



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#17-0496

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

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

DATE: April 19, 2017

TITLE: Ordinance Amending Article X, Vacation Rentals, Chapter 15 of the
Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt an ordinance amending Article X, Vacation Rentals, Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Background

At the December 6, 2016 Regular Meeting, the City Commission adopted Ordinance C-16-25 to address specific issues with the existing vacation rental ordinance. During the adoption process the City Commission directed staff to explore reducing the registration fee for owner occupied vacation rental properties.

Staff performed analyses of the costs associated with the processing of application for registration of vacation rentals and the issuance of certificates of compliance. The analysis revealed no difference in the time and resources used during the initial registration and inspection of both an owner occupied vacation rental and non-owner occupied vacation rental; therefore, different fee rates could not be legally justified. However, staff did note that the registration renewal of owner-occupied vacation rentals does not require the same amount of staff resources and time as non-owner occupied vacation rentals. As such, staff proposes eliminating the onsite inspection requirement for the renewals of owner-occupied vacation rentals. The amendment to Section 15-276 will allow a sworn affidavit to be used by the property owner to verify compliance, which significantly reduces the annual registration cost and in turn the registration fees.

The proposed ordinance also adds language to Section 15-276 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale. The new language in Section 15-276 clarifies that the existing unlawful act of giving false or misleading information applies to all applications for registration, modification, or renewal of the vacation rental.

Additionally, the proposed language in Section 15-279 enables the City Commission to adopt a resolution that will prescribe the circumstances under which the inspections required by Section 15-276 may be waived. The addition of this language will allow the City Commission to adopt an amended fee resolution with a reduced fee for owner

occupied vacation rental property.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with action.

Strategic Connections

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

- Goal 5: Be a community of strong beautiful neighborhoods.

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

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Vacation Rental Ordinance

Prepared by: Porshia L. Goldwire, Sustainable Development

Department Director: Anthony Greg Fajardo, Sustainable Development