



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#25-0384

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: April 15, 2025

TITLE: Resolution Reaffirming Resolution No. 24-280 and the Construction of a Tunnel as the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Commuter Rail Train Crossing the New River in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Acknowledging City Efforts to Advance the Tunnel Concept, and the Rescission of Any Other Conflicting Resolution Provisions, and an Effective Date - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a Resolution reaffirming Resolution No. 24-280 and the construction of a tunnel as the locally preferred alternative for the commuter rail train crossing the New River in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and acknowledging City efforts to advance the tunnel concept, and the rescission of any other conflicting Resolution provisions, and an effective date.

Background

The City Commission has adopted various resolutions focused on the New River Crossing including Resolution No. 22-20, Resolution No. 23-302, and Resolution No. 24-280. On March 18, 2025, the City Commission discussed the Broward Commuter Rail project and the New River Crossing as part of the City Commission Conference Meeting. The discussion focused on the March 3, 2025, letter from Broward County Mayor Beam Furr to Mayor Trantalis. The City Commission shared its initial feedback and identified some topics that required additional clarification and review.

Subsequently, City staff and County staff met to further discuss the letter's objectives and potential next steps. City staff provided an update at the April 1, 2025, City Commission Conference Meeting to provide a brief update, share a draft resolution, and seek direction from the City Commission on how to respond to the March 3, 2025, letter regarding Broward Commuter Rail and the New River Crossing. The City Commission provided feedback and requested that a resolution be considered at the April 1, 2025, Regular Meeting.

A resolution was added to the April 1, 2025, Regular Meeting and the City Commission requested additional modifications and to add the updated resolution to the April 15, 2025,

Regular Meeting agenda. The proposed resolution incorporates City Commission feedback from the April 1, 2025, Regular Meeting. Specifically, the two primary changes include adding language to develop a financial plan and to acknowledge that the Board of County Commissioners may elect, after October 1, 2025, without the support of the City Commission, to include a bridge crossing of the New River, as part of its Locally Preferred Alternative for Broward Commuter Rail-North.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2025 Commission Priority, advancing the Transportation and Traffic initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure and Resilience Focus Area, Goal 4: Facilitate an efficient, multimodal transportation network.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Connected.

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

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- The Transportation & Mobility Element
- Goal 3: Ensure a cohesive transportation network among local, regional, and state regulatory institutions.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Resolution

Prepared by: Ben Rogers, Acting Assistant City Manager, City Manager's Office

Charter Officer: Rickelle Williams, City Manager