



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

#15-1223

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

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

DATE: October 6, 2015

TITLE: Resolution to Accept Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel
Reports for Uptown Urban Village, the Riverwalk District, and Sistrunk
Boulevard

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission approve a resolution accepting the following Urban Land Institute (ULI) Technical Assistance Panel Reports:

- Developing Long-Term Strategies for Resiliency in the Face of Climate Change: The Uptown Urban Village (Exhibit 1);
- Activation and Climate Adaptation in the Riverwalk District (Exhibit 2);
- Creating a Socially and Economically Vibrant Sistrunk Boulevard Corridor (Exhibit 3).

Background

The ULI has a long history of working with communities around the region to convene technical assistance panels (TAPs) on complex development issues, with recommendations grounded in ULI best practices. The City of Fort Lauderdale (City) partnered with the ULI to host three TAPs for key economic development areas within the City.

Uptown

The ULI local district council hosted a TAP in August 2014 to discuss and provide advice on issues relating to driving more growth, including housing, to the Uptown area, a climate resilient area within the City's boundaries.

On November 4, 2014 the final report was distributed at Commission Conference (CAM #14-1368). The major recommendations of this report include:

- Climate resiliency;
- Land use and vision alignment;
- Transportation choices;
- Healthy walkable places and greenways;
- Development and redevelopment;
- Employment and innovation;

- Implementation tools; and
- Leveraging resources.

Riverwalk

The ULI local district council hosted a TAP in June 2014 to discuss and provide advice on issues relating to activating the Riverwalk corridor in the context of climate resiliency and existing and planned development to ensure Riverwalk's success.

On August 19, 2014 the final report was distributed at Commission Conference (CAM #14-0925). The major recommendations of this report include:

- Establishing pedestrian-oriented streets connecting and celebrating the Riverwalk;
- Creating places along the Riverwalk;
- Designing for different elevations and heights with an awareness and accommodation for seasonal changes;
- Designing transitional spaces; and
- Understanding and planning for the relationship between water and land elevations.

Sistrunk

The ULI local district council hosted a TAP in December 2014 to discuss, provide advice, and identify strategies and incentives to create catalytic projects in the Northwest portion of Northwest-Progresso-Flagler Heights Community Redevelopment Area (NPF CRA), with the highest priority on how to focus and encourage the redevelopment of the Sistrunk Corridor between NW 9th Avenue and the FEC Railway.

The City Commission was presented the results of the Sistrunk TAP report at its May 19, 2015 Commission Conference (CAM #15-0254). The major recommendations of this report include:

- More clearly understanding market demand for housing, retail, and other potential uses;
- Carefully phasing incentivized projects;
- Structuring incentives to better attract investment and improve community benefits;
- Preparing improved development agreements;
- Enhancing the organizational structure of the CRA;
- Strengthening the image as a safe, unique, and vibrant place;
- Creating industrial district strategies;
- Increasing access to capital; and
- Focusing housing efforts on mixed-income residential projects in order to make more retail and commercial development sustainable.

These three reports and the recommendations contained within serve as a roadmap to growth, promote appropriate development, and will help create more walkable, livable and inviting destinations within the City. Staff will utilize the recommendations in these

reports as future transportation, urban design, and economic development planning occurs.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

Strategic Connections

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

- Goal 2: Be a sustainable and resilient community.
- Objective 2: Improve climate resiliency by incorporating local, regional, and mega-regional plans.

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

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - Uptown ULI TAP Report

Exhibit 2 - Riverwalk ULI TAP Report

Exhibit 3 - Sistrunk ULI TAP Report

Exhibit 4 - Resolution

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