



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, September 5, 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 BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD

Commission Discusses the FY 2024 Proposed Budget with the Advisory Board

The Budget Advisory Board joined the City Commission for a workshop to discuss the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Proposed Budget, including expenditure and revenue adjustments made following recent guidance from the Commission. With the new FY 2024 Operating Budget, the City is poised to make the biggest investment ever in improvements and enhancement to services, dedicating more than \$1 billion to projects across the City. The proposed budget includes an additional \$300 million focused on enhancing and maintaining services for all residents. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3PmDDVn.

CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING

Commission Hears Concepts for a Potential Electric Vehicle Charging Ordinance

City staff provided a presentation that outlined the current and projected market growth of electric vehicles (EVs) within the City and their corresponding charging needs. In January 2023, the City's Sustainability Advisory Board recommended drafting an ordinance to require the installation of EV charging infrastructure, which would help support the City Commission's net-zero goals adopted in 2021. Staff recommended that the City move forward with an EV-Ready ordinance that requires minimum baselines with incentives for optional higher standards (*EV-Ready* means that developments must install electrical outlets that are capable of charging an EV). For the next steps, the City Commission expressed a desire to set a baseline while incentivizing more burdensome requirements on new developments. City staff will now take that direction from the Commission and prepare a draft ordinance. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3LclpT4.

Commission Updated about Plans to Improve and Consolidate the Customer Service Center

The City Commission received an overview of the second phase of a proposed plan to consolidate the City's call centers into a central Customer Service Center. The plan would

incorporate a single 24/7 customer service phone line for all inquiries and requests, along with an improved mobile application and the capability for text messaging responses. The Customer Service Center would be staffed from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., with after-hour calls managed by an answering service when call volume drops. The Commission indicated its approval of such a plan and directed staff to move forward with the plan. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3sHYPfK.

Commission Presented Ways to Minimize the Impact of Third-Party Special Events

The City Commission listened to a presentation regarding special events hosted by third parties that included recommendations to minimize the negative impact of special events on residents while enhancing revenue. City staff recommended restructuring the fees associated with these events, exploring ways to increase control of public space, and improving the coordination of overlapping events, particularly on the barrier island, while maintaining a level of public access to parks and the beach. The Commission urged staff to further define certain non-profit organizations that would be given some latitude related to fees, create sponsorship packages, and explore opportunities for events to be hosted in all areas of the City while drafting future ordinances. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3Z8xNue.

Commission Provides Direction for Next Steps of the Las Olas Mobility Plan

The City Commission heard a presentation about the Las Olas Mobility project. City staff sought Commission input regarding the use of existing funds and to better understand what components of the Las Olas Masterplan to include in the design. The City Commission provided direction to move forward to the design phase for the west corridor and to provide two initial design concepts for the Shops portion (one concept as illustrated in the Master Plan and one concept that retains the median and removes the parking lane). Staff will also explore adding bike lane facilities in the downtown section from Andrews to 3rd Avenue. Staff will negotiate the scope for the west corridor design and bring back a proposed agreement to the City Commission for consideration. Once the west corridor design is underway, City staff will shift the focus to the east corridor and work with the district Commissioner to determine the next steps. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3ErnWpF.

CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING – FIRST BUDGET HEARING

Commission Advances FY 2024 Budget Resolutions During First of Two Public Readings

The City Commission unanimously approved resolutions related to the Fiscal Year (FY) Proposed 2024 Budget during the first of two public hearings. The second reading for the items will be held at 5:01 p.m. on Wednesday, September 13, at The Parker, located at 707 NE 8th Street. More details about the four resolutions are below. For a deep dive into the FY 2024 Proposed Budget, please visit ftlcity.info/3P9tZUU.

- **Resolutions to adopt the FY 2024 Sunrise Key Neighborhood Improvement District Tentative Millage Rate and Millage Budget.** The district set its millage rate at 1.0000 mill and the resolution established a budget of \$191,312, which includes estimated revenue generated from this millage rate. For details, visit ftlcity.info/44O9fba.
- **Resolution to adopt the FY 2024 Tentative Millage Rate for the City of Fort Lauderdale.** The City Commission reviewed the proposed millage rate of 4.1193 and the tentative debt service millage of 0.2737 for the City. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3sN299e.

- **Resolution to tentatively approve and adopt a Five-Year Community Investment Plan (CIP) beginning October 1, 2022, until September 30, 2028.** The (CIP) sets forth the City's capital improvements to ensure that municipal facilities and infrastructure improvements are appropriate and adequate to serve the needs of residents and neighbors. For details, visit ftlcity.info/47WMPap.
- **Resolution to adopt the FY 2024 Tentative Budget and Personnel Complement for the City of Fort Lauderdale.** The City Manager presented to the City Commission the FY 2024 Proposed Budget on July 4, 2023. Since that time, modifications have been made to various budgets, and those modifications are reflected in the FY 2024 Tentative Budget. The Tentative Budget of \$1.07 billion includes a millage rate of 4.1193 per \$1,000 of taxable value and a Fire Assessment Fee of \$338 per residential dwelling. Any changes recommended by the Commission will be made before the second public hearing on September 13. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3EpNljw.

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Commission Approves Agreement for Sidewalk, Asphalt, and Paver Emergency Repairs

The City Commission approved an agreement for the annual sidewalk, asphalt, and paver emergency repair with FG Construction, LLC for an initial two-year term in the amount of \$800,000. The agreement authorizes the City Manager to approve two, one-year renewal options in the amount of \$400,000 per year, bringing the potential total contract to \$1.6 million. For details, visit ftlcity.info/45FTFPT.

Commission Initiates a One-Year Code Enforcement Lien Amnesty Program

The City Commission approved a resolution that begins a one-year Code Enforcement Lien Amnesty Program. The program allows the City to settle code enforcement liens on real property for 10% of the lien value. The program, which will run from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, states that the property that is subject of the lien and all properties owned by the property owner must be in full compliance with the City's Code of Ordinances. All administrative fees, hard costs, and any liens including lot clearing charges, utility liens, board-up charges, demolition charges, civil penalties, vessel removal charges, condemnation costs, and legal fees are exempt from lien amnesty and will not be included in the reduction. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3PdcXW2.

Commission Gives Nod to Ordinance to Modify the Vacation Rental Registration Process

The City Commission approved the first reading of an ordinance that modifies the vacation rental registration process. The amendments include requiring that each vacation rental be equipped with a noise-level detection device, increasing the amount of the civil penalty for uncontested and contested violations, adding language to specify the maximum penalty for operating a vacation rental during a suspension, and removing language to limit the certificate of compliance suspension time frames. For details, visit ftlcity.info/45Fv900.

Commission Advances Amend Code of Ordinances for Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater

The City Commission approved the first reading of an ordinance to amend sections of the City's Code of Ordinances to provide for increases to tapping charges, water and wastewater rates,

master meter charges, service availability charges, sprinkling meter chargers, and private first service charges. The increases will generate the necessary funds for present and future operational and capital project needs across the Water and Sewer Fund. The amendment also aligns the current and future water and sewer rates to the City's respective cost of services. For details, visit ftlcity.info/4813nOt.

Information

For more information on the September 5, 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 19, 2023.