



LETTER TO THE COMMISSION

LTC No: 25-187

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission
FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager *RW*
DATE: October 29, 2025
SUBJECT: Florida Inland Navigation District Waterways Assistance Program –
Grant Awards for Four City Projects

The purpose of this Letter to the Commission (LTC) is to inform the City Commission of four (4) grant awards to the City of Fort Lauderdale from the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterways Assistance Program.

Fort Lauderdale Police Marine Unit Outboard Motor Replacement (Boat #1)

The City, via the Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD), has been awarded FIND grant funds to acquire one (1) set of outboard motors (engines) for FLPD Boat #1 to replace existing engines that are malfunctioning. The total project cost to replace the old engines is \$97,692. The new engines will allow FLPD's marine unit to positively contribute to overall boating safety by facilitating additional opportunities to:

- Make contact with users of the waterways;
- Provide boater safety information;
- Conduct area checks of key marine locations;
- Conduct vessel stops and/or conduct additional safety inspections of vessels;
- Issue warnings and citations for noted violations; and
- Prevent boating accidents through high visibility patrol activities.

The FIND grant will fund \$48,846 and the City will provide the required fifty percent (50%) match of \$48,846 to fully fund the \$97,692 project. A motion authorizing the execution of the grant agreement is tentatively scheduled for the November 4, 2025, City Commission Regular Meeting (CAM #25-1017).

Riverwalk North Seawall Replacement

The Riverwalk North Seawall Replacement Project will reconstruct approximately 510 linear feet of seawall along the downtown waterfront. The project includes removing existing piles and the pile-supported walkway, installing a floating dock, replacing the seawall cap beneath the South Andrews Avenue Bridge, and upgrading utilities, shore-tie pedestals, and pier lighting. The cost for the upland improvements is estimated at \$2,065,272. The City has been awarded a FIND grant that will fund \$1,032,636 (or fifty

percent (50%)) of the project cost. The FIND grant will support the upland improvements including raising pedestrian areas within the project limits and elevating the 9/11 Monument to the new grade.

Note that the City originally applied for additional grant funds for the seawall improvements; however, the City was unable to obtain the required permits from various regulatory agencies by the grant deadline. City staff will continue to explore funding opportunities which may include applying for 2026 FIND grant funds. Tangentially, the November 4, 2025, City Commission Regular Meeting agenda includes a change order to redesign elements associated with this project (CAM #25-0772).

ISHOF Seawall Construction

Phase One (1) of the International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) redevelopment project includes the replacement of the peninsula seawall. The estimated cost of the seawall replacement is \$8,041,538. The City, in conjunction with Hall of Fame Partners LLC (HOFP), applied for and has been awarded FIND grant funding in the amount of \$4,020,769 reflecting fifty percent (50%) of the project cost with the remaining fifty percent (50%) to be funded by HOFP. The grant funding reduces the overall project cost, and no City revenue pledges are involved. City staff and HOFP are working on next steps, which may include a comprehensive agreement amendment to allow the grant funds to be applied to the project.

ISHOF Public Dock and Promenade Design

A future phase of the ISHOF redevelopment project includes new public docking facilities and a pedestrian promenade intended to improve waterfront access and connectivity. The project includes installation of floating docks, upgraded utility connections, and shoreline improvements to support public use and enhance the visitor experience. The City has been awarded a FIND grant to advance associated planning and design efforts. The total design costs are estimated at \$500,000 with \$250,000 in FIND grant providing for fifty percent (50%) and the remaining \$250,000 (50%) to be funded by HOFP. The grant reduces the overall project cost, and no City revenue pledges are contemplated. City staff and HOFP are working on next steps, which may include a comprehensive agreement amendment for the funds to be applied to the project.

For additional information, please contact Ben Rogers, Assistant City Manager, at (954) 828-3781 or brogers@fortlauderdale.gov or William Schultz, Police Chief, at (954) 828-5592 or wschultz@flpd.gov.

c: Rickelle Williams, City Manager
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