



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

**#18-1298**

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

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

**DATE:** December 4, 2018

**TITLE:** Resolution Calling a Special Election Relating to the Issuance of General  
Obligation Bonds for Police and Public Safety Facilities Improvements

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution calling for a Special Election to be held on March 12, 2019 for the purpose of submitting to the electorate of the City of Fort Lauderdale questions regarding whether to issue General Obligation Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000), without regard to original issue discount or premium, to finance the acquisition, construction, renovation and improvement of police and public safety facilities.

**Background**

At the City Commission Workshop held on October 23, 2018, funding a new headquarters facility for the Fort Lauderdale Police Department was discussed. The current headquarters building was constructed in 1958 (60 years old) and is size and functionally obsolete. The building has approximately 85,000 gross square feet, a capacity built for a much smaller personnel complement than the present workforce of 525 sworn officers and total of 727 sworn and non-sworn community builders. Due to age practicality and size limitations, the building fails to meet current or future standards of a modern law enforcement facility.

To finance the cost for police and public safety facilities improvements, staff is recommending an issuance of bonds. The bonds would be general obligations of the City and secured by the full faith, credit, and unlimited ad valorem taxing power of the City. The bonds may be issued in one or more series, mature in not more than thirty (30) years after issuance, and bear interest at not exceeding the maximum rate permitted by law at the time of the sale of the bonds. The monies received and interest earned from the issuance of the bonds will be used to finance certain police and public safety improvements.

The Infrastructure Task Force and the Budget Advisory Board have both endorsed and encouraged the City Commission to proceed with the Police and Public Safety Facility

## Bond Issue.

If approved by the City Commission, in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, all qualified electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale shall be entitled to vote in the bond referendum. The City of Fort Lauderdale shall be authorized to issue the bonds covered by the ballot questions included in the March 12, 2019 referendum only if such issuance shall have been approved by vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale voting thereon.

### **Resource Impact**

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$325,000 for the special election. If this item is approved, the funding for the special election will be appropriated with the January 2019 Budget Amendment.

### **Strategic Connections**

This item is a Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018 initiative, included within the Public Safety Cylinders of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 9: Be the safest urban coastal City in South Florida through preventative and responsive police and fire protection.
- Goal 10: Be a City well-prepared for and responsive to all hazards.
- Goal 12: Be a leading government organization, managing resources wisely and sustainably.
- Objective 3: Provide safe, efficient and well-maintained vehicles, equipment and facilities and integrate sustainability into daily operations.

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

### **Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – Conceptual Debt Service Schedule  
Exhibit 2 - Resolution

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