



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#25-0062

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

FROM: Susan Grant, Acting City Manager

DATE: January 7, 2025

TITLE: Second Reading – An Ordinance of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida,
Enacting a New Subsection of the City’s Code of Ordinances, 16-33: Public
Camping or Sleeping; Notice, Establishing a Notice Procedure for Reporting
Violations of Public Camping and Public Sleeping - **(Commission Districts
1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission consider enacting a new subsection of the City’s Code of Ordinances, 16-33: Public Camping or Sleeping; Notice, Establishing a Notice Procedure for Reporting Violations of Public Camping and Public Sleeping.

Background

On October 1, 2024, the City Commission adopted Ordinance C-24-43 to comply with Florida House Bill 1365. The House Bill, adopted by the 2024 Florida Legislature, signed into law by Governor DeSantis, and codified in Section 125.0231, Florida Statutes, compels local governments to prohibit overnight and unauthorized camping and sleeping on public property.

Section 125.0231 further states that a resident of the county, an owner of a business located in the county, or the Attorney General of the State of Florida may bring a civil action against a municipality for failure to take all reasonable actions within the limits of the municipality’s authority to cure alleged violations of the prohibition on public camping. The statute requires the complainant to provide written notice of the alleged violation to the governing board of a municipality. It is recommended that the City adopt, via ordinance, a method and minimum standards for submitting a written notice to the City of Fort Lauderdale. The ordinance, as proposed, directs the City Manager to designate an electronic submission method, to be displayed on the City’s website, to serve as the primary means of receiving such written notice. To enable the City to take reasonable action to respond to the alleged violation, the written notice will include the location of the alleged violation, the date and time of the alleged violation, a written description or photograph, the name and contact information of the complainant, and any other information that will assist the City to address the alleged violation. As of October 1, 2024, the City has implemented a process to meet this requirement by using the FIXITFTL

service request platform. FIXITFTL is available to the public through the City's official website and an app available on mobile devices.

The City Commission approved the ordinance on first reading on December 17, 2024. The ordinance will become effective upon adoption.

The proposed ordinance is attached as Exhibit 2.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item supports the FY2024 Commission Priority – Homelessness Initiatives.

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

- The Public Safety Area, Goal 1: Be a safe community that is proactive and responsive to risks.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Business Impact Estimate

Exhibit 2 – Ordinance

Prepared by: Christopher Cooper, AICP, Acting Assistant City Manager

Charter Officer: Susan Grant, Acting City Manager