CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo **#26-0152**
REGULAR MEETING

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: March 3, 2026

TITLE: Motion Approving Grant Application to the FY 2026 Florida Inland Navigation District Waterways Assistance Program - $97,700 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a motion authorizing the submission of a grant application under the FY 2026 Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterways Assistance Program.

Background

The Waterways Assistance Program provides funding assistance to local governments to perform waterway improvement projects. The program will also fund up to fifty percent (50%) of project costs that target waterway safety programs and equipment. The grant period is October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2028.

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) will request one (1) set of outboard motors for a total project cost of $97,700 to replace old and malfunctioning engines. The requested engines will allow the FLPD Marine Unit to positively contribute to the overall improvement of boating safety by facilitating additional opportunities for officers to:

- Make contact with citizens and visitors who use the waterways;
- Provide boater safety information;
- Provide area checks of key marine locations;
- Make vessel stops and/or conduct additional safety inspections of vessels;
- Issue warnings and citations for noted violations; and
- Prevent boating accidents through high visibility patrol activities.

The FIND program application process requires all applicants to obtain approval from its governing board or commission via the submission of an official resolution. As a result of the program's matching component, if awarded, the grant will fund $48,850 and the City will match with $48,850. The required match is budgeted in FLPD's Operating Budget.

Resource Impact
The total project cost is $97,770. There is an anticipated positive fiscal impact to the City in the amount of $48,850. The City match of $48,850 is already appropriated in FLPD's Operating Budget.

Strategic Connections
This item is a *2026 Commission* Priority, advancing the Public Safety initiative.

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

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

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

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

- The Public Safety Focus Area
- The Coastal Management, Community Health and Safety Element
- Goal 4: Coordinate with related partners and agencies (at city, local, county, regional, state, and federal levels) to plan for disaster and emergency management, further the resiliency of coastal areas, and ensure city-wide community health and safety.

Attachments
Exhibit 1 – FIND Grant Application
Exhibit 2 – Resolution for Assistance via FY 2026 FIND Waterways Assistance Program

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Prepared by: Dayna L. Bhaggan, Public Safety Grants Manager, Police Department

Department Director: William C. Schultz, Chief of Police