



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

#21-0648

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

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: July 6, 2021

TITLE: First Reading – Ordinance Amending the City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinance Section 25A.185 - Parklets to Allow Parklets in the Regional Activity Center – Transitional Mixed Use (RAC -TMU) (Regional Activity Center East Mixed Use (RAC - EMU), Regional Activity Center - West Mixed Use (RAC - WMU), and Regional Activity Center – Southwest Mixed Use (RAC - SMU) Zoning Districts – Case No. UDP-T21006 - (**Commission District 2, 3 and 4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission consider an ordinance amending the City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinance Section 25A.185 – Parklets to allow parklets in the Regional Activity Center – Transitional Mixed Use (RAC -TMU) (Regional Activity Center East Mixed Use (RAC - EMU), Regional Activity Center - West Mixed Use (RAC - WMU) and Regional Activity Center – Southwest Mixed Use (RAC - SMU) zoning districts.

Background

A parklet is a platform installed within existing parallel on-street parking allowing tables and chairs to expand the pedestrian realm beyond the sidewalk into a parking lane allowing adjacent business owners to utilize the outdoor space without the need for permanent street redesign and constructions. Parklets are generally located in front of and operated by an adjacent business and may include elements such as tables and chairs with or without food and beverage service, as well as planters and other associated improvements.

Parklet installations were adopted in 2015 after the success of a pilot parklet program and allowed within the Boulevard Business (B-1), Community Business (CB), Regional Activity Center-City Center (RAC-CC), and Regional Activity Center – Urban Village (RAC-UV) zoning districts and has the following location requirements:

- Streets with speed limits of 25 mph or less;
- Existing on-street parking spaces; and,
- Specific standards for slope of 5% or less.

There is a total of 2 approved parklets, one in Commission District 2 and 4, respectively.

The proposed ordinance amendment, if approved, would expand parklet locations to the Regional Activity Center – Transitional Mixed Use (RAC -TMU) zoning districts which includes Regional Activity Center - East Mixed Use (RAC - EMU), Regional Activity Center - West Mixed Use (RAC - WMU), and Regional Activity Center – Southwest Mixed Use (RAC - SMU). The RAC - TMU districts provides transition areas between the high intensity RAC-CC district and the lower intensity neighborhoods which abut the RAC. Parklets support a wide range of shopping services, employment opportunities, and local cultural benefits. Parklets are ideal for higher density residential neighborhoods such as East Las Olas Boulevard, an active area with popular restaurants, bars, and retail establishments.

To review the proposed zoning districts, please refer to Exhibit 1. To review the proposed ordinance amendments, please refer to Exhibit 2.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this section.

Strategic Connections

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

- The Business Development Focus Area
- Goal 5: Build an attractive global and local economic community marketplace.
- Objective: Nurture and support existing local businesses.

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

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan*, specifically advancing:

- Business Development Focus Area
- Economic Development Element
- Goal 1: Enhance Fort Lauderdale's stature as a global, business friendly destination through the development of a business identity, enhanced marketing, branding, and support for enhanced local activities and tourism development.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Regional Activity Center Transitional Mixed-Use Zoning Districts Map

Exhibit 2 – Ordinance

Prepared by: Karlanne Grant, Urban Planner III, Sustainable Development Department

Department Director: Anthony Greg Fajardo, Sustainable Development Department