



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

**#24-0028**

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

**FROM:** Greg Chavarria, City Manager

**DATE:** February 6, 2024

**TITLE:** Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the Office of the State Courts Administrator and the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in an Amount not to Exceed \$100,000 for Community Court Expenses, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Memorandum of Understanding - (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

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**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the Office of the State Courts Administrator and the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, ("MOU"), in an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for community court expenses between July 01, 2023, through June 30, 2024, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the MOU.

**Background**

In 2019, Fort Lauderdale's Community Court was developed in collaboration with the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida, Broward County, Broward County Clerk of Courts, the Office of the Public Defender, the State Attorney's Office, and several service and treatment providers, including Henderson Behavioral Health. The purpose of Community Court is to address low-level misdemeanor offenses and violations of municipal ordinance by providing community service opportunities in lieu of incarceration.

In fiscal year 2023, Community Court assisted over one thousand individuals who came in on their own and forty-nine (49) Notice to Appear clients. Community Court has grown exponentially with over twenty (20) active service providers and over 1,200 referrals made for services. The Memorandum of Understanding is a one-time agreement providing funds to help cover community court expenses incurred from July 01, 2023, until June 30, 2024, and funding will be available on a reimbursable basis.

**Resource Impact**

There is a positive fiscal impact to the City in an amount not to exceed \$100,000. This item was approved on the Consolidated Budget Amendment CAM 23-0872, which was presented during the October 3, 2023, commission meeting.

Source:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AMOUNT RECEIVED (Character)	AMOUNT
10-129-9300-521-331- 201-24GCOMMCT	FY24 Community Court Grant	Department of Justice – Public Safety	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ►</b>					<b>\$100,000</b>

Use:

Funds available as of January 10, 2023					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	PURCHASE AMOUNT
10-129-9300-521-30- 3199-24GCOMMCT	FY24 Community Court Grant	Services/Materials/ Other Professional Services	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
<b>PURCHASE TOTAL ►</b>					<b>\$100,000</b>

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a *FY 2024 Commission* Priority, advancing the Housing Accessibility initiative.

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

- Goal 2: Enable housing options for all income levels

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

**Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – Memorandum of Understanding

Exhibit 2 – Resolution

Prepared by: Luisa Agathon, Neighbor Support Manager

Charter Officer: Greg Chavarria, City Manager