**August 2021 Newsletter** 

Dear Neighbor,

As August comes to a close, I would like to thank you for looking out for yourself as well as our friends and neighbors by getting vaccinated, masking up when needed, and social distancing as the Delta variant of COVID-19 continues to challenge our community and all of Florida. While this has been frustrating for all of us, it is vital we do all we can to make smart decisions that take into account our neighbors. The Commission returned to regular session on August 17, and several topics have gained attention during the summer break and at our meetings. Let's take a look.

### **One-Stop Site ArtsPark**

Speaking of smart decisions, the P3 public/private partnership ArtsPark proposal at the downtown One-Stop site continues its way through the process. With two-thirds of the site open, green space, a central park larger than a football field paid for at no cost to residents, and a gorgeous cultural center and marketplace with opportunities for arts, music, cuisine, or just a coffee with your yoga in the park, I think this is a wonderful opportunity for Fort Lauderdale.

This ArtsPark is being fully vetted by city staff for financial, planning, and concept sustainability. We are not rushing this; in fact, this has been an almost three-year process. The proposers continue to work with stakeholders throughout the city as they listen and make improvements. For example, while the original concept called for a large, monolithic building that loomed over the park, the revised design is two much smaller structures more in keeping with the scale of a park and designed to keep and protect the old growth trees on the site. The plan includes at least \$10 million for the new park that will be open to all. In addition, we are working through different financial options that will most benefit our City residents. One option would include direct payments to the City for the use of the site and long-term improvements that combined could mean over \$200 million in total benefits for the taxpayers.

That's significant for every resident of Fort Lauderdale.

This ArtsPark is an exciting opportunity for all of us. I hope we can continue to improve this opportunity, work together, and cut through the misinformation so that we can make a decision based on the merits. I so appreciate all the input; keep it coming. It is the input/suggestions of the residents that is continually added to the comprehensive agreement as we strive to build the best park around for both Flagler Village and the entire City. I have purposely recommended several deferments on this item in order to continue the dialogue and ensure that it is ready to return to the Commission. The neighborhood and the entire City deserve nothing less.

### **Lockhart Park**

Speaking of working together, Fort Lauderdale continues to earn rave reviews for our

innovative public/private partnership with David Beckham's InterMiami soccer team. The economic value of this initiative was recently underscored with the announcement of AutoNation's new multi-year naming rights agreement for DRV PNK Stadium at Lockhart Park.

Of course, we all recognize the importance of new sporting and recreational opportunities at Lockhart Park. That is why I am working with my Commission colleagues to fast-track the planning, design and construction of the south side park and those assets for the benefit of all residents. After two years and now with the full Commission engaged in getting the job done, we will be reimagining and improving the park plan to make it even better.

I must say that some recent political posturing has been unfortunate; InterMiami is still fully committed to building the park that we all want.

You and I know that the excitement this community feels for the team, the stadium, and the entire facility can be felt in every corner of this City. I am ready more than ever to partner with InterMiami on new possibilities. Did you know that the InterMiami training and stadium site was the first facility shut down at the start of COVID-19 pandemic, just three days before their first game? It is true. The site was shuttered for a year, which not only put the team behind, but also plans for the south side of park. But InterMiami never wavered in their partnership, even as we kept the stadium and the site closed. They stuck with us. And we are sticking with them.

But after all that, we are back - together!

InterMiami is playing – and now winning – and the City Commission is anticipating taking final action to start work on a vibrant park with recreational and eGaming/Esports experiences on the south side of the facility. And, perhaps most exciting, InterMiami is working on the distinct possibility of a groundbreaking move to bring professional women's soccer to Lockhart with their own training center. After hearing strong, positive comments about this from residents, I am fully committed to this opportunity and look forward to the next steps.

### **Bahia Mar**

I have previously written about this project and the progress that has been made in ensuring that the public gets the opportunity to thoroughly enjoy and experience this precious public land — just as with One-Stop and Lockhart. The Commission has established its goals here and that involves scrapping the presently approved (by the former Commission) site plan and going back through the development process to guarantee a much more user-friendly peninsula. One recent development is the meeting I convened last week together with the Boat Show and the tenant, Rahn Bahia Mar. I was encouraged by the spirit of cooperation and the pledge to work on any differences between the two parties so the Boat Show can continue to be the important economic engine on which we rely as we seek to improve the site. After all, we must work together to get to a win-win. Next steps include neighborhood presentations and a return to the Commission for another workshop.

Please enjoy a wonderful and safe Labor Day, and I look forward to seeing you soon. Please wear your masks and continue to look out for one another. Thank you.

# CENTRAL NEW RIVER WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

## Northbound SE 1 Ave. north of Las Olas Blvd. Closed through October 2021

The City of Fort Lauderdale is working with David Mancini and Sons, Inc. to install approximately 900 linear feet of new water main in Downtown Fort Lauderdale. The water main will measure approximately 20 inches in diameter and will be constructed using high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe. Construction is expected to begin on Monday, August 23 and be completed in October 2021. Work is scheduled to take place Monday through Friday between approximately 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. This schedule is subject to change based on inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

#### **Parking and Traffic Impacts**

The new water main will be installed underneath the New River using horizontal directional drilling, a process that minimizes impacts to the surrounding neighborhood. The installation will begin in the parking lot of the Broward Sheriff's Office Main Jail located on the south side of the New River east of SE 1 Avenue.

On the north side of the New River, northbound SE 1 Avenue north of Las Olas Boulevard will remain closed throughout construction as this is where the water main will exit the underground trench. Traffic will be detoured to Andrews Avenue, SE 2 Street, SE 2 Avenue, and Las Olas Boulevard. Please follow posted signs and drive with caution in the area.

We apologize in advance for any inconvenience and thank our neighbors for their continued patience as we work to upgrade our water distribution system as quickly as possible.

### For more information or questions, contact:

Richard Mancini, Project Manager 954-242-8763 or <u>richiemancini@dmsi.co</u>

City of Fort Lauderdale 24-Hour Neighbor Service Center 954-828-8000 or <a href="mailto:lauderserv@fortlauderdale.gov">lauderserv@fortlauderdale.gov</a>







If you would like this publication in an alternate format, please call (954) 828-4755 or email strategiccommunications@fortlauderdale.gov.





This week, the City Commission directed the City Manager to implement increased preventative measures against COVID-19 in accordance with the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Masks are now required in all City facilities, capacity will be limited in elevators, and sanitation stations will be made available to the public and City employees. At upcoming meetings of the City Commission, seating capacity in Commission Chambers will be limited to encourage social distancing; overflow seating will be available in the 8th-floor conference room. Members of the public will be able to participate virtually through Zoom, as will Commissioners, to the extent it is allowed by state mandate. This option will also be made available to participants in City advisory board, committee, and authority meetings. These requirements and accommodations are pursuant to the State of Emergency that is currently in effect in Broward County and is reviewed by the County Administrator every seven days.



Do you have tenants who are struggling to pay their rent due to a COVID-19 hardship? The City of Fort Lauderdale has funds available to provide rental assistance to eligible individuals/families living in the City of Fort Lauderdale who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Apply Today!

### **Eligibility**

An "eligible household" is defined as a rental household in which at least one or more individuals meets the following criteria:

- The rental apartment/home must be located in the City of Fort Lauderdale;
- Experienced a loss/reduction in household income due to COVID-19, or a financial hardship due to COVID-19;
- Demonstrates a risk of homelessness or housing instability (including eviction notice, past due rent notice);
- Has a household income at or below 80 percent of the Area Median Income.

### **Assistance**

- Eligible households may receive up to six months of assistance
- Applicants will be required to provide documentation to support their eligibility
- Rental assistance payments will be made directly to the landlord
- Assistance provided for an eligible household may not duplicate any other assistance, including federal, state, and local assistance provided for the same costs

### **How to Apply**

- Rental households and landlords can download an application package at: https://www.consolidatedcreditsolutions.org/ftl-rent
- Once completed, send the application and all required documentation via email to: <a href="mailto:ftlrent@consolidatedcredit.org">ftlrent@consolidatedcredit.org</a>, or via fax to: 888-246-9722
- If you are unable to download the application or have questions regarding eligibility, please call us directly at 1-833-FTL-Rent (1-833-385-7368)



## Applications for the Fall Neighbor Leadership Academy Class 9 are officially OPEN!

The Academy extends for five consecutive weeks starting on October 13  $^{\rm th}$  and ending November 10  $^{\rm th}$ .

We are also moving back to in-person classes at the George English Community Center!

With classes covering the inner workings of Fort Lauderdale's city government and comments from our City Commissioners, NLA is designed to serve our neighbors and meet their needs for civic engagement and leadership development.

If there is anyone that you can think of that might be interested, please encourage them to apply!

The deadline to apply is Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. and the application is available here: <a href="https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/office-of-neighbor-support/neighbor-leadership-academy/neighbor-leadership-academy-application">https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/office-of-neighbor-support/neighbor-leadership-academy/neighbor-leadership-academy-application</a>



LIVE MUSIC ★ CAR SHOW ★ ART & FASHION SHOW ★ KIDS ZONE CARNIVAL RIDES ★ FACE PAINTING ★ PETTING ZOO ★ THE NATIVE VILLAGE

# SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 ★ 1-9 PM

North Beach Restaurants and Shoppes at A1A and Oakland Park Boulevard



**MR. NICE GUY** (Classic Rock)



**SOUTHERN BLOOD** (Classic Rock)



REMIX (Top 40 & Oldies)



SLIP AND THE SPINOUTS (Rock 'n' Roll)

Enjoy a block party featuring food and drink specials from more than 15 restaurants and bars plus great entertainment on four different stages!



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# EVENT MAP, ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE PARKING, AND ROAD CLOSURES







If you would like this publication in an alternative format or if you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this event, please contact (954) 828-PARK (7275) or parksinfo@fortlauderdale.gov.



Saturday, September 11, 2021 | 9:00 AM 9-11 Monument on Riverwalk

The monument is located on the north side of the New River near SW 1st Avenue and Las Olas Boulevard

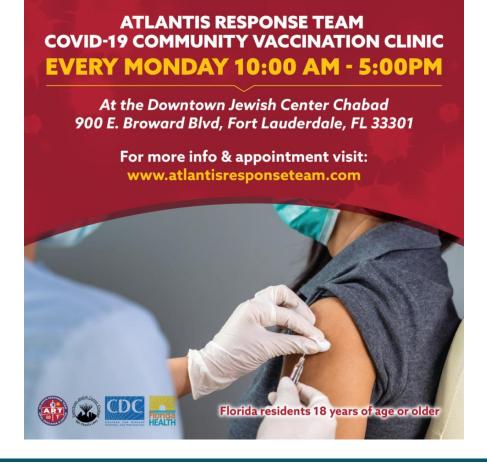
Riverwalk, in partnership with the City of Fort Lauderdale, will host a 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony to honor all those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks and commemorate the ultimate sacrifices made by our first responders.



The Riverwalk 9-11 Monument displays a rail segment from the tracks of the PATH (Port Authority Trans-Hudson) rapid transit station that was located at the World Trade Center. After picking up the last passengers on September 11, 2001 at 9:10 a.m., the station was buried under the rubble of the collapsed towers. The monument displays the rail in an uplifted position supported by granite pillars, which symbolize the solid bedrock of Manhattan that supports its massive buildings.









# New COVID-19 Test Site to Open Amid Spike in Cases and Hospitalizations

- No insurance or appointment required -

BROWARD COUNTY, FL – A new COVID-19 test site opened on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 in response to the latest rise in COVID-19 cases including the Delta Variant, which is increasing the demand for testing. Tests are available for both vaccinated and unvaccinated residents.

## Tradewinds Park & Stables (Drive-through Testing)

3600 W Sample Road Coconut Creek, FL 33073 Monday-Friday 8AM to 6PM

Free PCR oropharyngeal (throat swab) testing is available for adults and children, with or without symptoms, regardless of age. Results for PCR tests will be available from the Florida Department of Health In Broward in 24 to 72 hours.

### Other test sites include:

**Boulevard Heights Community Center (Walk-up Testing)** 

6770 Garfield Street Hollywood, FL 33024 Tuesday-Saturday 8AM to 4PM

## **South Regional Health Center (Walk-up Testing)**

4105 Pembroke Road Hollywood, FL 33021 Monday-Friday 9AM to 5PM

## Mills Pond Park (Drive-through Testing)

2201 NW 9th Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311 Sunday-Thursday 8AM to 4PM

# Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (Proof of travel plans to/or from FLL required)

Terminal 3, pre-security, lower level near baggage claim 100 Terminal Drive Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315 7AM to 9PM daily \*There is a fee for testing at this site: \$106 for a PCR test; \$74 for a rapid (antigen) test.

Other test collection sites are expected to open later this week. Please visit **Broward.org/Coronavirus** for updates.

# Dine Out Lauderdale August & September 2021

Enjoy the very best tastes of Greater Fort Lauderdale at some of the area's top restaurants during Dine Out Lauderdale during the months of August and September! Take advantage of taste-tempting meals, all with at least three courses for \$35 and/or \$45.

<u>Click here</u> for more information, including a list of participating restaurants!

We have the following Board Vacancies below. Please email Nancy Fry <a href="mailto:nfry@fortlauderdale.gov">nfry@fortlauderdale.gov</a> if you are interested in serving on a Fort Lauderdale City Board.

Aviation Advisory Board
Board of Adjustment
Central City Redevelopment Advisory Board
Community Appearance Board

Community Services Board (must be employed by the public housing authority)

Education Advisory Board
Infrastructure Task Force
Insurance Advisory Board
Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc Board of Directors
Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights
Nuisance Abatement Board



Thank you to the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce Beach Council for the opportunity to join you. Always a pleasure to present the latest and greatest on our beach and City. Thank you all for what you do every day to keep our economy moving forward during these challenging times!

Thank you to the Flagler Village Civic Association for the discussion on the unsolicited proposal for the One-Stop Shop site. Work continues as input is ongoing and we all strive to create the best park possible. Public/Private partnerships are a win-win for the taxpayer and this is no exception. Let's keep talking!





It was a pleasure to kick off a new season of neighborhood association meetings with the Central Beach Alliance! As always, great presentations with an engaged membership throughout the agenda.





Loved the groundbreaking for "Seven on Seventh"! The partnership between Green Mills Group and Broward Partnership will produce a beautiful affordable housing project. Congrats to all the individuals and organizations involved - especially Fran Esposito, Dodie Keith-Lazowick, and Mitch Rosenstein! Great job!

### **News Articles**

Can't buy a house. Can't afford rent. What are you supposed to do?

Commuter rail might finally come to the coast. Here's where it would run.

State follows through on threat over school masks

Florida reports 150,118 new COVID cases for the week, and teenagers account for the highest positivity rate

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

Please do not hesitate to contact our Commission Aide, Nancy Fry, with any questions, comments or thoughtful suggestions NFry@fortlauderdale.gov or 954-828-5923.

Fort Lauderdale City Calendar

City News Center

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Steve Glassman
Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, District 2