



CITY OF  
FORT LAUDERDALE

# Parks and Recreation

## Outdoor Special Events



# Event Descriptions

## City Sponsored Events

- 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Carter Park Jamz, Starlight Musicals
- Riverwalk Activations
- LOOP Activations

## ★ Outdoor Permitted Events

- Facilitate non sponsored City events that require Commission approval

## Administratively Approved Outdoor Events

- Less than 500 attendees
- No road closures
- No alcohol
- Amplified music within time restrictions

# Event Classifications

Minor	Intermediate	Major
Sustained attendance of 500 or less with a road closure, music exemption or alcohol	Sustained attendance between 501 - 5,000	Sustained attendance of over 5,000

# Application Process for Outdoor Permitted Events



## Current Charges for Outdoor Events

Application Fee - \$200/\$1,000  
\*Non-Refundable

Beach Sand Usage Fee -  
\$500 per day

City Services (varies on event needs) -  
Police, Fire, Parking Impacts etc.

- NOTE: Events with anticipated attendance over 5,000 people, requires an escrow payment of city services equal to 110% of estimated event costs.



#### **Overview of the Special Events**

**Ordinance:** Purpose: To establish guidelines for cost recovery associated with Special Events in Fort Lauderdale.



**Stakeholder Engagement:** Involvement of the Budget Advisory Board, Beach Improvement District, Central Beach Alliance and City Commission in the decision-making process to enhance community services.



**Key Recommendations:** Adoption Timeline: The ordinance should be adopted prior to the FY2026 budget approval to ensure financial sustainability.



**Expected Outcomes:** Improve financial management of City resources during special events, leading to better service delivery and community satisfaction.

# Proposed Outdoor Event Matrix

Impact	Criteria	Scoring Rubric
Number of Participants	0 - 499	0
	501 - 1,999	1
	2,000 - 4,999	2
	5,000+	3
	10,000+	4
	20,000+	5
Road Closure Requirements	No closure	0
	Partial closure (1 Lane)	1
	Full closure	2
Road Closure Quantity	Single Road impacted	0
	More than 1 road impacted (1pt for each road impacted)	1
Road Closure Duration	Single Day	0
	Multiple Days	1
Road Closure Type	Minor Roadway	0
	Major Roadway	2
Road Closure Day of Week	Impacts on Saturday or Sunday	1
	Impacts on Monday - Friday	2
Alcohol	No	0
	Yes	1
Public Access to Park	Not restricted	0
	Partially restricted	1
	Fully restricted	2

# Proposed Outdoor Event Matrix Cont.

<b>Event Location</b>	Not on the Barrier Island	0
	On the Barrier Island	1
<b>Use of beach/on sand</b>	No	0
	Yes	1
<b>Turtle Season</b>	No	0
	Yes - Not on barrier island	0
	Yes - On barrier island	1
<b>Event Duration</b>	1 Day	1
	2-3 Days	2
	4+ Days	3
<b>Set-up &amp; Breakdown Duration</b>	Set up/Breakdown same day as event	0
	Less than 5 days of set-up/breakdown	1
	5 to 7 days of set-up/breakdown	2
	7 or more days of set-up/breakdown	3
<b>Amplified Music/Sound</b>	No	0
	Yes	1
<b>Additional Permitting</b>	No	0
	Yes	1
<b>MOT Required</b>	No	0
	Yes	1
<b>Turtle Permit Required</b>	No	0
	Yes	1
<b>Public Safety Details</b>	No	0
	Police	1
	Fire Rescue	1
	Fire Inspection	1





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# Stakeholder Feedback

- **Parks Recreation Beaches Advisory Board (PRBAB)**–  
Motion to approve proposed Ordinance amendments and edits to the Outdoor Events Process passed
- **Central Beach Alliance (CBA)** –  
Proposed revenue sharing opportunity by assessing a % of ticket price
- **Beach Business Improvement District (BBID)** -  
Incorporate a scalable element to ensure that high-impact events contributing to tourism and business, be given considerations that offsets or adjusts fees providing the substantial economic benefits, particularly during business-need periods.

# Proposed Fees

- Applications received 90 days in advance \$500
- Applications received less than 90 days but more than 75 days \$500 + \$500 late fee
- Applications submitted less than 75 days \$500 + \$1,000 late fee
- Applications received less than 60 days will not be processed without approval from the City Manager

## Park License and Beach License Impact Determination

- Score of Less than 10 = No Impact
- Score between 11-14 = Limited Impact
- Score between 14-17 = Moderate Impact
- Score of 18+ = Major impact

## If the special event impacts City Park or recreation facility:

- No Impact \$0
- Limited Impact \$1,000.00
- Moderate Impact \$1,500.00
- Major Impact \$2,500.00

## If the special event requires use of City beach property

- No Impact \$0
- Limited Impact \$500 per day
- Moderate Impact \$1,000 per day
- Major Impact \$2,500 per day

# Fee Comparison Examples

## Current vs. Proposed

### A1A Marathon

**Current:**  
Intermediate Event  
\$200

**Proposed:**  
Major Impact  
\$3,000

### Turkey Trot

**Current:**  
Intermediate Event  
\$200

**Proposed:**  
Moderate Impact  
\$2,000

### Igloo Festival

**Current:**  
Minor Event  
\$200

**Proposed:**  
No Impact  
\$500

### Tortuga

**Current:**  
Major Event  
\$13,700

**Proposed:**  
Major Impact  
\$70,000

### Air Show

**Current:**  
Major Event  
\$2,700

**Proposed:**  
Major Impact  
\$13,000

# Next Steps



Seeking direction on the implementation of matrix



Assessment of Ticket Surcharge  
(Administrative impact)



Define number of events on barrier island



Define event definitions – City Produced  
Community Events (i.e., 4<sup>th</sup> of July) and  
Outdoor Permitted Events (i.e., Tortuga)