



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#26-0559

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: July 2, 2026

TITLE: Motion Approving Change Order No. 3 to Task Order No. 12: Joseph C. Carter Park Improvement Project - Redesign and Post-Design Services - AECOM Technical Services, Inc. - 1,100-Day Time Extension and \$1,233,555 - **(Commission District 3)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Commission approve Change Order No. 3 to Task Order No. 12 with AECOM Technical Services, Inc., for the Joseph C. Carter Park Improvement Project, in the amount of \$1,233,555 and a 1,100-day extension, to redesign the project consistent with the revised scope and provide post-design services.

Background

On March 12, 2019, voters approved a referendum authorizing the City to issue up to \$200,000,000 of general obligation bonds to finance Parks and Recreation Projects. One (1) of the parks included in the program was Joseph C. Carter Park with an allocation of \$13,621,000.

In August 2019, the City issued Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Event No. 12308-296 for professional consulting services to support the Parks Bond and the 2016 Parks and Recreation System Master Plan. AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) was the highest-ranked firm, and on May 5, 2020, the City Commission approved a design and implementation agreement with AECOM (CAM #20-0299). On March 2, 2021, the City appropriated \$1,360,000 to initiate planning and design for the Joseph C. Carter Park Improvement Project (CAM #21-0092).

AECOM began conceptual design in 2022 and, after receiving input from staff and stakeholders, developed three concepts for consideration. In October 2022, the City selected a concept and authorized AECOM to advance the project to thirty percent (30%) design. AECOM submitted the thirty percent (30%) design drawings in January 2023, with an estimated construction cost of \$21,473,000. The City then authorized AECOM to proceed to sixty percent (60%) design, while emphasizing the need to remain mindful of budget limitations.

In July 2023, AECOM submitted sixty percent (60%) design drawings with a revised estimate of \$17,823,000, which now incorporated a 27,000-square-foot community recreation center. The project was submitted to the Development Review Committee (DRC) in August 2023.

In September 2023, staff met with the City Manager and District Commissioner to discuss the project scope and a funding shortfall. From October 2023 through October 2025, staff pursued additional funding for the project.

In April 2025, the City re-engaged AECOM to study a revised concept that relocated the community recreation center to the north side of the park along W. Sunrise Boulevard, at the site of the existing gymnasium. In July 2025, AECOM submitted a cost savings report, which included a feasibility study and the revised concept.

In August 2025, the City asked AECOM to expand the community recreation center to about 47,000 square feet and eliminate the second floor. AECOM updated its Feasibility Study (Exhibit 1) in September 2025 with a construction estimate of \$24,351,151. After staff reviewed the report and the District Commissioner approved it, the City requested Change Order No. 3 in November 2025 for design work based on the new plan.

To keep the community informed, staff held public outreach meetings in February and March 2026 and conducted an online survey from March 16 through April 6, 2026.

In May 2026, AECOM submitted a revised Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$1,233,555 (Exhibit 2). The additional time is required because the project is being substantially redesigned after completion of the sixty percent (60%) design documents, including reconfiguring the park layout and relocating and enlarging the community recreation center. These changes return the project to the conceptual design phase and require revisions to previously completed planning, schematic, design development, and DRC work. The change order also covers permitting, bidding assistance, construction administration, and coordination with the City's Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR), and adds 1,100 calendar days (approximately 3 years) to the contract schedule.

The current project scope includes a new community recreation center with a music studio, boxing gym, indoor fitness area, activity and multipurpose rooms, staff office space, concessions, basketball courts, and parking and drop-off improvements to support the new facility.

Improvements to the existing park facilities include new site lighting, walking trails, a splash pad/water playground, wayfinding signage, replacement of the existing playground, synthetic turf field improvements, and outdoor fitness equipment.

Pool area improvements include accessibility renovations to the pool office and restrooms, as well as replacement of the existing shade structures, fencing, gutters, plumbing, and filtration system.

The existing concessions and press box renovations that were included in the previous scope of work will be completed separately by the Parks and Recreation Facilities Division.

Staff has reviewed Change Order No. 3 and determined the requested services and fee to be appropriate. If approved, the \$1,233,555 increase will raise the contract from its current total of \$1,197,328 to \$2,430,883.

Upon approval of Change Order No. 3, staff will issue a task order and coordinate with AECOM to advance the current conceptual design to thirty percent (30%) design, providing the level of detail necessary for Development Review Committee (DRC) submittal.

Resource Impact

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$1,233,555, bringing the total amount of the contract to \$2,430,883. Funds for this agreement are available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Community Investment Plan in the account listed below.

<i>Funds available as of June 4, 2026</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
10-353-6999-572-60-6599-P12632	Joseph C. Carter Park	Capital Outlay/Construction	\$17,970,686	\$16,084,019	\$1,233,555
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					\$1,233,555

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2026 Commission Priority, advancing the Public Spaces and Cultural Initiatives.

This item supports the Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029 Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area, Goal 5: Build a beautiful and welcoming community.

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:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- Parks, Recreation & Open Space Element
- Goal 2: Be a community with high-quality parks and recreational facilities that highlight the character of our City.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Feasibility Study

Exhibit 2 – Change Order No. 3

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