



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#26-0030

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: January 20, 2026

TITLE: Motion Approving a Service Agreement with Ernesto Maranje Related to the
Installation of a Mural to be Applied to the Holiday Park Activity Center
(**Commission District 2**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a service agreement with Ernesto Maranje for the installation of a new mural to be applied to the Holiday Park Activity Center.

Background

The City of Fort Lauderdale, through its Public Art & Placemaking Program, is commissioning a new exterior mural at Holiday Park to enhance the visual character of this highly active civic and recreational destination. The mural was commissioned at the request of the City to replace an existing mural on the Holiday Park Activity Center that has reached the end of its useful life. The current artwork has experienced significant fading due to prolonged sun exposure, and the painted surface has begun to crack and chip because of age and environmental wear. These conditions have diminished the visual quality of the facility and are no longer consistent with the City's standards for maintained public art assets.

The new mural will provide a refreshed, durable, and visually engaging treatment for the Activity Center exterior, reinforcing Holiday Park's role as a welcoming and well-maintained community destination while ensuring the long-term enhancement of this prominent public-facing structure. At the April 15, 2024, Public Art and Placemaking Advisory Board (PAPAB) meeting, the Board unanimously selected Ernesto Maranje as the artist for the Holiday Park Activity Center Mural project (Exhibit 4).

Ernesto Maranje is a nationally and internationally recognized muralist whose work explores the relationship between people, flora, and fauna. Selected Murals & Public Art Commissions, Exhibit 1, includes a comprehensive list of projects, illustrations, awards, and gallery and museum exhibitions done by Maranje. Maranje resides in Sunrise, Florida, and has completed large-scale public art projects throughout the United States and abroad, including projects in Europe and the Middle East.

The currently untitled proposed design features a young girl surrounded by South Florida native wildlife and plant life, including a blue jay, red-bellied woodpecker, mourning dove, purple aster, blue-eyed grass, and palms. The Design Concept Proposal is attached as Exhibit 2. The artwork incorporates Maranje's signature whimsical, organic style and is intended to celebrate nature, inspire park visitors, and create a vibrant, family-friendly focal point for the community.

The Service Agreement (Agreement), Exhibit 3, will allow the City to enter a contract with Maranje for the design and fabrication of the mural at Holiday Park. The Agreement includes all labor, materials, and installation services. As outlined in the Service Agreement, the total project cost is \$35,000, inclusive of concept development, painting, equipment rental, protective varnish, and final completion.

Upon approval by the City Commission, the Artist will proceed with final design confirmation and on-site installation, which is expected to take approximately one (1) month, weather permitting.

This project is funded through the City's Parks and Recreation Department and will be managed through the City's Community Services Department.

Resource Impact

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$35,000 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 in the account listed below.

Funds available as of December 8, 2025					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	PURCHASE AMOUNT
10-001-6023-572-30-3203	Youth Programs, Afterschool & Camps	Services/Materials/ Artistic Services	\$1,632,123	\$1,368,164	\$35,000
PURCHASE TOTAL ►					\$35,000

Strategic Connections

This item is a 2026 *Commission Priority*, advancing Public Spaces and Cultural Initiatives.

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

- The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Focus Area
- The Public Art in Parks Element

- Goal 2: Be a community with high quality parks and recreational facilities that highlight the character of our City.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Selected Murals & Public Art Commissions

Exhibit 2 – Design Concept Proposal

Exhibit 3 – Service Agreement for Holiday Park Mural

Exhibit 4 – April 15, 2024, PAPAB Meeting Minutes

Prepared by: Joshua Carden, Cultural Affairs Officer, Community Services Department

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