

#18-0065

**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the

Fort Lauderdale City Commission

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

**DATE**: February 6, 2018

**TITLE**: Resolution to Join the Seawall Coalition

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution to join the Seawall Coalition for the purpose of aiding the City's efforts to address sea level rise, flooding, and climate resiliency for our community.

#### **Background**

In 2015, the City of Fort Lauderdale Commission adopted a resolution accepting the updated Unified Regional Sea Level Rise Projection (2015) of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact for use by staff as the basis for sea level rise adaptation planning activities, especially as it related to infrastructure. To date, adaptation activities have included incorporation of sea level rise projections into all master plans, the installation of 136 tidal valves and retrofitting storm basins to improve our drainage system, developing a stormwater master plan, completing a seawall master plan, numerous outreach efforts, and a new seawall ordinance. Effective sea level rise planning includes a practical approach at the local level and a proactive coordinated approach at the state and national levels.

The Seawall Coalition is a nonpartisan group of elected officials, military groups, businesses, and local leaders that have come together to influence national solutions to sea level rise and flooding that support coastal and riverfront communities and protect our nation's residents, economy, and military installations. The Seawall Coalition works as follows: Local governments join the Seawall Coalition, which will collectively advocate for national and state solutions to sea level rise and flooding. The Coalition will also support local communities by creating a source of dedicated federal funding and incentives for adaptation planning and projects, facilitating the exchange of best practices among coastal communities and providing opportunities and tools to communicate with residents on sea level rise challenges and solutions.

By joining the Seawall Coalition, the City will support expansion of options for adaptation funding and further demonstrate the City's leadership in the area of climate adaptation as we continue our efforts to create a resilient and safe coastal community.

### **Resource Impact**

The adoption of this resolution has no direct fiscal impact on the City of Fort Lauderdale.

## **Strategic Connection**

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 2: Reduce flooding and adapt to sea level rise

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

# **Attachments**

Exhibit 1 - Resolution

Exhibit 2 – Background Information on the Seawall Coalition

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