



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

#15-0167

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

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: March 3, 2015

TITLE: South Side School Update

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update regarding the South Side School project.

Northeast Area:

The project is on schedule for construction to start in June of 2015. The current and baseline schedule date to complete the bid documents is the end of March 2015 (Exhibit 1). The City's consultant, Synalovski Romanick and Saye (SRS) is working on the construction documents which are due to be completed by the end of March, 2015. The consultant will submit two cost estimates, one based on 60% design (expected in mid-March, 2015) and one based on 100% design (expected at the end of March, 2015). The drawings were approved by the Historical Preservation Board on January 5th, 2015. The drawings were also forwarded to the Florida Communities Trust and to the Broward County Preservation Officer. Staff has received preliminary comments back from Broward County on February 9th, 2015 indicating that the plans are an overall improvement from the earlier proposals as the proposed alternations are minimal and affect only the southwest elevation. Furthermore, the proposed parking and other site improvements do not appear to adversely affect additional historic structures within Hardy C. Florence Park. However, final comments and requirements from Broward County will be withheld until a copy of the Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRAS) is received.

On January 14th, 2015 staff retained the services of a professional historian, Joseph F. Mankowski of Advanced Archaeology Inc., to conduct a CRAS as required by Broward County. The purpose of the survey is to identify historic and archeologic resources within the South Side School/ Florence C. Hardy Park project area that are eligible for local municipal historic designation and/or inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, as well as to determine potential adverse effects of future projects on such resources.

The CRAS will also seek to establish the history and location of the Stranahan Cemetery.

The initial timeframe to complete the survey was the end of March 2015. The survey completion needs to be expedited so that a copy can be submitted to Broward County for review and approval prior to the bid date. Staff is working with the consultant, Joseph F. Mankowski of Advanced Archaeology Inc., to expedite the completion of the report (first week of March).

Lastly, staff prepared the Historical Preservation Certification Application for the planned improvements to apply for a Federal Historic preservation tax incentive.

Southeast Area:

Staff is continuing to work with the City's lobbyist in an attempt to get Florida Communities Trust to waive or reduce the current payment requirement of \$123,360 associated with the Restrictive Covenants that accompany the property.

Strategic Connections:

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Public Places Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 3: Be a community that finds opportunities and leverages partnerships to create unique, inviting, and connected gathering places that highlight our beaches, waterways, urban areas, and parks.

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

Attachments: Exhibit 1 – Schedule

Prepared by: Irina Tokar, Senior Project Manager
Pedram Zohrevand, Ph.D., P.E., Assistant City Engineer

Department Director: Hardeep Anand, P.E., Public Works