



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CONFERENCE MEETING

#16-0208

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

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

DATE: June 7, 2016

TITLE: Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

This presentation is informational and is intended to provide an opportunity to receive input from the Commission on the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan draft report.

The City is currently in the process of updating the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan (PRSMP) that will help establish priorities for the future development and delivery of parks, trails, recreation facilities, programs and services within the community. To accomplish this effort, the City has engaged the services of AECOM Technical Services to help facilitate the process and develop the final recommendations for the PRSMP. City staff, together with AECOM have worked together to develop draft recommendations for City Commission consideration. Upon receipt of comments, the report will be finalized and brought back to the Commission for approval.

The Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System Master Plan is a long-range plan that is meant to help shape the direction, development and delivery of the City's parks and recreation facilities. Based on a comprehensive planning approach, this plan considers previous planning documents, department goals, existing conditions, and assessment of needs to provide a framework for recommendations and prioritization strategies.

This PRSMP is a continuation of the strategic planning efforts undertaken by the City, including the 2008 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, The Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision Plan, and the Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan. Multiple elements of these plans relate to the City's desire to improve the quality of life for Fort Lauderdale residents by providing excellent parks and recreation facilities and program opportunities for a diverse, growing population.

The purpose of this plan is to advance the mission and vision of the Parks and Recreation Department to further the establishment of a high quality parks system by establishing a community-defined set of priorities to maximize the effectiveness of the department and its resources. This PRSMP provides a focused direction for

development and delivery of the City's parks and recreation services over the next ten to fifteen years, ensuring that Fort Lauderdale continues to be a desirable community for both residents and visitors.

The Master Plan is intended to serve as a comprehensive guide for the planning, acquisition, development and operations of parks, trails, park facilities and recreation programs throughout the City. As such, this PRSMP will assist users in the formation of programming needs and priorities and long range visioning for the provision of parks and recreation facilities and programs.

The master planning process is being developed sequentially, building upon previous work; beginning with an overview of the existing parks system, analysis of public needs and priorities, formation of a long-range vision and goals, and concluding with a strategic plan for implementation.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

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.
- Objective 1: Improve access to and enjoyment of our beach, Riverwalk, waterways, parks, and open spaces for everyone
- Objective 2: Integrate arts and cultural elements into public places.

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

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – AECOM Report

Exhibit 2 – Presentation

Prepared by: Gina Rivera, Parks and Recreation Department

Department Director: Phil Thornburg, Parks and Recreation Department