

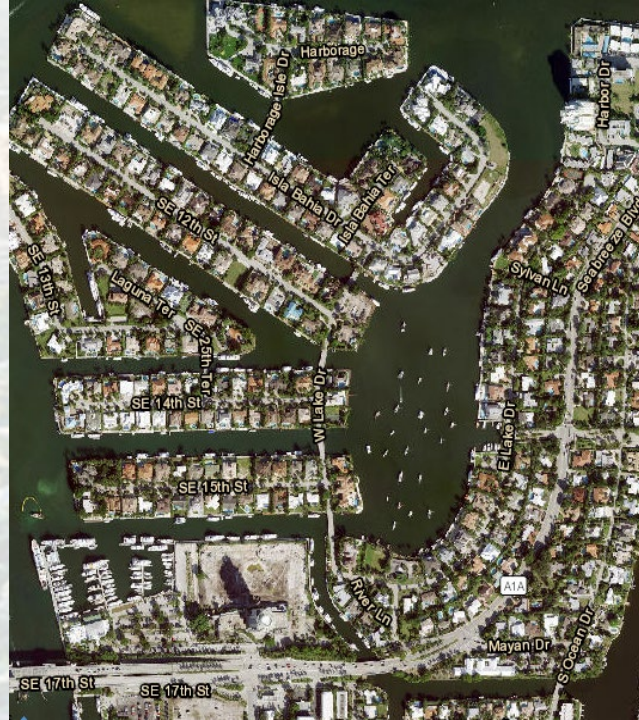


CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE

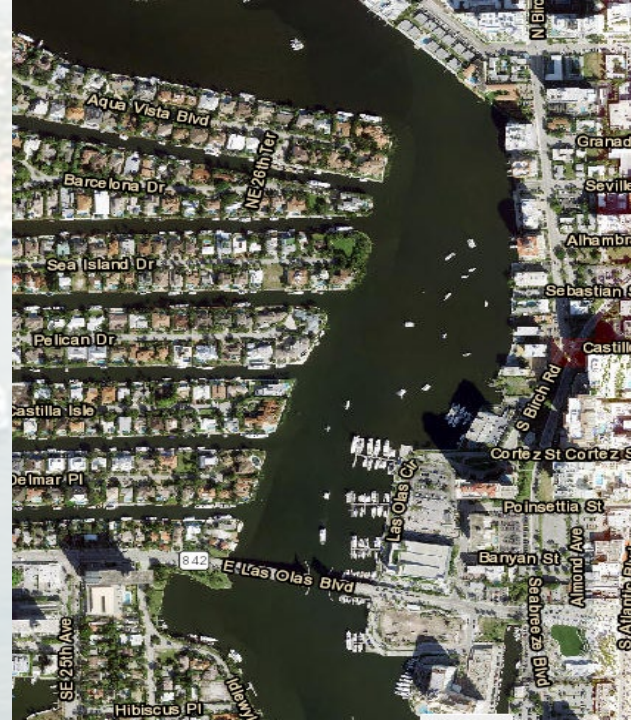
PROPOSED ANCHORING REGULATIONS

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 8-145

Current Anchoring Challenges



Lake Sylvia



Intracoastal Waterway
(Las Olas Area)



Sunrise Bay

Restoration of Broader Local Authority

- House Bill 481 Overview:
 - Signed into law in 2025 and re-establishes municipal authority
 - Allows counties or municipalities within counties with a population of 1.5 million or greater to regulate anchoring
 - Permits time-based anchoring limits of no more than 30 days in any rolling 6-month period
 - Does not allow municipalities to impose more restrictive limits (e.g., 24-hour rules)
- City of Fort Lauderdale Authority
 - The City of Fort Lauderdale may enact and enforce time-based anchoring limits only consistent with the 30-day / 6-month framework through passage of an ordinance.

Section 8-1 45(a) Proposed Changes

- The addition of a violation of City Code Sec. 1-6 to anchor a vessel within the public waterways within the corporate limits of the City of Fort Lauderdale for a period of one (1) hour or more between one-half (1/2) hour after sunset and one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise for more than thirty (30) days in any six (6) month period, excluding any time the vessel is anchored overnight for the purpose of completing permitted marine construction.
- The City hosted a public meeting on June 4, 2025 to discuss potential anchoring options in response to resident concerns.
- Marine Advisory Board recommended approval (8 - 2) of the proposed changes at the July 8, 2025 meeting.
- The City of Miami Beach has adopted an ordinance restricting anchorage to no more than 30-days in a 6-month period.

Enforcement

- Fort Lauderdale Police Department (Marine Patrol Unit) will monitor vessels in key areas throughout the city the are frequently used for anchoring
- The Marine Patrol Unit will proactively contact vessel owners to ensure mariners are aware of the 30-day restriction
- Vessels that remain beyond the 30-day period may be cited in accordance with the City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances Section 1-6



Potential Next Steps

- City Commission Feedback
- September 3, 2025: Ordinance First Reading (CAM #25-0764)
- September 16, 2025: Ordinance Second Reading

