



# 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. Since Wednesday, December 1, 2021, public participation during all City Commission and Advisory Board meetings has returned to an in-person format only. 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](http://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](http://fortlauderdale.gov/citycommissionmeetings). In case you missed them, the following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Wednesday, January 5, 2022. The videos are available at [youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale](https://youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale) and the vote summary will be available later this week at [fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar](http://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar).*

### **CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING**

#### **CRI Interim Audit Status Report Leads to Recovery of Funds Related to Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center (FLAC) Renovation Project**

The City Commission received a summary of the audit that was recently completed by Carr, Riggs & Ingram (CRI) CPAs and Advisors with a focus on the ongoing Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center Renovation Project. The audit included a review of monthly pay applications, change orders, various interim status reports, and site visits through July 31, 2021, and identified approximately \$350,000 in funds that were billed to the City incorrectly. Of that amount, the City has currently recovered approximately \$260,000 and another \$40,000 is in process of being credited back to the City. Additional charges of approximately \$55,000 are still under review. The City is planning to amend its agreement with CRI to allow for continued review of pay applications and change orders through the end of the project and a review of the project close out process and costs. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3t2C7wW](http://ftlcity.info/3t2C7wW).

#### **City Commission Approves \$6,000 Grant Reimbursement for First Call for Help of Broward, Inc.**

As part of a discussion about the appropriate use of City-issued not-for-profit grant funds, the City Commission granted a reimbursement of \$6,000 for expenses incurred by First Call for Help of Broward, Inc. while administering its Bridge 2 Life (B2L) program. In November 2020, the City provided First Call with a reimbursement grant of up to \$10,000 for B2L events and related activities for Fort Lauderdale middle and high school students aimed at assisting students with college readiness. The agreement identified funding for virtual college visits and virtual career

workshop activities, however some of the expenses submitted by the group for reimbursement consideration did not fit within the approved scope of services. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/31uG5mL](http://ftlcity.info/31uG5mL).

## **CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

### **City Commission Accepts LauderTrail Master Plan**

The City Commission approved the master plan for LauderTrail that includes the proposed route, branding, cost estimates, conceptual design elements, best practices, and recommendations for funding and implementing a successful trail system. Next steps include working alongside the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization to identify funding opportunities through available infrastructure and transportation bills that can be leveraged together with City funding. Staff will also evaluate and recommend a model trail segment to be constructed and identify a not-for-profit “Friends Group” to assist with fundraising efforts. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/32LbTEF](http://ftlcity.info/32LbTEF).

### **City Commission Approves \$1.5M Agreement for Rehabilitation and Upgrade of Sewage Pumping Stations**

The City Commission approved a \$1,507,414 agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for the design and permitting to rehabilitate and upgrade nine triplex sewage pumping stations throughout the City that were originally constructed in the 1970s. The design work includes the removal and replacement of all mechanical, electrical, and ventilation equipment; the replacement of all pumps, pipes, valves, and other components; and any required structural repairs. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3JIBNcx](http://ftlcity.info/3JIBNcx).

### **City Commission Approves \$864,992 Agreement for Water Distribution System Valve Replacement**

The City Commission approved a \$864,992 agreement with Lanzo Companies, Inc. for the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant Valve Replacement Project. The project’s scope includes the removal and replacement of a leaking 30-inch water main valve and the installation of two 30-inch, one 36-inch, and one 42-inch side-mounted butterfly valves outside the plant on water transmission main lines. The work will be completed in phases and will be monitored to ensure that water pressure stays at normal operating conditions throughout construction. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3HDN8sK](http://ftlcity.info/3HDN8sK).

### **City Commission Approves \$40,000 Agreement for Artwork on Lifeguard Towers**

The City Commission approved a \$40,000 service agreement for artwork on four lifeguard towers along Fort Lauderdale Beach between Sunrise Boulevard and Seabreeze Boulevard. Following a call to artists, the City’s Public Art and Placement Advisory Board selected artist Djerlens Chery whose designs will highlight aquatic life and the experience of visiting the beach. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3zvW8gD](http://ftlcity.info/3zvW8gD).

### **City Commissions Adopts a Resolution Supporting Legislation That Would Authorize the Prohibition of Smoking on Public Beaches and in Public Parks**

The City Commission adopted a resolution urging all members of the Florida Legislature and Governor Ron DeSantis to support Senate Bill 224 (Gruters) and House Bill 105 (Fine and Altman) in the 2022 legislative session and any other similar legislation that would authorize the prohibition of smoking on public beaches and in public parks and directing the City's state lobbyists to advocate in favor of Senate Bill 224 and House Bill 105. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3qQONo2](http://ftlcity.info/3qQONo2).

### **City Commission Defers Resolution Urging FDOT to Consider the Tunnel as the Future of Commuter Rail Service in Fort Lauderdale**

The City Commission discussed a resolution urging the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to consider the tunnel as the future of commuter rail service in the City of Fort Lauderdale. Mayor Trantalis elaborated on his position favoring the construction of a tunnel as the local preferred alternative. Discussion topics included funding sources and project partners, the City's role in the project, and the impact on the future joint government center campus project. The City Commission will continue this conversation on January 18, 2022, at a workshop with FDOT. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3G4iOHe](http://ftlcity.info/3G4iOHe).

### **City Commission Approves Request to Relocate the African Rain Tree**

The City Commission adopted a resolution approving a request to relocate the African Rain Tree at 408 SW 4 Avenue which is one of eight protected trees in Fort Lauderdale. In order to accommodate a proposed 784-unit mixed used development called Raintree Residences, the African Rain Tree will be relocated northwest of its current location to a position near the New River, specifically at the terminus of SW 4th Avenue along the Riverwalk. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/338VdX6](http://ftlcity.info/338VdX6).

### **City Commission Adopts Resolution Approving 16 Parks Improvement Projects**

The City Commission approved the Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Advisory Board's recommendation for approval of 16 parks improvement projects throughout the City as part of Phase 2 of the City's Parks Bond: 1. Ann Herman Park, 2. Benneson Park, 3. Bill Keith Park, 4. Cooley's Landing Marina, 5. Coontie Hatchee Park, 6. Croissant Park, 7. Esterre Davis Wright Park, 8. Flamingo Park, 9. Floranada Park, 10. Fort Lauderdale Beach, 11. Guthrie-Blake Park, 12. Lauderdale Manors Park, 13. Osswald Park, 14. Riverland Park, 15. Walker Park, and 16. Warbler Wetlands. Following the City Commission's approval, the projects will be advanced into the design phase. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3ztKhjd](http://ftlcity.info/3ztKhjd).

### **More Information**

For more information on items from the January 5, 2022, Commission meetings, visit the City website at [fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar](http://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar).

### **Next City Commission Meetings on January 18, 2022**

The next City Commission meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, January 18, 2022. City Hall is open, and members of the public are invited to attend meetings in person. *Since Wednesday, December 1, 2021, public participation during all City Commission and Advisory Board meetings has returned to an in-person format only.* 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](https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/citycommissionmeetings).