



**Memorandum**

**Memorandum No:** 23-087

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

**From:** Greg Chavarria, City Manager   
Greg Chavarria (Jun 20, 2023 10:14 EDT)

**Date:** June 19, 2023

**Title:** 4<sup>th</sup> of July Event – **(Commission District 2)**

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City staff has been actively preparing for the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Spectacular event. The total budgeted expenditure for this event is \$400,000, with an allocated budget for fireworks at \$100,000.

During discussion with the selected fireworks vendor (Pyrotecnico Fireworks, Inc), staff noted that the cost of the barge (\$50,000) was not included in the vendor's electronic bid submission and therefore not included in the vendor's proposed firework's cost of \$86,500. Instead, the vendor's cost of the barge was included as an attachment. Pyrotecnico advises that due to safety and logistical reasons, they are unable to produce the fireworks show without the additional funding for the barge. The new total anticipated cost for Fireworks is \$136,500.

In 2022, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Display Barge was \$30,000. The fireworks were \$100,000 for a total of \$130,000. Total expenses for the 2022 4<sup>th</sup> of July Spectacular event were \$444,812.00.

Due to the new anticipated cost of services (i.e., fireworks, barge, sound & lighting, and stagehands), staff is unable to produce the event within the \$400,000 allocated budget. To produce this event successfully, additional funds of approximately \$40,000 are required, making the total estimated costs for the event to be \$440,000. We are providing this additional level of detail as the Commission requested for staff to remain within the established budget per event.

Throughout the course of this fiscal year, the Parks and Recreation Department has been able to remain under budget for prior events and can utilize a portion of those savings to fill the funding gap. Staff aims to stay within the overall annual budget for special events. We bring this matter to your attention and would like to receive any feedback from you during today's conference meeting.

C:  
Susan Grant, Assistant City Manager  
Anthony G. Fajardo, Assistant City Manager  
D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney  
David R. Solomon, City Clerk  
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor  
Glenn Marcos, Chief Procurement Officer