



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

#22-0888

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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: September 22, 2022

TITLE: Public Hearing and Adoption of a Resolution Approving the Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board's Recommendation to Allocate Additional Funds in the Amount of \$1,087,500 to Finance Eight (8) Approved Parks Improvement Projects through the Parks and Recreation General Bonds' Land Acquisition Funds Assigned to District 4 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission conduct a public hearing and adopt a resolution approving the Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Advisory Board's recommendation to allocate additional funds in the amount of \$1,087,500 to finance eight (8) approved parks improvement projects through the Parks and Recreation General Bonds' Land Acquisition Funds Assigned to District 4, as provided in Resolution No. 18-261 and Resolution No. 20-08 (collectively referred to as "Parks Bonds").

Background

On March 12, 2019, a referendum passed authorizing the City to issue up to \$200,000,000 of general obligation bonds for the purpose of financing Parks and Recreation Projects. The first installment of \$80,000,000, Series 2020A Bonds, will fund the cost of development, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, installation, improvement and furnishing of certain Parks and Recreation Projects. The Parks and Recreation projects to be undertaken by the City and financed with proceeds of the first series of Bonds was approved by the City Commission by subsequent resolution (Resolution No. 20-08, January 7, 2020); provided, however, that prior to the City Commission's approval of a Parks and Recreation project that is not one of the four signature park projects (Joseph Carter Park, Holiday Park, Lockhart Stadium and Tunnel Top Park), such project shall have been reviewed by the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board (the "Advisory Board") and the Advisory Board shall have submitted its recommendation to the City Commission as to whether the project should or should not be undertaken and financed, in whole or in part, with proceeds of the Bonds.

The referendum resolution provided the following:

“In deciding whether to undertake and finance with proceeds of the Bonds a Parks and Recreation Project that is not one of the four signature park projects, the City Commission shall conduct a public hearing and consider, but shall not be obligated to follow, the recommendation of the Advisory Board with respect to such project.”

On January 26, 2022, City staff presented 12 Phase 2 parks projects to the Advisory Board. The first 11 school parks improvements were developed after extensive review from the school board and city staff. The final recommended plan for use of the park bond dollars on school board property was then presented and approved by the Education Advisory Board as well as the Advisory Board. The recommendation included the addition of the following locations not included in the Parks Bonds: Rock Island Elementary, Thurgood Marshall Elementary, Dillard 6-12, and Harbordale Elementary. The Advisory Board recommended approval of the following 12 schools/parks improvement projects to the City Commission, but with recommended reductions in funding for several projects:

School Projects:

1. North Fork Elementary School/Park
2. Sunrise Middle School/Park
3. Stranahan High School/Park
4. Stephen Foster Elementary School/Park
5. Westwood Heights Elementary School/Park
6. Rock Island Elementary School/Park
7. Thurgood Marshall Elementary School/Park
8. Dillard 6-12 School/Park
9. Harbordale Elementary School/Park
10. Virginia Shuman Young Elementary School/Park
11. Sheridan Technical High School/Sunset Park

Non-School Project:

12. George English Pickleball Courts

The City Commission conducted a Public Hearing on May 3, 2022, to consider the Advisory Board's recommendation. The Commission directed staff to bring each of the schools/parks improvement projects to the funding amount reflected in the Parks Bonds and fund the additional schools/parks improvement projects not included in the Parks Bonds, resulting in a funding gap in the amount of \$1,087,500, as illustrated by the "Additional Funds Allocation Spreadsheet" (Exhibit 5). The funding source identified to allocate an additional \$1,087,500 to finance the impacted eight (8) school/parks improvement projects in the adjusted amount approved by the City Commission was the Parks Bonds' land acquisition funds assigned to District 4.

On August 24, 2022, the Advisory Board unanimously approved the allocation of an additional \$1,087,500 to finance the approved eight (8) schools/parks improvement projects in the adjusted funding amounts approved by the City Commission through the

Parks Bonds' land acquisition funds assigned to District 4.

Resource Impact

Resource impact will be reflected on future CAMs approving the procurement of these projects.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2024* initiative, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- Goal 3: Build a healthy and engaging community
- Objective: Offer a diverse range of recreational and educational programming

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

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - Resolution No.18-261

Exhibit 2 - Resolution No. 20-08

Exhibit 3 - January 26, 2022 Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Exhibit 4 - August 24, 2022 Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board Meeting Draft Minutes

Exhibit 5 – Additional Funds Allocation Spreadsheet

Exhibit 6 - Resolution

Prepared by: Susan Grant, Director of Finance
Friseta Davis, Finance

Department Director: Susan Grant, Director of Finance