



From the desk of
STEVEN GLASSMAN
Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, District 2



September 2021 Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

As the District 2 Commissioner for Fort Lauderdale, I am fortunate to have some of the most exciting ideas and projects happening in our part of the city. And citywide, our can-do city commission has taken an innovative approach to addressing community needs with public-private partnerships. By all measures, it is working.

Which brings me to the One-Stop ArtsPark proposal on the site of what until a few years ago was home to derelict, abandoned buildings that had housed a city One-Stop Shop licensing center. This project has been in the works for almost three years, with over 100 community and stakeholder meetings driving the process. I am so grateful for all of the valuable input from those that will be most impacted by this project, particularly the Flagler Village Civic Association. Thank you for all of the time you have dedicated to making this the most phenomenal ArtsPark it can be, including our most recent six-hour agenda item at the September 21 Commission Conference meeting

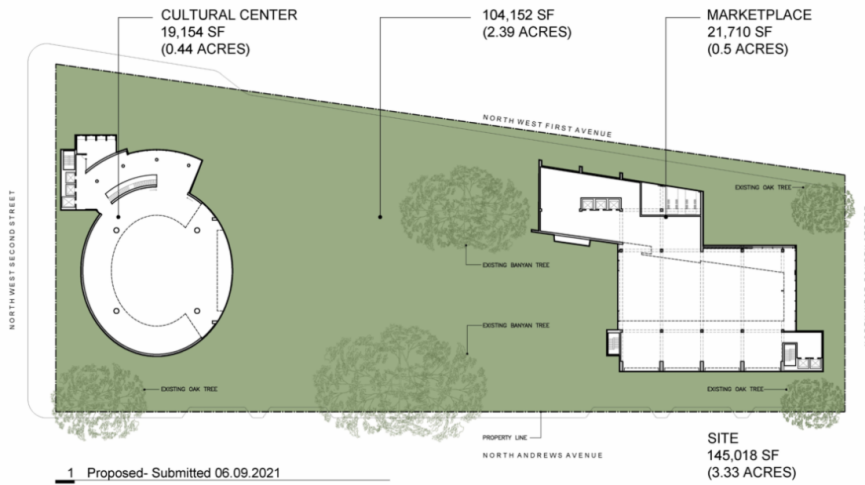
Located in a vibrant live/work/play area bounded by the Sistrunk corridor, FAT Village, MASS District, Flagler Village, our Downtown Government Center and Brightline/multimodal transportation hub, this is the perfect location for a 21st century gathering place – a great respite in one of the densest parts of not just Fort Lauderdale, but all of Broward County.



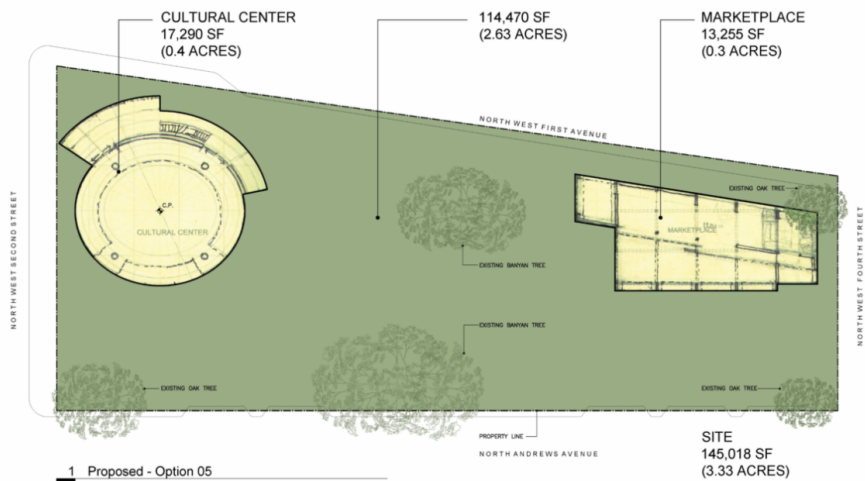
The public purpose and benefits to taxpayers? Plenty.

When I first met with the proposers, I made it clear that at least two-thirds of the 3.3 acre site must be open and green. They delivered more. A \$10 million community park — safe, secure and designed to be the best downtown park anywhere in Florida — with now 78% of the land designated as green space and ready for further input from the neighborhood as to what they want included there. I was also able to secure many improvements to the plan during this process including: the elimination of the two-level underground parking garage to ensure the preservation of the old-growth specimen trees and keep the space as a cooling park; a significant reduction of the two buildings' footprint, not only expanding the green space area, but making it more contiguous and accessible by shifting the location of the buildings to the far north and south west of the site; and increased revenue for the city.

Previous Proposal – 6.9.2021



Current Proposal



I also believe in letting developers take the burden off of taxpayers and pay for a new park, especially when they are willing to commit to four meetings with the Flagler Village Civic Association to design the park area prior to even going through the development process. This entire park will be built and maintained and operated at zero cost to the public. There is a \$100 million investment in refurbishing and expanding the green space as well as a state-of-the-art cultural center, which will afford our local artists and cultural organizations a free space, and a gathering hall with art, culture, food and opportunities for all.

While I understand that not everyone is thrilled with the plan, in addition to the public benefit, this is a smart financial deal for Fort Lauderdale. Negotiations are ongoing, but currently we should anticipate \$1 million per year in revenue to the city and hundreds of new jobs. This asset will be owned by the city as soon as it is built, and, considering it is designed by the team behind the Getty Center, it will become an iconic image for Fort Lauderdale.

Of course, there will be restaurants, places to get a cup of coffee, a snack or drink. There will also be yoga, dance, wellness, educational opportunities, public art, and music here. ArtsPark will be a different kind of one stop, one for everything you can imagine.



We know how to do this; it is consistent with what we have accomplished with the Panthers' Holiday Park facility and InterMiami's Lockhart Stadium site — by unanimous votes on both projects. When I travel and speak to people about Fort Lauderdale, they ask how we have attracted so many exciting initiatives in partnership with the private sector. I tell them it is because our community works together.

This project will happen in a part of our downtown where people choose to live because of the density and excitement — so many housing, employment and entertainment options. It brings to life ideas surfaced by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the Urban Land Institute (ULI) encouraging managed activation of our public spaces as well as promises made to create a wonderful new park in this community. Not to mention, it will be the first destination within walking distance of the soon-to-be reactivated Brightline station.

This ArtsPark proposal is exactly what we need in this part of Fort Lauderdale. After three years of planning, it is time to make it real, and I look forward to the ribbon cutting!



City Commission Adopts Resolution 21-206 Approving the Fifth Amendment for Las Olas Marina

The City Commission adopted Resolution 21-206 to approve the fifth amendment to the ground lease agreement with Suntex Marina Investors for the Las Olas Marina. Suntex Marina Investors will take occupancy of the site on October 1, 2021, and the Subsequent Base Rent Period shall commence on or before October 1, 2026. Soon a shovel will be in the ground to celebrate this major construction milestone as well as developing a new

pump station for the neighborhood. The City of Fort Lauderdale is delighted to bring the Las Olas Marina project to fruition.



HISTORY
Fort Lauderdale

25th Anniversary HISTORY MAKERS

Wine & Spirits • Hors d'oeuvres • Entertainment

Saturday, October 30
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina
Superyacht Pavilion
2301 SE 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale

HONORING



Bob Denison

The Denison Family
History Makers Pioneer
Family Award
Accepted by Bob Denison



Phil Purcell

**Marine Industries
Association of
South Florida**
Legacy Business Award
Accepted by Phil Purcell, CEO



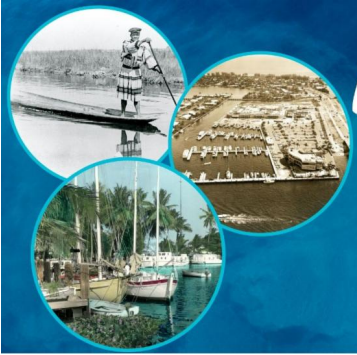
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BEVERAGE SPONSOR

EVENT SPONSORS






HISTORY
Fort Lauderdale



Making Waves

A Visual History of the Marine Industry
in Fort Lauderdale
October 11 - November 1 at
GALLERIA
FORT LAUDERDALE
(2414 E Sunrise Blvd. Fort Lauderdale)

historyfortlauderdale.org • 954-463-4431

Thank you [Island Magazine!](#)

And on your left, ladies and gentlemen...

This is what you've been waiting for, monthly bus tours of Greater Fort Lauderdale's treasure trove of Mid-century Modern architecture. Tour subject alternates between *The Magic of Charles McKirahan* and *Mid-century Modern Highlights of Greater Fort Lauderdale*. Tour costs \$50/\$40 for New River Architecture Project members. Register at: newriverarchitecture.com

8 ISLAND MAGAZINE

Photo Robin Hill



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INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE!



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

JOIN US FOR THE **REDUNDANT SEWER FORCE MAIN PROJECT COMPLETION CEREMONY**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH AT 11 A.M.

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

820 NE 14th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Following a year and a half of construction, the City's 7-mile redundant sewer force main was successfully activated on July 2, 2021. You are invited to join us as we celebrate the completion of this record-setting project!

www.fortlauderdale.gov



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



Poinsettia Heights' Lake Melva Floating Treatment Wetland Aims to Improve Water Quality

The City Commission has identified waterway quality as one of its [top priorities](#) this year. The City is committed to ensuring that Fort Lauderdale waterways are clean and safe for residents, visitors, and local wildlife. As part of this effort, the City is experimenting with a creative approach to improve water quality in Lake Melva in the form of a vegetated island that was recently launched into the lake between NE 16 Street and NE 17 Street.

This vegetated island, which is planted with native aquatic plants that are intended to take up nutrients present in the water, is an example of a Floating Treatment Wetland (FTW). FTWs are an innovative method accepted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection that is meant to enhance the natural process that occurs between water, plants, and microorganisms in order to remove contaminants from stormwater in a passive and natural way. The island is secured with cement block anchors on each corner; boaters should avoid the area immediately surrounding the FTW.

This exciting project is the first of its kind in Fort Lauderdale. Over the coming weeks, Poinsettia Heights neighbors may notice City staff in the area who will be monitoring the island's effectiveness and determining maintenance needs. If you have any questions, please contact the City's 24-hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000 or lauderserv@fortlauderdale.gov.



Looking for a well-deserved getaway? Our 24-mile span of golden [beaches](#) await you. Hotels, restaurants, shopping destinations and attractions are open and ready to welcome you. Your well-being is our top priority, and we have committed to the [Visit Lauderdale Safe + Clean Pledge](#) to show enhanced safety and health protocols are in place. So come relax and unwind, while enjoying a change of scenery. Don't forget to take advantage of [LauderDeals](#) for savings throughout your stay.

Thank you for your interest in the **Broward Commuter Rail Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study**. This newsletter will provide you with information about the study and the PD&E process. Please visit the study's website www.browardcommuterrailstudy.com throughout the study to receive updates and provide input.

ABOUT THE STUDY

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Four and Broward County are performing a PD&E Study for the Broward Commuter Rail (BCR) along the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway from Aventura in Miami-Dade County to Deerfield Beach in Broward County.

FDOT and Broward County have executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to continue efforts to improve mobility in the region. The scope of the BCR Project PD&E is to develop and analyze alternatives for commuter rail service along the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway corridor from Aventura to Deerfield Beach. The corridor is owned by Grupo Mexico, who operates the rail freight service in the corridor. Brightline operates inter-city rail in this corridor, and has a passenger service easement within the FEC corridor right of way. The study is being conducted in coordination with many parties that have an interest in the FEC corridor. Miami-Dade County is also studying the implementation of commuter rail service in the FEC corridor for the segment from Downtown Miami to a proposed station in Aventura, known as the Northeast Corridor.

The BCR is a 27-mile segment of this commuter rail service that will include the necessary rail, signaling, safety and communications improvements, and passenger stations and amenities connecting to existing and planned local and regional transit service. Six potential stations will be studied and evaluated within the study limits.

The BCR PD&E Study will include a new rail crossing at the New River for passenger service through Downtown Fort Lauderdale. The existing railroad bridge will remain in place for exclusive use by freight rail.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MISSION STATEMENT
 The Department will provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity and preserves the quality of our environment and communities.

EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

You may be eligible for rent assistance if you live in the City of Fort Lauderdale and have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Apply Today!
www.consolidatedcreditsolutions.org/ftl-rent



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE TO CHLORINATE WATER SYSTEM

Water Treatment Scheduled for
October 5 - 26, 2021

The City of Fort Lauderdale will temporarily switch to using free chlorine in its drinking water system beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 through 9 a.m. on Tuesday, October 26, 2021.

Free Chlorination is a common preventative maintenance procedure for water systems using chloramines for disinfection. The City expects the chlorination period to be transparent to our neighbors; however, some may notice a slight change in the taste or smell of their tap water. In addition, neighbors may see fire hydrants running in their neighborhoods, which is part of the normal maintenance process.



Flushing fire hydrants is a routine part of the free chlorination process.

The City of Fort Lauderdale maintains the highest standards to ensure that clean, high quality drinking water is delivered to our neighbors. The City's water meets federal, state, and local primary drinking water standards.

For more information, please contact our 24-hour Customer Service Center at (954) 828-8000 or via LauderServ at www.fortlauderdale.gov/lauderserv.

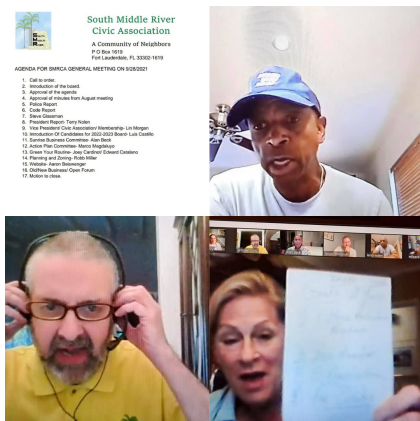
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We have the following Board Vacancies below. Please email Nancy Fry nfry@fortlauderdale.gov if you are interested in serving on a Fort Lauderdale City Board.

- 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)*
- Infrastructure Task Force
- Insurance Advisory Board
- Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights
- Nuisance Abatement Board
- Sustainability Advisory Board

Boards and Committees Information

There are no words to describe the level of excellence exhibited each day by our District 2 Neighborhood Association presidents, and that is why I so look forward to when we all get together! More than 20 attended our Roundtable yesterday to compare notes and hear from our guest speakers: new Police Chief Larry Sciroto and Building Official John Travers. Tremendously informative presentations and, as always, great dialogue. Thank you, all!



I always enjoy spending time with the South Middle River Civic Association. So many selfless, committed neighbors working hard to grow and continually improve the neighborhood. Terrific meeting yesterday evening and wonderful goals expressed by the incoming Board of Directors. Look forward to working together.

News Articles

BREAKING: Mai-Kai Restaurant announces plans to reopen in Oakland Park

New luxury condos reach for the sky — and have dizzying price tags to match

In Fort Lauderdale's hot Progresso, a new bar is coming to the Laser Wolf building

COVID-19 in Florida: State Reports Lowest 7-Day new case average since July

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](#)

[Visit the District 2 Website](#)

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Steve Glassman
Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, District 2