

CITY OF WESTLAKE



MINUTES

City Council Workshop (Continued - Day 2)

Saturday, June 21, 2025, at 9:00 AM

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:

Ken Cassel, City Manager
Zoie P. Burgess, CMC, City Clerk
Donald J. Doody, Esq., City Attorney
Osniel Leon, AICP, Planning and Zoning
Suzanne Dombrowski, P.E., ENV SP, Engineering

Day two of a two-day strategic planning workshop by the City Council of the City of Westlake was held on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at 9:00 AM., at The Lodge at Westlake Adventure Park, 5490 Kingfisher Blvd.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor O'Connor called the strategic planning workshop on Saturday, June 21, 2025, to order at 9:00 AM

ROLL CALL

Present and constituting a quorum:

Councilman Werner
Councilman Gleason
Councilwoman Leonard
Vice Mayor Langowski
Mayor O'Connor

Also present:

Kenneth Cassel, City Manager
Sean M. Swartz, Esq., City Attorney
Zoie Burgess, CMC, City Clerk
Odet Izquierdo, Deputy City Clerk
Osniel Leon, AICP, Planning & Zoning

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor O'Connor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP CONTINUED - Facilitated by Dr. Dale Sugerman

Day two began with a review and recap of the following:

- Vision Statement approved as : 'Westlake will be a thriving, inclusive, and sustainable city where innovation flourishes, safety is foundational, and a community its residents are proud to call home now and for generations to come.'
- Mission confirmed focusing on building a safe, inclusive, sustainable community through thoughtful growth guidance and responsive leadership.
- Six core values established, emphasizing responsible stewardship and ethical decision-making.

Day two agenda was established beginning with Item G. Report on Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Challenges.

- A. Introduction of Purpose of Strategic Planning Workshop
 - Strategic planning elements and process
 - Strategic thinking vs. strategic planning
- B. Environmental Scan Data and Information

- C. Summary of Engagement Themes
 - Review interview themes from city leaders
 - Review input from the community
- D. Development of a City Vision
- E. Development of a City Mission
- F. Development of City Core Values
- G. Report on Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Challenges

Prior to continuing, the vision statement was reviewed with a suggestion to add 'connected' after 'inclusive'.

Debate on using 'will be' vs 'is' for the vision statement's opening, with preference for 'will be'.

Final vision approved: 'Westlake will be a thriving, inclusive, and sustainable city where innovation flourishes, safety is foundational, and a community its residents are proud to call home now and for generations to come.'

Discussion and debate regarding the Mission Statement. The final mission statement confirmed: Focus on building a safe, inclusive, sustainable community through thoughtful growth guidance, public safety priority, and responsive leadership.

Additional discussion and refinement of the core values.

Returning to the agenda there was an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges, in summary:

- Public safety is identified as a key strength with plans to build through technology and partnerships.
- Master planned community recognized as a strength requiring collaboration.
- Communication with residents identified as a weakness needing improvement.
- Transportation connectivity noted as a limitation

Various priorities were identified, including, but not limited to discussions regarding Town Center, a Westlake App, and road interconnectivity.

H. Identification of S.M.A.R.T. Goals

Next item followed, S.M.A.R.T. Goals development for specific, measurable, achievable, realistic progress tracking and evaluation. The following goals were identified with a 1–3-year timeframe balancing need and staff constraints and incorporating stakeholder input and community feedback:

- Goal 1: Meeting with Minto established with specific actions and measurable outcomes.
- Goal 2: Westlake App Development timeline created with integration considerations.
- Goal 3: RFP for temporary city hall space to be completed by December.
- Goal 4: Public Safety Technology initiatives outlined with timelines.

- Goal 5: Road Interconnectivity resolution supporting planned construction.
- Goal 6: City Park Development approach established with funding considerations.

I. Setting Consensus Priorities

Discussion regarding implementation, including resource allocation, and timeline between goals.

PUBLIC FEEDBACK

This section of the agenda allows for comments from the public to speak. Each speaker will be given one opportunity to speak for 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 - Jim August – 4654 Woodland Way – Emphasized infrastructure limitations and business attraction challenges.

Public Comment – Farah Labeed – 15769 Key Biscayne Lane – Suggested a strategic planning meeting with Minto and Seminole Improvement District. She also suggested a detailed park survey approach.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council emphasized the importance of collaboration and communication between the city and residents. Council expressed gratitude for the productive discussions and the opportunity to work together towards common goals.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor O'Connor adjourned the meeting at 2:07 PM.

Zoie P. Burgess, CMC City Clerk

JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor