



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 Tuesday, May 21, 2024. The video is available at youtube.com/cityoffortlauderdale, and the vote summary will be available later this week at fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

COMMISSION JOINT WORKSHOP – INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commission Reviews Guiding Principles Regarding Development of a New City Hall

The City Commission hosted a joint workshop with the Infrastructure Task Force Advisory Committee to discuss proposed guiding principles to be considered as plans move forward for a new City Hall. The committee, along with the City's Office of Management and Budget, Dickey Consulting Services, and the American Institute of Architects, conducted extensive outreach with the community through a series of five public workshops and surveys to better understand community needs and desires for the project. The proposed guidelines centered around the desire to create stronger relationships between residents, businesses, and local government. The Commission also reviewed feedback received from the workshops and surveys. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3X6QpM8 and ftlcity.info/3Kti2LV. The workshop presentations and updates on the City's Reimagining City Hall project can be found at ftlcity.info/rch.

CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING

Commission Hears Update on the Broward Commuter Rail South Project

The City Commission received a comprehensive update of the Broward Commuter Rail South project from the Florida Department of Transportation and Broward County Transit. When completed, the project will implement commuter rail along the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway from Aventura in Miami-Dade County into Broward County. Plans call for stations in south Fort Lauderdale, the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, and Hollywood. The South Fort Lauderdale station would provide access to downtown, Broward Health Medical Center, the Broward County Convention Center, Port Everglades, and the beach. The preliminary estimate for construction, stations, and other features is approximately \$291 million. For details, visit ftlcity.info/4c2ip7N.

Commission Discusses State Bill that Limits Civilian Oversight of Police

The City Commission was provided with an overview of Florida House Bill 601 and discussed its impact on the existing City ordinance. Taking effect July 1, the new law states that civilian oversight boards created to investigate complaints against police officers now must be deactivated and can be replaced with a group of between three and seven members, one of whom must be a retired police officer if the Chief of Police chooses to use such a group. It can only review police policies and procedures. For details, visit ftlcity.info/4e61P8K.

Commission Reviews Efforts to Remove Trash from Waterways

The City Commission took a look at how the City removes trash from the waterways and discussed future plans for this service. Currently, a City contractor services all 165 miles of waterways and inland lakes every month, removing more than 100 tons of debris each of the past three years. A new contract that would begin July 1, if approved by the Commission, will double the number of service boats and continue debris removal once per month, with identified hot spots receiving service every two weeks. The expectation is that 50% more debris will be removed from waterways each year. Other trash removal efforts include code enforcement monitoring, guidance from a Marine Advisory Board Initiative on Cleaner Waterways, and volunteer beach cleanups. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3Vr1FS7.

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEETING

CRA Board of Commissioners Approves \$6 Million for Project on Sistrunk Boulevard

The Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners approved a \$6 million Development Incentive Program forgivable loan for the 1435 Art Xchange mixed-use project on Sistrunk Boulevard, just west of the LA Lee Mizell YMCA Community Center. The project calls for a six-story development that will include affordable housing rental units, commercial and community space, and 218 covered parking spots. The roughly 21,000-square-foot site currently contains a deteriorated structure that will be demolished and parking lots. The total project is estimated to cost approximately \$27.9 million and be completed by December 2025. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3V62rmo.

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Commission Moves to Rename Waverly Park as Tequesta Park

The City Commission adopted a resolution renaming Waverly Park, located at 1016 Waverly Road, to Tequesta Park. The name change is the result of a request from the president of the Sailboat Bend Civic Association, which then held a formal vote of its members with 91% in favor. The park is home to a Tequesta Indian midden, which is an old dump for domestic waste and other artifacts. The Tequesta lived in southeast Florida dating back to the 3rd century BC. For details, visit ftlcity.info/4bIFPPT.

Commission Creates Path to Celebrate the Florida Panthers with a Postseason Event

The City Commission adopted a resolution that allows for a temporary beach license, outdoor event agreement, or both with the NHL's Florida Panthers. The Panthers are preparing to play the Edmonton Oilers in the Stanley Cup Final. The event, tentatively scheduled for June or July,

may include a parade. The Acting City Manager will provide the City Commission with written notice if or when the event details are determined. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3V1Y7V6.

Commission Approves Plan for Improvements at Florence C. Hardy Park

The City Commission approved an agreement with Conengineers Builders LLC for improvements at Florence C. Hardy Park, located at 25 SW 9th Street, for approximately \$732,000.

Renovations to the park include the removal of most existing amenities such as playground equipment, benches, signage and fencing. New surfaces, playground equipment, sidewalks, and more will be installed and the landscape will be improved and enhanced. This improvements project is part of phase one of the Parks Bond Program. For details, visit ftlcity.info/3V7Xiy6.

Commission Increases Melrose Manors Stormwater Improvement Services by \$2.1 Million

The City Commission approved an increase to the Melrose Manors neighborhood stormwater improvements consultant services agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. by approximately \$2.1 million. The agreement was initially approved in 2022 and has a total estimated design fee of \$4.3 million. Due to funding restraints at the time, only \$2.2 million was awarded. The monetary increase is required for final design, permitting, and bidding services. Construction, engineering, and inspection services will be addressed at a later date. For details, visit ftlcity.info/4aSgMZg.

Commission Accepts Contribution of \$1.5 Million for Jimmy Evert Tennis Center

The City Commission adopted a resolution to accept a financial charitable contribution and grant of \$1.5 million to enhance improvements at the Jimmy Every Tennis Center, 701 NE 12th Avenue. An additional \$3.5 million has been allocated from Parks Bond to assist with the improvements. The United States Tennis Association has expressed interest in making the tennis center at Holiday Park the home of the Orange Bowl International Tennis Championship and host of other tennis tournaments. The improvements will include paved pathways to improve accessibility, converting three hard courts to clay surfaces, and new fencing and lighting. A new stadium court, to be named the Chris Evert Stadium Court, with 210 seats will be constructed, and O.B. Tennis, LLC will install an electronic scoreboard and create the opportunity to add an additional 500 temporary seats when needed. For details, visit ftlcity.info/4eaXtxs.

Information

For more information on the June 4, 2024, Commission meetings, visit fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar.

Upcoming City Commission Meetings

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will occur on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at NSU Art Museum – Horvitz Auditorium, 1 E. Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.