



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

#16-0716

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

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

DATE: July 12, 2016

TITLE: Motion to Approve a Beautification Agreement with Broward County to
Install and Maintain Pedestrian Refuge Areas

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission approve a beautification agreement in substantially the form attached (Exhibit 1) with Broward County to install and maintain hardscape and landscape improvements to N/NE 1st Street at North Andrews and NE 3rd Avenues.

Background

As part of “Connecting the Blocks” through the Downtown Walkability Program aimed at making our streets safe for all modes of travel, N 1st Street at North Andrews Avenue and NE 1st Street at NE 3rd Avenue were identified for new pedestrian crosswalks. These crosswalks are proposed to have pedestrian refuge areas with the installation of a median (Exhibit 2). The project also includes pedestrian actuated crossing notification lights (“Edge Lights”), native plant material, and high efficiency irrigation. These crosswalks will improve the safety and visibility of pedestrians and reduce illegal mid-block crossing by making a safe crossing opportunity available.

North Andrews Avenue and NE 3rd Avenue are County-owned roadways and require that a beautification agreement be entered into to take on maintenance responsibilities. The agreement will be brought to the Broward County Commission for approval and will be executed thereafter.

Resource Impact

The annual cost of maintenance for the two medians provided by the Parks and Recreation Department is estimated at \$6,000 (each median costs \$3,000). No maintenance funding is needed for fiscal year 2016. Transportation staff is working with Parks and Recreation staff and piloting two methods for irrigation. These two methods will be compared against one another to help with decision making moving forward. Both are considered to be more efficient than the traditional method currently being used.

Strategic Connections

This item is a Commission Annual Action Plan priority, included within the Management Agenda, advancing the Wave Streetcar project and the Downtown Walkability Program. This is also a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 1: Be a pedestrian friendly, multi-modal City.
- Objective 1: Improve transportation options and reduce congestion by working with agency partners.
- Initiative 3: Work with partners to construct the Wave Streetcar, including the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) ordinances and connections to airport, port, and rail stations.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan*: We are connected.

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 – Beautification Agreement with Broward County

Exhibit 2 – Current/Proposed 3-D Concept

Prepared by: Elizabeth Van Zandt, Transportation and Mobility

Department Director: Diana Alarcon, Transportation and Mobility