



LAUDERTRAC

HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE



Tracking Progress on Fort Lauderdale Commission Priorities for 2021

May 2021

BUILDING A BRIDGE THROUGH HELP, HOUSING, AND HOPE



Homeless Outreach Unit Supports Homeless Neighbors

One of the primary focuses for the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) is to support homelessness.

From January 1st to April 30th of this year, the Homeless Outreach Unit continued their innovative and robust program by contacting 397 homeless neighbors. Partnering with the Neighbor Support Division, 111 homeless individuals and families benefited from the City's Non-Congregate Shelter Program which provides hotel vouchers to eligible families and individuals. In addition, the Unit's Reunification Program assisted 15 individuals and one family to return to their relatives outside the City. Furthermore, the FLPD Task Force made 1,815 contacts that resulted in an additional 329 placements. The officers also continue to provide homeless individuals with information about the Broward County Homeless Helpline, at (954) 563-4357, and other addiction and mental health support services.



LOVE WHAT YOU DO: Homeward Bound

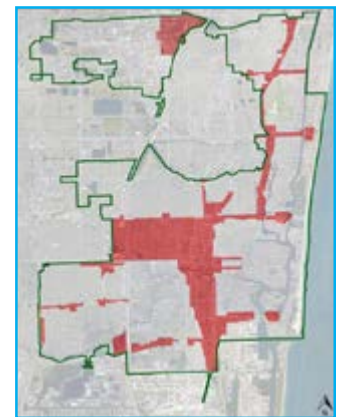
Angela Blaine, a City of Fort Lauderdale employee was recently recognized in the International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) Public Management Magazine relating to her struggle and recovery from homelessness.

About 20 years ago, Blaine was laid off as a customer service representative and was consequently evicted from her apartment. Refusing to feel defeated, she took advantage of available educational programs to advance herself. Five months later, she realized her true calling was to aid the homeless when she received a position at the same agency that had helped her get back on her feet and into her own apartment.

As the City's Homeless Intervention Administrator, she uses her past to create bonds with hundreds of people in the City and provide assistance to them. Her goal is to help the City improve its homeless assistance programs. Blaine's success is an encouragement to many, and she has made it her mission to continue helping others in our City to find their way up. The inspirational article on Blaine can be found at <https://icma.org/articles/pm-magazine/love-what-you-do-homeward-bound>.

Affordable and Workforce Housing Development Initiatives

In an effort to increase the development of affordable and workforce housing, the Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) continues to make progress towards developing policies to incentivize its construction in the Regional Activity Centers (RACs) and along transit corridors.



Residential Unified Flex Map

On April 6, 2021, DSD presented policy recommendations to the City Commission, outlining incentives such as the Flex allocation density bonus, height bonus (in the Northwest RAC and South RAC), and residential unit density bonus. The Flex allocation density bonus allows developments with a Future Land Use of Commercial to add more affordable housing units than are required. The additional units would receive a density bonus of two market-rate units per additional affordable housing unit. An amendment to the Flex unit allocation policy was also presented, requiring a percentage of Flex units allocated to be affordable and workforce housing.

Since the presentation, DSD has conducted additional stakeholder outreach with market-rate and affordable housing developers, as well as the Downtown Development Authority. An informational presentation to the Planning and Zoning Board occurred on May 19th to gather their feedback on the development proposals. Further recommendations based on additional stakeholder feedback and ideas will be provided to the City Commission.