr. Lieberman advised that the PSSC was advised at the meetings that 28 of the 31 municipalities can communicate with each other. A discussion ensued with comments made by Ms. Eisinger regarding Pembroke Pines, The Chair regarding partnering cities, and Ms. Good regarding system upgrades.

[End PSSC Report]

Transportation Subcommittee (TSC) Report – Michael Buckner, Esq., Chair

Mr. Buckner advised that the following has occurred with the TSC since the last full CRC meeting:

- The TSC is at the final stages of educational process.
- Has held two meetings since the last full CRC meeting.
- May 17th Phil Allen, Director, Broward County Port Everglades Department who discussed the success of the Port and the fact that it is no longer competing against the Ports in the State of Florida but they are competing against Ports throughout the world. He also discussed the growth of the Port in particular because of the Cargo traffic.
- Port Everglades is not longer focusing on passenger traffic but the money maker is now cargo. Plans exist to dredge the Port in the future to bring in larger cargo vessels which would then increase profits of the Port. TSC asked if there are Charter changes that need to be made with regard to Port Everglades. Mr. Allen advised that everything is going fine. Mr. Allen went through the Masterplan and the ingress/egress to the Port for access to the Convention Center better and cooperates with BSO with regard to security issues and reconfiguring under the New Masterplan. Greater Cooperation with the Airport in terms of Cruise passenger and luggage transportation improvements.
- June 7th the TSC hosted two speakers - Mayor Eggelton of Broward County and Mr. James Cummings of Broward Workshop. Based on these two speakers, the TSC found that 2 things are going on at the County/regional level.
 - Lack of Leadership to promote transportation and address the deficiencies
 - Funding Sources – Miami-Dade has one, but Broward and Palm Beach Counties do not.
 - To address those two issues both the Mayor and Mr. Cummings talked about creating stronger leadership at the top and keeping single-member districts.
- The TSC Toured FLL-HWD International last week.
- Scheduling a tour of Port Everglades.

- Asked the TSC members to take the bus and actually use Mass Transit in order to provide a personal basis during the discussions for positives and deficiencies about Mass Transit.
- Expecting to schedule additional speakers
- Plans to begin issue deliberations next week.

[End TSC Report]

X NEW BUSINESS

Summaries of Discussion

Ms. West reminded the dais that during the last full CRC meeting staff asked if the dais wished to have SODs from the other Subcommittees included in dais folders. Ms. West advised that Subcommittee SODs were not provided today because it is a lot of paper and a lot of information. She expressed concern that everyone may not be getting educated on the process and suggested maybe the Summaries should be included in the folders or maybe staff should provide reports from the subcommittees so that everyone can be on the same page as something is not quite working. A discussion ensued with comments and suggestions made by Dr. Lieberman, Ms. Tanner, The Chair, Mr. Trower, Ms. Good, Mr. Esack and Ms. West. It was determined that staff will provide minutes from the subcommittee meetings electronically and it is left to the individual member to print out the minutes. Staff will also print copies for those members who wish to have the minutes in their folders. Dais members will notify Ms. West of their delivery preference.

Charter Review Commission – Road Campaign

Mr. Trower who expressed concern that the CRC makes sure to really look hard at the issues they are dealing with. He suggested sending out to the Public a Summary of where the CRC is utilizing the **Newspapers** to at least alert the public. A discussion ensued amongst dais members including comments and recommendations made by The Chair, Ms. West, Ms. Eisinger, Ms. Good, Mr. Weiss, Ms. Norris-Weeks, Ms. Tanner, Ms. Kaletta, Mr. Mena, Ms. Norris-Weeks, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Esack, Mr. Goren and Mr. Benson.

Concerns were expressed during topic of discussion by Ms. Norris-Weeks, Mr. Mena and Mr. Esack on the following issues:

- A member does not wish to repeat what the previous / 2002 Charter did.
- A member does not believe the Commission is ready to speak to groups due to a concern for not being knowledgeable enough on the subject matters to answer questions.
- Timeline – Subcommittees vs. Outreach

Discussions took place on each of these concerns and all were addressed and alleviated.

The following actions were agreed to in order to give the public more information and possibly generate additional public involvement:

Ms. Good MOTIONED the following:

- Dais members through coordination with CRC Executive Director, Ms. West will engage in a public outreach (on-the-road) campaign and attempt to reach any membership/affiliated organizations they are a party to, Homeowners Associations, Chambers etc.
- Subcommittee Chairs will work with Ms. West / staff to develop a *global CRC Summary Report / Script* so that all language conveyed throughout the campaign is uniform and does not present ones personal opinions on the issues.
- A bulleted CRC Summary Report will be published in the Newspaper (Broward Times, Sun Sentinel) before the Subcommittees close.
- Information on each location / organization approached must be provided to Ms. West.
- The dais agreed to take action now in order to gain momentum and address groups who may not meet in July/August.
- Each member must refrain from personal comments.

General Counsel – Reminder before final vote

Mr. Goren: As you consider this motion on that same sword, there is a rule on point that I know is discussed in some fashion today. Let me just read one portion to remind you as you take this motion to heart this morning which specifically states:

“...Other members of the Charter Review Commission may respond to inquiries on behalf of the Charter Review Commission so long as their statements are consistent with the Charter Review Commissions actions, decisions, and representations.”

It's key that although you may leave here as individuals you never shed yourself of the responsibility of being a member of this Commission as you are as Elected Officials as well 24/7. So the language there is one you embraced months ago. It has great meaning in the context of where you transcend your conversation later. Just as a reminder, I know that you know what your responsibilities and tasks are, just stay with the program. Just one more point that I think you all know also is that what I read back to you is the secondary source; the primary source has been designated as the Chair or the Executive Director which is principally the spokes person or persons. So this is a bit of a change. It's implementing the second paragraph which you are permitted to do, so long as you keep within the parameters of your limitations and with all due respect, I know we're all individuals. With all due respect you may not have any individual opinions at the moment because the collegial body has not expressed any conclusions on topics which could be very sensitive.

Motion restated by Mr. Goren: *The motion is basically to allow individual members of this Commission to essentially take this Commissions program on the road with certain scripted or bullet point issues of the entire Commission and Subcommittees for the purpose of generating interest and communication, coordinated through the Chair and the Executive Director.*

Mr. Mena SECONDED, I's were stated and the motion passed unanimously.

XI PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Glickman, Deerfield Beach, Florida

Mr. Glickman inquired on the status of the suggestions to the Charter: The first being the Citizens' Right to Public Records – adding “*and via the internet*”. The Chair advised Mr. Glickman that the topics will be discussed in some form. Mr. Glickman added that on Page 9, Sec. 2.09 entitled *Boards* – suggested that the word *Boards* should be more than just *Boards* because it talks about *Boards, Committees, Agencies* etc. The Chair advised that this will be addressed by the Commission when its review covers verbiage. **[End Public Comment]**

XII ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m. The next meeting of the full Charter Review Commission will be held on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 at 10:00 am.

The minutes of this meeting are recorded on CD # 06.13.07 (BCGV CTR)