



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#26-0018

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: January 20, 2026

TITLE: Motion Approving Grant Application – Broward County Enhanced Marine Law
Enforcement - \$155,088 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a motion authorizing the submission of a grant application under the Broward County Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant Program.

Background

The Broward County Marine Advisory Committee is accepting grant proposals for the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant (EMLEG) Program. The purpose of the EMLEG Program is to improve boating safety in Broward County by enhancing or supplementing marine law enforcement activities and improving boating safety education. This request is for authorization to apply for EMLEG funds. If awarded, grant funds will be used to assist in Fort Lauderdale Police Department enforcement activities on the City's waterways through the provision of 2,944 hours of additional waterway law enforcement patrols.

The proposed project period is October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027. Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant funding allows the Department to schedule marine unit officers to work evening shifts at a reduced cost to the City. Although the grantor does not require a cash match, the program's reimbursement rate of \$52.00 per hour will not cover all associated overtime costs for Marine Unit enforcement. The Department normally leverages EMLEG funds with additional funds identified through the City's annual budget process. Absent EMLEG funding, the Department would be unable to schedule Marine Unit personnel during evening shifts without a significant fiscal impact.

Resource Impact

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the City in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. In FY 2027, there is an anticipated positive fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$155,088. Although the grantor does not require a cash match, if all 2,944 hours are worked under the grant during FY 2026, there will be an estimated cost to the City of \$121,255.18

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2026 Commission* Priority, advancing the Public Safety initiative.

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

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

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

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

- The Public Safety Focus Area
- The Coastal Management, Community Health and Safety Element
- Goal 4: Coordinate with related partners and agencies (at city, local, county, regional, state, and federal levels) to plan for disaster and emergency management, further the resiliency of coastal areas, and ensure city-wide community health and safety.

Prepared by: Dayna L. Bhaggan, Public Safety Grants Manager, Police Department

Department Director: William C. Schultz, Chief of Police