



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

#16-1018

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

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

DATE: October 5, 2016

TITLE: Update on Citywide Canal Dredging Effort

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the citywide canal dredging efforts.

Background:

At the February 18, 2014 City Commission Meeting (CAM 14-0280), staff was authorized to conduct canal surveys and engineering assessments of the overall City's canal maintenance dredging needs. Staff initiated development of a canal dredging master plan and presented to the City Commission on November 17, 2015 (CAM 15-1203). There was insufficient funding available to complete the master plan; at the January 5, 2016 City Commission meeting (CAM 15-1607), the Commission approved a budget amendment to provide additional funding needed to survey and analyze approximately 14 miles of remaining canals in order to complete the dredging master plan.

Current Status

The City Surveyor completed surveying the remaining 14 miles of canals. The survey data is being processed to determine canal dredging needs and update the Canal Dredging Master Plan. This is anticipated to be finished around November 30, 2016. A Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Canal Dredging Rate Study was released on August 18, 2016, and the contract is anticipated to be awarded on the November 15th City Commission Meeting. The awarded consultant will evaluate various funding mechanisms and alternative rate structures to determine the most cost effective manner of collecting revenue to support a seven year dredging cycle.

Recommendation:

The next steps are recommended to implement the program:

1. Award contract for a consultant to conduct a rate study recommending a specific funding mechanism, assessment rate or fee, and implementation process.
2. Implement selected funding mechanisms (billing, collection and public notices).
3. Budget specific survey, design, and environmental permitting.

4. Budget construction.

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 1: Proactively maintain our water, wastewater, road and bridge infrastructure.
- Initiative 3: Conduct an analysis of canal dredging needs and examine funding scenarios.

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

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Presentation on Citywide Canal Dredging Effort Updates

Prepared by: Brandy Leighton, P.E., Project Manager II, Public Works
Carlos Acosta, P.E., Assistant City Engineer

Presented by: Alan Dodd, Assistant Public Works Director

Department Director: Paul Berg, Acting Public Works Director