



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#26-0034

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: February 17, 2026

TITLE: Motion Authorizing Execution of an Agreement Between the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Downtown Development Authority of the City of Fort Lauderdale for the Installation and Maintenance of the Manolo Valdés' sculpture titled, *Head with Butterflies* at Huizenga Park - **(Commission District 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission authorize the City Manager to execute an Agreement between the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Downtown Development Authority of the City of Fort Lauderdale (DDA) for the installation and ongoing maintenance of the *Head with Butterflies* sculpture by Manolo Valdés at Huizenga Park.

Background

On May 21, 2024, via Commission Agenda Memo #24-0554 (Exhibit 1), the City Commission approved the acquisition of Manolo Valdés' sculpture titled, *Head with Butterflies* through the James Winder Laird Estate's donation to the City of Fort Lauderdale. In 2022, the Laird Estate donated \$5,000,000 to fund the acquisition, installation, and maintenance of public art throughout the City. The Valdés sculpture was purchased by the Laird Estate for \$800,000 with the intent of displaying it within Huizenga Park. *Head with Butterflies* was installed in Huizenga Park on January 22, 2026, and was formally introduced at the Huizenga Park Grand Reopening Celebration on January 24, 2026.

The Huizenga Park Art Sculpture Agreement (the "Agreement"), attached as Exhibit 2, outlines the roles and responsibilities of each party regarding the installation, access, inspection, and long-term maintenance of the artwork and its surrounding site. To protect the interests of all stakeholders, the Agreement includes standard provisions governing insurance, indemnification, and termination. Furthermore, the Agreement ensures accountability for the ongoing care of the sculpture and formally authorizes its placement within Huizenga Park. The following exhibits are incorporated into the Agreement:

- Exhibit A – Description of Art
- Exhibit B – Licensed Premises

- Exhibit C – Construction Plans
- Exhibit D – Waiver of 1990 Visual Artists’ Rights Act

The term of the Agreement begins at the time the Agreement is executed and is in effect until the City or the DDA provides a notice to terminate the agreement. If the agreement is terminated, the City is required to remove the art and return the area to the same conditions prior to the arts installation. The Agreement further grants the City with access to the site to install, maintain, and inspect the art.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agreement.

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2026 *Commission Priority*, advancing the Public Spaces and Cultural Initiatives initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area, Goal 5: Build a beautiful and welcoming community

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

This item supports the Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- The Parks, Recreation & Open Space Element
- Goal 2: Be a community with high quality parks and recreational facilities that highlight the character of our City.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Commission Agenda Memo #24-0554

Exhibit 2 – Huizenga Park Art Sculpture Agreement

Prepared by: Joshua Carden, Cultural Affairs Officer

Department Director: Porshia L. Garcia, Community Services Department