



LauderBriefs

Updates from City Commission Meetings

In case you missed it, following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, December 17, 2019. To view the video of the Commission meetings, visit bit.ly/2mgrQNI.

CONFERENCE MEETING

Broward UP Brings Educational Opportunities Close to Home

Broward College President Gregory Haile delivered a presentation to the Commission about Broward College's Broward UP (Unlimited Potential) program, which takes an innovative, community-centric approach to higher education by bringing free educational opportunities, workforce training, and support to underrepresented communities. The City Commission expressed support for the program, adding Fort Lauderdale to a growing list of municipal and community agency partners throughout the County. The next step is to finalize the memorandum of understanding between the City and Broward College and identify City-owned facilities that can be made available for Broward UP programming. To learn more about Broward Up, visit broward.edu/BrowardUp. For more details, visit bit.ly/2PWfUeU.

Tunnel Top Plaza Concept Moves Forward

The team working on the new Henry E. Kinney Tunnel Top Plaza presented an updated concept to the City Commission that incorporates community feedback that was gathered during recent public meetings on topics such as safety, shade, access, and public art. These meetings also revealed overwhelming support from neighbors for the idea of increasing the size of the plaza from a 60-foot tunnel extension, as was presented in January 2018, to a 130-foot design with connections to the New River and Ward Plaza. The project – including the new larger size, remodeling of Laura Ward Plaza and the ventilation tower, and upgrades needed in the tunnel to support the larger plaza – is estimated at \$12-\$15 million. For more details, visit bit.ly/38Y9pRw.

Made to Move Grant Update

City staff and representatives from Blue Zones summarized progress that's been made on the Flagler Greenway Transportation Equity Improvement Project with a focus on community engagement efforts over the past three months since Fort Lauderdale received one of five \$100,000 Made to Move grants from Unilever Degree Deodorant and Blue Zones. The scope of the project includes providing additional connections between the Flagler Greenway and businesses along Flagler Drive as well as traffic calming and wayfinding improvements with the overall goal of enhancing the Greenway as a viable transportation option. To learn more about the ongoing project and the Made to Move grant, visit fortlauderdale.gov/flaglergreenway For more details, visit bit.ly/2Eq1zlu.

CRA BOARD MEETING

Improvements Coming to Dorsey Riverbend

The City Commission, acting as the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners, unanimously approved \$255,000 in funding for a 1-year home repair and renovation pilot project for properties in the Historic Dorsey Riverbend Community. Single-family, owner occupied residential homes or family-owned rentals are eligible for improvements under this program, which is a partnership with Rebuilding Together Broward County and is intended to revitalize this residential neighborhood, enhance the pride of ownership, and improve property values. With the assistance and guidance of the Historic Dorsey Riverbend Community Civic Association, homes in need of repair will be identified and rehabilitated with improvements including renovations and installation of low maintenance landscaping at no cost to homeowners. For more details, visit bit.ly/36OYVCa.

REGULAR MEETING

What's Happening in 2020

The City Commission approved several agreements for events throughout the City in 2020, including the return of Sound Waves, which is moving to Las Olas Oceanside Park. City staff has been working closely with event organizers regarding topics such as logistics, maintenance, and security. Some events will require the closing of City streets and may feature amplified music while adhering to the City's noise ordinance. Event organizers are responsible for arranging parking and ensuring that any necessary insurance, permits and licenses are acquired. Civic and merchant associations have been notified regarding events in their areas. For more details, visit bit.ly/2PvYuXg.

The Fort Lauderdale Air Show Takes to the Sky in May

The City Commission approved a \$75,000 Beach Business Improvement District (BID) grant participation agreement for the Fort Lauderdale Air Show, which returns on May 2-3, 2020 bringing aerial exhibitions of both military and civilian aircraft, exhibits, simulators, and displays. The event is visible on Fort Lauderdale Beach from Fort Lauderdale Beach Park to Oakland Park Boulevard with a site for premium ticket holders located north of Sunrise Boulevard. For more details, visit bit.ly/2rWesBb.

Regional Water Supply Allocation Secured

Considering the City's long-term water supply needs, the City Commission unanimously approved an agreement reserving 3 million gallons of water per day (MGD) from the C-51 Reservoir, a regional water supply that is an alternative to the Biscayne Aquifer from which withdrawals are limited based on the Regional Water Availability rule enacted in 2007. Based on an analysis by Hazen and Sawyer, the purchase of C-51 water is economically advantageous to the City and provides a secure and permitted water supply through December 27, 2065. For more details, visit bit.ly/36P2FDI.

Coming Soon to Fort Lauderdale Beach

The City Commission approved a 12-story, 150-room Residence Inn hotel project at 425 Seabreeze Boulevard. The proposed development seeks to enhance the resort image of Fort Lauderdale Beach and features public realm improvements along the site perimeter including a ten-foot sidewalk along Seabreeze Boulevard and an eight-foot publicly-accessible waterfront promenade on the west side of the property. The project was approved based on a commitment by the developer to pay for infrastructure improvements at the site. For more details, visit bit.ly/35yjCBY