



LauderBriefs

Updates from City Commission Meetings

The City of Fort Lauderdale will be hosting virtual Commission meetings using audio/video conferencing software until further notice. The public will be able to listen to and view the virtual meetings at www.fortlauderdale.gov/fltv, as well as on Comcast Channel 78 and AT&T U-verse Channel 99.

To sign up to speak on an agenda item at a future meeting, visit bit.ly/virtualccmeetings.

In case you missed it, following are highlights from the virtual Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, May 5. The video and vote summary will be available this week at bit.ly/ftlccagendas.

CRA BOARD MEETING

CRA Board Approves Modified Mortgage Agreement with Yacht Chandlers, Inc

The City Commission, acting as the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners, approved a modification of the mortgage agreement with Yacht Chandlers, Inc., which will enable the company to refinance its current loan with Stonegate Bank through a new loan with BankUnited. For details, visit bit.ly/3b6sGQv.

REGULAR MEETING

COVID-19 Update

The City of Fort Lauderdale continues to monitor the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and maintain close contact with state and local officials. During the Regular Meeting, the City Commission discussed ongoing response efforts and plans to ease restrictions and begin reopening activities at the appropriate time. For updates regarding City operations, community resources, and business assistance please visit the City website at bit.ly/ftlcovid19.

City Commission Sets Dates for Budget Hearings

The Commission passed a motion setting the dates for the City's annual budget hearings. Special meetings will take place on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 5:01 p.m. and Monday, September 14, 2020 at 5:01 p.m. for the purpose of considering the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Budget. For details, visit bit.ly/2Wt3Kxn.

Commission Amends ILA with Broward County for Distribution of Gas Taxes

The City Commission approved amendments to two interlocal agreements (ILA) with Broward County related to the distribution of gas taxes. Under the agreements, the City has received a share of taxes levied by the County since 1988 to be used for transportation-related purposes, pursuant to State Law. The funding is distributed to eligible municipalities based on population estimates published annually by the University of Florida Bureau of Economics and Business Research (BEER). The BEER estimates indicate that the City of Fort Lauderdale's population for FY 2020 is 186,220 (9.78% of the incorporated County population) as compared to the FY 2019 estimate of 182,827 (9.71% of the incorporated County population), representing an increase of 0.07% of the incorporated population within the County. For details, visit bit.ly/2SEtkhK.

City Commission Approves Amendment to Red Cross Training Agreement

The City Commission approved an amendment to its licensed training provider agreement with the American Red Cross. The updated agreement will enable the City to submit certifications for approximately 45 staff members, which are needed for counselors in the City's P.L.A.Y. aftercare program who are required to have CPR/AED and First Aid certifications. The certifications will allow the City to expand its virtual Parks and Recreation offerings to the local community. For details, visit bit.ly/2SD0Hl9.

Event Agreement Approved with Las Olas Association for "Exotics on Las Olas"

The City Commission approved an event agreement with the Las Olas Association for "Exotics on Las Olas," an event that will take place on Sunday, November 15, 2020 along Las Olas Boulevard from SE 6 Avenue to SE 11 Avenue. The event will feature approximately 150-200 super cars lining East Las Olas Boulevard, along with tasting tents, bars, and beverage stations. Participating shops and restaurants will pledge a percentage of sales during event hours to support Wounded Warriors, a non-profit organization that assists and advocates for severely wounded, ill, or injured soldiers, veterans, and their families. For details, visit bit.ly/2SFeMyn.

Commission Authorizes Execution of Agreement with Property Appraiser's Office

The City Commission adopted a resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Broward County Property Appraiser's Office to reimburse the agency for costs associated with the administration, maintenance, and collection of a non-ad valorem assessment for stormwater management. For details, visit bit.ly/35xzntM.

Commission Authorizes Execution of Agreement with Broward County

The City Commission adopted a resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with Broward County related to the administration and collection of a non-ad valorem assessment for the costs associated with stormwater management. For details, visit bit.ly/3fqg03l.

City Awarded Two FDOT Grants for Community Bus Service

The City Commission accepted two grants from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). A \$200,000 FDOT grant will be administered by the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association (TMA) for the operation of the Northwest and Neighborhood Community Bus route. A second grant in the amount of \$182,680 will be administered by the Downtown Fort Lauderdale TMA for the operation of the Downtown Link Community Bus route. For details, visit bit.ly/3djJe95.

Commission Approves Transfer of Funds for Las Olas Vision Plan

The City Commission approved a transfer of funds within the Transportation and Mobility Department (TAM) in the amount of \$765,644 to execute a task order for planning services for the Las Olas Vision Plan. The plan will be carried out in coordination with the Las Olas Working Group and will encompass a variety of services including public meetings, stakeholder meetings, and planning efforts to provide a long-term vision plan for Las Olas Boulevard corridor. For details, visit bit.ly/3djJe95.

City Commission Affirms Support for CARES Act Part II

The City Commission approved a resolution urging Congress to enact a CARES Act Part II that would expand direct funding to communities with populations under 500,000, including the City of Fort Lauderdale, with funds distributed based on a formula that would take into account both population and a community's status as the center of a large metropolitan area. Currently, the CARES Act provides direct stimulus funds for large cities with populations of over 500,000, thereby disqualifying Fort Lauderdale from receiving funding despite the City's projected revenue shortfalls of over \$19 million as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. For details, visit bit.ly/2SFr7T6.

City Awarded Homeland Security UASI Grant for \$192,597

The City Commission accepted a grant in the amount of \$192,597 from the United States Department of Homeland Security's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) that requires no match. The grant period began on September 1, 2019 and will end on June 30, 2021. Awarded funds will be used toward the following: Emergency Operations Center enhancements (\$88,397); Long Range Emergency Broadcast Equipment for Fort Lauderdale Police - Special Weapons and Tactical (SWAT) Team (\$30,200); Communication Emergency Response Support Trailer (\$24,000); Regional Citizen Corp training, symposium and drills (\$50,000). For details, visit bit.ly/2WwOu2w.

\$1.8 Million Approved for Fiveash Water Treatment Plant Improvements

The City Commission unanimously approved a \$1,869,000 contract with Cardinal Contractors for the rehabilitation of 22 filters at the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant. The rehabilitated filters will provide enhanced removal of contaminants and other impurities from raw water. The project includes procurement, removal, disposal, construction, testing, and placement of the rehabilitated filters into service. For details, visit bit.ly/2xzLium.

\$4 Million Approved for Parks Bond Master Plan Design and Implementation Services

The City Commission approved a \$4 million contract with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) to provide professional services for the implementation of the 2019 Parks Bond and the 2016 Parks and Recreation System Master Plan. AECOM, which emerged as the top-ranked firm following a competitive solicitation process, will provide a variety of services on a task order basis including, but not limited to, developing work plans, schedules, and budgets; coordinating project design, bidding assistance, contract negotiation assistance, and contract management; and attending meetings with and addressing City officials, neighborhood groups, and private citizens. For details, visit bit.ly/2L74Au8.

Commission Approves Contract for Stormwater Assessment Services

The City Commission approved a contract in the amount of \$169,890 with Stantec Consulting Services to provide stormwater assessment services. The scope of work includes, but is not limited to, the finalization of the stormwater fee, stormwater assessment roll preparation, stormwater bond validation analysis, public engagement, development of a Stormwater Rate GIS Portal, and ordinance assistance related to the implementation of the new Hybrid Stormwater Rate Methodology. For details, visit bit.ly/3fnn5bV.

City Commission Accepts Unified Regional Sea Level Rise Projections

The City Commission adopted a resolution accepting the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact's Unified Regional Sea Level Rise Projection - 2019 Update for use by staff as the basis for sea level rise adaptation planning activities. Changes included in the update include shifting the planning horizons to 2040, 2070, and 2120 to allow 20-, 50- and 100-year planning horizons and new projections that are 2 inches greater for the year 2030 than the previous 2015 projections, 3-7 inches greater for 2060, and 2-22 inches greater for 2100. The new information can be incorporated into future planning to ensure the City invests in resilient infrastructure and facilities that are able to withstand a higher sea level. For details, visit bit.ly/35BA2dO.

Commission Votes Down Amendment to Ordinance Prohibiting Unauthorized Camping

The City Commission voted down an amendment to Ordinance 16-31 that would have made it unlawful for any person to engage in camping on public property at any time within 1,000 feet of a child care facility or school located anywhere in the City. For details, visit bit.ly/3figgs9.

City Commission Workshop on May 11

The City Commission will continue to meet on a weekly basis to monitor the latest data and updates on COVID-19 and discuss plans for a phased reopening of the City. The Commission will host a virtual workshop on COVID-19 on Monday, May 11 at 1:30 p.m. Look for the agenda to be posted prior to the workshop at bit.ly/ftlccagendas.

Next Virtual City Commission Meeting on May 19

The next virtual meeting of the City Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19 at 6 p.m. The public will be able to listen to and view the virtual meeting at www.fortlauderdale.gov/fltv, as well as on Comcast Channel 78 and AT&T U-verse Channel 99. The agenda will be posted prior to the meeting at bit.ly/ftlccagendas. Individuals who would like to speak on an agenda item may do so by completing a virtual speaker card form at bit.ly/virtualspeakercard. For more information, visit bit.ly/virtualccmeetings.