



# LAUDERTRAC

## RESILIENCY UPDATE FORT LAUDERDALE

Tracking Progress on Commission Priorities for 2020



September/October 2020

## CREATING A STRONGER COMMUNITY



### New \$3 Million Seawall Completed on Isle of Palms

With seven miles of shoreline and 165 miles of inland waterways, Fort Lauderdale is vulnerable to the effects of climate changes and sea-level rise. During our citywide visioning initiative, neighbors identified 'being a resilient and safe coastal community' as a goal for the future. Demonstrating their commitment to bring the community vision to fruition, the City Commission named 'resiliency' as a top priority for 2020.

A Seawall Master Plan is one of the major projects underway to help Fort Lauderdale prepare for the future and adapt to changing climate conditions. As part of the Master Plan, staff assessed the condition of all City-owned seawalls, evaluated areas of exposure, and prioritized seawalls that need to be reconstructed and repaired.



Raising the existing seawall along Isle of Palms in the Las Olas Isles area was identified as a high priority for improvement. The City engaged residents to get insight into neighborhood conditions and mitigation solutions. The original seawall was regularly overtopped during high tide events, which made the road impassable, jeopardized safety, and threatened adjacent properties.

The City allocated \$3 million towards design, permitting, and construction, and then went to work to replace 900 linear feet of seawall. After the old wall was demolished, sheet piles were driven 30 feet into the ground to form a watertight level of protection. A cantilever concrete cap was installed and the new wall was raised three feet. Drainage features were added to reduce flooding and minimize the effects of sea-level rise. And finally, the swales along the wall were regraded, new sod was installed, and the roadway was resurfaced.

The project was completed \$400,000 under budget and two months ahead of schedule in late August. Remaining funding will be allocated towards other seawall improvements projects. Together with the seawall under construction on Cordova Road, these major stormwater improvement projects are helping to create a safer and more resilient community.



# NEWS AND NOTES

## Moving Forward on Commission Priorities



### ▶ Progress Continues on Cordova Road Seawall

The City of Fort Lauderdale continues to make progress on the seawall under construction on Cordova Road. Approximately 2,200 feet of the publicly owned portion of the seawall between SE 7 Street and SE 12 Street are being replaced to reduce the intensity, frequency and duration of tidal flooding; protect the road foundation from erosion; and keep the road passable. To date, the contractor has installed 2,100 feet of sheet pile, 900 feet of concrete seawall cap, and 190 jet filters for drainage. The project is on schedule to be completed by the end of 2020. For more information, visit [www.fortlauderdale.gov/cordova](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/cordova).



### ▶ Preparing for a Hurricane During the Pandemic

Hurricane Isaias spared our community, but it gave us an opportunity to test our emergency response during the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff from every department worked together to organize operations, coordinate logistics, and plan our response and recovery, all while adhering to appropriate safety protocols. Being prepared and ready to respond will help protect our community and enable us to recover as quickly as possible. As we approach the height of Hurricane Season, and it is more important than ever that you are prepared and know what to do in the event of a storm. Remember to check your disaster supply kits and have emergency plans in place. For hurricane preparation tips, visit the City's website at [www.fortlauderdale.gov/hurricane](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/hurricane).



### ▶ Prepare for King Tides Through December

Neighbors should be ready for unusually high tides, called "King Tides," in our area now through December. These tides have historically caused flooding in low lying areas of our community. The City uses stormwater fees to invest in long-term strategies to address flooding concerns and adapt to King Tides. Seawalls, tidal valves, exfiltration trenches, and berm, are examples of some of the improvements we are making to protect our community. We also take proactive action to prepare for the high tides and we encourage our neighbors to do the same. Review flood safety tips, evaluate your property's readiness, and review your flood insurance policy. Avoid driving on flooded streets. Be aware of the timing of the high tides and how they may affect your travel plans. Since higher tides are possible on both the new moon and the full moon, additional dates to watch for tidal impacts include: Sept. 30 – Oct. 4 and Oct. 30 – Nov. 2, 2020. If you experience flooding on your street, make sure storm drains are not blocked and remove waste carts as soon as possible once emptied, or wait until your next scheduled collection day to put them out. To learn more, visit [www.fortlauderdale.gov/kingtide](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/kingtide).

### ANTICIPATED KING TIDES

9/16/20 – 9/22/20

10/14/20 – 10/21/20

11/13/20 – 11/18/20

12/13/20 – 12/15/20

## GET INFORMATION AND UPDATES



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**24-hour Neighbor Call Center:** 954-828-8000

**Alert FTL:** [www.fortlauderdale.gov/alertftl](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/alertftl)

**Website:** [www.fortlauderdale.gov](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov)

**Email Updates:** [www.fortlauderdale.gov/enevs](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/enevs)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale](https://www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale)

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/FTLCityNews](https://www.twitter.com/FTLCityNews)

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