



LauderBriefs

Updates from City Commission Meetings

The City of Fort Lauderdale hosts City Commission meetings in person at various temporary locations. If any person wishes to address the City Commission, the person shall sign up 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, August 22, 2023. 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 JOINT WORKSHOP WITH INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Infrastructure Task Force Proposes Workshops to Help Guide the Vision of a Future City Hall

The Infrastructure Task Force Advisory Committee along with City staff proposed hosting a series of workshops to help gain public input and feedback to develop a vision for a future City Hall. Following the flood event in April 2023 that left the current City Hall uninhabitable, the City Commission is exploring options for a future facility. By gathering insight from neighbors and businesses, the workshops will focus on identifying guiding values and principles that help define specific elements for the community to interact with staff, elected officials, and each other in a future facility. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3qH1AgG.

CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING

Commission Discusses an Alternate Funding Source for Condo Associations and Owners

The City Commission explored a proposal to urge the Florida Legislature to create opportunities to provide funding relief to condominium and co-op associations as well as economically vulnerable unit owners for inspections and for funding of reserve and emergency fund accounts that will be required for certain buildings in the coming years. The Florida Legislature now requires certain condos that are three stories or taller and more than 30 years old to conduct initial milestone inspections. In Broward County, the policy applies once a structure is 25 years old with inspections to be conducted every 10 years. The law requires a condo association's budget to include reserve accounts for capital expenditures and deferred maintenance. The City Commission asked for staff to bring back a resolution that can be approved and shared with Florida Legislators. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3OMUXkL.

Commission Hears a Proposal for Affordable Housing Development Incentives

The City Commission engaged in a presentation about a new proposal that would provide a financial incentive for those developing affordable and workforce housing. The City has

previously adopted several incentives to encourage the private development of such housing, including allowing for additional height and density as well as the ability to develop mixed-use residential projects in certain areas. The new incentive would come in the form of monetary reimbursement based on a portion of the annual increase in the property's ad valorem assessment. The Commission offered input about the overall policy, which was deemed an effort deserving of support, as well as items such as tenant income limitations and financial benefit thresholds. Staff will be recommending policy for the Commission to consider and adopt. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3KMBG1F.

Commission Provided an Update about the Status of City Hall

The City Commission continued to explore options for the City Hall building, which has been uninhabitable since the April 2023 flood and currently costs \$35,000 per day to maintain. Recently, the Mayor's Office, City Clerk's Office, and Commission Offices for Districts 2, 3, and 4 relocated to 1 E. Broward suite 444. However, the City continues to pursue long-term options for a future City Hall, as well as office space for staff displaced from the 101 Tower facility. After being presented with three options, the Commission directed staff to prepare a plan to abandon and demolish City Hall. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3KSITCb.

Commission Explores Key Issues and Requests Associated with the FY 2024 Proposed Budget

The City Commission discussed the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Proposed Budget, which was first submitted to the Commission on July 5, 2023. The discussion focused on six topics – the Mayor and City Commission Office budgets, annual funding for non-profits, City-produced special events, City holidays, new sidewalks, and future funding for Circuit micro transit. The Commission discussed proposed funding for those six areas and provided direction for staff to explore options to adjust the FY 2024 Budget and Community Investment Plan to address the revised funding requests before it is brought before the Commission for a vote in September. For details, visit ftlcity.info/45mw4Uq.

Commission Hears Proposed Ordinance Related to Snyder Park

The City Commission took no action regarding a petition to enact a proposed ordinance requested by the Save Snyder Park Petition Committee that proposed the City declare all areas of Snyder Park as a public space reserved only for natural growth, vegetation, and enjoyment of citizens as a public park. The Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale allows for the petition of a proposed ordinance upon collection of 1,000 Broward County supervisors of election-verified signatures from City electors. The City Attorney provided an opinion that cited several legal deficiencies that make the submitted document unadoptable as an ordinance. The Commission had the option to take one of four actions – reject the proposed ordinance, take no action upon the proposed ordinance, pass the proposed ordinance on first reading, or pass the proposed ordinance in amended form upon first reading. No action was taken on the proposed ordinance. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3siR3bX.

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEETING

CRA Board Adopts Final Operation Budget and CIP Allocations for FY 2024

The Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners adopted the final CRA Operating Budget and Community Investment Plan allocations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. The action also approved the re-appropriation of the prior year's unspent funds and recommended approval of the CRA Budget to the City Commission. The total CRA budget is \$28.28 million. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3QOiHaV.

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Commission Approves a Resolution Aimed to Expand Access to Post-Secondary Education

The City Commission approved a resolution authorizing the City Manager, on behalf of the City, to execute a memorandum of understanding with Broward County to increase access to post-secondary education for Fort Lauderdale residents. The partnership intends to bring college programs, workforce training, and support services to underrepresented communities to increase awareness, exposure, and access to post-secondary learning opportunities. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3sfUAYq.

Commission Gives Nod to Pursue a Grant to Help Fund Removal of Derelict Vessels

The City Commission approved a resolution that authorizes the City to apply for a reimbursable grant of \$50,000 to the Broward Boating Improvement Program for the removal of future derelict vessels. These funds will be used to salvage and dispose of abandoned boats or derelict vessels, which can present navigational or environmental hazards. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3E5TQaX.

Commission Authorizes Execution of a \$10.48 Million Grant for a Dorsey-Riverbend Project

The City Commission approved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a reimbursable grant agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$10.48 million. The funds will be used for the Dorsey-Riverbend Neighborhood Stormwater Improvements Project, covering an area of approximately 382 acres with about 1,200 residential properties. The proposed improvements will reduce the risk of flooding during heavy rain events and tropical storm events, as well as provide for impacts from future sea level rise. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3P4z8P4.

Commission Authorizes Execution of a \$13.5 Million Grant for a Progresso Project

The City Commission approved a resolution that authorizes the City Manager to execute a reimbursable grant agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$13.5 million. The funds will be used for the Progresso Neighborhood Stormwater Improvements Project, which includes the replacement of aging, undersized, and fragmented stormwater management infrastructure as well as construction of new infrastructure. These improvements will reduce the frequency, intensity, and duration of flooding in the neighborhood and reduce the risk of flooding during heavy rain events. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3YN9GRw.

Commission Agrees to Rent Space at One East Broward for Chambers and Office Space

The City Commission approved a sub-sublease agreement with West Marine Products, Inc. for nearly 32,800 square feet of rentable space on the first and second floor of the One East

Broward building. The agreement, in the amount of \$7.4 million over 64 months, secures space for Commission Chambers and office space for staff. For details, visit ftlcity.info/47Ff2Ch.

Commission to Consider Options for Police Staff Office Space at Future Meeting

The City Commission directed staff, via motion, to move forward with preparing lease agreements for 1515 W. Cypress Creek for temporary office space for police staff while the Construction of the new headquarters is taking place. Site preparation work for the new Police Headquarters began on July 19, with some of the work causing inadvertent disruptions to police staff that occupied the existing headquarters structure. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3YNCOYN.

Information

For more information on the August 22, 2023, Commission meetings, visit fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

Upcoming City Commission Meetings

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will take place on Tuesday, September 5, 2023.