

#25-1018

**TO**: Honorable Mayor & Members of the Fort

Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM**: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: October 7, 2025

TITLE: Motion Approving Agreement with the Broward County Tax Collector for

Uniform Collection of Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments - (Commission

**Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)** 

#### Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Commission enter into an agreement with the Broward County Tax Collector, to collect and distribute non-ad valorem special assessments on behalf of the City of Fort Lauderdale.

### **Background**

Broward County now has an elected Tax Collector, a position that was established following the enactment of Florida Constitutional Amendment 10 (2018) and the subsequent results of a 2020 charter amendment approved by voters.

As of January 7, 2025, Abbey Ajayi, became the first elected Tax Collector in Broward County, and assumed responsibility for various duties previously managed by Broward County including collection and distribution of property taxes, including both ad valorem (based upon property value) and non-ad valorem (special assessments). As a part of this transition, any taxing authority wishing to have non-ad valorem assessments included on the annual tax bill must enter into a formal agreement with the Tax Collector.

The City of Fort Lauderdale's non-ad valorem assessments that will be included on the annual tax bill if the proposed agreement is approved include:

- Fire Assessment
- Beach Business Improvement District Assessment
- Underground Utility Assessment
- Stormwater Management Assessment
- Lauderdale Isles Water Management District Assessment

To ensure that the City's non-ad valorem assessments are included on the November 2025 tax bills, we are required to execute an agreement with the Tax Collector's Office. This will allow for accurate billing and timely remittance of funds collected on our behalf.

Utilizing the uniform method of collection as provided in Chapter 197.3632, Florida Statutes allows for the same legal enforcement tools as property taxes, including tax certificates and liens. This method of collection greatly improves collection rates for the assessments.

## Resource Impact

The agreement provides that the City will reimburse the Tax Collector for the actual costs of collection of the non-ad valorem assessments, not to exceed 2% of the amount of the assessments collected and remitted.

There is a fiscal impact in the estimated amount of \$2,109,369 for Fiscal Year 2026 in the accounts provided below. Funding is contingent upon the approval of the Consolidated Budget Amendment CAM #25-0723.

Funds available as of October 1, 2025					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME	CHARACTER CODE/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
10-001-4020-522-30- 3199	Fire Operations	Services/ Materials/ Other Professional Services	\$4,956,186	\$4,956,186	\$1,232,337
10-135-6100-552-30- 3199	Beach Business Improvement District	Services/ Materials/ Other Professional Services	\$267,348	\$267,348	\$25,707
10-354-9100-554-30- 3199-P11715	Las Olas Isles Undergrounding Utilities	Services/ Materials/ Other Professional Services	\$9,181,756	\$0	\$10,551
10-001-2302-513-30- 3199	Budget, CIP and Grants	Services/ Materials/ Other Professional Services	\$291,336	\$291,336	\$165
10-470-7340-538-30- 3199	Stormwater Repair and Right of Way	Services/ Materials/ Other Professional Services	\$2,913,650	\$2,913,650	\$840,609
			TOTAL AMOUNT →		\$2,109,369

<u>Strategic Connections</u>
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 Prosperous.

# **Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Agreement

Prepared by: Charmaine Crawford, Senior Assistant to the Director

Department Director: Laura Reece, Office of Management and Budget