



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

**#19-1055**

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

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

**DATE:** October 15, 2019

**TITLE:** Resolution Approving First Lease Amendment for City Owned Property  
Known as War Memorial Auditorium Located at 800 NE 8 Street with War  
Memorial Benefit Corporation, and Approving a Site Plan and Benefits  
Program – **(Commission District 2)**

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a Resolution approving the First Amendment to a lease agreement with War Memorial Benefit Corporation ("WMBC") for City owned property known as War Memorial Auditorium located at 800 NE 8 Street ("War Memorial"). In addition, it is recommended the City Commission approve the Site Plan and Benefits Program.

**Background**

On June 14, 2019, the City entered into a 50-year lease agreement with War Memorial Benefit Corporation ("WMBC"), a social purpose corporation of the Florida Panthers, for City owned property known as War Memorial Auditorium located at 800 NE 8 Street ("War Memorial"). The approved lease serves a public purpose by: (i) renovating War Memorial Auditorium for public recreation and sports; (ii) provide facilities for public skating, recreational hockey, youth hockey, youth figure skating, indoor lacrosse, indoor soccer and other sports and fitness activities, and (iii) improve the community's health and fitness.

The First Amendment to the lease allows for a change in the legal description to reduce the impact to existing tree canopy, the dimensions and acreage size are unchanged (Exhibit 1). In addition, in accordance with Article 4.3 of the lease, WMBC has submitted a Site Plan including plans and specifications of the proposed renovations and additions for City Commission approval (Exhibit 2). Lastly, under Article 12.32, the lease includes a Benefits Program intended to provide neighbors with a discounted admission and access to the various facilities. WMBC proposes the City Residents Benefits Program to be inclusive of a 15% discounted rate for single use activities (i.e. public skating sessions, figure skating, hockey, and curling), youth hockey recreational leagues registrations, multi-purpose communal meeting rooms, free admission to Panthers open practices, and access to community days in coordination with the City Parks and Recreation Department (Exhibit 3).

**Resource Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018 initiative, included within the Internal Support Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 12: Be a leading government organization, managing resources wisely and sustainably
- Objective 1: Ensure sound fiscal management
- Initiative 1: Achieve a structurally balanced budget through viable revenue sources, smart financial management, comprehensive financial forecasting, and results-oriented and efficient services

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

**Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – Revised Exhibit C

Exhibit 2 – WMBC Site Plan

Exhibit 3 – WMBC Benefits Program

Exhibit 4 – First Lease Amendment

Exhibit 5 – Resolution

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