

MARCH 2017 DISTRICT 1 NEWSLETTER

COMMISSIONER BRUCE G. ROBERTS



GALLERIA MALL REDEVELOPMENT: Neighborhood compatibility and ID zoning discussions continue between the developer and several neighborhoods. Staff is also facilitating a potential developer's agreement. It appears as if this issue may be brought before the Commission for resolution in March. We will keep you advised.

ENFORCEMENT OF SEAWALL ORDINANCE: A "Frequently Asked Questions" document is now available online to answer some questions about receiving a citation under the ordinance and your responsibilities as a property owner. Please see <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/seawall>

VACATION RENTALS: State Senator Greg Steube (R - Dist. 23) has introduced SB 188 to prohibit local governments from regulating short-term vacation rentals. The City opposes this bill, as does the Florida League of Cities (Mayor Seiler is on this board). Please communicate your position to your State House and Senate members.

VISION ZERO BUS BENCH AWARENESS CAMPAIGN: Since the adoption of Vision Zero Fort Lauderdale by the Commission in November 2015, staff and partners have been working together to implement initial steps while developing the 5 year Strategic Action Plan to chart the path of comprehensive efforts toward a vision of zero fatalities and serious injuries. Part of that campaign involves the utilization of advertising on bus benches to spread awareness through messaging of safe behaviors and Vision Zero across the City. The first phase of the campaign, installed last month, includes messaging on safe behaviors such as "Slow Down," "Cross at Crosswalks," and "Stop Texting." There are 13 locations distributed across the City targeting common behaviors that have contributed to crashes at those locations. Transportation and Mobility, Public Affairs and Information Technology Services staff worked together to develop this campaign that uses crash data from the last five years to identify concentrations of high crashes near available advertising bus benches managed by Gold Coast Bench. The key contributing behaviors of crashes surrounding each of those available benches were identified and messaging was developed to best target each of those hot spot locations.

CONSTRUCTION ON STATE ROAD A1A BETWEEN OAKLAND PARK BOULEVARD AND FLAMINGO AVENUE: The \$9.3 million project is schedule to be completed this summer. Work includes repaving four vehicle lanes and two bicycle lanes, upgrading sidewalks and ramps, improving drainage, upgrading some intersections with mast arm traffic signals, countdown timers for pedestrian signals, upgrading signs and pavement markings, and installing adjustable street lighting that is sea-turtle friendly during nesting season, among other improvements. Until then, access from northbound Galt Ocean Drive to A1A will be restricted through March. Motorists can access A1A via Northeast 41st, 36th and 35th streets. Meanwhile, northbound A1A traffic is shifted slightly west toward the center of the road and southbound traffic will remain on the west side of the road through March.

CITY CONTACT NUMBERS TO KEEP HANDY: We receive many calls from neighbors who need to report findings for such things as code issues, illegal vacation rentals; legal vacation rentals that get out of hand; water is turned off; question about your water bill; prowler in the neighborhood, etc. Many call during the evening or weekend, and by the time my office can get back with you, it could be 2-3 days old. Below are numbers you can call 24/7 to report. Your concern is logged and given a tracking number as soon as you call the number. You can still call my office, but these numbers can get you there quicker!

Code Issue: During Office Hours: 954-828-5207 – After hours: 954-828-8000

Code Complaint: During Office Hours: 954-828-5207 – After hours: 954-828-8000

**You can also report online: <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/sustainable-development/code-compliance/report-code-concerns>

Vacation Rentals: During Office Hours: 954-828-5201 – After hours: 954-828-8000

**If a noise concern happens after business hours please call the non-emergency number at the Police Department (954-764-4357) where it is logged and kept track of.

Downed Signs (Stop/Street): 954-847-2600

Issue w/Water Bill: 954-828-8000

Mosquito Control: 954-765-4062

GROUPS BEGIN PROGRAM TO OFFER MOBILE SHOWERS TO HOMELESS IN BROWARD: It is not a cure of the bigger problem, but organizers of Broward's first mobile shower program say a little bit of hot water will at least make the homeless feel better. A trailer is equipped with six stalls — each with a sink, toilet and shower — to allow the homeless daily showers. There also will be donations of toothbrushes and toiletries on site, and even clean clothes. The initiative, aimed at raising the self-esteem of the homeless, was organized through Live Fresh Inc., an organization that created a mobile shower program last year in Palm Beach County, and Broward's HOPE South Florida, a Christian-based nonprofit that provides assistance to the homeless. The mobile showers will be set up at HOPE feeding sites at churches in Pompano Beach and Fort Lauderdale. The trailer is equipped with a hot water heater and propane tanks and can run between 30 to 35 showers if no running water is available. If water is available at a church, organizers just attach a hose to hook into water and sewer lines. That number excludes the homeless in shelters or staying with friends or relatives. The Broward project is funded with a \$50,000 donation from an anonymous donor.

FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DATA NOW ONLINE: Thanks to The Fort Lauderdale Police Department participating residents and staff, anyone with an internet connection can now access, download, and review information about Arrests, Incidents, Calls for Services, Citations, Accidents, and Employees in our city. Check the full catalog out here: <https://fortlauderdale.data.socrata.com/reports/Data-Catalogs-1>

SYMPHONY AT THE WATERWAYS OFFERS A REFRESHING LIFESTYLE FOR SENIOR RESIDENTS AT FORT LAUDERDALE'S INTRACOASTAL: The Mayor, Commissioner McKenzie and I recently attended the grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony for the Symphony at the Waterways, which opened its doors to the senior community on December 7, 2016. Located at 3001 E. Oakland Boulevard, the community offers independent, assisted living and memory care assistance. Symphony's goal is for seniors to continue the lifestyle they have grown accustomed to and more. Symphony is conveniently located at the Intracoastal in the same location as the old and favorite Yesterday's restaurant. So far, residents have enjoyed Fort Lauderdale's annual Winterfest Boat Parade and exercise classes in the dockside, and cultural outings to local museums, parks and theater. Lloyd Fossey, a world experienced chef, was hired to provide excellent cuisine with a royal flair for the residents. His five-star experience includes the British Royal family, Margaret Thatcher, multiple embassies, and South American restaurants.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS: You can go to <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/parks-recreation> to check out the following: park locator, marinas, municipal cemeteries, the War Memorial Auditorium, park rangers, park rules, doggie guide, rental information, special events – as well as many programs such as aquatics, athletics, classes/programs, online registration, swim team/lessons and tennis.... Check out our Parks and Recreation today – they have something just for you!!

ON A POSITIVE NOTE:

-Sand hauling for beach renourishment from Terramar Street north to approximately N.E. 16th Street was recently completed. The contractor is currently demobilizing and restoring the knee wall that was removed for access, as well as removing all of the equipment from the beach. The purpose of the renourishment project is to reconstruct areas of the eroded beach and increase storm protection to upland development along portions of the shoreline. Residents living near the entry points for trucks loaded with sand graciously endured noise and truck traffic during the renourishment. As a result, everyone can now enjoy the beautiful expanded beach! Thank you to our neighbors!

-Check out the Parks & Rec's new video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYIY3GczcwA> – Staff always has that feeling to make our neighbors happy! The City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department builds community each day by providing happy and healthy experiences for our neighbors with hardworking, dedicated employees.

-Fort Lauderdale has received many accolades in the past few years. Go to <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/government/awards-and-recognition> to find over 70 national recognitions making **our** City the best place to work, live and play!

DATES TO CALENDAR:

3/6/17 Pre-agenda Meeting – Beach Community Center, 6pm
3/7/17 Commission Meetings
3/10/17 Painting of the Saint Patrick’s Day Ceremonial Green Stripe, 4pm, Huizenga Plaza
3/11/17 St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Festival, 10am, Las Olas Blvd.

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.