



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

#25-0698

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: August 19, 2025

TITLE: Outdoor Event Ordinance Presentation - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

City staff will present recommendations and seek City Commission feedback on potential amendments to the outdoor event ordinance.

On September 5, 2023, City staff presented at the City Commission Conference Meeting (CAM #23-0729) on outdoor events hosted by third parties. The presentation highlighted the City's existing fee structures, the recommended fee structures, and other general policy recommendations. The presentation did not lead to the implementation of new fee structures.

In 2024 and 2025, the Budget Advisory Board recommended that prior to the adoption of the upcoming Fiscal Year budget, an event ordinance for full cost recovery be adopted for third party hosted events.

On March 18, 2025, the Parks and Recreation Department presented recommendations (CAM #25-0155) to the City Commission for amendments to the current outdoor event ordinance. The presentation included the introduction of an outdoor event fee matrix concept that takes public impacts into consideration and other recommendations to mitigate event impacts. The City Commission requested that City staff engage with the Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Advisory Board (PRBAB) to get its recommendation on the proposed event matrix, to consider a potential cap on the number of outdoor events annually, explore fee reductions for events that provide major economic impact, and the addition of a surcharge (paid to the City) for ticketed events.

On June 25, 2025, the PRBAB confirmed that they were in favor of the outdoor event fee matrix, however, the board did not support adding a surcharge for ticketed events or reducing fees for large-scale events. Additionally, the Parks, Recreation and Beaches Board recommended not exceeding 400 outdoor permitted events annually.

City staff conducted additional outreach for the proposed outdoor event fee matrix with the Central Beach Alliance and the Beach Business Improvement District (BBID). Both

were supportive of the matrix, however the BBID recommended that events with an economic impact of \$6,000,000 (or more) have their event fees capped at \$15,000.

Strategic Connections

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 Place specifically advancing:

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

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Presentation

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

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation