

**MAY 2015 DISTRICT 1 NEWSLETTER
COMMISSIONER BRUCE G. ROBERTS**



CITY-WIDE INFORMATION:

STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION EFFORTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (S.T.E.P.S.) TO VISION

ZERO: Transportation and Mobility Department (TAM) is leading the development of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, the objective of which is to improve safety for bicycles and pedestrians on City Streets. STEPS to Vision Zero is being modeled after a global initiative adopted in Sweden in 1997 that focuses on the value of human life and is based on the premise that fatalities from pedestrian and bicycle accidents are not acceptable. The initiative is currently being championed in the US by New York City and

San Francisco. In a report conducted by the US Department of Transportation Fatality Analysis Report System, Ft. Lauderdale had the second highest pedestrian fatality rate per capita and the fifth highest traffic fatality rate per capita in the nation for 2014. STEPS to Vision Zero is being developed in collaboration with City departments, our neighbors, Broward County, the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization, FDOT and other supporting agencies. Partners are working together to identify the challenges, actionable initiatives and performance measures to improve safety for all users of our streets. The final product will include an identification of problem areas with a high number of accidents, areas with limited sidewalks surrounding schools, the need for education on safe walking and biking practices, and the high rate of speeding. It will then provide action strategies for all partners to implement including things such as altering the way projects are designed, developing education campaigns, working with schools on education and infrastructure improvements, conducting targeted enforcement in high accident areas, and policy and legislative changes. This plan complements the Connecting the Blocks Program, a multimodal infrastructure improvement program, which is an implementation tool for our Complete Streets Policy and gives us a running start in achieving the objectives of the Mayor's Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets. This will be presented to the Commission at an upcoming meeting.

WHEN YOU NEED TO REPORT:

-**Pothole:** If you notice a pothole that needs to be filled in call 954-828-8000 to report.

-**Flooding:** If you notice flooding on your street or around the City call 954-828-8000 to report.

-**Code issues:** If you notice a code issue (i.e. trash, work being done w/out permit, cars blocking driveway, neighbors neglecting their home/property, illegally parked cars, etc.) call 954-828-5207 to report.

****All of the above can also be done on line where you can log in a concern and track.**

<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments-/city-manager-s-office/public-affairs-office/lauderserv>

-**Suspicious Activity:** If you notice something that is just not right (cars slowly driving up and down the street checking out property, people going door to door, strangers lurking in backyards or strolling your neighborhood) call the non-emergency number to report possible criminal activity – 954-764-4357

2015 HIGH TIDES: Flooding in low-lying areas is more likely when the close proximity of the moon, high tides, rising sea levels and inclement weather conditions combine to exacerbate flooding risks. As a coastal community with numerous low-lying areas and 300 miles of canal coastline, Fort Lauderdale neighbors are advised to be especially vigilant during the months of September, October and November. The City of Fort Lauderdale anticipates above-average high tides on the following dates in 2015, please note that these dates are not limited to the fall months:

April 17 - 18

August 29 - September 2

September 26 - October 2

October 24 - 31

November 24 – 27

While the City maintains an extensive stormwater master plan and is instituting both aggressive maintenance and innovative adaptation solutions to address drainage, the location and natural geography of the City makes neighborhoods susceptible to flooding. Please take the time to evaluate your property's readiness, review your insurance policy and create an emergency plan.

STAY INFORMED! SIGN UP FOR CodeRED: The City of Fort Lauderdale uses CodeRed, a high-speed telephone notification system, to send mass notifications by phone, email and text to keep citizens informed. In the event of an evacuation, utility outage, water main break, fire or flood, chemical spill, or other emergency situations, the City may activate CodeRED to send emergency notifications to registered subscribers. The City may also use CodeRED to communicate non-life safety matters, such as planned road closures, water main repairs, water service interruptions, etc. There is no charge to register for or use CodeRED, and personal information is kept confidential. Registering for CodeRED is quick and easy and can be done by going online on our webpage, or by calling the 24-hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000. Code RED delivers notifications by phone, email and/or text. Please note the following:

- CodeRED is compatible with TDD/TTY devices for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- When the City issues a CodeRED notification, the 24-hour Customer Service Center phone number, 954-828-8000, will appear on the caller ID.
- Notifications cannot be delivered to phone numbers with a privacy lock feature. To ensure notifications are received, subscribers should either turn off the privacy lock feature during emergencies, enter 954-828-8000 on their "safe list" of phone numbers, or enter a cell phone number when registering for the service.
- Individuals who have already registered for the service but would like to update their phone number or add a cell phone number to the database may do so by re-registering.
- The CodeRED Mobile Alert app sends geographically-based messages to subscribers nationwide.

To download the free CodeRED Mobile Alert app for your smart phone, visit the Google Play or iTunes store.

FORT LAUDERDALE NAMED AMONG "AMERICA'S GREENEST CITIES": Among the nation's 150 largest cities, Fort Lauderdale ranks as the 11th "Greenest City in the U.S." according to a national study released on 4/21/15. The study lauded the City for earning high rankings based on the analysis of four key environmental factors: housing density, environmental quality, transportation and energy sources. Fort Lauderdale scored the highest marks for the percentage of occupied buildings with 10 or more residences. The City also scored strongly for good air quality, transportation options and the percentage of residential buildings with solar energy.

DISTRICT 1 INFORMATION:

FAA COMMUNITY MEETING: On Thursday, April 23, 2015, a community meeting was held with neighborhoods concerned about aircraft noise and safety from flights at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE). FAA representatives and City staff were in attendance. It was an educational process, which developed several ideas for follow-up. We will report on that progress in the future.

PROJECT ASSESSMENTS: In our last newsletter, we mentioned that we would present an information series related to the City's program to evaluate, prioritize and finance major infrastructure and capital improvements. Our last newsletter described the bridge master plan which will repair or replace 46 city bridges over the next 20 years. This edition will address the City's plan to resurface our roads.

Roadway Maintenance: The City is using MicroSurfacing to address "Fair" roads. Microsurfacing is a sustainable product, consisting of recycled material that uses a 5/8-inch asphalt polymer-modified cold mix aggregate sealant to extend the life of a roadway by seven to ten years. Microsurfacing can also be done at a much lower cost than conventional asphalt overlays. This process allows the City to maximize available funding to resurface the greatest number of linear miles of roadway.

Maintenance Schedule: In May 2015, Asphalt Paving Systems will begin applying crack seal to the roadways scheduled to be resurfaced this year. Approximately 30-45 days after the crack seal is applied, Asphalt Systems will begin micro-surfacing streets in our community. Fort Lauderdale successfully resurfaced numerous roads in 2014. Moving forward, the City will continue to improve road conditions, reduce long-term costs and make our roads better for our neighbors. The plan is to start at the northern most roadways and progress south. A completed map of the streets to be microsurfaced will be available at a later time and will be posted on our web page.

ADVISORY BOARD VACANCIES: If you are interested in serving on a board or committee, please let us know! We have vacancies on: Community Appearance Board (2), Education Advisory Board (2) and the Historic Preservation Board (1). You can always check on-line or let me know and I will send you the information. You are not required to live within District 1 though it would be nice! Therefore, you can see what other openings there are in other Districts.

<http://fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-clerk-s-office/board-and-committee-information>

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.