



# 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](http://fortlauderdale.gov/citycommissionmeetings).*

In case you missed them, the following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. 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 – CHARTER REVISION BOARD**

#### **Commission Considers Amendments to Sections of the City's Charter**

The City Commission held a joint workshop with the Charter Revision Board to discuss recommendations for amending the City's charter. The Board provided an overview of the articles and sections to be considered for proposed amendments, including the timing of designation of the Vice Mayor, residency requirements, and the sale of real property, among other matters. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/4asemAn](http://ftlcity.info/4asemAn).

### **CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING**

#### **Commission Provided with an Overview of the Redefining Our Schools Initiative**

The City Commission heard details about Broward School District's Redefining Our Schools initiative, with remarks provided by School Board member Dr. Allen Zeman. As part of the discussion, the Commission heard that the district is facing a steep decline in the number of students it serves. With fewer students forecast for the foreseeable future, the district is exploring options for the physical buildings of under-enrolled schools, including possibly selling or repurposing some schools. At the evening City Commission Regular Meeting, the Commission passed a resolution encouraging the School Board to enlist more community support when developing alternatives. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/4dQYASL](http://ftlcity.info/4dQYASL) and [ftlcity.info/3wBTo4r](http://ftlcity.info/3wBTo4r).

#### **Commission Moves Forward with Effort to Recruit the Next City Manager**

The City Commission discussed parameters to establish a Citizens Advisory Board to assist with the selection of a new City Manager. Qualified candidates from across the country will be considered for the position of City Manager, and the proposed advisory board would review the top candidates and make recommendations to the Commission. The Commission indicated that the advisory board would be filled by seven community members. Susan Grant was named

Acting City Manager at the Commission meeting on May 7. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3V8fAwg](http://ftlcity.info/3V8fAwg).

### **Commission Reviews Proposals for a Code of Conduct for Commissioners and Others**

The City Commission reviewed proposed ordinances that would establish a code of conduct for Commissioners, the Mayor, and appointed members of various City boards and committees. Currently, there is no unique code of conduct in place, though there are state and county ethics laws that broadly apply. The proposed code of conduct is intended to create a safe, respectful, and professional work environment and serves as a framework for ethical decision-making. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3wOS3Hi](http://ftlcity.info/3wOS3Hi).

## **CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

### **Commission Gives Nod for Pursuit of a Federal Grant for LauderTrail Construction**

The City Commission approved a resolution that supports the submission of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation that would provide funds for construction of the LauderTrail project. The Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program is designed to help communities plan, design, and construct active transportation networks. LauderTrail is a project designed for pedestrians and bicyclists who want low-stress routes and separation from traffic. When complete, the project will add 31 miles of new trails and connect parks, neighborhoods, businesses, schools, and more. The reimbursable grant can be awarded in an amount between \$7.5 million and \$15 million. The funds would be used to construct the LauderTrail segments between the Downtown Mobility Hub and Carter Park. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3UQhwYZ](http://ftlcity.info/3UQhwYZ).

### **Commission Reviews Proposed Site Plan for Restaurant and Outdoor Dining Space**

Following a City Commission Request for Review, the Commission reviewed a proposed site plan development application for a restaurant and outdoor dining space at 300 S. Andrews Avenue. Following discussion and confirmation that the applicant met the requirements of the Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR), the Commission opted to not set a de novo hearing, which would have included a fresh review of the application.

### **Commission Approves Request for Extended Construction Hours at Pier Sixty-Six**

Following community feedback at the last meeting, the City Commission approved a request for a special permit to extend construction hours for the Pier Sixty-Six Hotel and Marina development project. The project, located on SE 17th Street east of the intracoastal waterway, will feature a new hotel and retail and restaurant space. The request for extended construction hours was made to allow for alarm systems testing, among other activities. An extension of allowable hours of construction was granted to allow work to be done Monday through Sunday from 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. This will allow for early morning deliveries and exterior work as well as alarm testing two to three evenings per week. Additionally, no alarm testing would be conducted on Sundays. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/4bOQfgx](http://ftlcity.info/4bOQfgx).

### **Commission Passes Ordinance to Rezone 22.7 Acres to Allow for Mixed-Use Development**

The City Commission approved an ordinance rezoning 22.7 acres of land, located at 150 NW 68th Street, from a Residential Multifamily Mid Rise/Medium High-Density district to an Uptown Urban Village Northeast district. The rezoning allows for the development of a mixed-use project with approximately 1,200 residential units on the site. These plans required the closure of the Pan American Estates Mobile Home Park and the relocation of more than 200 families living in the mobile homes. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3wSHS11](https://ftlcity.info/3wSHS11).

### **Commission Rezones Nearly 20 Acres as Parks, Recreation, and Open Space District**

The City Commission approved an ordinance that rezones 19.73 acres of vacant property located at 5101 NW 12th Avenue so that it is designated as a Parks, Recreation, and Open Space district. By rezoning, the City ensures that the land will be available as open space in order to convert the property into a community park and protects the area in several significant ways. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3UHbF88](https://ftlcity.info/3UHbF88).

### **Commission Addresses Pedestrian and Traffic Safety in Public Rights-of-Way**

The City Commission adopted an ordinance that repeals a prohibition against solicitors and canvassers in rights-of-way based on a Federal Court order and replaces it with a robust pedestrian and traffic safety regulation of busy intersections that are prone to a high number of traffic accidents. The City now has the authority to address public safety issues in these areas through a general prohibition against entering the roadway within 200 feet of the center line of any of 21 identified high-accident intersections, with the exception of the use of a designated crossing area. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3K8dyG7](https://ftlcity.info/3K8dyG7).

### **Information**

For more information on the May 21, 2024, Commission meetings, visit [fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar](https://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar).

### **Upcoming City Commission Meetings**

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will occur on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at NSU Art Museum – Horvitz Auditorium, 1 E. Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.