



LauderBriefs

Updates from City Commission Meetings

In case you missed it, following are highlights from the special meeting of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission that took place on Friday, March 20 at noon. The video and vote summary is available at bit.ly/2Ui3Iag.

City Commission Confirms Declarations of Emergency Regulations Regarding COVID-19

The City Commission confirmed the declaration of emergency regulations regarding COVID-19. The declaration is currently in effect and will remain in effect through Thursday, April 16, 2020 for the protection of our community including our neighbors, visitors, and employees to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and ensure the healthcare system is not overwhelmed. It includes details about the suspension of events and activities, limitations on gatherings of more than 10 people, the status of various types of businesses, and more. The City will continue to assess the situation and make changes as necessary. To read the Declaration of Emergency Regulations, visit bit.ly/3a7XZdP.

City Commission Approves Resolution Delegating Certain Authority to the City Manager

As the City of Fort Lauderdale addresses the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the City Commission approved a resolution delegating certain authority to the City Manager, including but not limited to: approving and executing revocable license agreements to facilitate work in public rights-of-way; approving maintenance of traffic plans exceeding 72 hours in duration in connection with construction projects; applying for and accepting grants; granting utility, right-of-way, and drainage easements; authorizing the filing of lawsuits; and extending contracts for up to six months. The resolution was adopted as amended and will be available to read at bit.ly/3a5QGDK. For more information about the City's response to the coronavirus (COVID-19), visit www.fortlauderdale.gov/coronavirus.

City Commission Ends Transfers from Utility Funds to General Fund

The City Commission unanimously adopted a resolution that eliminates transfers from utility funds to the General Fund. The practice, called Return on Investment or ROI, was used by the previous City administration to transfer as much as \$20 million a year from the Water/Sewer and Central Region/Wastewater Funds to balance the City's general operating budget. The City was already in year two of a four-year plan to eliminate the \$20 million annual transfers by \$5 million per year. The resolution passed by the City Commission today accelerates the process by immediately eliminating the remaining \$10 million and ending the practice moving forward. For more details, visit bit.ly/2UqLy6m. To learn more about infrastructure projects that are underway throughout the City, visit www.fortlauderdale.gov/infrastructure.

Next City Commission Meeting on April 7

Earlier today, Governor Ron DeSantis issued an executive order waiving state requirements for local governments to have in-person quorums for public meetings. Waiving the requirement will allow local governments to conduct meetings telephonically and via technology including video conferencing. As a result, the next meeting of the City Commission is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 7 at 6 p.m. The meeting is expected to take place using audio/video conferencing software. Additional information about the meeting, including details about public participation, will be made available once it is confirmed.