



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

**#22-0246**

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

**FROM:** Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** April 19, 2022

**TITLE:** Use of Glufosinate - (Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)

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Currently, the Parks and Recreation Department is no longer using Glyphosate (Roundup/Prosecutor) to assist with weed control in our landscape and hard surface areas throughout the city, mainly in landscape beds, sidewalks, and curbs. We are requesting the ability for city staff as well as our contracted landscape maintenance to begin using Glyphosate to control weed growth.

The Parks Department currently has 14 positions that possess a Certified Pesticide Applicator license, and we will also require all of our contracted landscape maintenance companies to have a certified applicator on their staff as well.

The Parks and Recreation Director contacted the other cities in Broward County, and of those that responded, ten are currently using Glyphosate and four are using Glufosinate Ammonium as an alternate. Glyphosate includes a precautionary statement of Caution on the label, while Glufosinate Ammonium has an elevated precautionary statement of Warning on its label.

The Parks and Recreation Department staff also states that Glyphosate lasts twice as long as Glufosinate Ammonium, so it is less labor intensive to apply and also cuts the need to handle these chemicals in half.

As it stands now with the current staffing level of the department as well as the inability for our contractors to use Glyphosate, we are unable to keep up with the weeds in the city, especially during the rainy season. Understanding one of the City Commissions top priorities is Parks and Public Places, we will be much better equipped to control the weed situation in the city with the ability to use Glyphosate.

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a *2022 Top Commission Priority*, advancing the Parks and Public Places initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- Goal 3: Build a healthy and engaging community
- Objective: Improve access to and enjoyment of our beach, waterways, parks, and open spaces for everyone.

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

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

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

### **Attachments**

Exhibit 1 - Glyphosate (Roundup/Prosecutor) Label

Exhibit 2 - Glufosinate Ammonium (Finale/Cheetah Pro) Label

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Department Director: Phil Thornburg, Parks and Recreation