



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#25-0765

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager *RW*

DATE: August 19, 2025

TITLE: **REVISED - CR-4** - Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Florida Power & Light (FPL) Easement Over City-owned Property for Utilities at 300 South Andrews Avenue for the Huizenga Park Reimagined Project - (Commission District 4)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Florida Power & Light (FPL) easement over a portion of City-owned property located at 300 South Andrews Avenue (Folio Nos. 504210370110 and 504210370100) to facilitate the installation and maintenance of underground electric utility infrastructure serving the Huizenga Park Reimagined Project. The easement will support the undergrounding of utilities to enhance service reliability, reduce visual impacts, and accommodate planned improvements as part of the park's transformation.

Background

City of Fort Lauderdale (City) & Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Lease

The City assumed responsibility for operations, programming, and maintenance of Huizenga Park pursuant to a Lease Agreement with the DDA dated September 15, 2016 (CAM# 16-0956). This agreement was further extended through a First Amendment executed in 2021 (CAM# 21-0565), continuing the City's stewardship of the park through at least 2026. Under this lease, the City oversees park infrastructure, programming, and physical improvements, subject to coordination with the DDA.

City of Fort Lauderdale (City) & Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Interlocal Agreement: The City and the DDA executed an Interlocal Agreement dated August 8, 2023, with an effective date of January 23, 2023, granting the DDA the authority and responsibility to design, improve, operate, program, and maintain certain City-owned property and right-of-way as part of the Huizenga Park Capital Project. The agreement specifies the City's obligation to work in good faith with the DDA to ensure the project advances expeditiously, including making timely decisions and taking necessary actions during construction and permitting.

Huizenga Park Reimagined Project

The DDA, in collaboration with the City and community stakeholders, launched the Huizenga Park Reimagined Project, a transformative redesign of the 3.648-acre park in downtown Fort Lauderdale. The project is designed to enhance community access, increase environmental resiliency, and provide dynamic new programming spaces. Improvements include modernized landscaping, performance areas, interactive water features, and upgraded utility infrastructure to support year-round use and flexibility for events.

FPL Easement

To facilitate reliable utility service and the undergrounding of infrastructure, FPL has requested a ten-foot-wide underground easement along the eastern portion of Huizenga Park. The easement (Exhibit 1) will accommodate the construction, operation, and maintenance of underground electric utility facilities and appurtenant equipment. The easement will not interfere with the park's planned improvements or public use and is consistent with undergrounding projects of overhead lines to improve safety and aesthetic quality.

The easement also allows for ingress and egress for maintenance purposes and includes FPL's right to clear vegetation within the defined area to ensure safe access and operation. The granting of this easement does not impose any fiscal impact on the City and supports the delivery of the Huizenga Park Reimagined Project improvements. Note that the overall park improvement project is scheduled for completion by late 2025/early 2026.

Resource Impact

There will be no fiscal impact associated with the proposed action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2025 Commission Priority*, advancing the Infrastructure and Resilience initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 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*

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – FPL Easement

Exhibit 2 – Location Map

Exhibit 3 – Resolution

Exhibit 4 – Executed Interlocal Agreement with DDA

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08/19/2025

CAM 25-0765