



# 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, September 3, 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 Status of Lockhart Community Park**

The City Commission was provided with an update about the progress made and next steps for the Lockhart Community Park project. When completed, the park located at 1350 NW 55th Street will feature a large community center, play and fitness areas, pickleball courts, and a turf playfield, among other amenities. Plans for drainage, water and sewer service, lighting, and design, among others, are nearing 100% completion and expected to be finished by the end of 2024. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2025, with completion expected in 2026. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/4g17ZrQ](http://ftlcity.info/4g17ZrQ).

#### **Commission Looks at Progress with New Fort Lauderdale Police Headquarters**

The City Commission was provided with an update about the progress of the new Fort Lauderdale Police Department headquarters, which will replace the existing headquarters on W. Broward Boulevard. Ground was broken on the project in June 2023, and one year later construction is about 50% completed. However, there was a deflection issue discovered in March of 2024 and initial efforts to address the issue were not successful. The deflection is a bending of the roof slab, causing hairline fractures in the concrete. The City engaged the services of an independent engineer to provide supplemental recommendations, and the teams recently agreed on measures to successfully resolve the deflection. In addition, the City has selected a firm to perform a peer review of both the deflection area as well as the entire building area, a process expected to take about 10 weeks. The anticipated completion date of the entire project is scheduled for Fall of 2025. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3Mp94fq](http://ftlcity.info/3Mp94fq).

#### **Commission Reviews Draft Ordinance to Prohibit Camping on Public Property**

In response to Florida House Bill 1365, the City Commission discussed a draft ordinance prohibiting camping on public property. Under the proposed ordinance, anyone who is found to be camping on public property will be subject to enforcement as defined by the ordinance. This applies to any public property unless designated for camping by the City as well as City parks,

which currently do not permit camping when parks are closed to the public. Overnight sleeping is also prohibited on Fort Lauderdale Beach. The ordinance will be brought back to the Commission for a first reading on September 17 and a final reading on October 1. If approved on second reading, staff will begin outreach to the community, including the unsheltered population. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3YZNPs3](https://ftlcity.info/3YZNPs3).

## **COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEETING**

### **CRA Board Reappropriates \$83,000 for NE 4th Avenue Streetscape Lighting**

The Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners approved a transfer of \$83,000 for the Central City Lighting NE 4th Avenue Streetscape project. The lighting will provide more safety and an improved aesthetic to the neighborhood. The estimated costs will cover light pole installation, fixtures, and wiring to the junction box, and the project is expected to be completed by the end of 2024. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3T9nq7p](https://ftlcity.info/3T9nq7p).

## **CITY COMMISSION – SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE FIRST BUDGET HEARING**

### **Commission Holds Public Meeting to Review Proposed Millage Rate for FY 2025**

The City Commission held its first public hearing and approved a resolution adopting the tentative millage rate of 4.1193 and the tentative debt service millage of 0.2545 for the City for fiscal year 2025. The proposed operating millage rate is \$4.1193 per \$1,000 of taxable value. The total taxable assessed valuation of City property is \$58,986,083,589, which will generate an estimated net tax collection of \$233,262,119. The proposed millage rate, along with other revenue resources, supports the General Fund operating budget of \$487,889,378. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/4dHKMt7](https://ftlcity.info/4dHKMt7). The public hearing to adopt the final millage rate and budget will be held at 5:01 PM on September 12, 2024, at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts – Mary N. Porter Riverview Ballroom – 201 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312.

### **Commission Tentatively Adopts a Five-Year Community Investment Plan**

The City Commission adopted a resolution tentatively approving and adopting a Five-Year Community Investment Plan (CIP) for the period beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2029. The CIP is a planning document that sets forth the City's capital improvements to ensure that municipal facilities and infrastructure improvements are appropriate and adequate to serve the community's needs. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/473Dg9k](https://ftlcity.info/473Dg9k).

## **CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

### **Commission Accepts Fresh and Saltwater Submersible Rescue Tools**

The City Commission authorized the acceptance of fresh and saltwater submersible, battery-powered rescue tools from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation. The lifesaving equipment, valued at \$41,730, will provide Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue Technical Rescue Team with cutting-edge tools that can save lives during marine or vehicle extrications. FLFR will receive three battery-operated saltwater submersibles (a Hurst cutter, spreader, and ram), along with batteries and chargers. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/4cPWwJ0](https://ftlcity.info/4cPWwJ0).

### **Commission Accepts Specialized Equipment for the FLPD Bomb Squad**

The City Commission authorized the acceptance of an equipment donation from the Broward Sheriff's Advisory Council (BSAC), valued at \$57,870. The Fort Lauderdale Police Department Bomb Squad will receive the Scana Scansilc 2430 X-Ray System, a state-of-the-art portable X-ray system that can be used to scan suspicious packages and items during large-scale events and tactical operations. The FLPD Bomb Squad currently does not have a similar device that works in real time. With this donation, the City and other jurisdictions in Broward County can be assisted in dealing with suspicious packages that may pose a threat to public safety. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3TcyCQE](https://ftlcity.info/3TcyCQE).

### **Commission Approves Project for New Water Main Along SW 29th Street**

The City Commission approved an agreement for the SW 29th Street Small Watermains project for \$615,900, which includes allowances of \$25,000 for materials, permit fees, testing, and additional labor. The project will provide a new 8-inch potable water main along SW 29th Street between SW 9th Avenue and SW 12th Avenue. The existing 2-inch cast iron water main, which is undersized and at the end of its useful life, will be replaced. A new fire hydrant will be installed as part of the project. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/4g79o03](https://ftlcity.info/4g79o03).

### **Commission Approves a Comprehensive Agreement for a New Water Taxi Terminal**

The City Commission approved a comprehensive agreement with Water Taxi of Fort Lauderdale, LLC to construct, operate, and maintain a new terminal at 1001 Seabreeze Boulevard. The project was first proposed in May 2023 and will include space for a dockmaster, ticket office, waiting area, public restaurant, and event space. The comprehensive agreement includes a 50-year term with a base rent of \$120,000 annually with a 5% escalator each year. As part of the project, the developer will make improvements to the seawall and Fire Station 49. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3yUSBN8](https://ftlcity.info/3yUSBN8).

### **Commission Approves Services for Large Force Main Project Along SE 9th, SE 10th Avenues**

The City Commission approved the final ranking of firms, negotiated fee schedule, and agreement for construction engineering and inspection services related to the rehabilitation or replacement of the 48-inch and 54-inch force main along SE 9th Avenue and SE 10th Avenue to the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant project. The agreement is not to exceed approximately \$2.5 million. Work includes the rehabilitation or replacement of roughly 15,150 linear feet of existing 48- and 54-inch force main and install approximately 8,220 linear feet of new 48-inch force main. For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3AQI0mX](https://ftlcity.info/3AQI0mX).

### **Commission Advances Change to Parking Requirements for Medical Office Use**

The City Commission advanced an ordinance to amend the City's Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) section relating to parking requirements for medical office use. The current code requirement for a medical and dental office or clinic is one parking space per 150 square feet of gross floor area. The amendment would reduce required parking for medical and dental offices to provide one parking space per 250 square feet of gross floor area, while medical clinics will remain at one parking space per 150 square feet of gross floor area. A medical clinic is defined as "any facility used to provide limited diagnostics and outpatient care and does not

provide prolonged in-house medical and surgical care, and that is primarily operated as a walk-in on and as needed basis.” For details, visit [ftlcity.info/3Tf5NDe](https://ftlcity.info/3Tf5NDe).

### **Information**

For more information on the September 3, 2024, Commission meetings, visit [fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar](https://fortlauderdale.legistar.com/calendar).

### **Upcoming City Commission Meetings**

The next regularly scheduled City Commission meetings will occur on Tuesday, September 17, at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts in the Mary N. Porter Riverview Ballroom, 201 SW 5th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312.