



# 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 in the City Hall lobby using the City Clerk's iPad. 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, 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 Tuesday, June 21, 2022. The video is 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 JOINT WORKSHOP WITH BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD**

#### **City Commission Discusses Fiscal Year 2023 General Fund Preliminary Budget**

As part of a discussion on the preliminary budget for the upcoming fiscal year, the Budget Advisory Board (BAB) recommended that the City Commission maintain the maximum millage rate at 4.1193 for the 16th consecutive year. According to recent estimates from the Broward County Property Appraiser, Fort Lauderdale's taxable property value has increased by \$5.6 billion resulting in approximately \$20 million in additional revenue that the City can use to pay for its increasing operational expenses. The BAB also recommended an increase to the fire assessment fee that is paid by each residential dwelling unit from \$311 to \$321 per year. The City Commission will vote to set the maximum millage rate and fire assessment fee at the July 5th Regular City Commission Meeting. The adoption of the budget will occur at public hearings scheduled for September 6 and September 12. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3xHjVcP](http://ftlcity.info/3xHjVcP).

### **CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING**

#### **City Commission Discusses Las Olas Mobility Plan Financial Methodology Study**

Last summer, the City Commission accepted the Las Olas Mobility Vision Plan that aims to provide mobility, infrastructure, and roadway improvements from Andrews Avenue to State Road A1A. The plan was developed by the Las Olas Working Group, led by Vice Mayor / District IV Commissioner Ben Sorensen and District II Commissioner Steven Glassman, and was the result of several years of studies and public input. Staff provided the City Commission with an update on the effort including a recap of the project history, the status of current initiatives, and an overview of potential funding mechanisms. As construction on the new Tunnel Top Park nears completion at the end of this year, the project team is currently analyzing the establishment of a dual left turn from SE 15 Avenue to Las Olas Boulevard while preparing for the upcoming installation of two new crosswalks in the Las Olas Isles area starting in early 2023. The City's preliminary fiscal year 2023 budget includes \$7.1 million over the next three years to be allocated to this project. The Commission provided direction to utilize the initial funding for

the design of project segments between Andrews and SE 17 Avenue. In addition to the planned funding, the Commission heard presentations from Transportation and Mobility staff and from Stantec, the City's financial consultant, on potential funding methods including different types of assessment structures and their associated financial impacts. Learn more about the Las Olas Mobility Project by visiting [www.fortlauderdale.gov/lasolasproject](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/lasolasproject). For details on meeting discussion, visit [ftlcity.info/3HEjxiY](http://ftlcity.info/3HEjxiY).

### **City Commission Discusses Future Development of Lockhart Park**

The City Commission discussed the comprehensive agreement with Inter Miami as it relates to the new park that will be constructed at Lockhart Park. Next steps include defining a plan and completing a cost analysis. The City Commission will continue this discussion on Tuesday, July 5. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3zTNDOL](http://ftlcity.info/3zTNDOL).

## **CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

### **City Commission Approves ITS Maintenance Agreement with FDOT**

The City Commission approved the execution of an agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the operation and maintenance of Bluetooth/BlueToad devices as part of the City's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). Since 2019, City staff has coordinated the installation of seven Bluetooth devices across the City that measure the distance, time, and speeds at which vehicles travel at any given time and help with analyzing traffic patterns and identifying trends. The agreement transfers the operating and maintenance responsibilities from the City to FDOT resulting in annual cost savings estimated at \$500 per device. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3QDrEl6](http://ftlcity.info/3QDrEl6).

### **City Commission Authorizes Grant Application for Carter Park Community Center**

The City Commission adopted a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for \$500,000 in grant funding through the Cultural Facilities Grant Program administered by the Florida Department of State's Division of Cultural Affairs. The proposed project will support the development of a multipurpose community center that would allow for a wide range of programming including activities focused on arts and cultural enrichment. If awarded, the grant agreement will be brought back to the City Commission for execution and appropriation. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3zU5ipf](http://ftlcity.info/3zU5ipf).

### **City Commission Expresses Support for Designation of Pio Ieraci Memorial Drive**

The City Commission adopted a resolution supporting the Florida Legislature's honorary designation of the portion of State Road A1A between the northern terminus and southern terminus of Galt Ocean Drive as "Pio Ieraci Memorial Drive." Mr. Ieraci was an active civic leader in Broward County who was appointed to the City of Fort Lauderdale Education Advisory Board, served as the Chairman of the South Florida Business Advisors, Inc. and of the Broward Beach Coalition, and was instrumental in beach renourishment efforts. He also served as Chairman of the President's Council and the Galt Mile Community Association and served as the President of the Galt Ocean Club Condominium Association for over 20 years. State Representative Chip La Marca was present and shared a few words in recognition of Mr. Ieraci's accomplishments in the community. Following the adoption of this resolution, the Florida

Department of Transportation will produce and install designation markers. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3bm55kj](http://ftlcity.info/3bm55kj).

### **City Commission Adopts Resolution Appointing Greg Chavarria as City Manager**

The City Commission adopted a resolution appointing Greg Chavarria as City Manager effective July 23, 2022. Mr. Chavarria will work with current City Manager Chris Lagerbloom and staff on a transition plan to support ongoing City operations and critical projects. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/39IUdgd](http://ftlcity.info/39IUdgd).

### **City Commission Approves Five-Year Agreement for External Audit Services**

The City Commission approved a five-year \$1.04 million agreement with RSM US LLP for external audit services. In accordance with Florida Statutes, the City is required to complete an annual financial audit by an independent certified public accountant. The agreement includes a general financial audit, federal and state program audits, a CRA audit report, and a large user wastewater audit and will result in a savings of \$80,000 when compared with the current contract for these services. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3yahTDB](http://ftlcity.info/3yahTDB).

### **City Commission Denies Issuance of Development Permit for Lumiere**

Following a De Novo hearing, the City Commission adopted a resolution denying the issuance of a Site Plan Level III development permit for Lumiere, a seven-unit, multi-family residential development at 500 Hendricks Isle. The applicant was seeking Site Plan Level III approval for a Waterway Use and Yard Modification. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3yaLQn2](http://ftlcity.info/3yaLQn2).

## **OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BOARD MEETING**

### **OPEB Trust Quarterly Investment Report for Period Ending March 31, 2022**

The City's Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust was established to provide benefits to eligible former City employees and operates in a manner similar to a pension plan whereby the City makes annual contributions to the OPEB Trust and the City's contributions together with interest earnings fund future OPEB benefits. The OPEB Trust returned -5.72% in the first quarter of 2022, underperforming its policy benchmark return of -5.47% by 0.25%. The City's OPEB Post Retirement Pay Steps Plan returned -4.80% in the first quarter of 2022, outperforming its policy benchmark return of -5.47% by 0.67%. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/39DjUil](http://ftlcity.info/39DjUil).

### **More Information**

For more information on the June 21, 2022, Commission meetings, visit [fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar](http://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar).

### **Upcoming City Commission Meetings**

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will take place on Tuesday, July 5, 2022.