



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
SPECIAL MEETING

#25-0749

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: September 12, 2025

TITLE: Public Hearing - Resolution Adopting the Fiscal Year 2026 Fire
Assessment and Assessment Roll for Provision of Fire Services, Programs
and Facilities - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission hold a public hearing and adopt the annual rate resolution for the Fire Assessment for the City of Fort Lauderdale for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026.

Background

The City Commission authorized the creation of the Fire Assessment Program to fund the fire services, facilities, and/or programs that will benefit the City in its entirety, such as facility improvements, special equipment, and cost of fire suppression operations on June 15, 1999 (Ordinance No. C-99-49). The City adopted the Preliminary Rate Resolution No. 25-127 on June 30, 2025, in accordance with Section 2.08 of Ordinance No. C-99-49. The Resolution, among other things, established an assessment rate to fund continued fire services and operations for FY 2026.

For the first time, the Fire Assessment will include an exemption for service-connected honorably discharged veterans who have a total and permanent disability and an exemption for surviving spouses of veterans who died from service-connected causes while on active duty and based upon requirements outlined in the attached resolution.

The City proposes an annual rate of \$403 per residential dwelling unit, which is an increase of \$75 from the prior year. For FY 2026, the proposed assessment is \$64,381,117 which is estimated to generate \$61,616,864 in revenue to the General Fund.

Pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 197.3632(5)(a), the chair of the local governing board or his or her designee is required to certify the non-ad valorem assessment roll to the Broward County Tax Collector no later than September 15, 2025.

Resource Impact

This assessment will generate approximately \$61,616,864 in revenue to support the General Fund budget for FY 2026.

Strategic Connections

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

- Guiding Principle: Fiscal Responsibility

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

Related CAM

#25-0752

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - FY 2026 Fire Assessment Rate Schedule

Exhibit 2 - FY 2025 Adopted Millage Rate and FY 2026 Proposed Fire Assessment Fee Comparison

Exhibit 3 - Sun Sentinel Advertisement

Exhibit 4 - Resolution

Prepared by: Laura Reece, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Charter Officer: Rickelle Williams, City Manager