



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

**#26-0041**

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

**FROM:** Rickelle Williams, City Manager

**DATE:** January 6, 2026

**TITLE:** City of Fort Lauderdale's Financial Integrity Principles and Policies Update  
- **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

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City staff will present recommended updates to the City's Financial Integrity Principles and Policies and will request feedback from the City Commission on the proposed updates.

In 2014, the City first approved the Financial Integrity Principles and established a commitment to periodically review and update the principles and policies to reflect evolving best practices and financial conditions (CAM #14-1146). Maintaining a current and formally adopted set of financial principles is a critical component of ensuring sound financial governance. Adopted principles and policies help strengthen the City's credit ratings, clarify and communicate strategic intent, and align with best practices.

With the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget, the City Commission established a new Emergency Reserve Fund. During the June 17, 2025 Joint Workshop with the Budget Advisory Board (BAB), staff presented the creation of the Emergency Reserve Fund to the City Commission and committed to collaborating with the Budget Advisory Board to establish guidelines for its use (CAM #25-0592). These guidelines have been incorporated into the 2026 update to the City's Financial Integrity Principles and Policies.

A draft of the 2026 update to the Financial Integrity Principles and Policies was presented to the BAB at its December 10, 2025, meeting. Feedback was also provided by the City Auditor. Following discussion, the BAB passed a unanimous motion recommending that the City Commission adopt the updated Financial Integrity Principles.

Based on City Commission feedback received during this presentation, staff will make any necessary revisions and return with the finalized updated Financial Integrity Principles for formal adoption at the February 2, 2026 Regular City Commission Meeting.

## **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.

## **Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – Presentation

Exhibit 2 – Financial Integrity Principles and Policies (2026 Update)

Exhibit 3 – Financial Integrity Principles and Policies (Current Version)

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