



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

**#17-0294**

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

**FROM:** Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** August 22, 2017

**TITLE:** Resolution to Approve Modification of SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street to Allow Only One  
Westbound Vehicle Lane between SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and South Andrews  
Avenue

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission approve modification of the street to allow only one westbound vehicle lane along SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street between SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and S. Andrews Avenue (Exhibit 1).

**Background**

A working group made up of representatives from the 110 Tower, Broward County, the Downtown Development Authority, and the City was formed with the purpose of coming together to discuss the future vision for SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street between SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and S. Andrews Avenue. In 2011, the vision was articulated with goals that included making the area more pedestrian friendly, redefining the streetscape to better represent the character of the district, integrating multimodal transportation, and creating opportunity for community activities such as a farmers market. The working group's longer-term recommendation is to reconfigure the roadway to accommodate the Wave Streetcar, extend the sidewalk, and provide a raised plaza crossing.

A Community Investment Plan (CIP) project was approved to fund the design and construction for the roadway reconfiguration starting in FY 2013. At the same time, the Wave Streetcar was going through its design process. The streetcar was initially planned to run westbound along SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street and eastbound on SE 7<sup>th</sup> Street. After reviewing the right-of-way constraints and the operational challenges on SE 7<sup>th</sup> Street, the streetcar alignment was modified and both eastbound and westbound operation was moved to SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street. A recommendation was made to close SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street to general vehicle traffic. The proposed section would remain accessible to maintenance vehicles, emergency vehicles, the streetcar (transit), pedestrians, and bicyclists.

Meetings were then held with City representatives and Broward County, including the Broward County Administrator's Office, Broward Sheriff's Office, and representatives for the County Courthouse. In addition, meetings were held with property owners of 524

S. Andrews Avenue (“Blackhawk Properties”) on the northeast corner of Andrews Avenue and SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street as well as 216 SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street (Fort Lauderdale Land LLC) located just west of the Brooklyn Water Bagel Company on the south side of SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

To try and understand the potential impacts to the roadway network, a traffic study was conducted. The study looked at the option of restricting access to private vehicles and also the option of leaving one westbound lane open. The study analyzed both existing and projected conditions based on traffic from the new courthouse parking garage and from planned development. The result of the study suggests leaving one lane open is the least impactful.

In light of the timing of the Wave Streetcar final design completion by the end of the calendar year, and the feedback received from the property owners about significant impacts to their property, staff recommends reconfiguring the road to leave one westbound lane open.

If approved, the new one westbound lane scenario will be put into place when the Wave Streetcar construction starts.

### **Resource Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action. Any signage or pavement markings that need to be installed will be covered either through the existing agreement with Broward County, the Wave Streetcar, or the CIP project.

### **Strategic Connections**

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 1: Be a pedestrian friendly, multi-modal city.
- Objective 3: Improve pedestrian, bicyclist, and vehicular safety.

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

### **Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – Location of Proposed Modification

Exhibit 2 – Resolution

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