



TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: December 17, 2013

TITLE: First Reading of an ordinance amending of the Code of Ordinances of The
City of Fort Lauderdale; Chapter 8, Beach Boating Restricted Area

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt an ordinance amending provisions within the Beach Boating Restricted Area Ordinance, to create an exception to the limitations of the current ordinance and permit watercraft concession operations within a 100 foot launching corridor of Fort Lauderdale Beach located within 400 feet of beach which is owned in fee simple by the State of Florida.

Background

City Code Section 8-171 prohibits a person to steer, propel, anchor, moor, operate or cause to be operated, any watercraft within the waters defined by the ordinance.

The State of Florida owns 400 feet of Fort Lauderdale Beach not encumbered by the City's public beach purposes easement. The State of Florida currently has a concession agreement to supply a scope of services including bicycle rentals, Segway tours, canoes, kayaks, roller blades, beach chairs, umbrellas, the sale of food and other miscellaneous concession items. The State of Florida is preparing to award a concession agreement for Hugh Taylor Birch State Park that would permit certain watercraft operations, including personal watercraft, within a 100 foot launching corridor located within the four hundred feet of Fort Lauderdale beach which is owned by the State of Florida.

City Staff recommends amending provisions within the Beach Boating Restricted Area Ordinance to permit the launching and operation of watercraft by the State's watercraft concessionaire at Birch State Park.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item

Strategic Connections

This item is a Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018 initiative, included within the **Public Places Cylinder of Excellence**, specifically advancing:

- **Goal 3:** Be a community that finds opportunities and leverages partnerships to create unique, inviting, and connected gathering places that highlight our beaches, waterways, urban areas, and parks.
- **Objective 1:** Improve access to and enjoyment of our beach, Riverwalk, waterways, parks, and open spaces for everyone.

This item advances the Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision Plan 2035: **We are Here.**

Attachment:

Exhibit 1 – Proposed Ordinance for First Reading

Prepared by: Carolyn Bean, Administrative Assistant

Department Director: Phil Thornburg, Parks and Recreation Director