



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#25-0819

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams City Manager

DATE: October 7, 2025

TITLE: Resolution Approving Fiscal Year 2026 Not for Profit Service Agreement
with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Inc. - \$309,100- (**Commission Districts
2 and 4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a resolution approving a City of Fort Lauderdale Fiscal Year 2026 Not for Profit Service Agreement with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Inc. (Riverwalk), in substantially the form attached, and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

Background

Riverwalk was formed in December of 1988, in conjunction with the City of Fort Lauderdale, with the mission to assist in defining, designing, fund-raising, and constructing a linear walking trail on the north and south side of the New River.

Through the years, Riverwalk, as a 501(c)(3) charitable not-for-profit, has served in different capacities for the City. Riverwalk is currently responsible for oversight of the Riverwalk District that encompasses ten (10) parks and seven (7) green spaces that are a major part of the public realm in downtown Fort Lauderdale. The boundaries of the Riverwalk District are NW/NE 6 Street (Sistrunk) to the north, US-1 (Federal Highway) to the east, SW/SE 9 Street to the south, and SW 4/7 Avenue to the west.

Riverwalk has installed over nine (9) art projects within the district including murals, sculptures, planters, recycle bins, chess tables, exercise mile marker notifications, bicycle repair stations, as well as the construction of Sistrunk Park. The 9/11 Monument was a project spearheaded and funded by Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale as well as the installation of the amenities of the Police Memorial and the Lone Sailor Statue.

Operationally, Riverwalk hosts over thirty (30) events annually including major free public events as well as numerous activations to encourage residents and visitors to enjoy downtown. Riverwalk events include Seafood Festival, International Food Festival, Fall Festival, Rhythm & Brews, Burger Battle, Mutts & Martinis, Day of the Dead, Light Up Lauderdale and many more. Activations like Tunes on Top, Segway Tours, Bicycle Tours,

Movies in the Park, Yoga and more. The calendar year 2026 proposed events will be considered by the City Commission on October 7, 2025 (CAM #25-0818).

Riverwalk provides outdoor event oversight within the district. The services include pre-event assistance to ensure that event hosts understand City guidelines, review and confirmation of approved alcohol permits, tent/building permits, Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) approvals and implementation, and providing inspectors during the event to confirm compliance with site plans, permitting, and sound requirements. Inspectors are on-site during the set-up and breakdown, as well as periodically during the event, to ensure the City's guidelines are met.

Riverwalk maintains a database of over 36,000 etched bricks. Annually, over 280 banners are installed providing residents and businesses with the opportunity to be up for 12 months of advertising.

Riverwalk also produces a monthly magazine which is mailed to its members and has over 110 distribution points citywide. It has an online version and is coordinated with multiple social media pages which include seven (7) Facebook pages, Instagram, X, and LinkedIn. The Fiscal Year 2026 proposed magazine agreement will be considered by the City Commission on October 7, 2025 (CAM #25-0901).

The approved Fiscal Year 2026 Budget allocates \$309,100 for a City contribution towards Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Inc. ("Riverwalk") to assist with maintaining the Riverwalk District's overall beautification, goals and objectives, and to promote the activation of the Riverwalk District. The first agreement was in Fiscal Year 2014 and has been in effect each year thereafter.

Resource Impact

Funds for this agreement in the amount of \$309,100 are available in the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget in the account listed below.

<i>Funds available as of October 1, 2025</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
10-001-6025-574-30-3199-PSE002	Community Events	Services/Materials – Other Professional Services	\$309,100	\$309,100	\$309,100
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					\$309,100

Strategic Connections

This item supports the 2029 Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area, Goal 5: Build a beautiful and welcoming community.

This item advances the Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We are Here.

This item supports the Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Place specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- The Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Area
- Goal 2: Be a community with high quality parks and recreational facilities that highlight the character of our city.

Related CAMS

25-0818

25-0901

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Riverwalk District Area

Exhibit 2 – FY 2026 Agreement

Exhibit 3 – Resolution

Prepared by: Carolyn Bean, Assistant to the Director, Parks and Recreation

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation