



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.

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, the following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. 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 JOINT WORKSHOP WITH FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Update on the New River Crossing and Broward Commuter Rail

City staff coordinated a special workshop to allow representatives from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Broward County to provide an update on the New River Crossing and Broward Commuter Rail initiatives. The railroad crossing that is located west of Andrews Avenue is part of the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway and is currently used by freight trains and Brightline high-speed rail trains. Efforts are underway to establish the Broward Commuter Rail that will provide connections to Miami-Dade and Palm Beach County utilizing this track. Alternative crossing options are being considered in order to reduce impacts on marine traffic along the New River: a low- or mid-level bascule bridge, a high-level fixed bridge, or a tunnel. The City Commission discussed the item at the regular meeting and passed a resolution of support urging FDOT to consider the tunnel as the locally preferred alternative (LPA) for the commuter rail service crossing in Fort Lauderdale. The Broward County Commission is expected to select and approve an LPA in February 2022 and the Broward MPO is expected to endorse the LPA in March/April 2022. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3AcxBxC and ftlcity.info/3KgfCL4.

CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING

City Commission Discusses Four Unsolicited Water Treatment Plant Proposals

The City Commission has received four unsolicited proposals to design, construct, operate, and maintain the City's Charles F. Fiveash Regional Water Treatment Plant which was built in 1954 and supplies the bulk of the City's drinking water using a lime-softening treatment process. The

City contracted with Ernst & Young Infrastructure Advisors, LLC (EYIA) to provide financial analysis services for the proposals that were submitted by four teams: Aqualia, IDE, NextSpring, and FLW whose proposal also includes taking over operations, maintenance, and management of the City's water system in its entirety. City staff as well as staff from EYIA summarized their evaluations of the four proposals. Discussion topics included a comparison of RFP and P3 project approaches, potential impacts on water rates, and cybersecurity considerations. The City Commission invited the City's Infrastructure Task Force Advisory Board to review the proposals and make a recommendation to the City on February 15. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3nAQODK.

Waterway Quality Update

City staff provided an update on efforts to improve waterway quality in Fort Lauderdale. Major accomplishments in 2021 include National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) permit implementation and reporting with a focus on non-point source pollution, weekly waterway quality monitoring, and piloting protein skimmer technology. Proactive measures have been a major focus in fiscal year 2021 including cleaning catch basins and street sweeping preventing nearly 1,500 tons of debris from entering the waterways and the removal of 160 tons of floating debris from canals. City staff will continue to take measures to improve waterway quality at Sweeting Park in the North Fork of the New River, the Himmarshee Canal, and the Tarpon River through activities such as cleaning City-owned drainage pipes, initiating construction of several stormwater improvement project in the North Fork watershed, and performing remediation dredging and installing permanent aeration in both the Tarpon River and Himmarshee Canal. The discussion also included a presentation by staff from Miami Waterkeeper with a summary on their findings from across the ten sites they monitored over the past year. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3GF1skz.

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

City Commission Approves Agreement for FLFR's Participation in Urban Search and Rescue Task Force

The City Commission approved a motion authorizing the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the City of Miami's Department of Fire Rescue for participation in the US Department of Homeland Security's National Urban Search & Rescue Response System as part of Florida Task Force 2 (FL-TF2). Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue (FLFR) has been a participating agency for many years with FL-TF2 and desires to continue providing personnel to serve designated positions on the task force. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3GI2oVm.

City Commission Approves \$2.5M Purchase of Property Insurance

The City Commission approved the purchase of one-year insurance policies in an amount not-to-exceed \$2,499,742 for over 260 City-owned buildings/structures with an insurable value of just over \$532 million. The City's contracted agent, Risk Management Associates, Inc., d/b/a Public Risk Insurance Advisors, conducted negotiations with various insurance carriers and/or their agents, in order to structure a layered program, which allows the risk of loss to be spread among the following participating carriers: ACE American Insurance Company; Underwriters at

Lloyd's of London; Ironshore Specialty Insurance Company, National Fire & Marine Insurance Company, Arch Specialty Insurance Company; Endurance American Insurance Company; Landmark American Insurance Company, Evanston Insurance Company; Wright National Flood Insurance Company; and XL Insurance America, Inc. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3ry1TXo.

City Commission Approves \$10.1M Agreement with Thompson Consulting Services, LLC

The City Commission approved an agreement with Thompson Consulting Services, LLC (TCS) in the initial three (3) year contract term fixed amount of \$10,139,947.50 for the purchase of disaster debris management, cost recovery, project management, and other support services in the event of a qualifying disaster such as a hurricane. The agreement allows the City Manager to approve two (2) one-year renewal options in the estimated annual amount of \$3,379,982.50 for a potential total contract amount of \$16,899,912.50. This agreement is needed to conduct specialized emergency debris removal work as well as to provide assistance with project submittals for all categories of emergency and permanent work related to declared emergencies to help ensure accuracy in reporting and for successful monetary reimbursement from FEMA. For details, visit ftlcity.info/33vVeoO.

Nobe Sunday Block Party Returns January 23 and January 30

The City Commission approved an event agreement, related road closures, and requests for extended hours for music with Fishtales Bar & Grill, Inc. for the Nobe Sunday Block Party events to be held on Sundays in the month of January between 6 and 10 p.m. along the north side of NE 33 Street between A1A and NE 33 Avenue. The event includes live music, food, and fun and has been approved through April 2022. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3rtyr54.

City Commission Approves Agreement to Advance Bill Keith Preserve Shoreline Stabilization Project

The Bill Keith Preserve is a City of Fort Lauderdale-owned property along the South Fork of the New River that has been subject to erosion. To stop the erosion and rebuild the shoreline, City staff recommends installing a rip rap breakwater structure made of moderate sized rocks into the riverbed along the shoreline of the preserve. To execute the described project, the City Commission authorized the execution of a Sovereignty Submerged Lands Easement Modification Agreement with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida to increase the square footage of the easement at preserve for a fifty-year period through July 2071. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3AaLGeN.

City Commission Designates New River Castle as a Historic Landmark

Following presentations by the property owner's representative and City staff, the City Commission adopted a resolution approving the historic designation of the structure known as "New River Castle" located at 625 SW 5 Place in Tarpon River as a historic landmark. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3rotmL2.

City Commission Approves Ordinance Amending Parking Citation Appeal Process

The City Commission approved an ordinance on second reading amending Division 2, "Administration and Enforcement," of Article IV of Chapter 26 to revise the administrative appeal process for parking citations and defective parking meters. The amendment will improve

service delivery by implementing a two-tiered administrative appeals process that would allow City staff to review citations for errors, omissions, or extenuating circumstances. If the appellant is not satisfied with the first-tier review decision, then the appellant could request a second-tier review which would be conducted by the Clerk of Court of Broward County, Florida. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3nDVEQF.

More Information

For more information on items from the January 18, 2022, Commission meetings, visit the City website at fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

Next City Commission Meetings on February 1, 2022

The next City Commission meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, February 1, 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.