



## Memorandum

**Memorandum No: 24-106**

**Date:** July 15, 2024  
**To:** Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioners  
**From:** Susan Grant, Acting City Manager *Susan Grant*  
**Re:** FY 2025 Proposed Budget Neighbor Engagement Tool Live

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The City of Fort Lauderdale (City) is committed to providing continual opportunities for neighbor engagement and participation. The Balancing Act is a tool specifically designed for governments to engage their residents in the budget process while promoting financial transparency and accountability. The tool enables neighbors to view a model of the City's Proposed General Fund Budget, modify the allocated funding, and see how their changes affect the overall budget.

The Office of Management and Budget has prepared a Balancing Act simulation based upon the Proposed FY 2025 General Fund operating budget. The simulation includes all program modification (decision package) requests submitted by departments and indicates the decision package requests that are included in the FY 2025 Proposed Budget. Balancing Act is available on the City's website at <https://fortlauderdale.abalancingact.com> and is best viewed with Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Using the software tool, neighbors will be able to interact with a model of the FY 2025 Proposed General Fund Budget to: 1) increase or decrease department allocations, 2) include or remove departments' decision package requests, and 3) adjust policy-driven revenue sources (i.e., the City's property tax rate or the Fire Assessment fee). Through this interactive experience, neighbors become more informed about the City's budgeting process. The tool also allows the City to collect neighbor input and recommendations for a balanced (or unbalanced) FY 2025 Proposed Budget. Neighbor recommendations and comments will be taken into consideration prior to the September 2024 Public Hearings when the City Commission will adopt the final rates and budget for FY 2025.

c: Anthony G. Fajardo, Assistant City Manager  
Laura Reece, Acting Assistant City Manager  
Ben Rogers, Acting Assistant City Manager  
Thomas J. Ansbro, City Attorney  
David R. Soloman, City Clerk  
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor  
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Budget Advisory Board