



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

**#20-0495**

---

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

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

**DATE:** July 7, 2020

**TITLE:** Public Hearing and Adoption of Resolution Approving the Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board's Recommendation for Approval of the Aquatic Center Project as Provided in the Parks and Recreation Bond Resolutions and to Finance the Cost of the Project with Parks and Recreation General Obligation Bonds - **(Commission District 2)**

---

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission conduct a public hearing and adopt a resolution approving the Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Advisory Board's Recommendation for approval of the Aquatic Center Project as provided in Bond Resolution No. 18-261 and Bond Resolution No. 20-08.

**Background**

On March 12, 2019, a referendum passed authorizing the City to issue up to \$200 million of general obligation bonds for the purpose of financing Parks and Recreation Projects (Resolution 18-261). The first installment of \$80 million, Series 2020A Bonds ("Bonds"), will fund the cost of development, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, installation, improvement and furnishing of certain Parks and Recreation Projects. The Parks and Recreation Projects to be undertaken by the City and financed with proceeds of the first series of Bonds was approved by the City Commission by subsequent resolution (Resolution 20-08, January 7, 2020); provided, however, that prior to the City Commission's approval of a Parks and Recreation Project that is not one of the four signature park projects (Joseph Carter Park, Holiday Park, Lockhart Stadium and Tunnel Top Park), such project shall have been reviewed by the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board (the "Advisory Board") and the Advisory Board shall have submitted its recommendation to the City Commission as to whether the project should or should not be undertaken and financed, in whole or in part, with proceeds of the Bonds.

The referendum resolution provided the following:

"In deciding whether to undertake and finance with proceeds of the Bonds a Parks and Recreation Project that is not one of the four signature park projects, the City

Commission shall conduct a public hearing and consider, but shall not be obligated to follow, the recommendation of the Advisory Board with respect to such project.”

On February 26, 2020, the Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Advisory Board recommended allocating \$7 million of Parks and Recreation General Obligation Bond dollars to the Aquatic Center Project that is described below.

The City of Fort Lauderdale awarded a design-build contract to Hensel Phelps to design and construct improvements at the Aquatic Center Complex. These improvements, which were funded primarily with Beach CRA funds, included new pools, decks, bleachers, and the north building. After the contract was awarded, the Mayor and Commission directed staff to make improvements to the existing athlete locker rooms which are in the south building. Improvements to the south building were not included in the initial awarded scope of work.

After performing site investigations, it was decided that the south building was in poor condition and it was not a wise spend of money to make interior renovations. Hensel Phelps submitted an unsolicited proposal to demolish and build a new south building, and the Commission has directed staff to move forward with the proposal. Staff made a presentation to the Parks Board on February 26, 2020 and requested \$7 million dollars in park bond funds for the new south building design and construction.

### **Resource Impact**

Resource impact will be reflected on a future CAM approving the procurement of this project.

### **Strategic Connections**

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2024* initiative, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- Goal 3: Build a healthy and engaging community
- Objective: Offer a diverse range of recreational and educational programming

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

### **Attachments**

Exhibit 1 – Resolution

Exhibit 2 – Aquatic Center Rendering

Exhibit 3 – Resolution No. 18-261

Exhibit 4 – Resolution No. 20-08

Exhibit 5 – 2/26/20 Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

---

Prepared by: Susan Grant, Director of Finance  
Debra Conyers, Finance

Department Director: Susan Grant, Director of Finance  
07/07/2020  
CAM #20-0495