

MAY/JUNE 2016 - DISTRICT 1 NEWSLETTER COMMISSIONER BRUCE G. ROBERTS



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE WORKING TO BRING 911 Communications Back: Select staff within the City, are working to return 911 operations, including call takers and dispatch, to the City of Fort Lauderdale. In January, a team was formed with key members from Information Technology Services (ITS), Fire, Police, Human Resources, Public Works and the City Manager's Office. The team meets weekly to discuss options regarding location, layout, technology needs, hiring and training of 911 staff, and project management. Team members suggest non-emergency public safety calls be incorporated and consolidated with 911 operations. One consideration is to cross train non-emergency call takers and 911 call takers as a best practice. The team has determined that hiring a consultant with expertise in developing, managing and operating a 911 Communications Center is necessary. A Request for Proposals (RFP) is being developed to establish the requisites for the consultant. Team members contacted Broward Sheriff's Office for our City's data and statistics to be incorporated in the RFP. The current vision will allow the consultant to manage the entire project, providing a turn-key solution. The chosen consultant will design the project and provide a cost analysis, implement the project and hire and train staff with input from Police and Fire management, and operate the center for a given amount of time. The consultant will then turn over operations to the City. Team members are currently researching any possible grant money available for this solution. The RFP should be completed and submitted sometime in May. Choosing a suitable location has been a challenge. The old Bank Atlantic building on West Cypress Creek Boulevard and in close proximity to the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is currently being considered. The team has toured the location and is evaluating possible space. For essential technology connection, it will be necessary to run fiber optics between this building and the EOC. Public Works has been consulted to perform the task of dredging underground to lay and connect the fiber between the buildings. The building's wind load rating is a concern amongst team members. They are currently evaluating materials being used for roof renovations. It is imperative that the City's 911 Communications Center withstand a Category 5 hurricane. The team will continue to meet weekly and put continuous effort into developing a detailed project plan and total cost for this vital undertaking. In the meantime, please continue to advise us of problems you may encounter with the current system.

CITY RECOGNITION: Fort Lauderdale is the first of Florida's cities to earn Municipal Certification from the International Organization for Standardization, following successful implementation of a comprehensive strategic management system exceeding global quality standards. Our citywide management system, developed as a framework to deliver quality services that build community, is based on these principles: neighbor satisfaction, leadership, community builder involvement, process enhancement, a systematic approach to management, factual decision-making, mutually beneficial supplier relationships and continual improvement. The International Organization for Standardization is an independent, non-governmental entity comprised of subject matter experts that develop international standards to support innovative and facilities solutions to global challenges. Fort Lauderdale and Dallas are the only Cities in the United States to achieve this certification. In addition, the City's water and sewer bonds have just earned the AA+ rating from Standard & Poor's, reflecting "a strong service area economy, low industry risk, strong market position, and very strong operational management assessment." And Moody's Investor Services has assigned these bonds the Aa1 rating, acknowledging the strength of a well-managed system supported by a strong liquidity position and competitive rate structure, a sound capital improvement program, and sufficient water supply and system treatment capacities to at least 2035.

NORTH OCEAN BOULEVARD FDOT PROJECT

The SR A1A project is progressing on schedule:

Recently Completed Activities:

- Drainage improvements on the west side of the road
- Concrete curb and driveway construction
- Installation of FPL service points, though they may be relocated at 40th Street
- New mast arm and pedestrian signals installation
- Paving for the first layer of asphalt north of 34th Street (was completed on April 7)

Ongoing / Upcoming Activities:

- Brick paver installation is ongoing and is expected to be completed soon
- Lighting installation on the west side of the road
- Completion of west side activities is expected in May and traffic will then be shifted to the west to allow work to begin on the median

Overall Time Update:

- The project is expected to be completed in summer 2017
- The contractor is scheduled to be working 10 hours/4 days per week, but recently have been working five days lately

VACATION RENTALS – If you would like the City to investigate a property that may be an unregistered vacation rental, please e-mail VacationRental@fortlauderdale.gov or call 954-828-5207. For more information, log on to <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/sustainable-development/code-compliance/vacation-rental-registration-program>.

POLICE BODY WORN CAMERAS PILOT PROGRAM: The Police Department incorporated the City Commission's recommendations into the policy and is currently waiting for input from the FOP. The Police Department will then submit the mutually agreed upon policy to the City Attorney's Office for review before receiving additional suggestions from the Citizens Police Review Board (CPRB) and Council of Civic Associations. Florida House Bill 93 (Law Enforcement Officer Body Camera) was signed into law by Governor Scott and is now in effect. The *Body Worn Cameras and Digital Evidence Management System Request for Proposal* packet is being drafted and is expected to be released soon.

FDOT: Below are two important dates regarding projects from FDOT:

Tuesday, May 24, 2016 from 5:30-7:30pm at the Sheraton Suites Ft. Lauderdale at Cypress Creek (555 NW 62nd St) - Meeting re: SR 9/I-95 from South of SR 870/Commercial Blvd. to North of Cypress Creek Road: On behalf of FDOT, District 4, you are invited to learn about the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for the above referenced project. The purpose of the PD&E Study is to evaluate improvements at the interchanges of I-95 and Commercial Blvd. and I-95 and Cypress Creek Road, which will reduce congestion, enhance safety, and achieve an acceptable level-of-service while minimizing potential impacts to the natural and human environments. The meeting will begin as an open house at 5:30pm with a formal presentation at 6pm.

Wednesday, May 25, 2016 from 4:30-7:30pm at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Riverview Ballroom (201 SW 5th Ave) – Wave Streetcar Public Information Workshop: The Workshop is to help you learn about the Wave Streetcar Project in Fort Lauderdale. The goal is to provide stakeholders with information about the project and provide an opportunity to ask questions and make comments. It will be an open house format beginning at 4:30pm followed by a presentation at 6:30pm. Free parking will be provided in the garage on the NW corner of SW 2 St. and SW 5 Ave.

OFFICE CONTACT: Robbi Uptegrove – 954-828-5033; email: ruptegrove@fortlauderdale.gov

In addition to hosting two pre-agenda meetings twice a month, I am also available to attend your HOA meetings to update your neighborhood on what is going on in the City as well as answer any questions/concerns you may have. Please contact Robbi to schedule.

EMAIL LIST: If you would like to be on our email list so that you receive information pertaining to the City – especially District 1 (i.e. news releases, meeting notices, events), please let Robbi know and she will add you.