



# 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](http://fortlauderdale.gov/citycommissionmeetings).*

In case you missed them, the following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, January 9, 2024. 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 CONFERENCE MEETING**

#### **Commission Hears Update Regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness**

The City Commission was updated about recent steps taken to address homelessness in the city along with planned efforts moving forward. Homelessness is one of the top priorities of the Commission, with a focus on addressing the congregation at intersections, coordinating services to access mental/physical health and substance abuse resources, and improving safety for our neighbors. Currently, roughly 48% of Broward County's unsheltered homeless population is within the City of Fort Lauderdale. In 2023, the Police Department and Fire Rescue combined responded to more than 11,200 calls related to homelessness. The City provides a wide range of services for the homeless population, including the Housing Navigation Program, which achieved a 65% success rate for a group of 43 chronically homeless individuals. Nearly \$3 million in funding to address homelessness has been approved or is pending approval, and efforts to coordinate and learn from the county and state are ongoing. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3vr1yf0](http://ftlcity.info/3vr1yf0).

#### **Commission Receives Update of Infrastructure Needs and a Potential Funding Strategy**

The City Commission heard a presentation regarding general fund infrastructure needs and a potential funding strategy to address needs through a general obligation bond or bonds. *Renew Lauderdale* is an initiative to create a safer and stronger future by investing in infrastructure and resilience programs and projects. In recent years, significant strides have been made to improve stormwater and wastewater infrastructure, efforts that are ongoing. Those efforts are now being expanded to include infrastructure such as roads, sidewalks, bridges, waterfront areas, and transportation mobility. The Commission indicated a preference to identify funding sources other than general obligation bonds to address these vital needs, and Commissioners will discuss the types of improvements they would like to prioritize during the upcoming goal-setting workshop, happening later this month. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/48Qg0LX](http://ftlcity.info/48Qg0LX).

### **Commission Provided an Overview of the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan***

The City Commission was provided with a presentation of *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029: Our City, Our Strategic Plan*, a five-year plan that includes five focus areas and six goals to help realize the community's long-term aspiration for the future of Fort Lauderdale and plan to make that vision a reality. The focus areas include public safety, housing, infrastructure and resilience, public places, and business growth and support. The strategic plan is partly based on the perspectives and feedback of residents and businesses, which were captured through the 2023 Community Survey. The Commission officially approved and adopted the strategic plan during the evening Regular Meeting. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3tCV7VH](https://ftlcity.info/3tCV7VH).

### **COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEETING**

#### **CRA Agrees to Move Forward with Rezoning of the Property Located at 539 NW 13th Avenue**

The Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners approved a resolution that gives the CRA Executive Director authority to pursue the rezoning of a property from Residential Single Family/Low Medium Density to Northwest Regional Activity Center – Mixed Use West. The property, located on the west side of NW 13th Avenue between NW 5th and 6th streets, totals 7,910 square feet and is currently vacant. Plans for the existing site call for the land to be developed into a public parking lot for the community. Additional public parking is needed in the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights CRA area, which provides support to existing and future businesses that provide a wide range of employment, shopping, services, cultural, and residential opportunities. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3HDr0qY](https://ftlcity.info/3HDr0qY).

### **CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

#### **Commission Approves Agreement to Help Fund Cooley's Landing Marina Replacement**

The City Commission approved a motion that allows the city to enter into a grant agreement with the Broward Boating Improvement Program to fund up to 50% of the renovation of the Cooley's Landing Marina, which is near the end of its useful life, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000. The grant requires the city to match that funding with an additional \$600,000. The remaining project grant match of \$600,000 will be provided in part by a grant awarded to the city from the Florida Inland Navigation District of \$1.5 million and an additional grant awarded to the city by the Land and Water Conservation Fund of \$800,000. This leaves the city to provide the remainder of the match of \$100,000 to complete the estimated \$3 million project. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3NWgzvu](https://ftlcity.info/3NWgzvu).

#### **Commission Authorizes Agreement Tied to a New Parking Lot and Temporary Fire Station**

The City Commission approved a motion that authorizes the City Manager to execute a Hold Harmless Agreement with Waypoint Contracting, Inc. The Hold Harmless agreement allows the City to open the new parking lot located near the intersection of A1A and Vistamar Street, on or before January 12. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3NXbOID](https://ftlcity.info/3NXbOID).

### **Commission Agrees to Provide a \$100,000 Reimbursement Grant to the Stranahan House**

The City Commission adopted a resolution approving a fiscal year 2024 not-for-profit grant participation agreement with The Stranahan House, Inc. to fund up to \$100,000 for the construction of a new welcome center. The welcome center will be a hub where visitors can learn about the Stranahan House, the oldest and most historically significant structure in Broward County, and the history of the region. This fourth installment of \$100,000 follows three previous installments of the same amount and will be added to an escrow account for distribution when the welcome center is ready to be built. The organization has requested that the city contribute a total of \$500,000 over a five-year period. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3Hd4ZIJ](https://ftlcity.info/3Hd4ZIJ).

### **Commission Approves \$2.86 Million for Tarpon River Sewer Basin Rehabilitation Project**

The City Commission approved an agreement with LMK Pipe Renewal, LLC in the amount of \$2.86 million for the Tarpon River A-11 Sewer Basin Rehabilitation project. The project includes lining of the mainline gravity sewers and lateral piping, clean-out installation, root and grease removal, sectional liners, and pre- and post-closed-circuit television survey. The fiscal impact to the city is \$2.86 million including allowances, \$311,110 for estimated construction engineering and inspection services, and \$104,000 for in-house project management fees, for a total of approximately \$3.28 million. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/4283Fkd](https://ftlcity.info/4283Fkd).

### **Commission Signs Off on Agreement to Design and Construct a Pivotal Water Main**

The City Commission approved a comprehensive agreement with David Mancini and Sons, Inc. in the amount of approximately \$48.6 million to design and construct a 48-inch water transmission main from the Prospect Lake Clean Water Center to the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant. The project includes the construction of approximately 17,600 linear feet of the transmission main to Fiveash, where the water will be held in ground storage tanks before distribution. The water transmission main has been identified as one of the enabling works projects for the new Prospect Lake Clean Water Center. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3tRYtE4](https://ftlcity.info/3tRYtE4).

### **Commission Conducts City Manager's Annual Performance Review**

The City Commission conducted the City Manager's annual performance review. Thirty-three members of the public expressed positive feedback and support for his work and contributions to the community during his tenure. Each member of the Commission then gave their evaluation, feedback, and expectations for his continued work on behalf of the City going forward. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3TUy82M](https://ftlcity.info/3TUy82M).

### **Commission Approves Agreement for Las Olas Marina Seawall Replacement**

The City Commission adopted a resolution waiving the competitive solicitation and selection process and approving a development agreement, with Las Olas SMI, LLC in the amount of approximately \$2.9 million for the replacement of an existing seawall that the City of Fort Lauderdale is responsible for. Las Olas SMI, LLC is actively replacing adjacent seawalls as part of the Las Olas Marina project, and with seawall conditions worse than anticipated, the developer recommended that the city consider replacing its seawall at the same time. The seawall construction is expected to be completed by July 2024. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3ROTfkB](https://ftlcity.info/3ROTfkB).

### **Commission Approves Conveyance of the City's Interest in Air Rights Above Bahia Mar**

The City Commission adopted a resolution approving the conveyance of air rights located above the building podium of the proposed development at 801 Seabreeze Boulevard to the Bahia Mar Community Development District (CDD). The air rights are expected to substantially increase the city and community trust revenues by approximately \$285 million over a 99-year lease term. The CDD's commitment of \$1 million for public improvements includes new pickleball courts, fitness equipment near the development site, and the relocation of a storage and maintenance yard beneath the Bahia Mar pedestrian bridge. The City will manage the construction of these improvements, ensuring adherence to timelines, permit acquisitions, and additional funding requirements. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/47rXtVa](http://ftlcity.info/47rXtVa).

### **Information**

For more information on the January 9, 2024, Commission meetings, visit [fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar](http://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar).

### **Upcoming City Commission Meetings**

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will take place on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at the Broward Centre for the Performing Arts, Mary N. Porter Riverview Ballroom, 201 SW 5th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312.