



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

#21-0763

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

FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: October 5, 2021

TITLE: Resolution Approving an Economic Development Incentive Award for \$168,750.00 for Project Disembark and Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute an Economic Development Incentive Agreement – **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve an Economic Development Incentive Award for Project Disembark in the amount not to exceed \$168,750.00, to be paid over an eight-year period should Project Disembark meet the terms and conditions of the City's economic development incentive program and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute an Economic Development Incentive Agreement, in accordance with Section 15-234(b) of the Code of Ordinances.

Background

Project Disembark has recently announced its plans to create 225 net new jobs within an eight-year period, increasing our competitiveness in domestic and international markets within the marine industry. This company represents an opportunity to secure the expansion of a marine company, providing us with new and sustained regional growth.

In accordance with the Economic Development Incentive Program in Article VIII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Project Disembark is eligible for a Direct Cash/Job Creation Incentive by proposing an expansion of 225 new jobs at an average annual wage of \$105,000.00 per year, on or before December 31, 2029. The total Direct Cash incentive being offered by the City to Project Disembark is \$168,750.00 to be paid over an eight-year period, subject to future appropriation. Annual payments are to be paid according to the payment grid (Exhibit 1); and subject to Project Disembark meeting the terms and conditions of the City's economic development incentive program, and subject to approval of future appropriations in the City's annual budget. Specifically, the company is expected to create 225 jobs by December 31, 2029. The year-one amount to be paid is \$18,750.00 to be paid in FY2022-23, which is ½ paid by the City in the amount of \$9,375.00 and ½ paid by the County in the amount of \$9,375.00.

Applicants seeking an economic incentive award from the City must comply with the criteria established in Article VIII of the City's Code of Ordinances. Specifically, the

Project:

- Demonstrates the City of Fort Lauderdale is committed to facilitating employment opportunities within new and existing industries.
- Complements our emphasis on “Targeted Industries” such as Corporate Headquarters.
- Facilitates a company that will be creating a minimum of 225 high-skill/high-wage jobs with an average wage of \$105,000 (200% of the private sector average wage in Broward County).
- Ensures the project would not be lost to a competitor state(s), namely South Carolina.
- Captures a conservatively estimated capital investment of \$800,000.

Resource Impact

There is no current year fiscal impact associated with this item.

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 1: Create a responsive and proactive business climate to attract emerging industries.
- Objective 2: Nurture and support existing local businesses.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Payment Grid – FY 2022-FY 2029

Exhibit 2 – Resolution

Prepared by: Daphnee A. Sainvil, Government & Economic Development Manager

Department Director: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager