



# LauderBriefs

## Updates from City Commission Meetings

*The City of Fort Lauderdale is hosting City Commission meetings in-person at City Hall located at 100 N Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. If any person wishes to address the City Commission, the person shall sign up in the City Hall lobby using the City Clerk's iPad. The public can listen to and view City Commission meetings on [FLTV](#), [YouTube](#), Comcast Channel 78, and AT&T U-verse Channel 99. To learn more about City Commission meetings, visit [fortlauderdale.gov/citycommissionmeetings](http://fortlauderdale.gov/citycommissionmeetings).*

In case you missed them, the following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, January 24, 2023. The video is available at [youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale](https://youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale) and the vote summary will be available later this week at [fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar](http://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar).

### **CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP**

**Commission, Infrastructure Task Force Continue Discussion of Water Treatment Plant Project**  
City staff and representatives from Hazen & Sawyer and Ridgewood/IDE continued to discuss the proposed Prospect Lake Water Treatment Plant, a project that would replace the 70-year-old Fiveash Water Treatment Plant. The City Commission was provided an overview of outreach efforts conducted by staff and given updates about additional information that is available to the public online. To continue outreach efforts, a second virtual town hall is scheduled for January 25 (to register, visit [ftlcity.info/waterplanttownhall](http://ftlcity.info/waterplanttownhall)), and the Infrastructure Task Force Advisory Committee scheduled a special meeting for February 1. Following the informational phase, the project will now come before the City Commission during the February 7 meeting. As currently proposed, the Prospect Lake Water Treatment Plant would be owned and staffed by the City and provide residents safe, clear drinking water. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$666 million and take roughly 42 months to complete. For a full overview of the Prospect Lake Water Treatment Plant project, visit [fortlauderdale.gov/watertreatment](http://fortlauderdale.gov/watertreatment). For details, visit [ftlcity.info/401rdFA](http://ftlcity.info/401rdFA).

### **CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING**

#### **Commission Provides Feedback as Charter Revision Board Prepares to Meet**

In preparation for future meetings of the Charter Revision Board, the City Commission expressed a desire to outline a process for any possible revisions and to be provided an opportunity to review topics that the Charter Revision Board has previously addressed, as well as the items the City Attorney's Office has identified for possible review. Items put forward for the Charter Revision Board to consider include potential conflicts within the City Charter and/or with State of Florida statutes, processes for future elections and swearing-in dates for Commissioners, staggered terms for Commissioners, and the process for public notice of public hearings, among others. To amend the existing Charter, the Commission would have to adopt

an ordinance to place a referendum on the next general election ballot or additionally the Commission may set a special election to address the Charter amendment. The Charter Revision Board is scheduled to meet on February 2. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3R2xoFk](https://ftlcity.info/3R2xoFk).

### **Commission Hears Update Regarding George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant**

City staff provided a presentation discussing the permitting capacity of the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant to treat wastewater and ongoing efforts to increase permitting capacity to meet future needs of the City in accordance with compliance requirements established by the State of Florida and Broward County. Proposed next steps to improve permitting capacity include completing a study to evaluate plant efficiency and options to increase the current permit capacity with Broward County. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3Dc4ahw](https://ftlcity.info/3Dc4ahw).

## **CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

### **Commission Advances Proposed Funding Agreement to Improve Huizenga Plaza**

The City Commission adopted a resolution to approve an agreement between the City and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) in the maximum of \$5 million over seven years or one-third of the total capital costs for a project to improve Huizenga Plaza. The funds would be used to reimagine and revitalize Huizenga Plaza, which was built in 1996, and include upgrades to the plaza and Riverwalk. Additionally, improvements would be made to improve access, connectivity, visibility, safety, and overall usability for the public. Under this agreement, the City would provide the DDA with an annual payment in the amount of \$100,000 for operations, maintenance, and programming of the park. The approval of the agreement is contingent upon the completion of a traffic study, and the DDA working with City staff to rezone the property after the project is constructed among other items. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3j005EN](https://ftlcity.info/3j005EN).

### **Commission Approves First Reading of Ordinance to Address Resiliency Standards**

The City Commission approved, upon first reading, an ordinance to amend sections of the City's Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR). The ordinance addresses resiliency standards for tidal flood protection by raising the minimum height of seawalls and tidal barriers to comply with county-wide standards. The Commission requested that City staff conduct public outreach efforts for full transparency and awareness prior to bringing in the item for second reading. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3Hw3Mxg](https://ftlcity.info/3Hw3Mxg).

### **Commission Adopts Ordinance to Create a New Classification of Deputy City Attorney**

The City Commission approved, upon second reading, and adopted an ordinance to amend the Non-Bargaining Unit Classification Table of the Pay Plan by creating the new classification of Deputy City Attorney. The Deputy City Attorney may be granted the responsibility to perform the duties and functions of the City Attorney during the absence of the City Attorney. The Deputy City Attorney will perform other duties as assigned by the City Attorney and may be suspended, demoted, or removed by the City Attorney. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3wqJgYz](https://ftlcity.info/3wqJgYz).

### **More Information**

For more information on the January 24, 2023, Commission meetings, visit

[fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar](https://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar).

**Upcoming City Commission Meetings**

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will take place on Tuesday, February 7, 2023.