



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

#25-0818

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams

DATE: October 7, 2025

TITLE: Motion Approving an Agreement with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Inc. for
Calendar Year 2026 Events - (**Commission Districts 2 and 4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve an agreement, in substantially the form attached, with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Inc. (Riverwalk) consolidating the approval of outdoor events proposed in the Riverwalk District from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, and authorize execution of the agreement by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee.

Background

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 the Seafood Festival, International Food Festival, Fall Festival, Rhythm & Brews, Burger Battle, Mutts & Martinis, Day of the Dead, Light Up Lauderdale and many more. Riverwalk also coordinates activations like Tunes on Top, Segway Tours, Bicycle Tours, Movies in the Park, Yoga and more.

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 (Exhibit 2). The Riverwalk District includes ten (10) parks and seven (7) green spaces.

Riverwalk is requesting an agreement with the City to allow the listed outdoor events (Exhibit 1), and other substantially similar events conducted by the organization, in the Riverwalk District event area from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, contingent upon the approval of the City Manager or designee for each event. The events will comply with the amplified music requirement or will request additional City Commission consideration for approval (if exemptions are requested).

This annual approval was granted the first time by the City Commission for Riverwalk events in 2010 and has been approved annually thereafter. If approved, the same process will continue to be followed for all Riverwalk events for the coming year.

Each individual event application will be subject to administrative review and approval. The organizer will pay the applicable fees and costs as designated by the City Manager, for each application that is submitted. All current permitting requirements including, but not limited to, trash disposal, parking arrangements, logistics, and security, as applicable, will apply. The organizer will provide the City with a certificate of insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 general liability and \$500,000 liquor liability or greater as deemed satisfactory by the City's Risk Manager, for each event, naming the City as an additional insured, if required pursuant to the Code of Ordinances.

During the year, Riverwalk hosts several events that require road closures along SW 2 Street and SW 4 Avenue. To streamline the process for Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) approvals, Riverwalk has received two (2) approved MOTs from the Transportation and Mobility Department for these types of closures. MOT approvals are attached as Exhibit 3 and Exhibit 4.

Resource Impact

Revenue related to these agreements will be \$200 per event application for an annual total of \$5,400 (Exhibit 1), is included in the FY 2026 Budget in the account listed below.

<i>Funds available as of September 2, 2025</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AMOUNT RECEIVED (Character)	AMOUNT
10-001-6025-574- 347-200-PKR029	Community Events	Charge for Service / Non Sponsor Charges – Spec Event Fees	\$30,000	\$0	\$5,400
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					\$5,400

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

25-0819
25-0901

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – 2026 Anticipated Event Schedule
Exhibit 2 – Riverwalk District Event Area
Exhibit 3 – MOT Approval (SW 2 Street / SW 4 Avenue)
Exhibit 4 – MOT Approval (SW 2 Street)
Exhibit 5 – Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Inc. for Calendar Year 2026 Events Agreement

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

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation