



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 can listen to and view virtual meetings on [FLTV](#), [YouTube](#), Zoom, Comcast Channel 78, and AT&T U-verse Channel 99. To learn more about virtual City Commission meetings, including how to view agendas and sign up to speak, visit fortlauderdale.gov/vcmeetings.

In case you missed them, following are highlights from the virtual Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, June 16. The videos are available at youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale and the vote summaries will be available this week at bit.ly/ftlccagendas.

JOINT WORKSHOP WITH BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD

Discussions on Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

The City Commission participated in a Joint Workshop with the Budget Advisory Board. The Board provided the Commission with its input on the development of the budget for the upcoming 2021 Fiscal Year. The Commission received an update from the City Manager on the estimated impact of COVID-19 on the current Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, along with recommended balancing strategies for specific City Funds. The Commission heard a presentation from consultants from Stantec who provided a financial forecast to help the City identify short-term and long-term impacts of current-year decisions, as well as consider future cost requirements to ensure sustainability. For details, visit bit.ly/30LfBKZ.

CRA BOARD MEETING

Emergency Business Investment Program Approved

The City Commission, acting as the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners, approved resolutions creating the Emergency Business Investment Program. The program is designed to assist small businesses who have had limited access to financing programs (e.g., Small Business Administration (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loan Emergency Advance) by providing a direct infusion of capital to help stabilize very small businesses (one to 10 employees) located in the Fort Lauderdale Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Area, the Central City Community Redevelopment Area, as well as eligible Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) low- and moderate-income census tracts in the City of Fort Lauderdale. For details, visit bit.ly/3eaXVw1.

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Commission Approves Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2020

The City Commission approved an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget to address estimated COVID-19 impacts. The amendment includes numerous balancing strategies including departmental savings, slowing hiring in non-public safety areas, and Community Investment Plan savings from projects delayed or canceled due to changes that have occurred since funding was originally appropriated. For details, visit bit.ly/37BeezE.

Surplus Property Available for Affordable Housing

The City Commission adopted a resolution declaring the City-owned property located at 221 NW 6 Street as no longer needed for public use and available for purchase in accordance with Section 8.04 of the City Charter. Colliers, on behalf of the City, will broadly market the property specifically targeting affordable housing developers. Sealed proposals will be reviewed and evaluated and brought to the City Manager for a final recommendation. For details, visit bit.ly/3hywgHu.

City Commission Approves Extension of Architectural Resource Survey Grant Agreement

The City Commission authorized the extension of the grant agreement term for a \$50,000 architectural resource survey grant from the Florida Department of State to provide additional time for review and submittal of required documents. Funds from the grant, which was accepted in August 2019, have been used to hire a historic preservation consultant to organize and conduct intensive level architectural resources surveys in Fort Lauderdale resulting in over 400 Florida Master Site File historic resource group and historic structures forms as well as a final survey report. For details, visit bit.ly/2zHTdXM.

Agreement with FDOT Approved for A1A Landscape Improvements

The City Commission adopted a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for landscape improvements within the right-of-way of State Road A1A between Mile Post 4.652 and Mile Post 4.713. The amendment includes provisions to allow the property owner, Hotel Motel, Inc., to construct additional landscape improvements or to modify an improvement on State Road A1A. For details, visit bit.ly/2BciOIE.

Commission Moves Forward with Breakers Avenue Streetscape Improvements

The City Commission awarded a contract to Kimley Horn and Associates, Inc., to provide engineering design and construction administration services for the Breakers Avenue Streetscape Project at an amount not to exceed \$893,589. The scope of work will include, but not be limited to, pedestrian lighting, trees, landscape, shared-use street design, and underground water and sewer utility upgrades. The Breakers Avenue Streetscape Project will create an iconic corridor that will provide mobility, safety, and accessibility, in an attractive, climate-resilient public space serving tourists and residents of Fort Lauderdale Beach. For details, visit bit.ly/30QsBib.

Commission Discusses 333 Victoria Park Project

The City Commission discussed the Development Review Committee's preliminary approval for 333 Victoria Park, a proposed 14-story development at 333 NE 7 Avenue that consists of 52 multi-family residential units. The Commission heard details about the development from the applicant and staff, and examined how the project meets the criteria contained in the City's Downtown Master Plan, Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR), and Comprehensive Plan. A motion was made to convene a de-novo hearing on the project, however, the motion failed for lack of a second. For details, visit bit.ly/3hzqlwr.

Commission Approves CARES Act Funding for Emergency Business Investment Program and Public Service Homeless Initiative

The City Commission approved allocating \$934,515 in CARES Act funding for the Public Service Homeless Initiative Program and the Fort Lauderdale Emergency Business Investment Program. The Fort Lauderdale Emergency Business Investment Program will receive a base allocation of \$400,000 with total funding not to exceed \$500,000. The remainder of the funding will be used for the Public Service Homeless Initiative Program. The Public Service Homeless Initiative is providing safe shelter, meals, and case management services to more than 100 homeless individuals. The Fort Lauderdale Emergency Business Investment Program will provide working capital for small businesses to assist with rent/mortgage payments, employee payroll, or utilities. For details, visit bit.ly/2UMJRkl.

Commission Passes Ordinance to Amend Comprehensive Plan

The City Commission adopted an ordinance to update the Comprehensive Plan by amending the Future Land Use Element and Infrastructure Element and revising the goals, objectives, and policies related to the City's Water Supply Facilities Work Plan, General Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage, Potable Water, and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element. The updates are consistent with the City's current Comprehensive Plan. The changes will ensure that the City develops and maintains an adequate water supply, treatment, and distribution system, which meets the existing and projected needs of the service area in an efficient, economical, and environmentally sensitive manner. For more details, visit bit.ly/2YG48d0.

City Commission Approves Ordinance on Public Art and Placemaking

The City Commission, recognizing that providing for public art and enhancing the appearance of buildings and spaces provides multiple benefits to the community, approved on first reading an ordinance entitled Public Art and Placemaking. The ordinance establishes guidelines for the incorporation of public art into City projects, the creation of a public art fund, and the establishment of a seven-member Public Art and Placemaking Advisory Board. Parks and Recreation staff has been working closely with staff from the Broward County Cultural Division on an interlocal agreement to allow Broward County to administer the program on our behalf. For details, visit bit.ly/2UROCJR.

City Commission Approves Sidewalk Repair Ordinance

The City Commission approved on first reading an ordinance that would result in the City taking over the replacement and repair of sidewalks, except when the City Manager (or designee) determines that the abutting property owner has done something to damage the sidewalk (e.g. construction or illegal planting of trees). This ordinance removes the burden of maintenance, permitting, contractor selection, and inspections from abutting property owners and will ensure that sidewalks in public rights-of-way are treated similarly to potholes on a roadway and that repairs are made according to professional design and construction standards. For details, visit bit.ly/2zEICNh.

Stormwater Management Program Assessment Moves Forward

The City Commission approved an ordinance on second reading to establish procedures and standards for levying assessments to fund the construction, reconstruction, repair, improvement, and extension of stormwater management systems within the City of Fort Lauderdale. The assessment methodology is based on equitably recovering costs in proportion to the benefit that each property receives from the stormwater system. The stormwater utility rate structure considers total square footage, trips generated by various property types, and the benefit that free, passable roads bring to each property. The hybrid rate methodology has been presented to the Infrastructure Task Force and the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations, both of which support the program. For details, visit bit.ly/30Pw00I.

Next Virtual City Commission Meeting on July 7

The next virtual meeting of the City Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7 at 6 p.m. The public can listen to and view the virtual meeting on [FLTV](#), [YouTube](#), Zoom, Comcast Channel 78, and AT&T U-verse Channel 99. To learn more about virtual City Commission meetings, including how to view agendas and sign up to speak, visit fortlauderdale.gov/vcmeetings.