



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

#24-0966

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

FROM: Susan Grant, Acting City Manager

DATE: October 1, 2024

TITLE: Process for Establishing an Emergency Medical Services (“EMS”) Special District – **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4)**

At the May 7, 2024 Conference Meeting, the Fire Rescue Advisory Board presented a Communication to the City Commission, offering five (5) recommendations for proactively expanding Fire Rescue services. Among the recommendations was a request to “consider an EMS taxing district to meet funding needs for Fire Rescue services as is being done in other municipalities.” Following the presentation, the City Commission directed staff to schedule a Commission workshop for further consideration.

In the interim, the City Attorney’s Office drafted a Commission memo providing the legal context (Exhibit 1). The Office of Management and Budget presented information on the process to establish a special district to the Budget Advisory Board on September 18, 2024.

Staff will provide a comprehensive overview regarding the establishment of a special taxing district in the City of Fort Lauderdale dedicated to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) services. This presentation will cover the various types of special taxing districts, the process and timeline for their establishment, and any key considerations involved in the process. Following the presentation, the Commission will have an opportunity to discuss and provide direction on whether this approach warrants further exploration.

Resource Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2025 Commission Priority, advancing the Public Safety initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Safety Focus Areas, Goal 1: Build a safe community that is proactive and responsive to risks.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Ready*.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Commission Memo 24-074 Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services (“EMS”) Special Districts

Exhibit 2 – Emergency Medical Services (“EMS”) Special Taxing District Presentation

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Charter Officer: Susan Grant, Acting City Manager