



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

#20-0644

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

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: September 15, 2020

TITLE: Resolution Approving the State of Florida Department of Transportation Report Outlining the Impacts and Mitigation Plan of the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza Project and the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel Rehabilitation Project and Approving the Agreement between the State of Florida Department of Transportation and the City of Fort Lauderdale Regarding the Mitigation Plan - **(Commission District 4)**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution approving the State of Florida Department of Transportation Report outlining the impacts and mitigation plan of the City of Fort Lauderdale Tunnel Top Pedestrian Plaza and the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel Rehabilitation Project and approving the agreement between the State of Florida Department of Transportation and the City regarding the Mitigation Plan.

Background

In 2014, the City initiated a discussion with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to integrate a park into FDOT's Henry E. Kinney Tunnel Rehabilitation project. FDOT welcomed the concept but required that the City provide a historic preservation report and a Bridge Design Report (*BDR*) which incorporated structural analysis assessments.

Per the completed 2020 Bridge Development Report, the recommended length of the pedestrian plaza is 117 feet. This project includes the pedestrian plaza structure, raising of the intersection of Las Olas Boulevard and SE 6th Avenue, reconstruction of the north ventilation building, and landscape and hardscape of the Tunnel Top Plaza and Laura Ward Riverwalk Plaza. On January 22, 2020, the City's Parks, Recreation, and Beaches Advisory Board approved the project scope concepts and funding.

On May 15, 2020, the City Commission authorized the City Manager to forward communication to the FDOT the city's commitment to fund \$10.6M for the construction of the Tunnel Top pedestrian plaza (*CAM # 20-0467*).

FDOT and the City have consulted with the Florida Division of Historical Resources (FDHR) pursuant to Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, and has determined that the project will have an adverse effect on the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel and the project will have no adverse effect to the Stranahan House. The City of Fort Lauderdale and FDOT also engaged with the Stranahan House and the City Historic Preservation Board for their input regarding effects as well as mitigation options.

The resolution provides the City's support that the project will be implemented in accordance with stipulations mitigate effects to the historic tunnel. The measures to be implemented are as follows:

Public Interpretation:

- Four panels shall be designed and placed on the four walls of the North Ventilation Building at the Laura Ward Riverwalk Plaza adjacent to the Stranahan House. The panels will include information on the development of Fort Lauderdale and the New River. The FDOT and the City will be responsible for the design, construction, content, and placement of the panels in consultation with the Stranahan House and the City of Fort Lauderdale Historic Preservation Board.

Documentation of the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel:

- Prior to authorizing any demolition or other activity that could adversely affect the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel, the Tunnel entrances (*North and South*) and walls shall be documented according to Level II of the National Park Service (NPS) Historic American Engineering Survey (HAER) standards.

Minimization of Adverse Effect:

- FDOT and the City shall ensure that the design of the new pedestrian safety wall on the new plaza on top of the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel will acknowledge, the historic appearance of the original wall.
- FDOT and the City shall ensure that the historic plaque on the south wall of the North entrance of the Tunnel will be re-installed on the site.
- FDOT and the City will continue consultation with the City Historic Preservation Board and the Stranahan House as the Project design progresses.
- Adverse effects to the Strahan House shall be avoided using a protection plan to be submitted to the City of Fort Lauderdale Historic Preservation Board prior to construction.

Archeological Investigations/Discoveries:

- Should archaeological artifacts, ecofacts, or features be encountered during construction of the Project, FDOT will ensure that they are examined by a professional archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards.

- Should unmarked human remains be encountered during the construction of the Project, FDOT will ensure that they are treated in accordance with Section 872.05, Florida Statutes.

Resource Impact

The preliminary cost estimate is \$71,602 will be funded through the General Obligation Bond 2020 Construction – Parks funding.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Agreement between the State of Florida Department of Transportation, City of Fort Lauderdale, and the Florida Division of Historical Resources

Exhibit 2 – State of Florida Department of Transportation Report

Exhibit 3 – Resolution

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