



LauderBriefs

Updates from City Commission Meetings

The City of Fort Lauderdale hosts City Commission meetings in-person at various temporary locations. If any person wishes to address the City Commission, the person shall sign up 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.

In case you missed them, the following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Wednesday, July 5, 2023. The video is available at youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale and the vote summary will be available later this week at fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

CITY COMMISSION JOINT WORKSHOP WITH NPF REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD

Commission Hears Proposals for Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Redevelopment

The Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Redevelopment Advisory Board provided a strategic-level update and overview of plans for community development in the area. The board highlighted potential projects in the approximately 1,400-acre area between Sunrise and Broward boulevards from Federal Highway to western city limits, such as the Historic Sistrunk Arts and Culture District Plan. The plan aims to enhance the area by creating a dynamic destination village of arts, culture, historic, and entertainment assets that showcase its unique history. The plan would focus on affordable housing and economic opportunities, public art programs, cultural tours that highlight community trailblazers, and space for artists to create, among other concepts. Along with affordable housing options, particularly single-family housing, the Commission noted a desire to focus on improved parking, lighting, sidewalks, and transportation. For details, visit ftlcity.info/44a2rEV.

CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING

Commission Given Update on the Gateway Interchange Project at Sunrise Blvd. and US-1

Representatives from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) provided a presentation about the Gateway Interchange project located at Sunrise Boulevard and US-1. The project focuses on the primary intersection and intends to increase capacity, transportation demand, safety and emergency response, and other improvement efforts. FDOT continues its public outreach efforts in the surrounding neighborhoods to solicit feedback and identify a shared vision for the project. Nine design alternatives were offered, from no action being taken to the addition of more traffic lanes, roundabouts, overpasses, or underpasses, among other options. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3XGUVzi.

Commission Briefed about the Benefits and Challenges of Living Seawalls

The City Commission was shown a presentation that detailed the challenges and benefits of habitat enhancement, living shorelines, and living seawalls. The Commission requested the information following the adoption of a tidal barrier ordinance in March 2023 that includes requirements for habitat enhancement when installing a tidal barrier replacing a natural shoreline. The ordinance encourages, but does not require, seawall construction that incorporates living shoreline features and the use of hybrid green-grey (natural-structural) materials. Living seawalls provide value to the habitat, resilience to wave impacts, and support waterways quality. Challenges include funding for this type of improvement, ensuring the right solution is in the right place to address the waterway quality concerns, market readiness of some of the options, and a potentially complicated permitting process. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3XHLPIQ.

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEETING

CRA Board Approves Three Forgivable Loans for Progresso Park Project

The Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners approved a motion to allow several forgivable loans to be granted to 825 Progresso Drive, LLC, for the Progresso Park Project. The project intends to redevelop the area from a dilapidated used car lot into an indoor/outdoor venue that offers yoga, fitness, art, food, shops, music, and recreation opportunities. The loans include a \$212,520 Property and Business Improvement Program Forgivable Loan, a \$92,735 Façade Program Forgivable Loan, and a \$97,440 Streetscape Enhancement Program Forgivable Loan. For details, visit ftlcity.info/44e0szw.

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Commission Advances Resolution Approving Consolidated Budget Amendment

The City Commission adopted a resolution amending the fiscal year (FY) 2023 Budget and FY 2023 – FY 2027 Community Investment Plan. Recommended actions within the budget amendment include transfer between funds, transfer between capital and operating budgets, acceptance and appropriation of grant funding, and appropriation from fund balance. For example, the resolution amends the FY 2023 Operating Budget in the amount of \$13.4 million for the unanticipated, grant-reimbursable expenses incurred by the City to address the flash floods in April 2023. A total of 14 transfers and appropriations were identified as part of the resolution. For details, visit ftlcity.info/44uZPkN.

Commission Approves an Agreement for Osceola Creek Restoration Project

The City Commission approved an agreement with CHC Marine Services, LLC, for the Osceola Creek Restoration Project, in the amount of \$6.2 million, which includes \$245,000 in allowances for permits, license, testing fees, and unforeseeable conditions. The project consists of restoring Osceola Creek from SW 32nd Place to Marina Boulevard. Restoration work includes the removal of debris, maintenance dredging, vegetation removal, and bank stabilization. When the project is completed, the frequency, severity, and duration of stormwater flooding will be reduced, as the historical conveyance of stormwater is restored. For details, visit ftlcity.info/43ca64u.

Commission Approves Amendment to Lease Agreement for Space at 1 East Broward

The City Commission approved the first amendment to the lease agreement between 1 East Broward Owner, LLC, as successor to One Broward Blvd Holdings, LLC, and the City of Fort Lauderdale 16,178 square feet of office space on two floors of 1 East Broward. The current lease for space on the 16th floor of the building (housing a portion of the City Attorney's Office) is set to expire on July 31, 2023. City staff explored the possibility of expanding the leased space at 1 East Broward, which includes 12,603 square feet of space for staff and members of Charter Offices to transition back into office space. The amendment intends to allow time to consider the longer-term outcome of City Hall. During the afternoon Conference Meeting, the City Commission was provided an update about the temporary City Hall relocation search efforts and potential solutions. A presentation compared operating costs at the original City Hall prior to the flood, comparable pricing for temporary locations in the downtown area, and options for intermediate office space. The Commissioners discussed the desire to balance fiscal responsibility with a location that includes sufficient square footage that is or nearly is move-in ready with space for Commission Chambers and other meetings and events. For details, visit ftlcity.info/44aEZr7.

Commission Agrees to Enter a Comprehensive Agreement for a Multi-Use Structure

The City Commission approved a comprehensive agreement, subject to the City Attorney's review and approval, with Las Olas Parking Solutions, LLC, for the development, operation, and maintenance of a multi-use structure. The structure, to be located at the southeast corner of SE 2nd Court and SE 8th Avenue, will include a Fire-Rescue/EMS Substation, retail shops, and public parking. The developer will invest no less than \$20 million for the entire project which will triple the number of parking spaces, provide a centrally located Fire-Rescue/EMS substation to improve service response times, and streetscape improvements with on-street parking. In addition to these public amenity upgrades, the Comprehensive Agreement defines the rent and profit-sharing formula that the City will receive. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3JLOKDY.

Ordinance to Allow for Thematic Historic Districts Fails on Second Reading

On second reading, the City Commission voted down an ordinance to amend the City's Unified Land Development Regulations to include an option to designate thematic historic districts. One concern was expressed about the potential financial burden on residents who could be impacted by such a designation. A thematic historic district recognizes a group of properties with a common theme not located within a contiguous area, which means the structures may be scattered throughout a neighborhood, several blocks, or even citywide. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3JNlU6h.

Commission Adopts Resolution Related to Receipt of City Manager's Budget Message

The City Commission adopted a resolution acknowledging receipt of the City Manager's budget message, estimates, and recommendations together with a proposed budget for fiscal year 2024. The proposed budget sets the proposed millage rate at 4.1193 per \$1,000 of taxable value and the debt service rate at 0.2737 per \$1,000 of taxable value. The proposed budget also sets the proposed millage rate for the Sunrise Key Neighborhood Improvement District at 1.000 per \$1,000 of taxable value. Additionally, the proposed budget authorizes the City Manager to compute the rolled-back rate and execute all appropriate instruments to advise the Broward

County Property Appraiser of such millage rates and rolled-back rates. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3pERRH2.

Commission Sets Dates for Several Public Hearings Focused on FY 2024 Proposed Budget

The City Commission approved several motions and resolutions that establish dates and rates for required public hearings related to the budget and Non-Ad Valorem assessments for fiscal year 2024. Public hearings are scheduled to begin at 5:01 p.m. on Tuesday, September 5, and Wednesday, September 13, at The Parker, 707 NE 8th Street.

- **Sunrise Key Neighborhood Improvement District:** For details, visit ftlcity.info/3JK0Y02.
- **Lauderdale Isles Water Management District:** For details, visit ftlcity.info/3PKRiGq.
- **Non-Ad Valorem Assessment - Nuisance Abatement:** For details, visit ftlcity.info/3NI28dK.
- **Non-Ad Valorem Fire Assessment Fee:** For details, visit ftlcity.info/3NDw8ar.
- **Beach Business Improvement Assessment:** For details, visit ftlcity.info/43jfR05.
- **Non-Ad Valorem Assessment for Utility Undergrounding:** For details, visit ftlcity.info/3XI9NNQ.
- **Non-Ad Valorem Stormwater Assessment:** For details, visit ftlcity.info/3XLsuQl.

Commission Agrees to Reschedule the Next Commission Meeting for August 22

The City Commission voted to change the date of the next set of Commission Meetings to Tuesday, August 22. The first meeting after the summer break was originally scheduled for August 15.

Information

For more information on the July 5, 2023, Commission meetings, visit fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

Upcoming City Commission Meetings

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will take place on Tuesday, August 22, 2023.