



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



May 2018 Newsletter

Dear Neighbors,

We hit the ground running this month, setting a framework to focus on priorities for the City. The Commission made headway towards ending the ill-conceived Wave streetcar project by passing a resolution asking the County to withdraw. We also reviewed feedback from the community, at the conference meeting on Tuesday, May 1, where a presentation provided results from the annual Neighbor Survey. I am optimistic that we will continue to make forward progress at the Commission's two-day Goal Setting Workshop on May 7 and 8. With the results, I hope that we can produce a roadmap to tackle our City's priorities.

Wave Streetcar

On Thursday, April 26, 2018, two re-bid prices for the Wave streetcar were submitted with costs exceeding the \$142.5 million maximum set by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The re-bid price overage of \$144.7 and \$154.8 million reinforces the position of the majority of Fort Lauderdale residents to end the senseless and costly project. On Tuesday, May 1, the City Commission voted 3-2 to adopt a resolution requesting the County to decline the new bids from FDOT. Around \$32 million of City funds have been turned over to our project partners. Now, with smart and strategic planning, we will work diligently to get our tax dollars back. We have the potential to retrieve \$23 million in unspent funds to return to budget lines like the Northwest CRA and Water and Sewer. The city seized the opportunity to cut our losses now, rather than be committed to future change orders, cost overruns and unexpected fees. The next Broward County Commission Meeting is scheduled for this Tuesday, May 8 with the FDOT Selection Committee currently scheduled for two days later on Thursday, May 10. I hope the County will join their City partner in ending the project that exceeds the set maximum price of \$142.5 million. Please contact your [Broward County Commissioner](#) and ask him/her to take the final steps on May 8 in laying the costly Wave Streetcar Project to rest. We can then work together to create a smart, affordable mass transit plan for all.

2017 Neighbor Survey

The 2017 Neighbor Survey findings were presented to the Commission to help outline priorities identified by Fort Lauderdale residents; your feedback is imperative to strengthening the community. This is the sixth consecutive year that the survey has been conducted. Between October and December, the survey was administered with a representative population of the City, both demographically and by district (geographically) with a total of 744 households weighing in on their priorities for a brighter future.

The results found Fort Lauderdale residents are most satisfied with the quality of police and fire services, parks and recreation programs and their facilities, and landscaping in parks, medians and public areas. Aspects of the city that were rated most favorably include: a place to visit, a place for play and leisure, and a place to live. In fact, Fort Lauderdale scored 8% above the U.S. average for satisfaction with customer service compared to communities with similar population size, highlighting positive ratings of the City as a place to work, live and visit. But the survey results also show that the Commission has work to do to make our community even greater. Neighbors responding to the survey were least satisfied with the City as a place to educate children, the overall flow of traffic, maintenance of sidewalks, streets and infrastructure, support of historic building preservation, and preparing for the future. Most of these concerns are nothing new, echoing your voices from throughout the campaign and over the years. We will need to roll up our sleeves and work tirelessly to overhaul our traffic and infrastructure issues so residents trust that their city is prepared for the future. [Click to view the full survey report](#). My promise to you is that we will not rest until we make substantial progress towards these goals.

May Calendar Highlights

May 5 and May 6: Fort Lauderdale Air Show

May 7 and May 8: City Commission Goal Setting Workshop

May 10: Community Appearance Awards

May 13: Mother's Day

May 14: Pre-Agenda Meeting

May 15: Commission Meetings

May 16: City of Fort Lauderdale Annual Transportation Summit

May 21: DC Alexander Park Public Meeting

May 26: Great American Beach Party

May 28: Memorial Day (Events throughout Fort Lauderdale.)

[Click to visit the City of Fort Lauderdale Calendar for details and additional events.](#)



Steve Glassman
Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, District 2



On Wednesday April 25, the Commission attended the Fort Lauderdale FOP tribute to those who have died in the line of duty. This annual event at the Police Memorial near the Broward Center for the Performing Arts on the New River remembers the dozen officers going back to the 1940s.



The Dan Marino Foundation hosted an Autism Awareness Month Block Party in Flagler Village on Saturday, April 28. The Foundation provides programming to assist young adults in gaining meaningful employment and a fulfilling life. Our terrific firefighters were also on hand to lend support and provide education. Thank you to CEO Mary Partin, Steffen Lue, Doug McGraw and Michael Marino for the great services you provide our community.



Commissioner Glassman and Mayor Trantalis participated in the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Four Seasons Hotel and Resort on Fort Lauderdale Beach.



Commissioner Glassman joined the Mayor, Michael Albetta and City staff Ryan Henderson, Jorg Hruschka, and Hal Barnes at the Lake Ridge Civic Association's "Taste of Italy" annual event at Café Vico on Thursday, April 19.

The greatness of our community starts with compassionate citizens like you.

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.

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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.