



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

23-0802

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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: September 19, 2023

TITLE: Motion Approving the Execution of a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants
for the Protection of Interior Features of The Parker Located at 707 NE 8th
Street - **(Commission District 2)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Commission consider a motion authorizing the execution of a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants for the protection of interior features at The Parker located at 707 NE 8th Street.

Background

Located in Holiday Park, the Parker (formerly the Parker Playhouse), has recently undergone a full renovation with a new addition. On February 25, 2022, the City Commission received Commission Memorandum Number 22-021, provided as Exhibit 1, that stated, due to the multiple changes that have occurred and particularly with the addition onto the front façade, the architectural integrity of the Parker has been lost and the building is no longer eligible for historic designation. While select elements of the original building were retained on the interior of the structure, the totality of the surviving original materials and original design intent is not sufficient to warrant historic designation of the interior.

Although historic designation is not an option, this building has made a significant contribution to the Fort Lauderdale community with the support of its benefactor, Dr. Louis W. Parker, the performances held at the site throughout the years, and its unique interior elements from the original building that are visible today.

In recognition of the significance of these interior features, a voluntary Declaration of Restrictive Covenants is proposed to be placed on the property to assist in the protection of specific elements outlined within the declaration from being lost or modified in the future. If adopted, any interior alterations of the features identified at the Parker shall require review and comment by the Fort Lauderdale City Commission. The Declaration of Restrictive Covenants has been prepared in coordination with representatives of the Performing Arts Center Authority (PACA) whose board has also voted to approve this document. The Declaration of Restrictive Covenants is provided as Exhibit 2.

The motion authorizes the proper City officials to countersign the Declaration.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact to the City associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

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

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- The Historic Preservation Element
- Goal 2: Provide educational and incentive opportunities to further the City's historic preservation goals.
- Objective HP 2.2: Educational Tools. Educate the public about archaeological and historic preservation programs.
- Policy HP 2.2.2: Support, as financially feasible, cultural and heritage tourism through education to make the City a heritage tourism destination.
- Policy HP 2.2.2a: Support, as financially feasible, efforts in establishing marketing and education methods that highlight the cultural and historical heritage of Fort Lauderdale.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Commission Memorandum Number 22-021

Exhibit 2 – Declaration of Restrictive Covenants

Prepared by: Trisha Logan, AICP, Development Services Department

Department Director: Christopher Cooper, AICP, Development Services