



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#25-0700

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: June 30, 2025

TITLE: Second Reading - Ordinance Creating a new City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances Section 8-35 to Address Timelines Associated with Dock Waiver Public Notice Procedures for the Marine Advisory Board - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission consider an ordinance creating a new City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances, Section 8-35, to address timelines associated with dock waiver public notice procedures.

Background

On January 23, 2024, Commissioner Glassman requested that City staff consider reviewing the public notice requirements associated with dock waiver applications as reviewed and considered by the Marine Advisory Board (MAB or Board). The proposed action modifies Chapter 8, Article II, Marine Advisory Board, to create Section 8-35, Public Notice Procedures.

Section 47-19.3 of the City's Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) outlines requirements for the installation of docks, pilings, and mooring structures, which includes the limits on how far these structures may encroach into waterways. Property owners seeking relief from these requirements may apply for a waiver through the City's application process. Applications are first reviewed by City staff for completeness and then by the MAB, which makes a recommendation to the City Commission, the final approving authority.

When an application is scheduled for a public hearing before the City Commission, pursuant to the Code of Ordinances, Section 47-19.3(e), the current actionable notice only speaks to (1) notifying property owners within 300 feet, and (2) requiring that the item must be published on the City Commission agenda. However, there is currently no comparable public notice requirement prior to the MAB's review. The proposed ordinance amendment introduces specific public notice timelines before the MAB review to enhance public awareness and encourage community participation in the waiver application process.

Proposed Ordinance Amendments:

- i. MAB Mail Notices must be mailed to all properties within 300' of a Public Hearing real property address at least ten (10) days before MAB meeting date by the MAB liaison.
- ii. MAB Agenda Publication must be at least ten (10) days before the MAB meeting date.
- iii. MAB Agenda Posting must be at least ten (10) days prior to the MAB meeting date.

At the April 3, 2025, Marine Advisory Board meeting, the Board recommended unanimous approval (11-0) of the proposed ordinance.

At the June 17, 2025, City Commission Regular Meeting, the City Commission unanimously approved the proposed ordinance on first reading (CAM #25-0514).

Resource Impact

The associated application fee (\$1,500) will be utilized to cover the cost of the notice requirements.

Strategic Connections

This is a FY 2025 Commission Priority, advancing Public Spaces and Community Initiatives.

This item supports the 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 Spaces Element
- Goal 1: Be a community where persons of all ages are able to partake in a fun and healthy lifestyle.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – April 3, 2025, Marine Advisory Board Minutes

Exhibit 2 – Ordinance

Prepared by: Carolyn Bean, Assistant to the Director, Parks and Recreation

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation