

Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc.

Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. was incorporated in 2021 by the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) as a 501(c)(3) (pending) nonprofit, community economic development corporation to proactively address the health and wellness, education, housing, jobs and economic development, and safety of the Northwest Sistrunk community of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The community is well known for its rich history, pride, and cohesiveness and is part of the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). The CRA fostered the creation of Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. since the potential sunseting of the CRA in 2025 will result in the need for an organizational entity to continue redevelopment activities.

The founding board of directors launched a strategic planning process in May 2022 to develop a goal-driven blueprint to purposefully improve the quality of life in the community, while increasing the capacity and sustainability of Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. As a result, the plan detailed mission, values, goals, objectives and strategies.

The mission of Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. is to reduce poverty, create jobs, provide for a sustainable living wage, support the development of affordable housing, support small business development, provide for economic development, and engage or undertake other activities which fosters a sustainable and viable community. In fulfilling its mission, Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. is committed to building a better future for the Northwest Sistrunk community through core values of competitiveness, vibrant community, people first, catalytic investment and activities, collaboration and innovation.

Over the next three years, Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. will seek to focus its efforts on four key priority areas. Each of these priorities are interconnected and mutually reinforcing and provide a strategic framework for goals, outcomes, and strategies.

- I. Strengthen the community.
- II. Expand economic vitality through business development and attraction.
- III. Create greater access to capital for wealth building and economic development.
- IV. Provide quality and affordable housing options.

Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. will be capitalized by payments from recent CRA

development projects that have received financial incentives. These projects will make an annual partial repayment to Invest Fort Lauderdale, Inc. In addition, residential projects that receive CRA incentive funding will also sublease their commercial space to Invest Fort Lauderdale at a discounted rent and in turn, the space will be leased to area entrepreneurs and enterprises.

Board of Directors

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Amanda Bartle
Nikki Austin-Shipp

Former Board members:

District IV City Commissioner Pamela Beasley-Pittman
Joshua Miller

CRA Manager

Clarence Woods

Consultant

James Carras, Carras Community Investment, Inc.

