



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

#20-0135

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

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: February 4, 2020

TITLE: Stormwater Rate Study Presentation - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3,
and 4)**

Due to its unique geography, varied infrastructure conditions and the need for an increased level of service due to sea level rise and more extreme storm events, the City has identified significant investment needs in its stormwater infrastructure.

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. (Stantec) conducted a rate study for the City, which was presented to the Infrastructure Task Force on October 2, 2017, to the Budget Advisory Board (BAB) at their meeting on June 12, 2018, and to the City Commission during the June 19, 2018 Commission Conference Meeting. The scope of the study allowed for the development of an alternative rate structure that would equitably recover the costs of the stormwater system from properties throughout the City in proportion to the benefit that each property receives from the stormwater system. Acknowledging the volume of stormwater infrastructure work necessary throughout the City and the limited available resources, the City Commission and BAB voiced their support of pursuing a hybrid Stormwater Utility fee methodology, which incorporates both total square footage and trip generation rates.

Stantec developed the requested methodology and presented their initial findings during the November 19, 2019 Commission Conference Meeting. Stantec's initial findings included a recommendation to move the Stormwater Fee from the Utility Bill to the property tax as a non-ad valorem assessment. At the Commission's request, Stantec presented the Hybrid Rate Methodology to the Infrastructure Task Force (ITF) on December 2, 2019, and the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations on January 14, 2020. Both the ITF and Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations voiced their support of the Hybrid Methodology.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Fiscal Year 2020 Commission Annual Action Plan* priority, included within the Stormwater Management Master Plan: Implementation.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- Goal 1: Build a sustainable and resilient community
- Objective: Proactively maintain our water, wastewater, stormwater, road, and bridge infrastructure
- Objective: Reduce flooding and adapt to sea level rise

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

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Stormwater Rate Study Presentation

Prepared by: Jason Snifeld, Public Works

Department Director: Raj Verma, Director – Public Works