In case you missed it, following are highlights from the Fort Lauderdale City Commission meetings on Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

To view the video of the Commission meetings, visit bit.ly/2mgrQNI

CONFERENCE MEETING
Dockless Mobility Ordinance Update
The City’s Transportation and Mobility Department provided an overview of proposed ordinance changes for the Dockless Mobility program. New recommendations being considered include reducing the number of operators and fleet sizes; restricting scooters on A1A, the Riverwalk, and Las Olas Boulevard between Andrews Avenue and SE 17 Street; limiting speed; implementing corrals; requiring operators to address issues quicker; and implementing a new permit application process. For details, visit http://bit.ly/32iIsUP.

Interlocal Agreement with Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization
Staff provided an update on the progress of an Interlocal Agreement between the City and the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Under the proposal, the MPO will provide the City with transportation planning services that will include a designated transportation planner assigned to each City Commission District. The City’s internal staff will continue to focus on transportation operations and project management. The new partnership, which is estimated to generate $300,000 in annual savings, will incorporate a strategic, regional planning approach that aligns with the City’s transportation and mobility goals and objectives. The final agreement is expected to be on the City Commission regular meeting agenda on November 5. For details, visit http://bit.ly/2nWFq9L.

Community Center at Former Lockhart Stadium Site
The City Commission agreed to move forward with plans to design a state-of-the-art community center at the former Lockhart Stadium site. The facility will be approximately 23,000 square feet and feature an array of amenities including a multipurpose gymnasium, fitness center, classrooms, e-sports room, outdoor gathering and performance space, and more. The project will be funded by the voter-approved 2019 Parks Bond. For details, visit http://bit.ly/2P5gqs3.

Presentation of Press Play Fort Lauderdale: Our City, Our Strategic Plan 2024
The City Commission received an overview of the City’s second five-year strategic Plan entitled, Press Play Fort Lauderdale: Our City, Our Strategic Plan 2024. The plan is designed to move the City closer to achieving its community vision by focusing on key areas that include sustainability, resiliency, public safety, transportation and mobility, public places, neighborhood enhancement, economic and business development, workforce culture, and organizational development. For details, visit http://bit.ly/32vfUrj.

CRA MEETING
$5 Million Loan Approved for FAT Live Affordable Housing Project
The City Commission, acting as the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners, approved a $5 million Development Incentive Program forgivable loan for the FAT Live Affordable Housing Project, located at 501 NW 1 Avenue. The proposed mixed-use development would include 188,692 square feet of office space; 31,278 square feet of restaurants and bars; 19,659 square feet of retail; 7,302 square feet of art studios; a 12-story, 145-room hotel; a 7-story, 1,049-space parking garage; a 13-story, 307-unit market rate housing project; and a 13-story, 125-unit housing project with 31 market rate units and 94 affordable housing units. For details, visit http://bit.ly/28neaP97.
CRA Awards Additional $100,000 to Smitty’s Wings Restaurant
The CRA Board of Commissioners approved an additional $100,000 in funding for the Smitty’s Wings project, a chicken wings restaurant that will be located at 1134 Sistrunk Boulevard. The additional funding will cover the re-design and installation of a new roof structure and trusses, HVAC system ducts, piping, drainage, concrete pads for natural gas tanks, and related survey and site work. For details, visit http://bit.ly/2W0BbXh.

REGULAR MEETING
City Approves Three-year $225,000 Agreement with Winterfest Boat Parade
The City Commission approved a three-year $225,000 not-for-profit grant participation agreement with Winterfest, Inc., for the Annual Winterfest Boat Parade and accompanying festivals, events, and activities. As part of the agreement, Fort Lauderdale will be designated as the Host City of the Seminole Hard Rock Winterfest Boat Parade, which is one of the top 20 parades in the world and the 7th largest one-day spectator event in the United States. For details, visit http://bit.ly/2VWjsAa.

City Approves $50,400 Agreement with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Inc.
The City Commission approved a $50,400 not-for-profit grant participation agreement with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Inc. for communications, marketing and promotional opportunities with Go Riverwalk Magazine. As part of the agreement, the City will receive editorial and advertising space in the monthly publication to promote programs, services, events and activities. The City’s messaging will be disseminated online and through seven social media sites owned by Riverwalk, and the City logo will appear on the cover and spine of the monthly magazine. For details, visit http://bit.ly/32w0jb0.

City Approves 2020 State Legislative Priorities and Funding Requests
The City Commission approved Fort Lauderdale’s 2020 state legislative priorities and funding requests, which reflect the City’s official position on state issues and pending legislation that would impact the operation of local government. Priorities include: seeking financial support for water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure improvements; transportation enhancements; homelessness; affordable housing; and improving the quality of education. The City supports legislation that preserves municipal home rule, provides local regulation of short-term rental properties and sober homes, and removes the state’s preemption of local regulations on vacation rentals. For details, visit http://bit.ly/2MKQXS4.

City Approves New Five-Year Strategic Plan
The City Commission unanimously approved the City of Fort Lauderdale’s second five-year strategic plan, Press Play Fort Lauderdale: Our City, Our Strategic Plan 2024, which was presented at the Conference Meeting earlier in the day (see summary under Conference Meeting). For details, visit http://bit.ly/2W0BbXh.

$45 Million Renovation of War Memorial Auditorium Moving Forward
The City Commission approved an agreement and site plan with the War Memorial Benefit Corporation, a non-profit entity of the NHL’s Florida Panthers, for a $45 million renovation of War Memorial Auditorium. Renovation plans include adding an ice rink to serve as the Florida Panthers’ main practice facility, along with a second rink for recreational hockey, youth hockey, youth figure skating and public skating. The project will also include indoor facilities to accommodate additional programming and a 3,000-seat concert venue. Fort Lauderdale residents will receive a 15% discount on selected services. For details, visit http://bit.ly/2J51rKN.
$1.2 million Investment Approved for New Sewer Force Main
The City Commission approved an investment of $1.2 million to replace 1,860 linear feet of sanitary sewer force main along NE 19 Street from NE 22 Avenue east across the Middle River and continuing on NE 21 Street east to Bayview Drive. The new 16-inch pipe will increase capacity and improve operations of the sanitary sewer system for neighbors serviced by these lines. Crews will use a combination of open-cut trenching in existing roadways and horizontal directional drilling for the Middle River crossing to minimize impacts to the affected areas. For details, visit http://bit.ly/31ruYoA.

$6.9 Million Approved for Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure Equipment
The City Commission approved a not-to-exceed total of $6.9 million for the purchase of proprietary items including equipment, replacement parts, repairs, and services on an as needed basis from October 16, 2019 through September 30, 2020 for the City’s water distribution, wastewater collection, and stormwater system infrastructure. Having access to available funding will enable the Public Works Department to operate more efficiently as it oversees and maintains two water treatment facilities, one regional wastewater treatment facility, over 200 sanitary sewer pump stations, four stormwater stations, 1,400 miles of underground infrastructure, 8,903 catch basins, 1,039 outfalls, and 184 miles of storm pipe. For details, visit http://bit.ly/2OXROl4.

City to use Statewide Alert and Mass Notification System
The City Commission authorized the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management for the use of a statewide alert and mass notification system. The Everbridge system, which is available at no cost to eligible municipalities through June 30, 2024, may be used for notifications including evacuation orders, shelter-in-place warnings, boil water notices, emergency preparedness and response information, disaster recovery information, law enforcement searches for a missing persons, escapees, or suspects evading arrest, and other similar types of communications. For details, visit http://bit.ly/2MUQpIT.

Affordable Housing Height Bonus Approved for The Adderley project
The City Commission approved an Affordable Housing Height Bonus for The Adderley, a mixed-use project located at 501 NW 7 Avenue. The proposed development includes 455 residential apartments (46 affordable housing units and 409 market rate units) and 17,752 square feet of street-level commercial and retail space. The project features a dynamic streetscape with mini pocket art plazas and gathering places. For details, visit http://bit.ly/33MQmWR.

Amendments to Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) Approved on First Reading
The City Commission passed an ordinance on first reading amending the Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) and establishing new guidelines, permitting, zoning districts, and development regulations for the Uptown Urban Village, an area generally bounded by the C-14 canal and McNab Road to the north, NW 57 Street to the south, Powerline Road to the west, and I-95 to the east. The overall project intent is to establish a planning framework to guide future growth in the area with the adoption of form-based design standards. The new standards will help guide the form of buildings and design of streets, ensuring the future built environment promotes a mix of uses, improves connectivity and mobility, places a higher emphasis on the pedestrian experience and results in a transit-supportive development pattern. For details, visit http://bit.ly/31vqEo0.