



Memorandum

Memorandum No: 22-144

Date: December 27, 2022
To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners
From: Greg Chavarria, City Manager Anthony Fajardo for Greg Chavarria
Re: FY 2022 Grants Summary - Year in Review

The City of Fort Lauderdale continues to seek out grants that are in alignment with, and support, the goals of the City Commission’s Annual Action Plan, the City’s Strategic Plan, and the City’s Vision Plan. I am pleased to present this overview of the City of Fort Lauderdale’s grant activities for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. This represents the ninth (9th) year of the City’s centralized grant pre-approval, tracking, and quarterly reporting process, which aims to ensure the effective and sustainable management of our technical and financial resources.

The City of Fort Lauderdale received grant funding in FY 2022 from two different categories: 1) competitive grants and 2) Housing and Community Development (HCD) entitlement grants. A total award of \$16.8 million were received for competitive grants, and a total of \$11.3 million were received for HCD entitlement grants – totaling over \$28 million. The amounts by grant category are detailed in this memo; however, it does not include the \$38.1 million Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that were received under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support local governments in their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The City-wide effort is represented below in the grant activities summary chart for FY 2022. Staff applied for 45 grants requesting over \$65.9 million in funding for City priorities. The City was awarded 27 grants, three (3) of which were applied for in prior years, resulting in a total award amount of \$16.8 million.

A comprehensive table of all grants applied for, or received, in FY 2022 is provided as Exhibit I to this memo.

SUMMARY OF CITY-WIDE COMPETITIVE GRANT AWARD ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2022

Table with 4 columns: Grant Award Status, Number of Grants, Amount Requested, Amount Awarded. Rows include Awarded, Not Awarded/Pending Notification, and Total.

*Three (3) of the grants awarded were applied for in prior fiscal years. Their award amount totals \$11.2 million.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FY 2022 GRANT AWARDS

- The Durrs Neighborhood Stormwater Improvements project received \$10.5 million from the federally funded Community Development Block Grant Mitigation program via the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. This funding will be used to replace aging and undersized stormwater infrastructure. In addition, it will construct new infrastructure systems that will help with the neighborhood's flooding issues, and water quality treatment, prior to being discharged into the Intracoastal Waterways.
- Riverwalk Floating Docks Phase II project received \$230,000 from the Florida Inland Navigation District's Waterway Assistance Program to construct and install an additional 130" x 10" floating dock in the New River near Esplanade Park.
- The Fort Lauderdale Police Department was awarded \$466,263 by the U.S. Department of Justice for the Illegal Gun Crime Reduction Campaign. Through the acquisition of forensic equipment, and use of the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network, the agency will be able to produce data for comparison which may result in increased investigative leads.
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has provided \$477,666 in Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funding to the City of Fort Lauderdale. The funding was awarded via a sub-grant from the City of Miami. The funds will be used for a variety of projects, some of which include: the Emergency Operations Center Sustainment and Resiliency Project, Fire Rescue Air Respirators, Night Vision Googles, and Bomb Squad Gas Masks.
- The Florida Department of Transportation awarded \$371,200 to the Runway 1331 Pavement Sealing project which will cover the following: consultant and design fees, survey and geotechnical costs, construction inspection and material testing costs, mobilization and demobilization expenses, permitting costs, pavement demolition, surface course improvements, joint construction, runway grooving, pavement markings, and signage.
- The Florida Department of Transportation awarded \$196,875 to fund the design and construction of new shuttle stops and shelters in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The improvements will provide safe access to public transit with the addition of firm, stable, and slip resistant pads in designated locations where passengers board and alight.

FY 2022 LETTERS OF SUPPORT

In addition to the grant applications outlined in the award summary from Exhibit 1, the City provided the below letters of support to organizations seeking grant funding for initiatives that enhanced the City's Vision Plan.

- Broward County Department's Sustainability Office's application to the Community Foundation of Broward to implement the Energy Saver Energy Efficiency and Conservation Education and Outreach Program. The program will provide City and County low-income residents with the tools necessary to evaluate their home's energy use and the supplies needed to perform easy "Do-It-Yourself" home energy upgrades.
- The CLEO Institute's application to the Broward Community Foundation for their Climate Resilient Schools program in Broward County. CLEO has offered trainings focused on climate change impacts and solutions for diverse audiences. These trainings will bring attention to the intersection of extreme heat, resilience, climate, and justice issues as well as other extreme weather events that are severely impacting our most disadvantaged communities in Broward County.
- College's Broward UP Aviation Maintenance for Unlimited Potential (AMP UP) project proposal submission to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The Broward UP AMP UP project aligns with FAA's goal to support the education and recruitment of aviation maintenance technical workers and development of the aviation maintenance workforce.
- North Broward Hospital District's (Broward Health's) Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Public Infrastructure Grant proposal to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). The proposed project aims to strengthen the infrastructure in Broward County utilizing a workforce-housing model. The rehabilitation of a housing complex coupled with job creation strongly reinforces building a "*live, work, play, and give back*" community.

SOURCE OF GRANT FUNDS

Federal and State grants account for 98% of the grants awarded in FY 2022. These grants often provide comprehensive support to programs and initiatives but also require a financial commitment from the City.

Below is a summary of grants received during FY 2022 by funding source:

Source of Grant Funds			
Source	Number of Awards	Amount Awarded	Grant Match
Federal	6	\$13,736,509	\$724,830
State	15	\$2,622,404	\$1,306,136
County	4	\$383,003	\$5,000
Non-Profit	2	\$20,670	-
Total	27	\$16,762,586	\$2,035,966

FIVE-YEAR GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Over the past five years, the City secured over \$47.4 million in grant funding. The value of grants awarded in FY 2022 was \$16,762,586. Many of the City’s grants award funds for multiple years and provide continued funding beyond the fiscal year in which a grant is awarded. Multi-year grants do not require submission of new grant applications.

A summary of grants awarded over the past five years is provided below:

Five-Year Grant Award Summary		
Fiscal Year	Number of Awards	Amount Awarded
FY 2018 Award	42	\$5,608,565
FY 2019 Award	32	\$9,747,568
FY 2020 Award	26	\$6,193,221
FY 2021 Award	43	\$9,089,682
FY 2022 Award*	27	\$16,762,586
Total	170	\$47,401,622

*FY 2022 amount awarded is high due to the acceptance of a \$10.5 million dollar award for Stormwater improvements.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ENTITLEMENT GRANTS

A separate component of the City’s grants program is \$11.3 million in housing and community development entitlement grants received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation in FY 2022.

- The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program supports building stronger and more resilient communities through a variety of development activities. Activities may address infrastructure needs, economic development projects, public facilities installations, housing rehabilitations, public services, land clearance or acquisitions, code enforcement issues, and homeowner assistance.
- The HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) provides state and local government’s grants to create affordable housing for low-income households.

- The Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program is dedicated to housing projects that benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
- The Florida Housing Finance Corporation administers the State Housing Initiatives Partnership program (SHIP), which provides funds to local governments as an incentive to create partnerships that produce and preserve affordable homeownership and multifamily housing. The program was designed to serve very low-, low-, and moderate-income families.

A five fiscal year summary of the entitlement fund allocations that the City received is provided below:

Five-Year Entitlement Grants Summary					
HCD Entitlement Grants	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$1,580,452	\$1,554,051	\$1,588,589	\$1,574,113	\$1,522,029
HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)	\$687,807	\$630,675	\$719,537	\$714,352	\$791,858
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	\$7,209,708	\$7,177,985	\$7,114,059	\$7,088,032	\$7,210,033
State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP)	\$234,978	\$248,157	\$ -*	\$1,251,351	\$1,782,257
Total Entitlement Grants	\$9,712,945	\$9,610,868	\$9,422,185	\$10,627,848	\$11,306,177

*The State did not appropriate funding to the SHIP program in FY 2020.

OVERVIEW OF CENTRALIZED GRANTS PROGRAM

A quality grants management program furthers our efforts towards sound fiscal management and accountability. By obtaining grant funding for necessary purchases, City funds can be redirected to other high priority needs such as facilities maintenance, infrastructure improvements, transportation enhancements, and neighbor services that make the City of Fort Lauderdale: *The City You Never Want To Leave!*

To this end, strategic enhancements of the centralized grants management system continue to be a top priority. This includes maintaining and strengthening the following processes:

- Training and access to grants research software is provided to relevant staff throughout the organization.
- Identification, communication, and centralized coordination of grants opportunities.
- Ongoing pre-approval and tracking of all grant activity throughout the City. The FY 2022 Grant Summary is attached as Exhibit 1.

- Continued quarterly grants status report creation and distribution along with cross departmental discussions regarding grants at quarterly FL²STAT meetings.
- Continuation of an annual Grants Plan of Action to identify all grants that the City plans to pursue during the upcoming year and the department responsible. The FY 2023 Grant Resource Guide is attached as Exhibit 2.
- Active engagement with our State and Federal lobbyists to advocate for City of Fort Lauderdale's grant applications and appropriations requests.

I am pleased with the continued high performance of City staff administering the City's Grants Program. I am confident that the City is well positioned to quickly identify and apply for opportunities as they arise and that the upcoming year will be one of robust grants activity.

Attachments:

Exhibit 1: City of Fort Lauderdale FY 2022 Grant Award Summary

Exhibit 2: City of Fort Lauderdale FY 2023 Grant Resource Guide

c: Anthony G. Fajardo, Assistant City Manager
Susan Grant, Assistant City Manager
D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney
David R. Soloman, City Clerk
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor
Department Directors
CMO Managers

Grant Award Summary FY 2022

Project Title	Grantor	Department	Grant Application Amount	Grant Application Match Amount	Grant Amount	Match Amount
Awarded Grant Applications						
Family Literacy Grant	Barbara Bush Foundation	City Manager	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
Strategic Historic Preservation Plan	Florida Department of State	Development Services	50,000.00	-	50,000.00	-
Urban Area Security Initiative	US Department of Homeland Security	Fire Rescue	477,666.00	-	477,666.00	-
American Rescue Plan Airport	Federal Aviation Administration	Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport	148,000.00	-	148,000.00	-
Construct Mid-Field Extension	Federal Aviation Administration	Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport	1,892,750.00	236,550.00	1,892,750.00	236,550.00
Construct Runway 9 Run-up*	Federal Aviation Administration	Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport	251,830.00	251,830.00	251,830.00	251,830.00
Runway 1331 Pavement Sealing	Florida Department of Transportation	Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport	371,200.00	92,800.00	371,200.00	92,800.00
Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation-Design	Florida Department of Transportation	Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Bill Keith Preserve Phase II	Florida Inland Navigation District	Parks and Recreation	260,000.00	260,000.00	260,000.00	260,000.00
Child Care Food Program - Afterschool Snacks	Florida Department of Health	Parks and Recreation	35,503.00	-	35,503.00	-
Coastal Dune Restoration	Broward County, Florida	Parks and Recreation	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Riverwalk Floating Dock Phase II	Florida Inland Navigation District	Parks and Recreation	230,000.00	230,000.00	230,000.00	230,000.00
Sea Turtle Conservancy Grant	Sea Turtle Conservancy	Parks and Recreation	16,670.00	-	16,670.00	-
Small Scale Derelict Vessel Removal Program	Florida Inland Navigation District	Parks and Recreation	7,312.00	2,438.00	7,312.00	2,438.00
Small Scale Derelict Vessel Removal Program 24'	Florida Inland Navigation District	Parks and Recreation	4,688.00	1,562.00	4,688.00	1,562.00
Small Vessel Derelict Removal -30' vessel	Florida Inland Navigation District	Parks and Recreation	5,232.00	1,743.00	5,232.00	1,743.00
Summer Food Program FY 2022	Florida Department of Agriculture	Parks and Recreation	160,875.75	-	160,875.75	-
Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant FY 2022	Broward County, Florida	Police	146,256.00	-	184,104.00	-
Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant FY 2023	Broward County, Florida	Police	147,256.00	-	184,104.00	-
Illegal Gun Crime Reduction Campaign	United States Department of Justice	Police	466,263.00	-	466,263.00	-
Police Motorcycle Safety Campaign	Florida Department of Transportation	Police	27,360.00	-	30,000.00	-
Waterway Assistance Program-Outboard Replacement	Florida Inland Navigation District	Police	46,000.00	46,000.00	46,000.00	46,000.00
Durrs Neighborhood Stormwater*	United States Department of Housing and Urban Development	Public Works	10,500,000.00	-	10,500,000.00	-
Hendricks Isle Seawalls*	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Public Works	449,718.00	449,718.00	449,718.00	449,718.00
NW 21st Ave Pipe Rehab	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Public Works	750,000.00	-	750,000.00	-
Replacement Country Club Saltwater Intrusion Well	Broward County, Florida	Public Works	9,795.50	-	9,795.50	-
American With Disabilities (ADA) Compliant Bus Stops	Florida Department of Transportation	Transportation and Mobility	196,875.00	196,875.00	196,875.00	196,875.00
Total Awarded			\$ 16,685,250.25	\$ 1,799,516.00	\$ 16,762,586.25	\$ 1,799,516.00
<i>*Grant Applications submitted in FY 2020</i>						

Grant Award Summary FY 2022 (continued)

Project Title	Grantor	Department	Grant Application Amount	Grant Application Match Amount	Grant Amount	Match Amount
Grant Applications Not Awarded/Pending Notification						
Historic Properties Vulnerability Risk Assessment for the City of Fort Lauderdale	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Development Services	\$ 135,000.00	\$ -		
Telling the Story of Sailboat Bend Historic District	Florida Department of State	Development Services	50,000.00	-		
Watershed Planning Initiative Phase II- Watershed Master Plan Development	Florida Division of Emergency Management	Development Services	150,000.00	50,000.00		
Mobile Integrated Health Initiative - State Matching EMS Grant	Florida Department of Health	Fire Rescue	86,409.75	28,803.25		
Aquatics Swim Program - Centennial Campaign	American Red Cross	Parks and Recreation	5,000.00	-		
Baseball and Softball Equipment Donation Grant	The Miami Marlins Foundation	Parks and Recreation	5,000.00	-		
Bass Park Renovations	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Parks and Recreation	200,000.00	200,000.00		
Beach Dune Preservation Project - 2022 Coastal Dune Program	Broward County, Florida	Parks and Recreation	5,000.00	5,000.00		
Carter Park Community Center	Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs	Parks and Recreation	500,000.00	1,000,000.00		
Carter Park Renovations	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Parks and Recreation	200,000.00	200,000.00		
FY 2022 Bulletproof Vest Partnership	United States Department of Justice	Police Department	90,168.90	90,168.90		
Bridge Investment Program: Bundle #1: West Lake Over Cordelia River, SW 8th Street, Rio Castilla Canal Bridge	United States Department of Transportation/ Federal Highway Administration	Public Works	12,409,785.00	3,102,446.00		
Bridge Investment Program: Bundle #2: SE 13th Street Over Gordo River, Bayview Bridge Drive Over Longboat Inlet, 41st Street Over Toulon Waterway, SE 23rd Avenue Over Rio Del Mar	United States Department of Transportation/ Federal Highway Administration	Public Works	10,828,502.00	2,707,125.00		
Complete Streets and Other Localized Initiatives Program (CSLIP): NE 15th Avenue Mobility Project	Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (BMPO)	Public Works	3,500,000.00	-		
Complete Streets and Other Localized Initiatives Program (CSLIP): NE 26th Street Mobility Project	Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (BMPO)	Public Works	2,100,000.00	-		
Connectivity Master Plan for Fort Lauderdale, Wilton Manors and Oakland Park	United States Department of Transportation	Public Works	1,000,000.00	250,000.00		
Dorsey Riverbend Stormwater Flooding Improvements	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Public Works	10,482,997.00	10,482,997.00		
Himmarshee Seawall Replacement	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Public Works	3,224,439.00	3,224,439.00		
Osceola Creek Restoration Improvements	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Public Works	1,750,000.00	1,750,000.00		
Progresso Stormwater Neighborhood Improvements	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Public Works	13,495,744.00	13,495,744.00		
City of Fort Lauderdale Ridership Recovery Program - Planning Phase	Federal Transit Administration	Transportation and Mobility	150,000.00	-		
Total Grant Funds Not Awarded/Pending Notification			\$ 60,368,045.65	\$ 36,586,723.15		



CITY COMMISSION PRIORITIES

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Community Response and Safety

The focus of this initiative is to improve the City's response to community health and safety, specifically the enforcement of code violations and vacation rental regulations, and the construction of the Police Headquarters. Through this initiative, the City developed a new strategy for monitoring vacation rentals. As of December 2022, the City has a total of 1,494 rentals registered with the City with 16 remaining to be registered. For those that are unregistered, the City has opened cases to enforce and rectify the noncompliance; 159 cases are currently open including the 16 unregistered rentals. Additionally, 145 vacation rentals are currently in the registration process. The City also hired four new full-time officers to focus on responding to after-hours code complaints such as noise and vacation rental concerns.

The new Police Headquarters continues to move forward as the design for the facility has been completed. Final project pricing and the construction agreement are currently being reviewed by the City's legal team with contract negotiations underway. Additionally, a third-party auditor has been contracted to verify cost estimates. The City is expecting to submit the construction agreement to the City Commission in early 2023. The City is also moving forward with demolishing the adjacent property to make way for the new building.

Economic Diversification

The City continues to make strides in diversifying its local economy beyond the marine and tourism industries including focusing efforts to promote the City as a nighttime destination. The Nighttime Economy Division has been an active driver both locally and nationwide in raising awareness about the importance of the City's economy and vibrancy after 5:00 PM. Additionally, the City Commission approved an agreement to allow Fort Lauderdale Studio Initiative, LLC to develop, construct, operate, and maintain a full-service movie studio complex. The studio will not only serve to improve film opportunities for the City but will also prove to be of use by the public as an educational institution in which residents interested in jobs in the film industry will be able to learn the necessary skills, further diversifying the City's economic portfolio.

The Community Redevelopment Agency is also encouraging public and private investment into the City through its incentive programs. These programs provide funding for eligible projects to reduce slum and blight and improve the economic health of targeted areas.

Historic Preservation

The purpose of this initiative for the last year was to increase awareness of historic resources and the importance of historic preservation in the City. As a result of this, a proposed amendment to the Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) that includes an option to designate Thematic Historic Districts was reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Board (PZB) at their October 19, 2022 meeting. The PZB requested that staff perform additional community outreach and return to them in February 2023. Following review by the PZB, this item will be placed on a City Commission agenda for consideration. Separately, an ULDR amendment for implementing a Certificate to Dig process for archaeology review is in progress. This amendment will allow for the review of certain



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ground disturbing activities that are anticipated to yield archaeological materials or historical information in an archaeologically significant zone.

In addition, an update to the Sailboat Bend Historic District (SBHD) Material and Design Guidelines is in the process of being drafted. The amendments will update the existing guidelines to provide additional clarity concerning materials appropriate for the SBHD and allow for a streamlined review process for non-contributing properties located within the District. Furthermore, a presentation on the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan has been given to the Historic Preservation Board and is scheduled for the Planning and Zoning Board. Staff will be sharing the document with the community before it is ultimately shared with the City Commission.

Smart Growth

Through this initiative, the City continues to ensure that growth and development are both sustainable and balanced with a focus on addressing infrastructure improvements and affordable housing needs. As a coastal community, the City must also consider sea level rise and its impact on future growth. An update to the City's seawall ordinance is mandated by Broward County to adopt a regionally consistent tidal barrier standard. The major changes in the City's ordinance include: 1) increasing the minimum top elevation of seawalls and berms from 3.9 to 5.0 feet NAVD; 2) requiring habitat enhancement for new seawalls where they did not exist previously; and 3) notifying new property owners of these requirements at the time of property transfer. Elevation of seawalls is required if a new seawall is being constructed, if more than 50% of the seawall is being replaced or repaired, or if the property owner is cited for having either a seawall in disrepair or is allowing tidal flows to impact their neighbors or a public right of way. The proposed ordinance has been presented and reviewed by the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association, select homeowner's associations, the Marine Advisory Board, Sustainability Advisory Board, and the Planning and Zoning Board. The ordinance is expected to be presented to City Commission for adoption in January 2023.

On December 6, 2022, the City Commission accepted a Florida Division of Emergency Management grant to partner with Florida International University to develop a watershed management plan for mitigating flood risk in the City. The plan will look at the historic sheet flow of water and make recommendations based on existing and future development. This plan will allow the City to qualify for additional points in the Community Rating System resulting in higher discounts on federal flood insurance premiums.

In addition, a new sidewalk ordinance was adopted on September 22, 2022. The purpose of the ordinance is to regulate sidewalk installation with development applications. The City currently has a total of 420 miles of sidewalks. As a part of regular maintenance, approximately five miles of sidewalks were removed and replaced by the Public Works Department between January and November 2022. The Florida Department of Transportation has also renovated another 2.2 miles of sidewalks. Furthermore, Broward County installed approximately two miles of new sidewalks. These improvements will promote residents and visitors to walk more, activate streets, and create a multi-modal environment throughout the City.



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Regarding affordable housing, the Affordable Workforce Housing Regulation has been implemented since the Affordable Housing Policy was adopted on September 22, 2022. It incentivizes private sector developers to include additional affordable housing units in their construction projects with approval for greater residential density, height, or both along with annual reporting to ensure units designated as workforce housing continue to be offered as such. Currently, 51 affordable housing units are expected to be available upon completion of the City's two approved height bonus incentive development projects in the Northwest Regional Activity Center (RAC).

Waterway Quality

The City's waterways continue to improve through multiple efforts. Aerators at Tarpon River (between SW 10th Street and SW 4th Avenue) and Lake Melva have been in operation since August and November 2022 respectively while systems at Cliff Lake and Himmarshee Canal (between SE 8th Avenue and SE 10th Avenue) and a bubble curtain at Citrus Isle have been installed since September but are awaiting Florida Power and Light (FP&L) to power the systems. Additionally, in early December, crews from Solitude Lake Management installed a bubble curtain in the mouth of the canal between Davie Boulevard and Citrus Isle. This is the final aeration system to be installed. A bubble curtain is a type of aeration device that creates a barrier to prevent debris from entering the protected area while allowing boats and wildlife to pass through easily and safely. The aerations systems will benefit the waterways by promoting water circulation, increasing oxygen for fish and other wildlife, reducing the rotten egg smell in low-oxygen waterways, addressing bacterial pollution, and preventing algal blooms. In addition, dredging in the Himmarshee Canal has been awarded to the contractor with work expected to commence in early 2023.

Miami Waterkeeper continues to monitor the quality of the City's waterways at ten key recreational areas. As of December 1, 2022, 670 samples have been collected with 60% of those samples meeting or exceeding the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) Florida Healthy Beaches Program standards. Based on Miami Waterkeeper's reports on fecal indicator bacteria (FIB – Enterococci), 73% of those samples have met or exceeded the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Class III standards; five of the ten monitoring sites meet the FDEP water quality standard more than 80% of the time. The easy-to-understand results of that testing are made available to the public via the Swim Guide web and phone app (<https://www.theswimguide.org/>).

Workforce Training and Education

The City continues to innovate community-driven strategies to improve educational outcomes and strengthen school offerings. The City has launched a pilot program to amplify community support for targeted schools in the City and activated a listening tour to gather input on the City's education priorities. The long-term vision is to establish an effective model of school and community coordination that can be replicated Citywide to promote educational equity.



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The goal of the City’s pilot program is to “act now” to align community resources and activate parent engagement. The pilot program schools are Walker Elementary School, North Fork Elementary School, and Westwood Heights Elementary Schools. Participating schools were selected based on need and in coordination with the School Board of Broward County’s Central Regional Office. The three identified schools are under the state of Florida’s school improvement program and over 82% of students qualify for free and reduced lunch. A team of City staff is working collaboratively to connect the schools with internal and external resources to address the schools’ priorities.

Staff is also preparing to activate an educational listening tour to gather input on education priorities and will focus on neighborhoods zoned for under-enrolled schools. The City is organizing multiple participation modalities to optimize engagement.

City staff also continues to focus on expanding workforce training in aviation. The Fort Lauderdale Aviation & Aerospace Training Program Feasibility Study was submitted in October of 2022. Findings revealed a shortage of aviation technicians and a lack of career awareness. Next phase planning involves developing a proof of concept that will deliver educational training to a targeted cohort of students. The intent is to partner with a nonprofit curriculum provider with a proven track record in aviation education and workforce development.