



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

**#23-0450**

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

**FROM:** Greg Chavarria, City Manager

**DATE:** June 20, 2023

**TITLE:** Presentation on the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

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In June 2020, the City applied for a Small Matching Grant from the Florida Department of State's Division of Historical Resources to obtain funding to prepare the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan and was awarded \$50,000 for this effort which was accepted by the City Commission on August 17, 2021. Services of an external qualified professional, the Craig Group LLC, were procured to move forward with preparing the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan.

A community values survey was launched in February 2022 to engage community members in developing the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan. The purpose of this survey was to help better inform efforts in protecting Fort Lauderdale's historic assets. A set of 15 questions were asked touching on a number of historic preservation and resilience topics. The information solicited was specific to attitudes towards historic preservation, priorities for protecting historic resources, effective tools to promote preservation, interest in engaging in preservation efforts, and concerns for the impact of disasters on historic preservation.

Two additional public engagement events were conducted to provide background and educational information, including an overview of the survey results, and to collect additional feedback from the community. Staff posted signs in several locations with details on how to participate in the survey and the engagement events, reached out to community stakeholders, civic association presidents, and local preservation professionals through email, posted the information on the historic preservation website, and on the City's social media pages.

Follow-up interviews were conducted with key stakeholders which included representatives of neighborhood civic organizations, museums, and archaeology experts. Questions posed to those individuals pertained to their preservation priorities, the proposed goals, and possible actions. Ultimately a draft of goals, objectives, and action items was developed, and a second community survey was conducted to obtain feedback on the draft.

A final version of the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan, with a set list of goals, objectives, and action items, has been prepared and is intended to be utilized over the next five to ten years to guide the City's Historic Preservation Program. Action items are prioritized as either high, medium, or low to provide priority of order in which items are addressed.

To date, the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan has been shared with the Historic Preservation Board, the Planning and Zoning Board, and community groups. Staff is now providing the City Commission with an overview of this effort and obtain feedback on next steps.

Subsequently, staff will proceed with executing items outlined in the plan and is in the process of creating a method to track progress on all action items. Monitoring and evaluation of the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan will occur on an annual basis through the development of an annual report.

### **Resource Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

### **Strategic Connections**

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

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- The Historic Preservation Element
- Goal 1: The City shall prepare and adopt a long-term approach to historic preservation which identifies and evaluates the City's historic resources.

### **Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Presentation

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