



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

**#19-0071**

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

**FROM:** Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** February 19, 2019

**TITLE:** Resolution of Intent to Use the Uniform Method of Collecting Non-Ad Valorem Assessments for Costs Associated with Utility Undergrounding

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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 utility undergrounding.

**Background**

On May 18, 2010, the City Commission approved Ordinance No. C-10-12 to establish a process for communities to underground overhead utilities (power, telephone, cable TV, etc.) and created a mechanism for the benefiting neighborhood to pay the associated costs through a non-ad valorem assessment under the guidelines of Chapter 25, Article IV, Division 2, Section 25-124 through Section 25-132.2, Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances. Additionally, Section 25-131.1 permits the collection of the assessment through the use of the uniform method, pursuant to the Uniform Assessment Collection Act.

The City has received applications from a number of neighborhoods for utility undergrounding. Staff is working with the utility companies to review topographic surveys and designs. Upon receiving 90% design plans, ballots will be sent to the requesting neighborhoods and, should the community ballot achieve the 70% approval threshold, the proposed non-ad valorem assessment rates will be presented to the City Commission in addition to a reimbursement resolution.

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 if the non-ad valorem assessment is approved.

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Neighborhood Enhancement 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*.

**Attachment**

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

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