



LauderBriefs

Updates from City Commission Meetings

The City of Fort Lauderdale is hosting City Commission meetings in-person at City Hall located at 100 N Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. If any person wishes to address the City Commission, the person shall sign up using the online Speaker Card prior to the meeting or sign up in the City Hall lobby using the City Clerk's iPad. The online Speaker Card can be accessed at fortlauderdale.gov/citycommissionmeetings.

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

In case you missed them, following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, June 1, 2021. The videos are available at youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale and the vote summary will be available later this week at fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING

Update on Joint Governmental Campus Complex

Finance Director Susan Grant provided an update on the progress of the Joint Governmental Campus Complex initiative. Preliminary updated estimates indicate a total annual rental cost to the City of \$15.7 million with \$9.5 million coming from the City's general fund and the remaining balance expected to come from other City funds including the parking fund and the water and sewer fund, as the facility will house staff from a variety of City departments. The next meeting of the Unified Direct Procurement Authority (UDPA) is scheduled for Thursday, June 10 at 1:00 PM at the Broward County Commission Chambers. At this meeting, the Fort Lauderdale City Commission and Broward County Commission are expected to take formal action on reviewing the five proposals that were received in response to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in order to determine how many proposals will make up the short list. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3i8YRG1.

Discussion on Utility Billing and Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

The City's Finance Department is proposing an ordinance amending the City's Code of Ordinances related to credits for water leaks and unexplained usage in an attempt to simplify the process for utility billing customers and provide meaningful credits to neighbors who experience billing irregularities. In an attempt to reduce the incidence of these issues, the City is evaluating the implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system which includes meters, software, and communications technology. AMI has the potential to eliminate manual meter reads, provide neighbors with leak detection alerts, and improve overall accuracy of the system among other benefits. Beginning in July, the City will deploy over 100 new water meters throughout Fort Lauderdale in order to evaluate products from six providers as part of a

\$55,000 pilot project. Based on the results of the pilot program, staff will develop specifications for a citywide installation of AMI. Once the procurement process is complete, deployment of 64,000 meters to all of the City's customers is estimated to take 24 months at a cost of \$30 million. The City will seek opportunities available for alternative funding sources such as grants or federal subsidies to help offset the cost of citywide implementation. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3wNvD3v.

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

City Commission Approves Agreement for Himmarshee Canal Protein Skimming Pilot Program

The City Commission approved a \$350,000 agreement with Clean Waterways, LLC for a pilot protein skimming program in the Himmarshee Canal. Protein skimming is a filtration process that removes organic compounds from water by injecting large amounts of bubbles into the targeted water. The bubbles collect proteins and other substances and then carry the proteins in a foam consistency. The foam is subsequently collected and disposed. If the program demonstrates discernable water quality improvements within the first two weeks, then the program may continue for an additional two-month period. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3fH5YUv.

City Commission Approves Facility-Use Agreement with the School Board of Broward County

The City Commission approved a motion authorizing the City Manager to execute a five-year agreement with the School Board of Broward County (SBBC) for reciprocal use of City parks and School Board facilities across the City. Under the agreement, the City agrees to allow the SBBC use of City parks at no cost for educational, recreational, and training purposes. SBBC agrees to allow City use of SBBC-owned facilities at no cost for recreational programs, special functions, training programs, and homeowners association and community meetings. Dates and times are to be agreed upon by the Superintendent or a designee, the Director of Parks and Recreation or a designee, and the City Manager or a designee. For details, visit ftlcity.info/2TqRr6G.

City Commission Approves Funding for Design of Shared Use Paths on Cypress Creek Road

The City Commission approved a motion to contribute \$10,000 toward design funding for the implementation of shared use paths along Cypress Creek Road from Powerline Road to NE 9 Avenue. The shared use paths are being designed together with two nearby projects: the redesign of the I-95 interchange and improvements to multimodal access to the Cypress Creek Tri-Rail Station. A separated shared use path was determined to be the most beneficial bike facility for Cypress Creek Road due to the speed and volume of vehicles. Staff anticipates the design, which includes \$89,000 in funding from Broward County, will be completed in Summer 2022 with construction funded by the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization and Florida Department of Transportation beginning in early 2024. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3flwgWI.

City Commission Approves Agreement for Design and Construction of Aquatic Center South Building

The City Commission approved a motion to enter into a \$9.85 million comprehensive agreement with Hensel Phelps Construction Company for the design and construction of the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center south building. Approval of this agreement will allow Hensel

Phelps to finalize design and construct the 16,000-square foot south building that will house locker rooms, first aid stations, offices, and more. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3g5Cnmy.

City Commission Accepts Grant Funds for Three Community Shuttle Routes

The City Commission accepted \$200,000 in grant funding from the Florida Department of Transportation for the operation of the Northwest Link and Neighborhood Link and \$182,680 in grant funding for the operation of the Downtown Link route of the City's community shuttle. The funds will be used for operational expenses that are not covered by Broward County's Penny for Transportation Surtax including marketing, administration, security and traffic control, and equipment leases. For details about the agreement for the Northwest Community Link and Neighborhood Link routes, visit ftlcity.info/3yP15jX. For details about the agreement for the Downtown Link route, visit ftlcity.info/3fWjR04. To learn more about the City's free community shuttle service, visit fortlauderdale.gov/communityshuttle.

City Commission Approves \$1.2 Million Agreement for Stormwater Infrastructure Desilting

The City Commission approved a \$1,247,500 agreement with FG Construction, LLC for services including proactive inspection, maintenance, flushing, and removal of silts and debris from the City's stormwater infrastructure to supplement activities that are performed by City staff. These services are essential in order to prevent flooding as they help ensure proper drainage, conveyance, and capacity. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3cb0orz.

City Commission Approves Purchase Agreements for Stormwater Construction Contract Services

The City Commission approved two-year agreements for stormwater construction contract services at a total cost of \$9 million with the following seven firms: David Mancini & Sons Inc.; GPE Engineering and General Contractor Corp.; The Stout Group, LLC; FG Construction, LLC; Hinterland Group Inc.; Southern Underground Industries, Inc.; and Southeastern Engineering Contractors, Inc. Construction services include restoration, testing, and installation of stormwater pipelines, structures, tidal valves, exfiltration trenches, drainage wells, and other drainage components. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3uCB0kR.

City Commission Discusses Las Olas Boulevard Vision Plan

The Las Olas Boulevard Vision Plan seeks a holistic redesign of the Las Olas Boulevard corridor incorporating the five distinct character areas: Downtown, the Shops, Colee Hammock, the Isles, and the Beach. The plan was prepared by the Corradino Group at the conclusion of an 18-month working group process. The City Commission heard over three hours of public comment from residents and the business community who shared feedback and expressed concerns about the plan. Commissioners shared their own thoughts and identified modifications they would like to see incorporated in the final plan. They will continue to discuss the plan at a workshop on June 15 at 4 p.m. before voting to approve or reject it at the 6 p.m. regular City Commission meeting. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3yUG6Mq.

More Information

For more information on items on the June 1, 2021 Commission Meeting agendas, visit the City website at fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

Next City Commission Meetings on June 15, 2021

The next City Commission meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, June 15. City Hall is open and members of the public are invited to attend meetings in person. The public may also listen to and view the meetings on [FLTV](#), [YouTube](#), Comcast Channel 78, and AT&T U-verse Channel 99. To learn more about City Commission meetings, including how to view agendas and sign up to speak, visit fortlauderdale.gov/citycommissionmeetings.