**February 2021 Newsletter** 

Dear Neighbor,

On Friday, January 29, the Commission convened for our Annual Prioritization Workshop to set our goals for the upcoming year. After reviewing our progress of the 2020 goals and the new challenges for the future, we drafted the outline below and ratified the **2021 Commission Priorities and Themes** at our February 16 Commission Meeting.

Click on the chart below to review.



# 2021 City Commission Priorities and Themes for Incorporation

TOP PRIORITIES	THEMES FOR INCORPORATION
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Homelessness and Housing Opportunities	Increased effectiveness of Community Court     Affordable and workforce housing     Coordination and collaboration with Broward County/Other municipalities/Sherriff's Office /Library/Business Collaborative     Address encampments
Infrastructure	Water and wastewater infrastructure     Water Treatment Plant (specifically addressing water color and quality)     Implementation of Sidewalk Assessment with investment into repairs
Transportation and Traffic	Breakers Avenue Project A1A Streetscape Project Las Olas Mobility Project Return of the Scooter Program Address local traffic holistically with an emphasis on creating a downtown urban core where cars are not required Commuter Rail Explore options for a rail tunnel under the New River
Waterway Quality	Guarantee waterways are clean and safe     Continue and expand water quality testing     Dredge waterways and ensure proper cleanup after a sanitary sewer overflow
Resiliency	Stormwater infrastructure     Address flooding impacts     Climate change/sea level rise     City-owned seawalls along the New River and Downtown
Parks and Public Places	Parks Bond Implementation Parks Land Purchase Aquatics Complex/Swimming Hall of Fame Trail System (including LauderTrail) Complete final design of Lockhart Park including Community Center Holiday Park improvements and coordination with Parker Playhouse, War Memorial, and proposed YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) Shared use playgrounds with schools

CAM# 21-0217 Exhibit 1 Page 1 of 2

Bahia Mar is back in the news after our discussion at the last Commission Meeting. The City-owned peninsula is home to the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show and Bahia Mar - Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, located across the street from the Central Beach

Basketball Courts on Fort Lauderdale Beach. It is a complex issue with much analysis needed to determine the future of the site. That is why on January 5 and again on February 16, I asked staff to provide a presentation which needs to include reports, financials, and an update from the City Attorney's Office to facilitate a proper and transparent discussion with public input. The City Manager has placed the **Bahia Mar Discussion on the Tuesday, March 16 Conference Meeting Agenda** which begins at 1:30PM. We will provide a link closer to the meeting so participants can sign up to speak.

Bahia Mar deal would tie up public land for the next century



Staff from the City of Fort Lauderdale's Transportation and Mobility Department and The Corradino Group provided a presentation on their final proposal on the Las Olas Mobility initiative that aims to balance multimodal needs, improve safety, and enhance streetscape elements on the corridor. As project consultant, the Corradino Group has substantially completed the majority of their assigned tasks including data analytics, traffic feasibility analysis, and public outreach to inform their professional recommendations for this iconic corridor.

The presentation featured a final recommendation video and was followed by an opportunity for public comment. The presentation and video links can be found in the buttons below, as well as a link to the updated website page.

I want to thank Commissioner Sorensen for working with me these past two years on this project as well as thanking the Corradino Group, our Transportation and Mobility Staff, and all of the stakeholders who provided such valuable input throughout the process. As one citizen testified at the meeting, "You have a good plan when everyone does not get everything he or she wants."

The City Commission will soon vote at an upcoming meeting on a final plan.

Final Presentation Video from the Corradino Group

City Commission Conference Meeting Discussion

Las Olas Mobility Working Group Website

Lastly, I want to remind everyone to **submit feedback regarding our Park Improvements through the \$200M Bond Program**. Please visit the virtual open houses, program dashboard and provide input before the end of the month.





Fort Lauderdale City Manager Chris Lagerbloom announced the appointment of retired Police Chief Patrick Lynn as the new Interim Police Chief for the Fort Lauderdale Police Department effective Monday, Feb. 22, 2021. Chief Lynn will oversee the City's fully accredited Police Department, which includes more than 700 law enforcement officers and support professionals.

Chief Lynn brings 35 years of law enforcement experience to his position as Interim Police Chief. He began his law enforcement career as a patrol officer with the City of Pembroke Pines Police Department in 1982 and rose through the ranks before retiring as the city's Deputy Chief in 2007. Following his retirement from Pembroke Pines, Chief Lynn served as the Police Chief for the Town of Davie Police Department from 2007 to 2017.

Learn more about Chief Lynn on the City's website.



#### **Public Notice for Housing Wait Lists**

Application period opens March 1 for HACFL and March 3 for St. Joseph Towers

# Housing Authority of the City of Fort Lauderdale\*

The Housing Authority of the City of Fort Lauderdale (HACFL) is accepting preliminary applications for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher wait list. Preliminary applications must be completed online beginning Monday, March 1, 2021 at 9 a.m. and be submitted by Friday, March 5, 2021 at 5 p.m. Hand-delivered or mailed applications will not be accepted.

To be eligible for the HACFL waiting list, the head of the household MUST be 18 years of age or older. The total household annual gross income must not exceed the very-low-income limits for the appropriate family size. Income limits and details about the program are available in the <u>informational flyer</u> from the HACFL.

To apply, please visit the <u>HACFL website</u>, click on the "Programs" header at the top of the web page, then "Section 8," and finally "Section 8 Applicants" and follow the application wizard located. Please complete all required fields or you will not be able to successfully submit the application.

#### St. Joseph Towers Apartments\*

St. Joseph Towers is distributing and accepting 300 preliminary applications for one-bedroom units and 100 preliminary applications for one-bedroom, mobility-impaired units from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. beginning Wednesday, March 3, 2021 through Friday, March 5, 2021. Interested applicants must be (1) 62 years of age or older and/or be mobility impaired, and (2) must be living on a limited income of \$31,200 or less annually for one person and \$35,650 or less annually for two people.

Preliminary applications may be requested by phone at 954-485-5140 (TTY 1-800-955-8771), online, or in person (facial covering required) at:

St. Joseph Towers, Inc. 3475 NW 30th Street Lauderdale Lakes, Florida 33311

If requesting an application online, please click on the "Independent Senior Housing" header at the top of the web page, then "Open Waiting Lists," and finally "St. Joseph Towers."

For more information about the St. Joseph Towers application process, please read their informational flyer.



Effective February 1, residential property owners with rental properties in the City of Fort Lauderdale are required to register with the City and provide contact information including a phone number and email address. The database of landlord contact information will be used for public safety purposes to enhance response efficiency for service calls at registered rental properties. This tool will also be used by staff from the City's Community Enhancement & Compliance Division to alert landlords of code enforcement violations for prompt resolution.

Follow these steps to register online for free:

- 1. Visit LauderBuild at <a href="ftlcity.info/landlordregistration">ftlcity.info/landlordregistration</a> and create an account or login to your existing account.
- 2. Select New Application and Enforcement from the menu toward the top of the page.
- 3. Read and accept the Terms of Use.
- 4. Select the Landlord Registration option under the Enforcement menu toward the bottom of the page.
- 5. Complete and submit the Registration Form.

Owners with multiple units in a building may register once. Property owners with multiple properties at different locations must register each property separately. This registry is not for vacation rentals and owner-occupied residential dwelling units. If your contact information is exempt from public disclosure, please provide contact information for a responsible person the City can use to contact you.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact the Community Enhancement & Compliance Division at <a href="mailto:propertyregistry@fortlauderdale.gov">propertyregistry@fortlauderdale.gov</a>.

Register today by clicking here!



#### **WALK OF FAME NOMINATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 26**

The City established the Walk of Fame in 2010 at the inaugural Great American Beach Party to pay tribute to the legendary Connie Francis on the 50th Anniversary of "Where the Boys Are," the 1960 film which made Fort Lauderdale an overnight sensation and a "must see" destination for visitors. Walk of Fame Honorees are recognized for distinguishing themselves in their respective fields, while making lifelong, positive contributions to the city. If you would like to submit a nomination for the 2021 Great American Beach Party Walk of Fame, please visit <a href="ftd:ftcity.info/walkoffame">ftcity.info/walkoffame</a>. Nominations are due Friday, February 26.

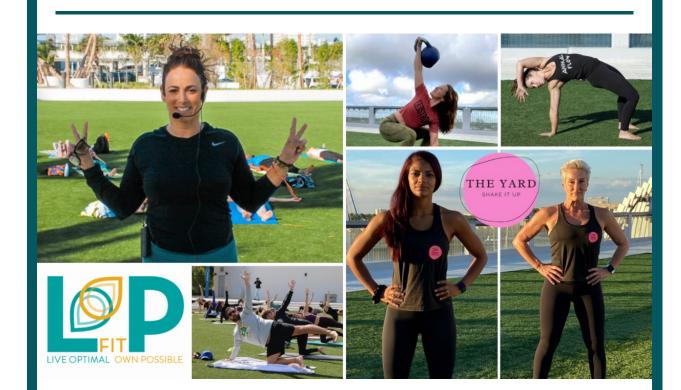
The Florida Division of Emergency Management launched a statewide preregistration system for COVID-19 vaccine appointments. People 65 and older and frontline health care workers can visit <a href="mayaccine.fl.gov">myvaccine.fl.gov</a> to preregister for vaccine appointments that become available in their area.

Those who have registered will be contacted by phone call, text, or email when appointments become available. Phone numbers have also been established for those without internet access.

**Broward -** Scheduling: 866-201-6313 TTY: 833-476-1526

Miami-Dade - Scheduling: 888-499-0840 TTY: 888-256-8918

Palm Beach - Scheduling: 866-201-6754 TTY: 833-476-1532



# LIVE OPTIMAL / OWN POSSIBLE & LET'S GET FIT, LAUDERDALE

Starting February 3 there will be a half dozen donation-based or low-cost fitness classes under the new LO/OP Fit Program at Las Olas Oceanside Park and the Terrace at the Las Olas Beach Garage.

Classes range from Low-Impact Yoga to a challenging Animal Flow, two Sunrise Kettlebell Classes, and a morning and early evening H.I.I.T. workout for every fitness level.

Providing access to a variety of outdoor group fitness classes in a safe and welcoming outdoor setting, each of the LO/OP FIT classes and certified, licensed, and insured training professionals have been added explicitly to the schedule based on their individual areas of expertise. They possess a contagious enthusiasm, desire for you to meet your fitness goals, and believe you can Live Optimal / Own Possible when your mind, body, and spirit lift. To view the upcoming schedule and #stayintheloop on additional classes, including the launch of a new walking club in March, visit www.theLOOPflb.com

# Broward County Beach Project Update Webinar

Please join the US Army Corps of Engineers and Broward County on Upcoming Beach Projects (Segment II, Segment III, and Sand Bypass) Free Webinar on a February 26<sup>th</sup>.



# **About this Event**

Three upcoming beach projects will be discussed during this webinar:

#### Segment II

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has awarded the Segment II Beach Renourishment construction contract to Eastman Aggregate Enterprises, LLC. The project is estimated to place approximately 387,800 cubic yards of upland sand along the shoreline, with 100% cost share by the federal government.

Plans, specifications, and bid details are available with the USACE Segment II Shore

Protection Project bid announcement. Plans depict expectations of shoreline fill placement and potential construction access points. Construction will occur on beaches for which property owners have granted construction easement and, where easement has been granted, sand placement will be within the full permitted design template, above and below mean high water (MHW), or above MHW only, according to local beach sand needs and environmental concerns. Where construction easement has not been granted, sand will only be placed below the erosion control line, which defines the boundary between State sovereign submerged lands and upland ownership.

## Segment III

Similar to the pending Segment II Project, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is planning a beach restoration project along the shorelines of Dr. Von D. Mizell-Eula Johnson State Park, Dania, Hollywood, and Hallandale Beaches. This project is expected to place approximately 887,000 cubic yards of upland sand along the shoreline, with 100% cost share by the federal government. Where feasible, shore protective dunes may be placed as part of the project.

Segment III SPP plans and specifications are available with the USACE Segment III Shore Protection Project bid announcement. These plans depict expectations of shoreline fill placement and potential construction access points.

### **Sand Bypass**

Staff has finalized the mitigation plan for the Port Everglades Sand Bypass project and received the final federal permit. Construction is anticipated to begin in June 2021. The Army Corps of Engineers awarded the contract for the south jetty rehabilitation on September 10th.

Additional information, including previous informational webinar recordings can be found on Broward County's Beach Renourishment Website.

**RSVP** for Webinar



It gives me immense pleasure to support projects that dually benefit schools and neighborhoods. The Bennett Elementary School Playground (joint use space) is a win-win project for the City of Fort Lauderdale and School Board of Broward County. For me, it is about community. Our community is better when we work together and when we consider the needs of our children. I would like to thank the City's Education Advisory Board for making joint use parks a strategic priority, as well as Superintendent Runcie, Principal Danielle Smith, and the Broward School staff. I would also like to thank the city's Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board for their commitment to this project and to ensuring high quality parks city-wide. I am honored to be part of a Commission that values education and supports our schools.

The years fly by! Always great to join the Annual Meeting of the Seven Isles Homeowners Association off Las Olas Blvd. Great questions, comments and discussion on issues of the day. Thank you to past president Howard Steinholz for so many years of service and welcome to the new president Kathleen Moreo who is already doing a terrific job along with the entire Board.





The Central Beach Alliance once again had a good crowd on Zoom. Always enjoy spending time with my immediate neighbors and participating in their meetings. Congrats to the newly elected Board of Directors and a big thank you to Deborah Rosenbaum for her years of service as she steps down from the Board.

It was a pleasure joining the Central City Alliance meeting to review all of the projects in that corridor. So much progress has been made in these terrific neighborhoods and along 13th street and there is much more we are going to do!





On January 19, Fort Lauderdale remembered along with our nation the more than 400,000 Americans who have lost their lives to COVID. The Las Olas Garage was lit in amber in their memory. How tragic that in the last four weeks we are at 500,000 deaths from COVID.

#### **News Article**

Florida reports 4,151 new COVID-19 cases and 159 more deaths

# COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions & Informational Links

COVID-19 Dashboard

Baptist Health

Memorial Health

Broward School Coronavirus Updates

Broward Food Resources

Search COVID-19 In Your Area By Zip Code

The greatness of our community starts with passionate citizens like you.

Please do not hesitate to contact our District 2 Outreach Coordinator, Celia Gisleson, with any questions, comments or thoughtful suggestions cgisleson@fortlauderdale.gov or 954-828-5923.

Fort Lauderdale City Calendar

City News Center

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Steve Glassman
Fort Lauderdale Vice Mayor, District 2