

CITY OF WESTLAKE



MINUTES

City Council Workshop - Strategic Planning

Tuesday, September 08, 2026 at 4:30 PM

The Lodge at Westlake Adventure Park
5490 Kingfisher Blvd.
Westlake, Florida 33470

CITY COUNCIL:

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor
Greg Langowski, Vice Mayor
Gary Werner, Council Member – Seat 1
Erik Gleason, Council Member – Seat 2
Charlotte Leonard, Council Member – Seat 3

CITY STAFF:

Howard W. Brown, Jr., ICMA-CM, City Manager
Zoie Burgess, CMC, City Clerk
Donald J. Doody, City Attorney
Osniel Leon, AICP, Planning and Zoning
Suzanne Dombrowski, P.E., ENV SP, Engineering

A City Council Workshop – Strategic Planning of the City of Westlake was held on Tuesday, September 08, 2026, at 4:30 PM., at The Lodge at Westlake Adventure Park, 5490 Kingfisher Blvd. Members of the public also attended the meeting through electronic means and accessed as follows:

1. Webex meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone at the following link:
<https://cityofwestlake.my.webex.com/>

Meeting ID: 2869 751 9420

Password: hello

2. Participants also dialed in using phone with the following number:

United States Toll:+1-650-479-3208

Meeting ID: 2869 751 9420

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor O'Connor called the City of Westlake Workshop - Strategic Planning meeting of Tuesday, September 8, 2026, to order at 4:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present and constituting a quorum:

Councilman Gary Werner
Councilman Erik Gleason
Vice Mayor Greg Langowski
Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor

Also present:

Howard W. Brown, Jr., City Manager
Zoie Burgess, CMC, City Clerk

Councilwoman Leonard was absent during Roll Call and arrived at the meeting at 4:41PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor O'Connor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP AGENDA

- A. Strategic Plan Review, Assessment of Progress, and Establishment of City Council Priorities

Mayor O'Connor introduced the item.

Mr. Brown opened the workshop to review the strategic plan adopted previously and to evaluate whether the City's vision, mission, values, and goals remained relevant, while also identifying new council priorities.

Mr. Brown also reviewed the City's core values. Discussion clarified that responsible stewardship was intended to include both careful use of taxpayer dollars and broader stewardship of the city, including adherence to proper procedures. The Council agreed the values remained consistent with their intent.

For technology and innovation, the Council agreed the Westlake app has been launched but should be enhanced, particularly with service-request features such as geotagging. The Council also supported redesigning the City's website and reframing the goal under a broader technology and innovation heading.

Discussion of a possible Public Information Officer was deferred for future consideration.

The Council agreed that establishing a city hall remains an active goal and that installing public safety technology should also remain in place without change.

Regarding road interconnectivity, the Council agreed the goal remains active despite some completed actions, including a prior supporting resolution. Members emphasized continued advocacy, including county-level engagement.

For the city park, Mr. Brown reported that Phase 1 state funding had been secured and coordination with SID remains ongoing. The Council agreed to continue pursuing funding for later phases through grants, appropriations, partnerships, sponsorships, and donations. Members also supported renewed community engagement to confirm that the existing park plan still reflects current resident preferences, potentially through a survey or similar outreach.

As new priorities, the Council discussed charter review, including possible revisions related to charter officers, compensation structure, and benefits. The Council agreed the first step should be a council workshop to identify specific provisions for possible amendment, with any broader public engagement to follow.

The Council also agreed to develop a formal decorum policy to clarify meeting conduct and public comment procedures, including the practice of receiving public comment without immediate council response.

Mr. Brown proposed developing a cost recovery model for development services. The Council supported reviewing revenues, expenditures, and consultant accountability, particularly where contractor or consultant errors create avoidable costs for the City.

On the city hall facility, the Council agreed to move forward with an RFP for a temporary modular city hall on City-owned property, with proposals to include site work and utility connections. Councilmembers agreed this would provide reliable cost information for future decision-making.

Finally, the Council agreed to schedule a separate workshop to review the InfraMark contract in detail and supported adding a broader strategic goal focused on innovation, efficiency, and future readiness.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

- A. Councilwoman Charlotte Leonard – No comments.
- B. Councilman Erik Gleason – No comments.
- C. Councilman Gary Werner – No Comments.
- D. Vice Mayor Greg Langowski – No Comments.
- E. Mayor JohnPaul O'Connor – No Comments.

CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

No Comments.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

No Comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

This section of the agenda allows for comments from the public to speak. Each speaker will be given a total of three (3) minutes to comment. A public comment card should be completed and returned to the City Clerk. When you are called to speak, please go to the podium, and prior to addressing Council, state your name and address for the record. All public comments will be noted and may receive a response if necessary. Any follow-up will be handled by staff later.

Public Comment – Mr. Bobby Farber – 4829 Saint Armands Way – Mr. Farber commented on several workshop topics. Mr. Farber suggested exploring modular city hall units that could later be incorporated into a permanent facility rather than discarded. Mr. Farber also questioned whether workshops would draw enough participation on charter and park issues and recommended a citizen advisory committee and a mailed resident survey as potentially more representative outreach method.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 5:55 PM.

Zoie P. Burgess, CMC, City Clerk

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor