



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#13-1645

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

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

DATE: January 22, 2014

TITLE: Quasi-Judicial - Resolution approving a Landmark Designation – The
Broward County Main Library – 100 South Andrews Avenue – HPB Case
19H13

Recommendation

It is recommended the City Commission adopt a resolution designating the Broward County Main Library building and property located at 100 South Andrews Avenue as a landmark.

Background

On November 4, 2013, the Historic Preservation Board (“HPB”) recommended by a vote of 9-0 that the City Commission approve the landmark designation. For more information, please see the November 4, 2013, HPB minutes attached as **Exhibit 1**.

The application presented to the HPB was to designate the entire site and exterior of the building, including pedestrian bridge connecting the adjacent parking garage, as a landmark, pursuant to Section 47-24.11.B of the Unified and Land Development Regulations (“ULDR”). The application is attached as Exhibit 2.

Ms. Rathbun, the City’s Historic Preservation Consultant concluded that the Broward County Main Library met the criteria for designation because it is the work of renowned architects Marcel Breuer and his associate and successor Robert Gatje, who have had a significant influence on building design throughout the nation.

In her report, Ms. Rathbun noted that the eight-story, pre-cast concrete structure meets the criteria for the quality of its architecture, and sufficient elements that confirm its architectural significance. The curtain wall design has a strong influence, known as Brutalist style architecture and includes elements such as the interior water feature, which opens to a small exterior waterfall, and a large curtain glass wall, which provides a view of the city. Ms. Rathbun concluded that it is one of the most important buildings in the City of Fort Lauderdale. For more information on these findings, please refer to the consultant’s memorandum attached as **Exhibit 3**.

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Pursuant to Section 47-24.11.B.5, the Commission shall hold a public hearing to consider the application, the record and recommendation of the HPB review and shall hear public comment and determine whether proposed application meets criteria found in Section 47-24.11.B. If the Commission determines the proposed designation meets the criteria, the Commission shall approve the landmark designation by adopting a resolution accordingly. If the Commission determines that the proposed designation does not meet criteria for designation, the Commission shall deny designation.

The Landmark Designation shall automatically include the designation of the site upon which the landmark exists as a landmark site. As a result, once the City Commission approves the Landmark Designation, the property will be subject to the provisions set forth in the ULDR, Section 47-24.11. This includes the requirement that the property owner or designee shall obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Board prior to undertaking any of the following actions:

- Alteration of an archeological site, new construction, demolition, or relocation.
- Alteration of the exterior part of a building or a structure or designated interior or portion thereof of a building or structure; however, ordinary repairs and maintenance that are otherwise permitted by law may be undertaken without a certificate of appropriateness, provided this work on a designated landmark, a designated landmark site, or a property in a designated historic district does not alter the exterior appearance of the building, structure or archeological site, or alter elements significant to its architectural or historic integrity.

Additionally, any future proposed impacts to the historic resource (Broward County Main Library and site) such as development of adjacent properties may require said properties to report to the Historic Preservation Board for review and comment.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

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

- Goal 6: Be an inclusive community made up of distinct, complementary, and diverse neighborhoods.

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

Attachments:

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- Exhibit 1 – November 4, 2013 HPB Minutes
 - Exhibit 2 – HPB 19H13 Application
 - Exhibit 3 – Consultant Memorandum
 - Exhibit 4 – Resolution Landmark Designation - Approving
 - Exhibit 5 – Resolution Landmark Designation – Denying
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