



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

#26-0557

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

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: July 2, 2026

TITLE: Motion Approving a Non-Exclusive Facility Use Agreement with Indiana Diving Academy, Inc. for Use of the Morton Activity Center, located at 2980 SW 8 Avenue - **(Commission District 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a Non-Exclusive Facility Use Agreement with Indiana Diving Academy, Inc, in substantially the form attached, for the use of the Morton Activity Center and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and any extensions with terms and conditions acceptable to the City.

Background

As noted in Letter to the Commission No. 26-163 dated May 26, 2026, the City has identified a unique opportunity to establish a dryland training facility at the underutilized Morton Activity Center, located in the Edgewood neighborhood. The existing uses of the Morton Activity Center include storage of special events equipment, as well as offices for pool administration and event logistics. In addition, the Police Department currently utilizes the front area for canine training. These uses will continue under the proposed facility use agreement.

The opportunity to create a dryland training facility at the Morton Activity Center does not impact the planned Parks Bond improvements. Ongoing Parks Bond improvements at Floyd Hull Stadium include complete renovation of the Morton Activity Center. The project is in the design phase, with the design scheduled to be completed in spring 2027. With time allotted for obtaining required permits and solicitation for construction services, construction is scheduled to begin in Fiscal Year (FY) 2028 and require a duration of approximately fifteen (15) months.

The proposed temporary activation and use of the Morton Activity Center as a dryland training facility will provide a vital off-deck training environment that complements aquatic training at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center (FLAC). To support this initiative, the City seeks to enter into a Non-Exclusive Facility Use Agreement with Indiana Diving Academy, Inc. (Academy) commencing upon City approval and ending on August 31, 2028. Under this agreement, the Academy will equip the facility using privately funded equipment,

while the City provides the space. The Academy will operate and staff the facility, train local athletes, and offer programming opportunities including clinics, camps, and training that can generate revenue for the City.

The creation and implementation of a temporary dryland facility is especially important as the City prepares its diving program and hosts elite-level athletes in advance of the 2028 Olympic Trials and the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, California. Unlike previous Olympic venues, the Los Angeles diving facility will be outdoors, which is expected to increase demand for training at FLAC over the next eighteen to twenty-four (18–24) months. Providing a nearby, purpose-built dryland training facility will enhance Fort Lauderdale’s ability to support high-performance athletes, attract national and international training camps, expand community programming, and reinforce the City’s reputation as a premier destination for aquatic sports.

City staff met with the Edgewood Civic Association regarding this opportunity and received general support. The key terms of the agreement include:

- Limited term through August 31, 2028, with early termination if construction of the planned Parks Bond improvements begin prior to this date;
- Academy to secure approximately \$150,000 in privately-funded equipment, supporting the facility for its temporary essential use;
- Academy to provide community programming including clinics, camps, and training that can generate revenue to be shared with the City (as described further below);
- Academy to provide essential dryland training equipment for the Fort Lauderdale Diving and High Diving Teams; and
- Academy to pay the City, on a monthly basis, an amount equal to a twenty percent (20%) share of the total revenue collected by the Academy.

Resource Impact

Estimated revenue in the amount of \$60,000 is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Operating Budget in the account listed below.

<i>Funds available as of June 2, 2026</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AMOUNT RECIEVED (Character)	AMOUNT
10-001-6021-575-347-200- PKR303	Ft Laud Aquatic Complex	Service Charge – Parks and Recreation	\$787,249	\$0	\$60,000
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					\$60,000

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

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Agreement

Prepared by: Carolyn Bean, Assistant to the Director, Parks and Recreation

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation