



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.

In case you missed them, the following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, October 18, 2022. The video is available at youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale and the vote summary will be available later this week at fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING

City Commission Update on New City Hall Facility

The City Manager updated the City Commission on the need for a new City Hall. Due to the current facility's condition and the city's growth, the manager recommended developing a centralized facility that would allow for several off-site departments to be moved into City Hall, while improving access to the public for City services. During the manager's presentation, he discussed funding options that include Federal financing programs that allow repayment over 75 years. Additionally, City Administration is in receipt of an unsolicited proposal to develop, design, site, permit, finance, construct, commission and maintain a new City Hall facility. The City Manager requested additional time for staff to review the proposal before presenting it to the City Commission for discussion. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3S6UYzH.

City Commission Update on Police Community Engagement Initiatives

In his report, the Police Chief shared updates on initiatives that aim to enhance Public Safety. Some initiatives include the assembly of Neighborhood Action Teams that will be assigned to each district. Staff is also working with the YMCA to sublease a portion of their facility to serve as police sub-station for District 3. Another initiative includes to resume the Community Police Forum is also going to resume in the near future. The Forum provides an opportunity for neighbors to better understand police operations, increases transparency, builds trust and strengthens the Police Department's relationship with the community. There are new changes to the Office of Internal Affairs, including improved processes for documenting and investigating complaints. Noise-detecting cameras are also being explored to enforce noise violations and may be operational by the beginning of next year. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3Vv0q2i.

City Commission Discusses Donation Offered for Tunnel Top Plaza Art Installation

The City Commission discussed the future of the Tunnel Top Plaza and a \$5 million dollar donation given to the City to purchase public art for the plaza. The donor was late Fort Lauderdale resident James Windor Laird, who sought naming rights at a City park. The Commission decided to discuss the upcoming selection of the artwork and the appropriate manner with which to recognize Mr. Laird on the plaza at the November 1 City Commission meetings to give neighbors, the Art in Public Places Committee, and the Downtown Civic Association the opportunity to share their input before a vote on the issue. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3eNmGnB.

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

City Commission Approves Agreements with Broward Partnership for the Homeless

The City Commission approved and authorized the execution of a revocable license agreement with the Broward Partnership for the Homeless for the installation and maintenance of improvements along NW 7 Avenue in conjunction with the “Seven on Seventh” project. The 9-story building, located at 920 NW 7th Avenue was approved in March 2021 and includes 72 affordable housing units, ground floor retail, and 124 parking spaces. The City’s site plan approval requires the developer, Broward Partnership for The Homeless, Inc., to install and maintain the landscape material, soil cells, root barriers, and irrigation system on the east side of NW 7th Avenue on the right-of-way. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3Sg2JU2.

City Commission Approves Merit Increase for City Attorney

The City Commission voted 4-0 vote to approve a merit increase for City Attorney Alain Boileau. After reviewing the annual report of the Attorney’s Office, the Commission determined that the attorney’s salary should be increased from \$243k to \$260k. The Commission cited the fact that Mr. Boileau serves the largest City in Broward County and that his salary should be commensurate with his duties and responsibilities. The attorney credited his staff for the office’s success. To view the City Attorney’s annual report, visit ftlcity.info/3zeB8MD.

City Commission Adopts Resolution Authorizing Station Village

The City Commission adopted a resolution, by a 3-1 vote, authorizing a development permit for a 36-story, mixed-use building with 400 multi-family residential units and 5,499 square feet of space for commercial use, proposed at 199 NW 5th Avenue in the Downtown Regional Activity Center - West Mixed-Use district. The project supports a mix of uses including a range of employment, shopping, service, cultural and higher density residential. The project, located in a Downtown Transition Zone, required alternative design approval to allow for a deviation in height and building length. With approval, the City Commission acknowledged that the project’s design, while deviating from the design guidelines, met the overall intent of the Downtown Master Plan. The Downtown Master Plan regulations are designed to provide a seamless transition between the Downtown urban core and lower intensity areas and blend with adjacent neighborhoods such as City View located to the northeast of the site. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3yQK8Hi.

City Commission Adopts Resolution for Not-for-Profit Grant for Delta House

The City Commission adopted a resolution to approve a Not-for-Profit Grant Participation Agreement with the Delta Education and Life Development Foundation, Inc., in the amount of \$96,000 to help fund roof repairs. As part of the proposed grant agreement, the City will have use of the Delta House for recreational programs and events up to three times per month, without charge for the remaining part of the lease, which expires in 2059. The Foundation, known as the Delta House, is a non-profit organization that provides adolescent health and development programs, economic and social action initiatives, early childhood reading programs, and tutorial programs, as well as offers college and vocational scholarships to recognize high school students. Due to the current condition of the building, many of these programs are operating virtually. Upon repair, all programming will return in person at the Delta house. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3CMMg42.

City Commission Amends Master Lease Agreement with Bahia Mar

The City Commission approved a resolution to amend the Master Lease Agreement with Lessee, Rahn Bahia Mar, LLC, for the City owned property known as Bahia Mar. The amendment modifies the Master Lease Agreement to accommodate a new proposed conceptual site plan for proposed structures. During the discussion, the Lessee assured the commission that the amendment does not impact any existing provisions and terms regarding the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3VFu84C.

City Commission Appoints City Auditor

The City Commission reached an agreement to appoint Pat Reilly as the City Auditor and reached an agreement on his employment contract that shall be executed by the Mayor. The annual salary for the City Auditor has been set for \$240k. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3TiKYF1.

City Commission Approves Ordinance for Food and Beverage Consumption on the Beach

The City Commission approved an ordinance on first reading to allow Fort Lauderdale Beach hoteliers to offer food and beverage service, including alcohol, on the beach to their guests and members of the public who are renting chairs from the City's concessionaire. The Commission discussed amending the draft ordinance to include a pilot period of one year to test the program's success and allow stakeholders and community members to continue dialogue for potential improvements or modifications to the ordinance. Between now and second reading, the City Attorney will add a clause to provide for the repeal of the ordinance unless re-enacted by the City Commission within 365 days. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3yQQQNA.

More Information

For more information on the October 18, 2022, Commission meetings, visit fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

Upcoming City Commission Meetings

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will take place on Tuesday, November 1, 2022.