



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

#25-0820

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: September 3, 2025

TITLE: Proposed Anchoring Regulations - (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

In 1971, the City of Fort Lauderdale had an ordinance making it unlawful to anchor a vessel for more than 24 consecutive hours in the public waterways of the City. In 2009, the Legislature, pursuant to the adoption of Laws of Florida Chapter 2009-86, amended § 327.60, Florida Statutes preempting local government's authority to regulate the anchorage of vessels, prohibiting local government from enacting, continuing in effect, or enforcing any such ordinance.

In 2025, with the adoption of Laws of Florida, Chapter 2025-39, § 327.60 Florida Statutes was amended to permit local governments within counties with a population of at least 1.5 million people (i.e. includes Broward County) to regulate the duration of the anchoring of vessels during certain time periods. Chapter 2025-39 was not self-effectuating, so to effectuate it in the City of Fort Lauderdale it is necessary to adopt an ordinance implementing the provisions of Chapter 2025-39.

City staff will provide the City Commission with an overview of the proposed ordinance modifications in advance of the first reading scheduled for the City Commission Regular Meeting on September 3, 2025 (CAM #25-0764).

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.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Presentation

Exhibit 2 – Proposed Ordinance

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

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation