

2025 | State Legislative Program



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

THE CITY COMMISSION



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Introduction and Strategic Goals

The 2025 Legislative Priorities reflect the general position of the City Commission pertaining to upcoming legislation that would impact operations. Most importantly, this Program integrates the Commission’s Strategic Goals: *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029*, which brings focus and coordination to what we do every day as we make this community a place to live, work, play, and invest.



Public Safety



Housing



Infrastructure
and Resilience



Public Places



Business
Growth
and Support

It is now time to look forward with the City’s third five-year strategic plan, *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029: Our City, Our Strategic Plan*. This plan is structured into five Focus Areas that are designed to foster collaboration and innovation: Public Safety, Housing, Infrastructure and Resilience, Public Places, and Business Growth and Support. Within these Focus Areas, the plan contains six goals that will move the City toward the community’s vision for Fort Lauderdale in 2035. Within each goal, key performance measures that will objectively define the success of actions have been identified.

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Fundamental Principles & Legislative Priorities

GENERAL STATEMENT

The City *opposes* legislation that infringes on the basic human and civil rights of Floridians. An integral portion of the advocacy effort by the Commission focuses on the Resolution process. Resolutions provide staff, advocacy teams, and state Executive and Legislative Branches with the City's position regarding proposed legislation during Legislative Session.

BUDGET

The Commission *supports* legislation that would extend the deadline for the public hearing on the non-ad valorem assessment roll and its subsequent certification to the tax collector to September 25. The current deadline is September 15th for local governments not defined in Section 125.011(1). This extension would streamline the administrative process by eliminating the need for an additional City Commission meeting, thereby improving operational efficiency.

CITY ATTORNEY

The Commission *supports* legislation to amend Sec. 286.011, Florida Statutes allowing closed-door meetings on pre-suit liability claims.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Support state initiatives and programs, such as the SSBCI, that:

1. Fund opportunities for businesses owned by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, including minority, women, veteran, and rural entrepreneurs.
2. Address policies that ensure fair competition for small businesses in the home health care sector.

EDUCATION

Support funding for early learning education; and full funding for workforce readiness programs. The Commission also *supports* the Broward County Public School Board (BCPS) Legislative Priorities and Policy Statements, unless specific issues conflict with the City's approved Legislative Program.

FIREARM REGULATIONS

The majority seated on the Commission *opposes* the Legislature's attempt to preempt local government from prohibiting firearms in government buildings, schools, and other critical infrastructure areas.

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

Supports the Florida League of Cities (FLC) Legislative Priorities and Policy Statements, unless specific issues conflict with the City's approved Legislative Program.

HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

The Commission *supports* legislation and funding for municipalities to address homelessness and the creation of housing opportunities. This includes the evaluation of activities and initiatives that can

address the root cause of homelessness while identifying ways to create additional housing opportunities in the City.

The Commission continues to *support* full funding for the Sadowski Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP); and other housing programs which aid income eligible residents, including individuals with disabilities.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Commission *supports* legislation allowing local government to continue regulating short-term rental properties, vacation rentals, and sober homes.

The Commission also *supports* funding and legislation to assist our residents with rising property insurance costs due to recent Florida law changes. Specifically, the Commission *strongly supports* continued funding and enhanced legislation for the My Safe Florida Condominium Pilot Program, which provides eligible condominium associations with resources to strengthen their properties against hurricane winds. Further, the Commission supports:

- State programs to enhance community resilience and provide guidance to homeowners on navigating new insurance requirements.
- Legislation that alleviates financial burdens by creating a funding source for local initiatives that not only promote awareness of available relief measures, but also provides for effective relief measures.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The Commission *supports* legislation dedicating state resources for the development and enhancement of municipal cybersecurity and broadband services. The Commission recognizes the urgency of addressing evolving cyber risks and is committed to proactive measures that protect critical infrastructure, elevate operational maturity, and ensure the long-term security of Fort Lauderdale's residents and resources.

Broadband

The Commission *supports* legislative efforts that aim to provide broadband services to local communities. In addition, the Commission *supports* legislative funding that supplements local government efforts to provide broadband services to the underserved and underrepresented neighborhoods.

Broadband access is crucial for economic growth and community development, acting as a catalyst for business efficiency, innovation, entrepreneurship, and improved access to education and job opportunities. It enables economic diversification, supports public health and safety initiatives, and promotes social equity by reducing the digital divide. High-speed internet infrastructure is essential for smart city initiatives, e-commerce growth, and attracting investment, ultimately leading to increased productivity and GDP growth in communities.

Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure

The Commission supports legislation and direct funding dedicated to strengthening municipal cybersecurity and the protection of critical infrastructure. This initiative is essential to safeguarding the city's water systems, public safety networks for police and fire services, and other vital municipal resources. A robust cybersecurity program is critical to ensuring the continuity of essential services, public trust, and the safety and well-being of residents.

Key components include:

- **Strengthening Critical Systems:** Enhancing the resilience of the city's water, wastewater, public safety, and other critical infrastructure networks against cyber threats.
- **Leveraging Professional Expertise:** Securing direct funding for professional cybersecurity services, including vCISOs and trusted advisors with federal, state, and municipal expertise, to accelerate the city's cybersecurity maturity beyond conventional capabilities.
- **Adopting Best Practices:** Implementing internationally recognized frameworks and standards, such as ITIL, COBIT, and NIST, to guide cybersecurity, asset management, and overall IT governance efforts.
- **Prioritizing Intentional Funding:** Ensuring direct and prioritized funding for adopting best practices, implementing comprehensive cybersecurity programs, and maintaining robust asset management strategies to mitigate risks associated with cyber threats.
- **Fostering Partnerships:** Collaborating with federal and state agencies to access direct funding and adopt leading-edge technologies and strategies.

INFRASTRUCTURE, RESILIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Commission continues to examine and address infrastructure needs related to water, wastewater, and stormwater. The Commission has further integrated resilience in all decisions relating to current and future City operations, effectively planning for, responding to, and quickly recovering from disruptive events. Further, the City develops programs and implements strategies to improve traffic flow and evaluate new solutions that will alleviate congestion within the city.

The Commission *supports* legislation and funding for transportation enhancements focused on greenways, complete street initiatives, pedestrian safety, improving traffic flow, and mass transit development. The Commission further supports legislation that:

- Requires flood disclosures upon the sale of a property.
- Promotes energy conservation and alternative energy development; and
- Supports the inclusion of municipalities in the state environmental permitting process.

Progressive Design Build

The City primarily uses Design-Bid-Build or Design-Build, and there are some other methods that may work better overall. For the new infrastructure projects, where time is of the essence, Progressive Design build may be a more practicable way to timely complete critical infrastructure

and/or infrastructure projects. Currently the state limits when and how it is available as a tool for government entities.

Plastic Bag & Styrofoam Bans

The Commission *supports* the repeal of state regulations prohibiting local governments from banning the use or sale of polystyrene products. While local governments may restrict the use of polystyrene on their own property, they cannot restrict others from buying, selling, or using such products.

LOCAL AUTHORITY (HOME RULE)

The most precious powers a city holds is – Home Rule powers. The ability to establish its form of government through its charter, and to then enact ordinances, codes, plans and resolutions without prior state approval is a tremendous authority. To further be able to enforce them “at home” and to make necessary changes as a city grows is a great reflection of the trust that citizens have in their respective city leaders.

The Commission *opposes* legislation infringing on local home rule authority. The Commission further *opposes* legislation that effectively preempts local government from enacting ordinances, rules, and regulations to protect its residents.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Commission *supports* initiatives that focus on a fair and equitable justice system, which can be achieved through statewide comprehensive criminal justice reform. The Commission further *supports* legislation that modifies the Law Enforcement Trust Fund’s (LETF) evidentiary standard in a forfeiture proceeding and use of future forfeitures, which may result in an increase in amounts collected.

SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

Oppose legislative efforts to increase or eliminate the monetary limits on the waiver of sovereign immunity in current law.

TAXES AND FEES

Oppose legislation that modifies, restricts, or eliminates a municipality’s ability to levy and collect or spend franchise fees, communications service taxes, local business taxes, or other revenues.

UNFUNDED MANDATES

Oppose legislation which shifts the financial burden from the state to local government, specifically municipalities.

Appropriation Requests

ARTS AND CULTURE

The Commission *supports* increased funding for historic preservation, and the restoration of full funding for the cultural arts. As a city known for its arts and culture, Fort Lauderdale supports all efforts to restore state funding to pre-recession levels.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Commission *supports* funding for Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport capital projects, and the collaboration between the marine and aviation industries to promote economic development and tourism.

Tourism Marketing

The Commission *supports* the transfer of the spending authority of the Tourism Development Tax to municipalities, based on tourism activity. The Commission *opposes* the proposed expansion of the TDT for uses other than tourism, marketing, or economic development.

Business Tax Incentive Programs

The Commission *supports* the reauthorization of the statewide Qualified Target Industry Tax Incentive (QTI) Program by Florida Commerce – Division of Economic Development. The QTI Tax Refund was a tool available to Florida communities to encourage quality job growth in targeted high value-added businesses. Actual awards could be a maximum of:

- \$1,000 per job for businesses paying at least 150 percent of the prevailing average annual wage or \$2,000 per job for businesses paying at least 200 percent of the prevailing average annual wage;
- \$2,000 per job if the business falls within a designated high impact sector OR if the business increases exports of its goods through a seaport or airport in the state by at least 10 percent in value or tonnage in each year of receiving a QTI refund;
- \$2,500 per job (Brownfield Bonus) if project is in a designated Brownfield area with BSRA (Brownfield site rehabilitation agreement); and
- \$1,000 per job if the local financial support is equal to the base QTI award.

Film and Tax Credits

The Commission further *supports* the reauthorization of Film Tax Credits/Incentives, which would give credits to filmmakers that meet certain requirements. The Florida Film Tax Credit is a valuable incentive that has been proven to boost the state's economy and promote the growth of its film industry. By providing financial incentives to filmmakers, it encourages them to choose Florida – South Florida – as a filming location, resulting in increased job opportunities for residents, a surge in tourism, and greater exposure for the state on the global stage. This tax credit not only stimulates economic growth but also contributes to the cultural richness of Florida by fostering a thriving film and entertainment sector.

Since the state's previous film rebate program ended, productions moved away from Florida to states like Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, and North Carolina.

EDUCATION

Support funding for the following education and workforce development projects:

Education Enrichment Program | \$500,000

This program will continue to enrich the summer program hosted by the City and promote learning continuity through expanded academic services in the City's after school program, which has contributed to closing the learning gap children have experienced. The project intends to build on the success of the City's ongoing summer academic program and to expand services including after school enrichment, workforce exploration and citizenship development with mentors from various departments in the City including Human Resources, Police, and Fire, and in partnership with the YMCA and Career Source Broward.

Fort Lauderdale Growth Opportunities Program | \$2,000,000

This program will prepare justice-involved youth and young adults for employment through education and training, paid work experiences/apprenticeships, mentorship, and leadership development, and contribute to community violence intervention among youth and young adults.

NEIGHBOR SUPPORT SERVICES

There are 780 unsheltered individuals living on the streets of Fort Lauderdale on any given night (Point-In-Time Count, January 2023). One of the root causes of homelessness is mental health illness.

Homeless Transitional Housing Program | \$2,250,000

The City of Fort Lauderdale intends to establish a transitional shelter facility to serve as an initial housing opportunity for those experiencing street homelessness. The transitional shelter model provides short-to medium-term accommodation for people in need, with the goal of creating stability and reducing the barriers to obtaining permanent housing.

Residents in the new facility will receive not only shelter but also intensive supportive services such as case management, mental health resources, job placement assistance, substance use treatment and financial counseling. By addressing multiple facets of well-being, the initiative aims to help residents transition more smoothly into permanent housing and achieve self-sufficiency. The goal of this model is to improve the quality of life for individuals while a permanent housing solution can be assessed.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Support full funding for existing and future parks infrastructure projects. Specifically, the Commission supports:

Carter Park Community Center | \$5,000,000

This project will transform the outdated center into a state-of-the-art facility that meets critical needs, including serving as a primary emergency response hub for first responders and essential city staff. The upgrades include much-needed pool renovations, concession and press box improvements, synthetic turf replacement, ADA-compliant enhancements, and other modernized amenities. This initiative is essential for creating a safer, stronger, and more equitable community.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Support funding for enhanced public safety needs for Fire Rescue and the Police Department. Specifically, the Commission supports funding for the following projects:

Four Fire Rescue Ambulances | \$320,000

Currently Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue utilizes three reserve medical rescue units to staff special events which are held within the City of Fort Lauderdale. The units have exceeded their life expectancy and have become unreliable with mechanical issues. The four new Special Events Ambulances will correct this issue and allow Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue to adequately provide emergency services to the City during special events.

Fire Rescue Boat | \$300,000

The current reserve fireboat is a nineteen-year-old center console fishing vessel which was converted into a fireboat and has limited abilities. Replacing the reserve fire boat with a new vessel will improve the capabilities of the marine team by enabling them to deploy full advanced life support on the water and a patient treatment compartment, advanced navigation, and communications, forward looking infra-red night vision (FLIR), radar and underwater side scan sonar.

Violence Interruption Pilot Program | \$1,200,000

Funding is being requested to implement a comprehensive pilot program aimed at addressing violent crime in Fort Lauderdale through evidence-based approaches. This initiative is a focused-deterrence group violence reduction strategy designed to control/reduce gun violence through the identification and analysis of crime problems, leveraging data-driven strategies to enhance public safety.

RESILIENCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

Support full funding for infrastructure projects that fight sea level rise. Specifically, the Commission supports:

- The identification of adequate funding for water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure improvements.
- Maintaining, at minimum, \$50 million recurring for beach re-nourishment, revitalization, and enhancement efforts.

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

SE 13th Street Bridge | \$3,100,000

According to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the SE 13th bridge needs replacement. It has a sufficiency rating of 22.2, is identified as scour critical, and is classified as functionally obsolete. The T-beams contain cracks, spalls, and delamination. To address these detrimental issues, the most cost-effective way for taxpayers is to execute a complete replacement, ensuring the safety of all users.

Bayview Drive Over Longboat Inlet | \$3,600,000

The 62-year-old Bayview Drive Bridge requires replacement due to its deteriorating condition, as evaluated in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) guidelines. FDOT has classified the bridge as functionally obsolete. Specifically, it has been identified as "scour critical," with chloride-contaminated slabs, contributing to its current sufficiency rating of 64 out of 100. This replacement ensures long-term safety for residents and visitors alike.

Galt Mile Safety Improvements | \$2,500,000

The project will mill and resurface the existing 28-year-old pavement, install wider sidewalks, and install landscape enhancements for nearly 1.5 miles of the Galt Mile Streetscape. Additionally, the project will upgrade pedestrian lighting, refresh pavement markings, and add new regulatory signage. These comprehensive improvements will enhance the functionality and safety of the area for residents and visitors alike.

Roadway Resurfacing | \$750,000

Roadways throughout the city need critical improvements. The total cost to resurface these roadways is \$12.5 million, not including future maintenance. Funding will be used to improve roadways with asphalt overlay and/or milling and resurfacing to restore pavement for streets with a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 55 and below. According to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, PCI provides a snapshot of the pavement health of a road. It is measured on a scale of 0 to 100 (where 100 means a newly paved road). The PCI score is affected by several factors, such as pavement age, climate and precipitation, traffic loads and maintenance. Roadways with a PCI of 55 and below are in poor condition. This project will improve the condition of roadways throughout the City within the City right of way. By restoring the surface before the roadway requires reconstruction, it will save the taxpayer from bearing the burden of the cost. Waiting would make restoration four times more costly.

Sidewalk Repairs | \$750,000

The city has approximately 420 miles of sidewalk to maintain; and several throughout the city need critical improvements. The City is seeking funding to construct or reconstruct existing sidewalks within the City's right-of-way. The result of these upgrades will improve public safety. Reconstruction will also improve mobility and compliance with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) standards.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation in any city is a critical component to stability and growth. The Commission *supports* full funding for all transportation projects within the FDOT Workplan.

Breakers Avenue Streetscape Improvements | \$5,000,000

Breakers Avenue lies at the center of the North Beach district in Fort Lauderdale. The North Beach district is blossoming and can become a more desirable destination for tourists and locals alike. The project will create an iconic corridor that not only provides mobility but is also a safe, accessible, attractive, climate-resilient public space serving neighbors and visitors in the City. Proposed improvements include streetscape elements such as pedestrian lighting, trees, landscape, shared used street design, and underground water and sewer utility upgrades.

Las Olas Mobility Project – Shops Segment | \$5,000,000

The Las Olas Mobility Project aims to create a complete street that allows the iconic roadway to provide residents and visitors with a "Main Street" experience while also operating as a regionally significant corridor for commuters and balancing the needs of all the users. This new project supports the City's Vision Zero Plan to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries by enhancing pedestrian safety and improving ADA facilities. Once constructed, the city will realize its vision of developing an active, unique, world-class live, work, and play-friendly streetscape.

LauderTrail Infrastructure Project – Phase 1 | \$3,00,000

The project's primary objectives are twofold: to create a more inviting environment that supports existing businesses and attracts new ones, and to draw visitors to the district, capitalizing on its proximity to SR A1A. By addressing the current challenges of inadequate lighting and vacant storefronts, the project aims to transform the district into a vibrant, safe, and economically thriving area that serves both residents and tourists. Ultimately, these improvements will benefit the adjacent residential condominiums and anchor hotel while creating a more appealing destination for visitors.

Sunrise Lane District Streetscape Improvements | \$1,750,000

The project's primary objectives are twofold: to create a more inviting environment that supports existing businesses and attracts new ones, and to draw visitors to the district, capitalizing on its proximity to SR A1A. By addressing the current challenges of inadequate lighting and vacant storefronts, the project aims to transform the district into a vibrant, safe, and economically thriving area that serves both residents and tourists. Ultimately, these improvements will benefit the adjacent residential condominiums and anchor hotel while creating a more appealing destination for visitors.

Appropriation Requests | Summaries

Bayview Drive Bridge Over Longboat Inlet Replacement | \$3,600,000

Project Description/Summary

The 62-year-old Bayview Drive Bridge requires replacement due to its deteriorating condition, as evaluated in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) guidelines. Although the bridge has a sufficiency rating of 64.7 it has been deemed functionally obsolete by FDOT, and the staff recommends that the bridge be replaced. This replacement ensures the long-term safety for residents and visitors alike.

Background

This is a 20-foot-long single span reinforced concrete slab bridge constructed in 1962. The 32-foot-wide bridge has a roadway width of 28.3 feet and carries two (2) lanes of traffic. Additionally, it has two (2) 2.9-foot-wide sidewalks separated from the roadway by a raised curb in a residential neighborhood.

During an inspection conducted by staff in 2024, the bridge appears to be sagging downward. Based on FDOT inspections conducted on nearby bridges, the current average daily traffic (ADT) is 8,800. The projected 2043 ADT is 15,268 with 4% ADT being trucks. This bridge is in the FEMA flood zone AE and is not subjected to severe wave action.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

1. In the event of a storm the bridge will be able to sustain the rigorous wind of a category 5 hurricane, therefore the community will not be isolated if the bridge was damaged or demolished.
2. Because of sea level rise the bridge will fulfill the requirement of a 100-year storm, not flood, and give the residents a point of egress and ingress.
3. The bridge aligns with the City's strategic goal to build a multi-modal and pedestrian friendly community by providing transit for vehicles, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic.

Local Match | \$1,908,000

Points of Contact

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Breakers Avenue Streetscape Improvements | \$5,000,000

Project Description/Summary

Breakers Avenue lies at the center of the North Beach district in Fort Lauderdale. The North Beach district is blossoming and can become a more desirable destination for tourists and locals alike. The project will create an iconic corridor that not only provides mobility but is also a safe, accessible, attractive, climate-resilient public space serving neighbors and visitors in the City. Proposed improvements include streetscape elements such as pedestrian lighting, trees, landscape, shared used street design, and underground water and sewer utility upgrades.

Background

With the reinvigoration and personalization of Breakers Avenue's street design, it can not only increase the desirability of the North Beach District but also return breath life back into its artistic community. The new design of Breakers Avenue will keep tourism, history, and the arts in mind to design a street that improves the existing transportation and infrastructure. The goal of the project is to make Breakers Avenue comfortable, connected, safe, and a memorable destination experience. Breakers Avenue will become a complete street that reduces the excess pavement, formalizes the seating and gathering spaces, and creates event spaces with the use of street trees, varied seating options, a unified material design, and a pedestrian friendly approach. The project team reviewed a series of documents and studies completed in the past and has performed extensive public outreach to develop a better understanding planning context and stakeholders' vision for Breakers Avenue. Breakers Avenue was conceptualized in a variety of ways that balanced the desire for parking, public gathering space, future flexibility, and the pedestrian experience.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

Outcomes include improving pedestrian and bicycle safety, promoting recreational and personal use, mitigating vehicle traffic, and better connect City destinations. Specific project scope that includes the reconstruction of existing elements will create a safer experience for pedestrians and motorists. Some of the benefits include the enhanced pedestrian facilities – wider sidewalks and seating areas – could generate more pedestrian activity in the area. With more pedestrian activity, including seated in the seating areas and walking on the wider sidewalks, drivers are more likely to travel at lower speeds. The curb radii at the cross streets are being reduced, as well. Smaller radii require motorists to travel at a lower speed while turning; therefore, this design feature will encourage drivers to further slow down while turning to and from Breakers Avenue.

In addition, raised curbs are provided at intervals along the otherwise curb-less street. Landscaping behind these curbs will create a visually narrowing effect to motorists. Mature trees are being added to the streetscape to further provide a sense of enclosure. Since the overall width of the street is narrower, and since the landscaping will create the illusion of narrowness, drivers will be encouraged to drive at slower speeds.

Local Match | \$2,900,000

Points of Contact

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Carter Park Community Center | \$5,000,000

Project Description/Summary

The Carter Park community center serves as an essential facility for the local community and this project will address the need for a new community center/primary emergency response center for first responders and essential city staff, pool renovations, concession/press box renovations, synthetic turf replacement, ADA improvements and other amenity upgrades on site. This community center will not only act as a central point for the community, but also as a shelter during natural disasters for those who need to evacuate their homes.

Background

To address the needs of a growing community and enhance resilience during natural disasters such as hurricanes or significant rainfall events, the City of Fort Lauderdale has prioritized the modernization of critical facilities as part of its emergency management strategy. Among these is the Carter Park Resiliency Hub, a 35,931-square-foot facility, which services the community with a recreation center, gymnasium, and social space, Carter Park plays a pivotal role in supporting residents.

This project proposes the demolition of outdated structures to make way for a state-of-the-art, storm-hardened facility designed to serve dual purposes: as a modern community center during fair weather and as a primary emergency shelter for first responders and essential city staff during crises. Post-disaster, the facility will transform into a recovery hub, providing critical services to the community during its time of greatest need. In non-emergency times, the center will serve as a vibrant gathering space, hosting childcare services, community meetings, and organized events, fostering a sense of unity and support within the neighborhood.

Carter Park is in an IRA-designated Disadvantaged Community where 75% of residents are considered low-income, with a per capita income of \$14,420. This community is predominantly composed of people of color (97%), with 18% unemployment, 23% of residents lacking a high school education, and 23% of individuals reporting disabilities. For this underserved population, the accessibility of the Carter Park Resiliency Hub and the critical services it provides will be a lifeline, addressing systemic inequities while ensuring public safety and community resilience. This investment represents a profound opportunity to enhance public safety, bolster disaster preparedness, and provide a vital community resource for one of the city's most vulnerable populations.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

The benefits to the target population include:

1. **Public Safety and Resilience:** The improved facility will function as an emergency shelter and post-disaster recovery center, ensuring the safety of residents during crises. State funding ensures that this critical infrastructure is built to withstand natural disasters, directly protecting the lives and well-being of this vulnerable community.
2. **Enhanced Recreational Access:** Carter Park is the only public park in Fort Lauderdale with a surfaced running track and specialized field sports facilities, making it a unique and essential resource. These amenities promote physical health and wellness for residents of all ages and abilities.
3. **Expanded Programming and Events:** State funds will support significant upgrades that enhance existing programs, such as fitness classes, after-school programs, summer camps, and holiday events, and create new opportunities for community engagement and enrichment.
4. **Equity in Public Amenities:** For a community that is predominantly people of color (97%), has a high unemployment rate (18%), and reports substantial rates of disability (23%), this project represents a step toward addressing systemic inequities in access to public facilities and services.

State investment in Carter Park will not only transform the facility into a resilient community hub but also foster health, safety, and economic development for a historically underserved population, ensuring lasting benefits for generations to come.

Local Match | \$1,000,000

Points of Contact

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Education Enrichment Program | \$500,000

Project Description/Summary

This program will continue to enrich the summer program hosted by the City and promote learning continuity through expanded academic services in the City's after school program, which has contributed to closing the learning gap children have experienced. The project intends to build on the success of the City's ongoing summer academic program and to expand services including after school enrichment, workforce exploration and citizenship development with mentors from various departments in the City including Human Resources, Police, and Fire, and in partnership with the YMCA and Career Source Broward.

Background

The City of Fort Lauderdale's Education Enrichment Program promotes academic achievement, workforce readiness and citizenship development for over 1,500 low-income children and youth, ages 5 to 18. Certified teachers deliver career-aligned academic enrichment and tutoring through after school and summer programs, using evidence-based curriculum and reliable progress monitoring tools.

Specifically, the City's Parks and Recreation Department supports students during the summer when schools are closed to supplement career and college readiness training and civic education through a workshop series. Additionally, the program expands work-based learning opportunities by offering 30 paid summer internships for eligible high school students. The 2024 student assistance initiatives data shows 896 elementary students accessed 7,512 skills in reading, math, and language arts via Edmentum. 5,572 skills were mastered with a 74.2% mastery rate. The program reached its goal of over 85% of the targeted 1,000 student population with 996 students participating.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

The program goals are to improve academic performance in reading and math as evidenced by pre- and post- test performance measures conducted during the program. Another outcome is to promote workforce readiness and increase civic engagement among low-income children and youth, ages 5 to 18, by providing paid work experiences and workforce readiness training.

Local Match | \$300,000

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Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue Special Events Ambulances | \$320,000

Project Description/Summary

Currently Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue utilizes three reserve medical rescue units to staff special events which are held within the City of Fort Lauderdale. The units have exceeded their life expectancy and have become unreliable with mechanical issues. The four new Special Events Ambulances will correct this issue and allow Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue to adequately provide emergency services to the City during special events.

Background

Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue is responsible for providing emergency medical services during large community gatherings / special events. The requests for service for special events have increased year after year. In 2018 Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue provided service for 152 special event details. This year the department will provide service to 295 special event details.

A few of the high-profile events held within the City are Tortuga Music Festival, The Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, Inter Miami Football Club matches, Fort Lauderdale Air Show and most notably Spring Break Fort Lauderdale which runs the entire month of March and into April. Soon the Florida Panthers of the National Hockey League (NHL) will be opening a practice facility in Fort Lauderdale which will host large events and add to the ever-growing annual list for services. Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue cannot adequately staff the special events with on duty personnel and requires additional staffing and vehicles achieved through the Special Events program.

Over the years Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue has responded to countless cardiac, respiratory, and traumatic injuries at special events. There have also been several high-profile incidents where crews had to spring into action during special events. In 2004 a plane plunged into the Atlantic Ocean during practice flights for the Fort Lauderdale Air Show. Stuntman Travis Pastrana suffered multiple traumatic injuries following a parachute stunt gone wrong in downtown Fort Lauderdale, a patron attending the Tortuga Music Festival suffered a cardiac arrest and was fully resuscitated by Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue Special Event Paramedics, the patron made a full recovery.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

The role of emergency medical services (EMS) during special events is critical for the safety and security of the participants. Having emergency medical personnel available to respond quickly and efficiently to emergency situations can be the difference between life and death. The benefit of having four fully dedicated Special Events Ambulances will allow for EMS to be onsite and available when an incident occurs during a special event.

Local Match | \$100,000

Points of Contact

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Fort Lauderdale Growth Opportunities Program | \$2,000,000

Project Description/Summary

This program will prepare justice-involved youth and young adults for employment through education and training, paid work experiences/apprenticeships, mentorship, and leadership development, and contribute to community violence intervention among youth and young adults.

Background

This program supports FTL's Good Jobs Great Cities Initiative to support and create a pipeline of candidates for employment in Public Works. 15 - 18-year-old second chance students would be identified for this opportunity in cooperation with Whiddon Rogers Educational Center and Atlantic Technical College in Broward County Public Schools to provide education/training in violence prevention and Public Works curriculum. The Department of Public Works will provide mentorship, apprenticeship, and relevant work experience.

Benefits/Expected Outcomes

The benefits of this program include empowering justice-involved youth and young adults by providing them with valuable education, training, and hands-on work experience in the Public Works sector. Through mentorship and leadership development, participants will gain essential skills for successful careers, while contributing to community violence intervention. The program also supports the city's Good Jobs Great Cities Initiative, creating a pipeline for future employment in Public Works. This collaboration with local educational centers ensures that these young individuals are well-prepared for future workforce opportunities.

The funding will be spent in FY 2025 for staffing, administration, software, materials, supplies, mentor training, transportation, internships, coursework, and licensing.

Local Match | \$500,000

Points of Contact

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Ashley Dixon, Policy Analyst | Adixon@fortlauderdale.gov | 954-828-5130

Galt Mile Street Safety Improvements | \$2,500,000

Project Description/Summary

The project will mill and resurface the existing 28-year-old pavement, install wider sidewalks, and install landscape enhancements for nearly 1.5 miles of the Galt Mile Streetscape. Additionally, the project will upgrade pedestrian lighting, refresh pavement markings, and add new regulatory signage. These comprehensive improvements will enhance the functionality and safety of the area for residents and visitors alike.

Background

The Galt Ocean Drive was last rehabilitated in 1996. The current street surface is worn, sidewalks discolored, and the pavement striping has significantly faded, resulting in the request to make necessary safety enhancements. Proposed improvements include new roadway surfacing, upgraded public safety measures at intersections, multimodal upgrades such as wider sidewalks and dedicated bike lanes, enhanced pedestrian lighting, and improved landscaping. These essential enhancements will not only revitalize the appearance and functionality of Galt Mile but also significantly improve the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

This project is designed to significantly enhance both pedestrian and vehicular safety through upgraded lighting, improved signage, and the introduction of traffic-calming measures. By addressing these key safety concerns, the project will create a safer, more navigable environment for residents and visitors alike. Additionally, the project will enhance the neighborhood's walkability by incorporating wider sidewalks and dedicated bike lanes. These improvements will not only encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation, such as walking and cycling, but will also help reduce vehicular traffic, leading to less congestion and a more sustainable community. By promoting active transportation and creating a more pedestrian-friendly environment, the enhancements will contribute to a healthier, more vibrant neighborhood by decreasing vehicle emissions which improves the overall quality of life for Galt residents and visitors. The improvements align with broader city initiatives to foster sustainability, reduce carbon emissions, and support multimodal transportation options for the community.

Local Match | \$2,500,000

Points of Contact

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Homeless Transitional Housing Program | \$2,250,000

Project Description/Summary

The City of Fort Lauderdale and United Way of Broward County intend to establish a transitional shelter facility to serve as an initial housing opportunity for those experiencing street homelessness. The transitional shelter model provides short- to medium-term accommodation for people in need, with the goal of creating stability and reducing the barriers to obtaining permanent housing.

Residents in the new facility will receive not only shelter but also intensive supportive services, administered by United Way of Broward County, such as case management, mental health resources, job placement assistance, substance use treatment and financial counseling. By addressing multiple facets of well-being, the initiative aims to help residents transition more smoothly into permanent housing and achieve self-sufficiency. The goal of this model and collaboration with the City of Fort Lauderdale and the United Way of Broward County is to improve the quality of life for individuals while a permanent housing solution can be assessed.

Background

Broward County, like many urban regions across the United States, is grappling with a complex and multifaceted homelessness crisis. In 2023, the county reported 2,487 individuals experiencing homelessness, with a striking 48% concentrated within the City of Fort Lauderdale. This disproportionate distribution underscores the unique challenges faced by the county's largest city in addressing this pressing issue.

The roots of Broward County's homelessness problem are deeply intertwined with broader socioeconomic trends. A severe housing shortage, exacerbated by skyrocketing rental costs and inflationary pressures, has created a perfect storm of housing insecurity. This situation is further complicated by an influx of new residents, drawn by the region's appeal, which has intensified competition for limited affordable housing options. Consequently, low-income families and individuals find themselves increasingly priced out of the market, teetering on the brink of homelessness.

Fort Lauderdale's position as the epicenter of the county's homeless population can be attributed to several factors. The city hosts a concentration of homeless service providers, making it a natural gathering point for those seeking assistance. Additionally, the presence of key facilities such as the county jail, the main bus and transit terminal, and the primary hospital serving homeless individuals all contribute to the influx of unsheltered persons into the downtown area. These institutions, while essential, inadvertently funnel vulnerable populations into the heart of the city.

The homeless population in Broward County is not static but rather in a state of flux, influenced by both regional and local dynamics. Migration from other states, driven by economic downturns, natural disasters, or the pursuit of opportunities, contributes to the growing numbers. Locally, factors such as evictions, job losses, and family breakdowns continue to displace residents, pushing many into homelessness. Fort Lauderdale, as the county's economic and social hub, often becomes the default destination for those displaced from surrounding areas, further concentrating the issue within its boundaries.

Addressing this complex challenge requires a multifaceted approach and collaboration, with transitional housing emerging as a crucial stepping-stone between homelessness and permanent housing. The success of such programs hinges on partnerships with experienced agencies capable of providing comprehensive case management and wrap-around services. These services are particularly vital for chronically homeless individuals who may be grappling with minor mental health issues, substance abuse problems, or other health concerns. The United Way of Broward County has a strong history of success serving veterans on the streets.

The proposed transitional housing program represents a beacon of hope in tackling Broward County's homelessness crisis. By focusing on the chronically homeless population and addressing their specific needs through tailored support and services, this initiative has the potential to make significant inroads in reducing street homelessness. Moreover, it offers a pathway to stability and self-sufficiency for some of the community's most vulnerable members.

As Broward County and Fort Lauderdale, in collaboration with United Way of Broward County, continue to navigate this challenging landscape, the implementation of such targeted programs, coupled with broader efforts to increase affordable housing stock and address the root causes of homelessness, will be crucial in creating lasting, positive change for the community and its residents.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

The funds will help leverage existing funds the City has received to create a homeless transitional shelter program. State funds will allow the purchase of transitional housing capacity to serve the large population of individuals and families experiencing homelessness to ensure the City has options to treat persons experiencing homeless with dignity and respect while complying with the new statute that addresses unauthorized camping or sleeping on public property.

Local Match | \$750,000

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Las Olas Mobility Project – Shops Segment | \$5,000,000

Project Description/Summary

The Las Olas Mobility Project aims to create a complete street that allows the iconic roadway to provide residents and visitors with a "Main Street" experience while also operating as a regionally significant corridor for commuters and balancing the needs of all the users. This new project supports the City's Vision Zero Plan to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries by enhancing pedestrian safety and improving ADA facilities. Once constructed, the city will realize its vision of developing an active, unique, world-class live, work, and play-friendly streetscape.

Background

In 2017, a unified effort was launched to evaluate the transportation, landscaping, planning and urban design needs of the Las Olas Boulevard corridor from Andrews Avenue to SR A1A. The effort included extensive stakeholder participation by the Las Olas Working Group established that included residents, business owners and property owners along the entire corridor. Two district commissioners, Vice Mayor Steve Glassman and Commissioner Ben Sorensen led this effort. The efforts of the Working Group included hearing presentations from the various stakeholders on their concerns and providing comments on the issues and reviews of the vision through a process that aimed to build consensus on the future of a world-class corridor over a 2.5-year timeframe from September 2018 to June 2021.

Downtown Fort Lauderdale has a \$30 Billion annual economic impact on this region, equal to hosting a Super Bowl every weekend. Downtown is a hub for technology, banking, real estate development, and services that fuel the economic impact of the Greater Fort Lauderdale area and it is a home to many businesses and organizations which employ 65,000+ people.

Las Olas Boulevard is the centerpiece of the City's tourism industry, business district, and cultural identity. The Las Olas Boulevard Project supports the City's efforts to promote a space where people live, work, and play. This is accomplished through responsible urban planning to incorporate complete streets concepts, reduce multimodal conflict, and promote mixed-use development, all efforts which were desired by those affected impacted by this project. This project creates a complete street, improves safety, and balances the needs for all users while promoting economic vitality.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

Funding will assist the city to upgrade existing outdated facilities, improve accommodations for pedestrians and associated streetscape improvements and create a place where people want to visit, further boosting local, regional, and state economy.

Local Match | \$1 million

Points of Contact

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LauderTrail Infrastructure Project – Phase 1 | \$3,000,000

Project Description/Summary

The proposed streetscape improvement project aims to revitalize a small business district at the intersection of State Road A1A and State Road 838 (Sunrise Boulevard), encompassing Sunrise Lane, Breakers Avenue, and NE 9th Street. This initiative seeks to address current safety concerns and economic challenges while enhancing the area's appeal and functionality. Key elements of the proposed improvements include enhanced lighting for improved safety, widened sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian traffic, additional landscaping to enhance aesthetics, traffic calming measures, entryway features to attract visitors, new crosswalks for pedestrian safety, mural installations for visual interest, and decorative pavement features.

The project's primary objectives are twofold: to create a more inviting environment that supports existing businesses and attracts new ones, and to draw visitors to the district, capitalizing on its proximity to SR A1A. By addressing the current challenges of inadequate lighting and vacant storefronts, the project aims to transform the district into a vibrant, safe, and economically thriving area that serves both residents and tourists. Ultimately, these improvements will benefit the adjacent residential condominiums and anchor hotel while creating a more appealing destination for visitors.

Background

LauderTrail is a City Commission-led initiative that resulted from the May 2018 Annual Action Plan meeting. The City Commission classified the bicycle and pedestrian trail effort as a high priority, and initiated the LauderTrail Working Group whose sole purpose was to create the core route for a city trail system. The task was to establish and guide the early development of LauderTrail over the course of a two-year term. In 2019, LauderTrail was classified as a top priority by the City Commission. In August 2020, the Working Group sunset and the City Commission assigned two of its Commissioners to assist with leading the public-facing trail efforts during the pandemic. Public meetings were held to share concerns and ideas with the community for several months, and the directive to create a city-wide trail system was erected from those meetings. In November 2020, the City selected the PATH Foundation, to complete the Master Plan which memorialized the existing conditions of Fort Lauderdale's multi-modal network and provided recommendations to create a city-wide trail system.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

Families enjoying the outdoors, pedestrians and bicyclists want to feel safe and enjoy their social experience. Laudertrail proposes to construct a quality multi-use infrastructure means of transportation that is low-stress and separates motorized and nonmotorized modes of transit. According to the Center for Sustainable, Healthy, Equitable Communities, 80% of an individual's health is determined by their behaviors and the social and environmental conditions in which they live, work, and play. The LauderTrail system will connect neighborhoods and destinations which will assist with improving overall health and well-being, mobility, life expectancy and economic stimulation through promoting more neighbors and visitors to mobilize locally, without the need for vehicular transport.

Local Match | \$3,524,267

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Roadway Resurfacing Project | \$750,000

Project Description/Summary

Funding will be used to improve roadways with asphalt overlay and/or milling and resurfacing to restore pavement for streets with a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 55 and below. According to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, PCI provides a snapshot of the pavement health of a road. It is measured on a scale of 0 to 100 (where 100 means a newly paved road). The PCI score is affected by several factors, such as pavement age, climate and precipitation, traffic loads and maintenance. Roadways with a PCI of 55 and below are in poor condition. This project will improve the condition of roadways throughout the City within the City right of way.

Background

This project is for roadway asphalt overlay and/or milling and resurfacing to improve streets affected by utility work, and for those streets with a PCI score of 55 and below. The City of Fort Lauderdale has approximately 564 miles of roadway within City jurisdiction. The purpose of this project is to maintain and improve streets affected by uneven and bumpy pavement, irregularities like ruts, potholes, or multiple utility repairs, and any other damage that compromises the pavement.

According to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, PCI provides a snapshot of the pavement health of a road. It is measured on a scale of 0 to 100 (where 100 means a newly paved road). The PCI score is affected by several factors, such as pavement age, climate and precipitation, traffic loads and maintenance. Roadways with a PCI of 55 and below are in poor condition. This project will improve the condition of roadways throughout the City within the City right of way.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

The resurfacing project positively impacts the community by improving the condition of the traffic lanes and public spaces, boosting property values, creating jobs during construction, enhancing safety, promoting outdoor activity, and fostering a sense of pride and community identity within the area.

Local Match | \$750,000

Points of Contact

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Sidewalk Repair Safety Project | \$750,000

Project Description/Summary

The City is seeking funding to construct or reconstruct existing sidewalks within the City's right-of-way to enhance public safety. Reconstruction will also improve mobility and compliance with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) standards.

Background

This project will be for the construction and reconstruction of existing sidewalks within the City's right-of-way. The City has approximately 420 miles of sidewalk with a consistent need for maintenance and improvements. The City prioritizes providing safe and accessible sidewalks that comply with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards. This project allows the City to repair and maintain concrete sidewalks and amenities, including pavers and edge beams.

The sidewalk deficiencies to be addressed, with this project, range from cracked concrete sidewalks to differential settlement, which present significant public safety issues. In June 2020, the City Commission approved the sidewalk repair ordinance whereby the City assumed responsibility for the repair and replacement of sidewalks, except when determined that the abutting property owner had damaged the sidewalk. The revised ordinance has led to a significant increase in the number of requests for sidewalk repairs from the community and the city is currently striving to meet the demand, timely.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

The benefits of this project include enhanced public safety while improving mobility for all residents. The reconstruction of sidewalks will ensure compliance with ADA standards, making pathways more accessible for individuals with disabilities. This initiative will repair 2.2 miles of sidewalk. With the City assuming responsibility for repairs, this project aligns with the increased community demand for safe, well-maintained sidewalks.

Local Match | \$750,000

Points of Contact

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SE 13th Street Bridge Replacement | \$3,100,000

Project Description/Summary

According to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the SE 13th bridge needs replacement. It has a sufficiency rating of 22.2, is identified as scour critical, and is classified as functionally obsolete. The T-beams contain cracks, spalls, and delamination. To address these detrimental issues, the most cost-effective way for taxpayers is to execute a complete replacement. This will ensure the safety of all users.

Background

This project is for the replacement of the SE 13th Street bridge. The bridge is a 180.5 foot long, nine (9) span, reinforced concrete double T-beam bridge constructed in 1952. The bridge has a roadway width of 21 feet and carries two (2) lanes of traffic in a residential neighborhood. There is a 2.5-foot-wide sidewalk on the south side of the bridge. This bridge serves as the only entry point for residents east of the bridge. Based on our 2023 bridge inspection report from FDOT, the current average daily traffic (ADT) is 1,440. The projected 2042 ADT is 1,728 with 3% ADT being trucks. The estimated lifespan of the bridge is 75 years after replacement. Currently the bridge has a sufficiency rating of 22.2.

Bridge replacement is highly favored over repair for any bridge with a sufficiency rating below 50. This bridge is in the FEMA flood zone AE and is not subjected to severe wave action.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

The expected outcome for a full bridge replacement is evident:

1. In the event of a storm the bridge will be able to sustain the rigorous wind of a category 5 hurricane, therefore the community will not be isolated if the bridge is damaged or demolished.
2. Because of sea level rise the bridge will fulfill the requirement of a 100-year storm, not flood, and give the residents the only point of egress and ingress.
3. The bridge will contribute to the City's strategic goal to build a multi-modal and pedestrian friendly community by providing transit for vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic.

Local Match | \$500,000

Points of Contact

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Sunrise Lane District Streetscape Improvements | \$1,750,000

Project Description/Summary

The proposed streetscape improvement project aims to revitalize a small business district at the intersection of State Road A1A and State Road 838 (Sunrise Boulevard), encompassing Sunrise Lane, Breakers Avenue, and NE 9th Street. This initiative seeks to address current safety concerns and economic challenges while enhancing the area's appeal and functionality. Key elements of the proposed improvements include enhanced lighting for improved safety, widened sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian traffic, additional landscaping to enhance aesthetics, traffic calming measures, entryway features to attract visitors, new crosswalks for pedestrian safety, mural installations for visual interest, and decorative pavement features. The project's primary objectives are twofold: to create a more inviting environment that supports existing businesses and attracts new ones, and to draw visitors to the district, capitalizing on its proximity to SR A1A. By addressing the current challenges of inadequate lighting and vacant storefronts, the project aims to transform the district into a vibrant, safe, and economically thriving area that serves both residents and tourists. Ultimately, these improvements will benefit the adjacent residential condominiums and anchor hotel while creating a more appealing destination for visitors.

Background

The Sunrise Lane District, situated between State Road A1A and mixed-density residential areas, is poised for a remarkable transformation. The City has allocated funds for a comprehensive community engagement process, culminating in the development of preferred alternatives for streetscape improvements. This initiative encompasses a series of public meetings, fostering collaborative design and selection of optimal solutions.

The district's current perception, characterized by terms such as "seedy" and "decrepit," is set to evolve into a vibrant, inviting, and safe environment. The envisioned metamorphosis includes enhanced illumination with decorative and string lighting; distinctive entryway signage; aesthetic improvements to the Sonesta Hotel's exterior; increased urban canopy through additional street trees; expanded pedestrian walkways; and attraction of local-serving businesses, such as grocers and cafes. Sunrise Lane's strategic location near the beach, residential areas, and hospitality establishments positions it as a potential catalyst for local economic growth. Stakeholders have prudently opted for a pragmatic approach, prioritizing achievable, near-term improvements while laying the groundwork for more ambitious future developments, including the possibility of a pedestrian-shared street. This judicious strategy aims to expedite tangible progress while preserving flexibility to pursue more transformative options as circumstances permit.

Benefits/Expected Outcome

The proposed enhancements will catalyze the transformation of Sunrise Lane Village into a vibrant commercial hub, yielding multifaceted benefits for stakeholders, visitors, and residents alike. This revitalization is projected to augment property values and bolster both sales and tourism tax revenues. Such outcomes are consistent with empirical evidence from comparable streetscape initiatives, notably the successful redevelopment of NE 13th Street within the city, which implemented similar complete streets principles.

Local Match | \$220,800

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Violence Interruption Pilot Program | \$1,200,000

Project Description/Summary

Funding is being requested to implement a comprehensive pilot program aimed at addressing violent crime in Fort Lauderdale through evidence-based approaches. This initiative is a focused-deterrence group violence reduction strategy designed to control/reduce gun violence through the identification and analysis of crime problems, leveraging data-driven strategies to enhance public safety.

Background

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) seeks funding for a Violence Interruption Pilot Program to address rising violent crime, particularly gun-related incidents. Homicides in Fort Lauderdale doubled between 2022 and 2023, aggravated assaults and batteries increased by 15%, and robberies rose by 25%, with the city's crime rate significantly exceeding the state average. While overall violent crime shows slight improvement, gun violence continues to escalate, necessitating urgent action.

Building existing tools like ShotSpotter and the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN), the proposed program will use data-driven strategies to identify high-risk individuals and trends, foster partnerships with agencies such as the ATF and FBI and implement evidence-based methods like focused deterrence and hot spot policing. Additional measures include exploring civil citations for low-level offenses and enhancing community engagement to build trust.

Drawing on proven approaches from past collaborations with the Department of Juvenile Justice, this initiative targets the root causes of violence and offers alternatives for at-risk individuals, aiming to reduce crime and improve public safety in Fort Lauderdale.

Benefits/Expected Outcomes

After a certain period, we expect to see a reduction in gun violence; continued reduction in violent crime; decrease in felons possessing illegal firearms; reduction in offender recidivism; improved quality of life for program participants; improved the public's perception of neighborhood safety; and strengthened relationships between law enforcement and the community.

Local Match | \$800,000

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 **FORT LAUDERDALE**

The City You Never Want to Leave

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