



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

**# 17- 0109**

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

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

**DATE:** February 7, 2017

**TITLE:** Resolution of Intent to Use the Uniform Method of Collecting Non-Ad Valorem Assessment for Costs Associated with Undergrounding of Utilities within the Idlewyld and Riviera Isles Neighborhoods

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution of intent to use the uniform method of collecting non-ad valorem assessments for costs associated with undergrounding utilities within the Idlewyld and Riviera Isles neighborhoods.

**Background**

On May 18, 2010, the City Commission approved an ordinance establishing a process for communities to underground overhead utilities (power, telephone, cable TV, etc.) and created a mechanism for the benefited neighborhood to pay the associated costs through a special assessment under the guidelines of Chapter 170, Florida Statutes.

On November 6, 2012, the City Commission (CAM #12-2384) approved amendments to the special assessment program for the undergrounding of overhead utilities. Section 25-129, Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale requires approval from at least 70% of signed ballots from property owners in the assessment area and City Commission approval before a special assessment can be levied upon real properties benefiting from the undergrounding of utilities.

City staff received an application from the Idlewyld and Riviera Isles neighborhoods and staff is currently working with the utility companies on detailed designs. Upon receiving 90% design plans, ballots will be sent to the neighborhoods and should the community ballot achieve the 70% threshold, the proposed non-ad valorem assessment rates and a reimbursement resolution will be presented to the City Commission.

If approved, this resolution will be sent to the Broward County Property Appraiser, Broward County Tax Collector, and Florida Department of Revenue to provide notice that the City intends to use the uniform method to levy, collect and enforce a non-ad valorem assessment.

**Resource Impact**

There is no impact associated with this action. However, the Broward County Property Appraiser's Office and Broward Tax Collector each charge fees for their services. These agreements and fees will be brought to the Commission at a future meeting.

**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 2: Consider placing utilities underground when feasible.

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

**Related CAM**

CAM #12-2384

**Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Resolution for Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment for Utility Undergrounding

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