



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

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

**DATE:** December 18, 2012

**TITLE:** Public Hearing - Election of the Uniform Method of Collecting Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment for the Downtown Transit Circulator (Wave Streetcar) Project

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission conduct a public hearing and adopt a resolution of intent to use the Uniform Method of Collecting Non-ad Valorem Assessments for the Wave Streetcar project.

**Background**

The Wave is a 2.7 mile electric streetcar system that will serve as a local circulator in downtown Fort Lauderdale. It will have 10 solar powered stations and will feature real time information, informational kiosks displaying destinations/attractions in the downtown, as well as upcoming community events. There will be streetscape improvements around the stations, to include pedestrian crosswalks, shade trees, lighting, and improved sidewalks. A traffic signalization package is also part of the Wave, which will help maintain headways 7.5 minutes during peak periods and 10 minutes during off peak periods.

On April 1, 2008 under resolution 08-71, the City Commission endorsed the Downtown Transit Circulator (Wave Streetcar) project. (Exhibit 1) It recommended a preferred route, identified the City's funding level and endorsed the Special Assessment process for additional funding.

The City is authorized to levy a non-ad valorem assessment for Wave by Section 170.201, Florida Statutes and intends to collect the assessment through the use of the uniform method of levy, collection and enforcement. Pursuant to Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, the City must adopt a resolution of intent to use the uniform method of collection for any assessment program in the calendar year prior to any such collection at public hearing. This must be done prior to January 1 of the year in which the assessment will be levied.

The resolution, which does not obligate the City to use the method or impose a special assessment, must be adopted by January 1, 2013 and sent to the Broward County Tax Collector, the Broward County Property Appraiser and the Florida Department of Revenue by January 10, 2013 in order for the agencies to have adequate notice that a special assessment may begin on October 1, 2013 (Exhibit 2). The actual details of the assessment will be back before the Commission for approval at a later date.

**Resource Impact**

There is no fiscal impact to the City at this time.

**Attachment(s)**

Exhibit 1 – Resolution 08-71

Exhibit 2 – Resolution of Intent

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Prepared by: Renee Cross, Senior Transportation Planner

Department Director: Diana Alarcon, Transportation and Mobility