



# LauderBriefs

## Updates from City Commission Meetings

In case you missed it, following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, November 5, 2019.

To view the video of the Commission meetings, visit [bit.ly/2mgrQNI](http://bit.ly/2mgrQNI).

### CONFERENCE MEETING

#### **Amendments to the City's Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance**

The City Commission, which has expressed concern related to the loss of old growth specimen trees, received an overview of proposed changes to Section 9 and 25 of the Code of Ordinances and Section 47 of the Urban Land Development Regulations. Proposed changes seek to address urban forestry concerns to achieve a simplified and consistent application of the City's regulations while strengthening tree preservation and preserving community character. Neighbors will have an opportunity to attend an open house meeting to provide input before the amendments are presented to the City Commission. For details, visit [bit.ly/32qVO0n](http://bit.ly/32qVO0n).

#### **Crisis and Emergency Communications**

The City's Strategic Communications Office provided an overview of how it strives to communicate effectively in an emergency to help save lives, build credibility and trust, and prevent rumors and misinformation from spreading. The presentation reviewed the benefits of adhering to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS), as well as the importance of collaborating between City departments and external partners at the local, state, and federal levels. To support effective communication during future emergencies, City Commissioners discussed best practices to facilitate clear messages across various platforms before, during, and after an emergency. For details, visit [bit.ly/2qszPsl](http://bit.ly/2qszPsl).

#### **C-51 Reservoir Allocation Purchase**

The City Commission discussed long-term water supply needs for the City and agreed to move forward with plans to execute an agreement during an upcoming Regular Commission Meeting reserving 6 million gallons of water per day from the C-51 Reservoir, a regional water supply that is an alternative to the Floridian Aquifer. This agreement includes a one-time capital cost of \$27.6 million and a recurring annual operating cost of \$219,309. Staff engaged the services of Hazen and Sawyer to evaluate options for alternative water supply sources, which revealed that among the benefits of purchasing C-51 water are: lowering the City's carbon footprint, increasing utilization of raw water resources, and maximizing diversification of water sources. For details, visit [bit.ly/33rTRCr](http://bit.ly/33rTRCr).

## **CRA BOARD MEETING**

### **Sistrunk Station Project Receives \$350,000 in Loans**

The City Commission, acting as the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners, unanimously approved a \$225,000 Business Improvement Program forgivable loan and a \$125,000 Façade Program forgivable loan for the Sistrunk Station Project located at 616 NW 2 Avenue. The proposal calls for a mixed-use transformation of the 51,390 square-foot site to include a communal space and retail hub of office suites, event and cultural space, and retail and art stalls with direct access to the nearby Sistrunk Market food hall and brewery. For details, visit [bit.ly/33sOyTe](https://bit.ly/33sOyTe).

### **\$350,000 in Loans Approved for Renovation of 1227 Sistrunk Boulevard**

The CRA Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a \$225,000 Business Improvement Program forgivable loan and a \$125,000 Façade Program forgivable loan for renovations of the building and site at 1227 Sistrunk Boulevard. Planned building features are set to include a reception hall for the community on the first floor, with new handicap-accessible restrooms, a warming kitchen, and a storage area, and five affordable 450-square-foot, one-bedroom rental apartments on the second floor. For details, visit [bit.ly/2Ntcxfs](https://bit.ly/2Ntcxfs).

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **A Partner Two Movies and One Meal Away**

The City Commission warmly welcomed a presentation by Her Excellency, The Honorable Rosemary Banks, New Zealand Ambassador to the United States of America. Ambassador Banks explained that despite physical distance, the two countries are alike in terms of shared values and appreciation of a democratic way of life. She provided a snapshot of the bilateral relationship between the U.S. and New Zealand with examples that included New Zealand's longstanding support of U.S. armed forces, a shared concern about the various challenges faced by the islands in the Pacific region, and the opportunity to establish a more robust trade and economic relationship. Recently, gun violence tragedies strengthened the social relationship between her city and the South Florida community due to the outpouring of love and support from each in response to the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and the Christchurch mosque shootings. Her Excellency's presentation concluded with observations about the striking similarities shared by New Zealand and Florida in terms of total coast line, enthusiasm for the marine industry, and yacht club heritage. For details, visit [bit.ly/32vjElu](https://bit.ly/32vjElu).

### **City Approves \$750,000 Agreement with United Way of Broward County**

The City Commission approved a \$750,000 not-for-profit grant participation agreement with the United Way of Broward County to address homelessness in Fort Lauderdale. The City's contribution is a strong example of Fort Lauderdale's commitment to eradicating homelessness. The funds may be used for expenses such as housing and support services including reunification and outreach. For details, visit [bit.ly/2pTZVoz](https://bit.ly/2pTZVoz).

### **City Approves \$101,700 Agreement with Junior Achievement of South Florida, Inc.**

The City Commission approved a \$101,700 not-for-profit grant participation agreement with Junior Achievement of South Florida, Inc. in support of their efforts to provide financial and entrepreneurial learning to nearly 50,000 students annually in Broward County public schools. The City will provide \$10 for every public-school 5<sup>th</sup>- and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade student in Fort Lauderdale served annually through JA BizTown and JA Finance Park, where they develop workforce skills, learn personal finance concepts, and establish the basic skills of entrepreneurship. For details, visit [bit.ly/2qCx5ZK](https://bit.ly/2qCx5ZK).

### **City Approves \$123,747 Agreement with Early Learning Coalition of Broward, Inc.**

The City Commission approved a \$123,747 not-for-profit grant participation agreement with Early Learning Coalition of Broward, Inc. that will be used to match federal and state grants to provide subsidized child care for approximately 2,500 Fort Lauderdale children of eligible low-income families. To meet the complex needs of children and families, Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc. has implemented a host of comprehensive programs such as School Readiness, Child Care Executive Partnership, Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten and Financially Assisted Child Care. For details, visit [bit.ly/34GqH2v](http://bit.ly/34GqH2v).

### **City Enters Updated Statewide Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement**

The City Commission approved Fort Lauderdale's participation in an updated statewide mutual aid agreement that allow for reciprocal emergency aid and the timely reimbursement of costs incurred by local governments that render such assistance. Among the updates are the ability to use the agreement for smaller events and without a statewide emergency declaration. For details, visit [bit.ly/2WWG6ZJ](http://bit.ly/2WWG6ZJ).

### **City Approves Interlocal Agreement with the Broward MPO for Transportation Planning Services**

The City Commission unanimously approved a five-year transportation planning services Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that streamlines the oversight process, creates organizational efficiencies, and eliminates redundant efforts. The new partnership, which is estimated to generate \$300,000 in annual savings, will incorporate a strategic, regional planning approach that aligns with the City's transportation and mobility goals and objectives. For details, visit [bit.ly/32tKlx6](http://bit.ly/32tKlx6).

### **City Defers Discussion on Contract for Isle of Palms Seawall Replacement to November 19th Meeting**

The City Commission deferred a discussion on a \$1,952,767 contract for the Isle of Palms Seawall Replacement Project with Poseidon Dredge & Marine, Inc. The item will be discussed at the Commission Meeting on November 19, 2019. For details, visit [bit.ly/2Q89JWO](http://bit.ly/2Q89JWO).

### **City Approves Contract to Develop Vision for Las Olas Boulevard**

The City Commission unanimously approved a not-to-exceed \$765,644 contract with The Corradino Group for the conceptual streetscape design for Las Olas Boulevard. This contract is the result of efforts by the Las Olas Working Group that has been dedicated to the enhancement of this iconic boulevard since June 2018. Services include visioning and concept development as well as cost estimates and prioritization of segments in order to program design and construction funding. For details, visit [bit.ly/2KffEW2](http://bit.ly/2KffEW2).

### **City Approves Recipients of 2019 Citizens Recognition Awards**

The City Commission approved the recipients of the 2019 Citizen Recognition Awards: Citizen of the Year – Marcia Pinder; Distinguished Citizen – Gail Butler; Honored Founder – Frank Stranahan; Exemplary Former City Employee – Jack Lokeinsky. For details, visit [bit.ly/2QcrEf2](http://bit.ly/2QcrEf2).

### **Planning and Zoning Board's Decision Upheld by City Commission**

The City Commission reviewed an appeal request and upheld the Planning and Zoning Board's May 15, 2019 denial of a rezoning application filed by Brody Family Investments, LLC. The original request was in reference to 816 NW 6th Avenue, where a one-story, 10,456 square-foot commercial building, currently exists. The applicant requested to rezone 0.39 acres of land from General Industrial (I) to General Business (B-2) zoning district. For details, visit [bit.ly/2QaK5Re](http://bit.ly/2QaK5Re).

### **City Approves Emergency Amendment to Dockless Mobility Ordinance**

The City Commission unanimously approved an emergency amendment to Subsection 27-264(g) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale – Dockless Mobility Programs to authorize temporary extensions to existing scooter operator permits. The extensions will give the City time to further explore and evaluate the operations and regulations of dockless mobility units in alignment with Florida

Statutes, following amendments resulting from the 2019 legislative session. For details, visit [bit.ly/36XVzNZ](http://bit.ly/36XVzNZ).

**City Approves Establishment of Uptown Urban Village Zoning Districts**

The City Commission unanimously approved an ordinance amending the City of Fort Lauderdale Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) to establish new zoning districts for Uptown in order to implement the vision and goals of the Uptown Master Plan and create a more livable urban village that meets the needs of the changing workforce and adds a mix of uses in the area. For details, visit [bit.ly/33J5Vz1](http://bit.ly/33J5Vz1).