



From the desk of
STEVEN GLASSMAN
Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, District 2



April 2018 Newsletter

Dear Neighbors,

As your newly elected Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, I am honored and privileged to represent and serve the wonderful neighborhoods of District 2 and from the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you for your support. My spouse Rande and I have called Fort Lauderdale home for over 20 years and I am humbled to have the opportunity to represent our community as we chart a new path forward. With my long history of public service on City, County, and Civic boards, I am fully committed to improving the lives of neighbors and visitors of our district and across our diverse City.

In the few short weeks since taking office, we have hit the ground running by attending several civic association meetings and assessing with our neighbors the difficult issues such as infrastructure, traffic, crime, vacation rentals, controlled growth, and the Wave Streetcar.

Wave Streetcar

The previous City Commission voted in support of the Wave Streetcar despite the outcry from residents. **The new Commission will hold a workshop on Monday, April 30 at noon following the submission of the rebid costs on the project with an anticipated vote the next day at the City Commission Meeting.** Although the projections of overruns may come down, the specter of change orders and capital and operating costs for the project continue to be of major concern (to say nothing of the outdated technology). The Wave Streetcar project does not support thoughtful solutions for the current or future transportation needs of Fort Lauderdale and our region.

Controlled Growth

In the past, many downtown projects are simply approved by staff with no call-up/discussion by the City Commission and this precludes the public from participating in the discussion. I am in

favor of more transparency and that is why I called up the Alexan-Tarpon River project for further review. **The Commission voted on April 3 to set a public hearing on Tuesday, May 15 for the Alexan-Tarpon River residential tower project at 501 SE Sixth Avenue.** Many residents are concerned that the project is inconsistent with the Downtown Master Plan, Unified Land Development Regulations, and Comprehensive Plan and will shadow Smoker Park. The Commission meeting will provide an opportunity to further vet and examine this sizeable project that would typically sail through staff for approval with little notice by the public.

Vacation Rentals

Unruly vacation rentals are a top concern with many of the neighborhoods. While there are responsible neighbors who rent their homes or rooms, there have been numerous complaints of “party houses” designed to support a single family but with a dozen or more inhabitants renting the property, disturbing the neighborhood with loud noise and littered streets. Our state legislature has undermined home rule by prohibiting local bans of vacation rentals and setting parameters of what we can do as a city. To help maintain our quality of life and the integrity of our neighborhoods, we need to strengthen our current regulations with increased fees and enforcement. **If you suspect an illegal operation of vacation rentals, please email enforcement@fortlauderdale.gov and include the property address and supporting photos and/or documentation to validate your complaint.**

This is an exciting and hopeful time for Fort Lauderdale and I will continue to advocate for the best outcomes not only for District 2, but for the entire City. Future newsletters will address additional issues of concern to all of us.

Please do not hesitate to contact our new District 2 Commission assistant, Pratima Raju, with any questions, comments or thoughtful suggestions at praju@fortlauderdale.gov or 954-828-5923. The greatness of our community starts with compassionate citizens like you.



Steve Glassman
Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, District 2



On March 20, 2018, U.S. District Judge John K. Olson swears into office Commissioner Glassman at the Parker Playhouse ceremony.



Commissioner Glassman addresses the Central Beach Alliance its meeting on Thursday, March 29. Steve will be attending District 2 civic association meetings as often as possible.



On Tuesday, April 2, Commissioner Glassman hosts his first Pre-Agenda meeting with District 2 residents. Pre-Agenda meetings are held on the Monday before each Regular Commission Meeting from 5:30PM to 7:00PM in the 8th Floor Conference Room of City Hall.

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Please contact District 2 Assistant **Pratima Raju** for any questions or to schedule an appointment: praju@fortlauderdale.gov or 954-828-5923.