



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

**#26-0568**

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

**FROM:** Rickelle Williams, City Manager

**DATE:** June 16, 2026

**TITLE:** Motion Approving a Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Not-for-Profit Service Agreement  
Between the City of Fort Lauderdale and Fellowship Recovery Community  
Organization, Inc. Rotary Connection Division in an Amount Not to Exceed  
\$90,000.00 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

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**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Not-for-Profit Service Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$90,000 between the City of Fort Lauderdale and Fellowship Recovery Community Organization, Inc. ("Fellowship") through its Rotary Connection Division, to provide transportation services at no cost to individuals experiencing homelessness to connect them to helpful services within Greater Fort Lauderdale.

**Background**

In alignment with the 2026 Commission Annual Action Plan Top Priority of Advancing Homelessness Response, the City of Fort Lauderdale actively coordinates strategic partnerships to assist neighbors experiencing homelessness and enhance community safety. To expand available resources, the City seeks to enter into a Not-for-Profit Service Agreement with Fellowship's Rotary Connection Division.

This proposed agreement will establish a formal partnership to integrate Rotary Connection's specialized transportation resources with the City's existing field operations. Once executed, assets will directly support the City's Police Department's Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), the mental health Co-Responder team, Fire Rescue's Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) team, and the Housing and Community Development Division's Homeless Initiatives team by providing dedicated, critical transportation resources for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Funding through this agreement will support the broader operation of Rotary Connection's fourteen (14)-seat shuttle bus program, expanding its capacity to provide free, accessible, and reliable transportation for people experiencing homelessness. The shuttle program's route is designed to assist individuals in overcoming transportation barriers to access essential regional services including healthcare, Legal Aid of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale's Community Court, the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor

Vehicles, recovery and veterans' programs, food distribution sites, and mail delivery services. Partnering with this program supports individual dignity, safety, and stability by reducing barriers to critical, long-term stabilization resources.

Operating since August 2025, primarily within Fort Lauderdale, including the surrounding area where critical resources and services exist, the Rotary Connection shuttle bus service has demonstrated a strong track record of success. Through April 2026, the program provided a total of 4,574 rides across the area, resulting in 192 connections to residential substance use disorder or behavioral health treatment programs and reunified eighteen (18) homeless individuals with family or friends outside of Fort Lauderdale. Formalizing this agreement will leverage this proven model to enhance localized coordination between Fort Lauderdale's frontline outreach teams and regional service providers, ultimately improving self-sufficiency and long-term stability for neighbors in need.

If approved, the agreement will formalize a structured operations plan defined by the following operational parameters:

- Services will be provided at no cost to users, specifically targeting individuals experiencing homelessness within the Greater Fort Lauderdale area to facilitate immediate access to supportive services.
- Rotary Connection will maintain direct operational coordination with the City's Community Court Program and the Homelessness Outreach Progressive Engagement (HOPE) intensive outreach framework, including HOT, the MIH team, and the mental health Co-Responder team.
- The fourteen (14)-seat shuttle will be fully insured and staffed during all operational hours by one (1) driver holding a valid Florida driver's license alongside one (1) Fellowship Recovery Community Organization team member. Staff will be certified and trained in resource navigation, individual needs assessments, and emergency crisis response.

The shuttle will operate a recurring loop Monday through Friday, starting at 7:00 AM and ending at approximately 3:00 PM (excluding City-observed holidays). The transit loop will feature designated, scheduled stops at critical social service hubs and essential resource locations, including Fort Lauderdale's Community Court.

Data collection and performance evaluation to ensure data-driven oversight and evaluate the programmatic impact of this new partnership will be established through the agreement. Rotary Connection will collect and maintain verifiable metrics for performance assessment, which will be cross-referenced during mandatory monthly progress meetings with City staff. Data protocols will track the following:

- Unique rider tracking via first and last name recording;
- Daily and weekly aggregate rider volume metrics;
- Granular boarding and exit volume data captured at each designated stop; and
- Categorized documentation of specific social services accessed or offered at

requested destinations.

The initial term of this retroactive agreement is scheduled to commence on June 1, 2026, and will run through the conclusion of the current fiscal year on September 30, 2026. The agreement includes up to two (2) additional one (1)-year terms, provided that all core terms, conditions, and operational specifications remain unchanged, and the extension is mutually agreed upon by both parties through an executed written amendment. Extension of the agreement beyond September 30, 2026, is contingent on the appropriation of funds for the program by the City Commission.

In addition to the funds being provided through this Not-for-Profit Service Agreement, the City may also provide \$40,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for this program. Award of the CDBG funds is contingent on the City Commission's approval of CAM #26-0460 – Public Hearing Approving the City of Fort Lauderdale's 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, on the June 16, 2026, City Commission Regular Meeting agenda.

**Related CAM**

26-0460

**Resource Impact**

There is a fiscal impact to the General Fund in the amount of \$90,000 in FY 2026. Funding is budgeted and available in the listed account.

<b><i>Funds available as of May 19, 2026:</i></b>					
<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>COST CENTER</b>	<b>CHARACTER CODE/ ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>AMENDED BUDGET (Character)</b>	<b>AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
10-001-3221-564-30-3199	Homelessness Initiatives	Services/Materials/ Other Professional Services	\$1,100,170	\$632,452	\$90,000
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ►</b>					<b>\$90,000</b>

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a FY 2026 Commission Priority, advancing the Homelessness Response initiative.

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

- The Housing Focus area, Goal 2: Enable housing options for all income levels.

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

**Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Fellowship Recovery Community Organization, Inc. Rotary Connection

Division FY 2026 Not-for-Profit Service Agreement

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Prepared by: Carole Mitchell, Homeless Initiatives Program Manager I, Housing and  
Community Development Division

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