**From:** Leonardo Santiago [mailto:lsantiago@orlandocitysc.com]

Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 10:39 AM

**To:** Leonardo Santiago

**Subject:** Orlando City SC hosts first Parramore Task Force Meeting for Stadium Monday Night



## For Immediate Release:

**Orlando City SC hosts first Parramore Task Force Meeting for Stadium** *City Commissioner Regina Hill Helps Chair the Meeting of Community Leaders* 

**ORLANDO – November 12, 2014 –** Orlando City Soccer Club held its first meeting of the Parramore Stadium Design Advisory Task Force Monday night at its offices downtown.

The meeting was the first of a series of at least quarterly gatherings of leaders, residents, advocates and business owners from the Parramore district whose goal is to ensure the heritage and culture of the district are incorporated into the new soccer stadium being constructed on Church Street. The stadium is scheduled to open in time for the 2016 Major League Soccer (MLS) season.

Commissioner Hill opened the meeting by welcoming members, "I want to thank the people at this table for answering the call to be a part of this tonight. Thank you for showing up and getting to work."

The meeting kicked off with an overview of the sport of soccer, MLS, the Club and the Orlando City Foundation. There was also a review of the stadium which included the stated goal of the Parramore Stadium Design Advisory Task Force: Provide strategic guidance on incorporating the Parramore community's heritage into the new Orlando City stadium and programming.

Commenting further on the goal, Orlando City's Founder and President Phil Rawlins stated, "We are looking for your ideas to help make the new stadium loud, colorful, full of music and an enjoyable place for fans to be. We want the stadium to mirror the community, as well as inspire the community."

The Parramore Task Force is comprised of the following members:

- Ann Brown, President of the Callahan Neighborhood Center
- Bacari Burns, Executive Director of Healthcare for the Homeless Center
- Brenda March, Children and Education Manager, City of Orlando
- Dr. Clara Walters, Retired educator and Shiloh Baptist Church Trustee
- Dr. Robert Spooney, Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church
- Mary Longstreet, Parramore resident
- Pam Woodley, Daughter of late Georgia Nell Woodley, historic Parramore leader
- Ralph Armsted, Parramore resident

- Reginald McGill, Constituent Services Director, Office of the Mayor
- Reverend Rollie Murray, Parramore Resident
- Walter Hawkins, Director of Urban Development, Parramore Pathways
- John Henry, Parramore resident and business owner

The next meeting of the Parramore Stadium Design Advisory Task Force will take place after the holiday season.

For more information on Orlando City SC or to purchase 2015 MLS Season Tickets, visit <a href="www.OrlandoCitySC.com">www.OrlandoCitySC.com</a> or call 855-ORL-CITY. Also, follow the latest Orlando City news and updates via <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a>, <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a> and <a href="YouTube">YouTube</a>.

## **About Orlando City Soccer Club:**

Recently <u>ranked 14<sup>th</sup></u> among all professional teams in North America, Orlando City Soccer Club (OCSC) is Major League Soccer's newest expansion club set to debut in 2015. The Lions' first team set the U.S. record for best start of any professional soccer club in its first USL PRO league 100 matches (66-12-22). Orlando City has won three USL PRO regular season titles and two postseason championships. Outside of the first squad, OCSC also has a youth club, Orlando City Youth Soccer (OCYS) and a U-23 team that participates in the PDL. For more information on the pro and youth clubs, visit www.OrlandoCitySC.com andwww.OrlandoCityYouth.org.

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