



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

#18-0114

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

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

DATE: April 17, 2018

TITLE: Public Hearing to Consider a Permanent Road Closure on North Atlantic
Boulevard at NE 23rd Street Approximately 300 Feet East of North Ocean
Boulevard within the Lauderdale Beach Homeowners Association

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution to approve the permanent road closure of North Atlantic Boulevard at NE 23rd Street to vehicular traffic within the Lauderdale Beach Homeowners Association.

Background

This Public Hearing has been scheduled in accordance with Chapter 25, Article VI. Sec 25-171 of the Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale (Residential Street Closures) to consider the permanent road closure of approximately 300 feet east of North Ocean Boulevard. The residents of Lauderdale Beach Homeowners Association (HOA) (Exhibit 1) are concerned about pedestrian safety and anticipated cut through traffic from adjacent developments on North Atlantic Boulevard by the beach promenade.

The Lauderdale Beach HOA has submitted an application with a letter of support (Exhibit 2) and a neighborhood petition to close North Atlantic Boulevard at NE 23 Street. The petition (Exhibit 3) was reviewed by staff and compared to property records for the HOA boundaries. Sixty-eight percent (68%) of the HOA was found to be in support of the closure, which exceeds the required sixty-five percent (65%) per City ordinance Article VI. Sec. 25-173 (Exhibit 4). The HOA has committed to fund the cost of the installation of the road closure and all costs associated with the maintenance. Staff estimates that the cost of the closure, including removal of existing treatments and installation of appropriate treatments, should not exceed \$20,000.

North Atlantic Boulevard at NE 23 Street currently functions as a one-way street to southbound vehicular and pedestrian traffic (Exhibit 5). Staff proposes a soft closure at the intersection which the HOA has accepted. The soft closure includes the installation of an electronic metal gate with a "Knox Box" for vehicular traffic exiting the Community. The gate will alleviate operational concerns raised by other City Departments. Fully closing the roadway will prevent non-essential vehicular traffic from accessing NE 23

Street from North Atlantic Boulevard (Exhibit 6). Pedestrian and bicycle traffic will continue to have access at this intersection under this proposal. Per the City's existing Traffic Engineering Agreement with Broward County (Exhibit 7), Broward County Traffic Engineering Division (BCTED) will maintain all signage and pavement markings associated with the closure upon review and approval of the final road closure design.

Should the Commission approve the proposed road closure, staff will coordinate with the HOA to design and construct a suitable road closure that will maintain permanent access for pedestrian and bicycle access on North Atlantic Boulevard to NE 23 Street.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with the action at this time.

Strategic Connections

This item is 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 2: Integrate transportation land use and planning to create a walkable and bikable community.
 - Objective 3: Improve pedestrian, bicyclist, and vehicular safety.
 - Initiative 1: Implement traffic calming mechanisms to increase safety through environmental design

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

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - Lauderdale Beach HOA Map

Exhibit 2 - Lauderdale Beach HOA Application and Support Letter

Exhibit 3 - Lauderdale Beach HOA Summary of Results and Petition

Exhibit 4 - City Ordinance Article VI Sec 25-171

Exhibit 5 - Photos of Existing Conditions

Exhibit 6 - Closure Location Map

Exhibit 7 - Traffic Engineering Agreement with Broward County

Exhibit 8 -Status Report – Street Closure Analysis

Exhibit 9 - Resolution

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