



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

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: January 21, 2021

TITLE: Resolution Approving Amendments to the Municipal Cemetery System
Investment Policy – **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff Recommends the City Commission adopt a resolution amending the Municipal Cemetery System Investment Policy to incorporate updates.

Background

Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, requires local governments to adopt policies for the investment of public funds consistent with provisions set forth within the statute. The Municipal Cemetery System Investment Policy was last revised on April 20, 2004. The existing document required revisions to permit changes that will more align with the City's operating practices of the Cemetery System.

At the Cemetery Board meeting on November 12, 2020, amendments to the Municipal Cemetery Investment Policy were unanimously approved (Exhibit 1). Subsequent to the Cemetery Board's approval additional changes were made to the document during legal review. The proposed policy revisions were also reviewed by the Perpetual Care Trust Fund managing trustee (SunTrust Bank), the Investment Advisory Board and the Department of Finance.

The foremost objective of this investment program is the safety and preservation of the corpus of the fund. The City's goal is to achieve an equal balance between maintaining purchasing power through principal appreciation of the trust fund and generating income to support the expenditures of the Cemetery System associated with the Perpetual Care Trust Fund. With implementing the suggestions for improvements, the objectives of the policy remain as follows: (1) safety of principal; (2) liquidity of funds; and (3) return on investment.

The resolution provides for additions/amendments to the Cemetery System Investment Policy, below are a few highlights:

- Added a glossary of terms pertaining to investment industry practices.

- Updated language to reflect the City's management of cemetery operations.
- Added a chart of Cemetery Trust Fund Portfolio guidelines.

The other changes reflected in the document do not affect the objectives, authorized investments, portfolio composition limits, reporting, or scope of the Investment Policy for the Municipal Cemetery System.

Resource Impact

There is no current fiscal impact associated with this action. A future positive fiscal impact is expected depending on market conditions.

Strategic Connections

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

- The Internal Support Focus Area
- Goal 8: Build a leading government organization that manages all resources wisely and sustainably
- Objective: Maintain financial integrity through sound budgeting practices, prudent fiscal management, cost effective operations, and long-term planning

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

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Revised Cemetery Investment Policy – Tracked Changes

Exhibit 2 – Revised Cemetery Investment Policy – Clean Version

Exhibit 3 – Cemetery System Board of Trustees Minutes for November 12, 2020 (Draft)

Exhibit 4 – Resolution

Prepared by: Stacy Spates, Cemetery Administrator, Parks and Recreation Department

Department Director: Phil Thornburg, Parks and Recreation Department