



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CONFERENCE MEETING

#23-0202

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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: February 21, 2023

TITLE: Discussion on Extending the Duration of the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (NPF CRA) and Providing Direction to the Executive Director - **(Commission Districts 2 and 3)**

Staff would like to provide an overview of what it would take to extend the duration of the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (NPF CRA) to allow for the completion of NPF CRA-funded Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Projects and requests an opportunity to discuss or answer any questions from the CRA Board of Commissioners.

The Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Plan was adopted by the Fort Lauderdale City Commission on November 7, 1995, and amended in 2001. The plan is set to expire 30 years after the fiscal year in which it was originally adopted, which is considered to be November 7, 2025. Pursuant to Florida Statute 163.387 any remaining tax increment revenues in the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment trust fund cannot be spent by the CRA after November 7, 2025. The City of Fort Lauderdale and the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights CRA are working diligently to complete major CRA-funded improvement projects that are specified in the Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Plan by this sunset date.

Staff anticipates that numerous redevelopment projects may still be under construction by the sunset date. While the NPF CRA has made great strides to reduce slum and blight and to improve the quality of life in the area since its creation in 1995, a lot remains to be achieved toward that goal. Quite a few projects have been funded but have not yet broken ground because of prior pandemic delays and the general cost increases of materials and labor in the construction industry. Those developers are at various stages of review, permitting and procuring additional funding. Other developers are expected to finalize their applications and proposals to improve the area in the long run.

Based on the ongoing and future projects of the CRA, staff recommends performing a study that would establish justification to continue the CRA's operations; that the CRA Board of Commissioners convene to discuss the continuation of the NPF CRA and give

direction to the Executive Director; and that an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) be negotiated with Broward County.

Staff would like an opportunity to discuss or answer any questions from the CRA Board of Commissioners regarding the possibility of the continuation of the operation of the NPF CRA to allow for the continuation and completion of present and future projects, and to give direction to the Executive Director. A list of currently ongoing projects is attached as Exhibit 1.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2022 Top Commission Priority*, advancing the Infrastructure and Resiliency, Housing Opportunities, and Parks and Public Places initiatives.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024 Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
 - Goal 3: Build a healthy and engaging community.
 - Objective: Enhance the City's identity through public art and well-maintained green spaces and streetscapes.
 - Objective: Offer a diverse range of recreational and educational programming.

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
 - Goal 4: Build a thriving and inclusive community of neighborhoods.
 - Objective: Ensure a range of affordable housing options.
 - Objective: Create a continuum of education services and support.

- The Business Development Focus Area
 - Goal 5: Build an attractive global and local economic community marketplace.
 - Objective: Attract emerging industries and facilitate a responsive and proactive business climate.
 - Objective: Create educational pathways for workforce development.

- The Public Safety Focus Area
 - Goal 6: Build a safe and well-prepared community.
 - Objective: Prevent and solve crime in all neighborhoods.
 - Objective: Educate key community stakeholders with prevention efforts and emergency preparedness.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Ready, We Are Connected, We Are Community, We Are Here, and We Are Prosperous*

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

- The Public Places Focus Area
- The Parks, Recreation & Open Space Element
- Goal 1: Be a community where persons of all ages are able to partake in a fun and healthy lifestyle.
- Goal 2: Be a community with high quality parks and recreational facilities that highlight the character of our city.

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- The Future Land Use Element
- Goal 2: Sustainable Development: The City shall encourage sustainable, smart growth which designates areas for future growth, promotes connectivity, social equity, preservation of neighborhood character and compatibility of uses.

- The Housing Element
- Goal 2: Be a community of strong, beautiful, and healthy neighborhoods.

- The Historic Preservation Element
- Goal 1: The City shall prepare and adopt a long-term approach to historic preservation which identifies and evaluates the City's historic resource.
- Goal 2: Provide educational and incentive opportunities to further the City's historic preservation goals.

- The Business Development Focus Area
- The Economic Development Element
- Goal 1: Enhance Fort Lauderdale's stature as a global, business friendly destination through the development of a business identity, enhanced marketing, branding, and support for enhanced local activities and tourism development.
- Goal 2: Enhance the economic competitiveness of Fort Lauderdale through policies that encourage retention and recruitment of business and industry which provide living-wage employment and increased training and competitiveness of the local workforce.

- The Education Element
- Goal 2: Encourage traditional and non-traditional educational opportunities beyond K-12, including higher educational institutions, continuing education, workforce development and Career Technical Education by developing strategic alliances with business associations, colleges, and universities to connect skills development with jobs.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – NPF CRA – In Progress Incentive Projects as of 1/23/2023 (FY2017 – FY2023)

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