



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

**#25-0634**

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

**FROM:** Rickelle Williams, City Manager

**DATE:** June 30, 2025

**TITLE:** Resolution Approving a Four-year Term Renewal of Use and Occupancy Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Temporary Lease of an Open Space Area on the West Side of Riverside Park to Serve as a Dog Recreational Area and Authorize the Execution of an Annual Use Agreement Compliance Form During the Term of the Agreement - **(Commission District 4)**

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**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the City Commission approve a four-year term Renewal of Use and Occupancy Agreement (Agreement) effective March 25, 2025, between the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), in substantially the form attached, authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute the Agreement, the Annual Use Agreement Compliance Form during the term of the Agreement, and all other documents necessary and incidental thereto. The Agreement leases the open space on the west side of Riverside Park to serve as a dog recreational area.

**Background**

On February 16, 2021, the City Commission adopted Resolution No. 21-31 supporting a dog recreational area located west of SW 20 Avenue between SW 2 Street and SW 4 Street. The resolution authorized the execution of a Use and Occupancy Agreement between the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the City of Fort Lauderdale (Exhibit 2, CAM #21-0142) for the City to lease the open space at no cost to the City. This agreement was entered into at the request of the Riverside Park Residents Association, and the area has been used as a park-like open space for the public purpose of a temporary dog recreational area during the initial four (4)-year lease term.

During the initial four (4)-year term, the City added fencing, benches, water fountains and trash cans to the dog recreational area. Parks and Recreation staff maintain the area through mowing and emptying the trash. No additional improvements are required as part of the renewal term.

FDOT intends to use roughly one acre as a staging area for an I-95 project. The project was originally scheduled to begin in 2025, however, it has been delayed until 2028 or

later. The Agreement (Exhibit 3) would renew the Use and Occupancy Agreement with FDOT for an additional four (4)-year term or until the FDOT I-95 project begins. The lease is contingent on the execution of an Annual Use Agreement Compliance Form (Exhibit 4) between the City and FDOT during the term of the Agreement.

While the Agreement continues to be at no charge, it is estimated that the cost to maintain the area is approximately \$12,000 annually. This includes \$9,000 in staffing expenditures and \$3,000 in equipment, fuel, and utilities costs.

### **Resource Impact**

There is an estimated Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 impact in the amount of \$3,000. Funds for this agreement are available in the FY 2025 budget in the accounts listed below. Future years' expenditures are contingent upon the approval and appropriation of annual budgets.

<i>Funds available as of June 9, 2025</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
10-001-6034-572-30-3999	General Parks Maintenance	Services/Materials / Other Supplies	\$10,013,263	\$948,095	\$3,000
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$3,000</b>

### **Strategic Connections**

This item is a FY 2025 Commission Priority, advancing the Public Spaces and Community Initiatives.

This item supports the 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 Place specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- The Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Area
- Goal 2: Be a community with high quality parks and recreational facilities that highlight the character of our city.

**Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – Location Map

Exhibit 2 – Use and Occupancy Agreement

Exhibit 3 – Renewal of Use and Occupancy Agreement

Exhibit 4 – Annual Use Agreement Compliance Form

Exhibit 5 – Resolution

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Prepared by: Carolyn Bean, Assistant to the Director, Parks and Recreation

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation