



LETTER TO THE COMMISSION

LTC No: 25-241

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission
FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager *RW*
DATE: December 4, 2025
SUBJECT: Public-Facing Event Platform

The purpose of this Letter to the Commission (LTC) is to inform the City Commission of the official launch of the City's first public-facing Event Explorer and Impact Dashboard, which soft-launched on Friday, November 14, 2025, and will be marketed and officially launched on Friday, December 5, 2025.

This new platform was developed in response to feedback received during the August 19, 2025, City Commission Conference meeting where staff presented proposed amendments to the outdoor event ordinance. During the presentation, the City Commission emphasized the importance of a centralized and transparent tool to inform the public, particularly residents in impacted neighborhoods, about upcoming event opportunities and their potential effects.

City staff from the Parks and Recreation and Information Technology (IT) Services Departments developed a user-friendly and interactive platform that enhances transparency, promotes community engagement, and supports data-driven event management. The system is powered by data collected through the City's online event permitting platform, launched in February 2025, and includes a separate intake process for city-produced and community programming events.

The Event Explorer and Impact Dashboard serve two (2) primary functions. First, it provides real-time information on permitted and City-produced events that may affect neighborhoods, including road closures, after-hours music, parking disruptions, bridge closures, and the presence of alcohol. Secondly, it promotes community participation by showcasing events and programs available citywide, including those that are family-friendly, free to attend, or feature amenities such as live music and food.

Users can search for events by date, event name, or amenity type, and may also enter an address to view events occurring nearby. The primary function of the Event Explorer is to serve as a searchable marketing tool that promotes upcoming events to the community based on date and event offerings. Similarly, the dashboard allows filtering by impact type,

Commission district, or event name and offers a tailored view of relevant activities and disruptions.

The platform is currently focused on permitted and community-produced events. Permitted events include those approved through the City's Outdoor Event Permitting process as well as Riverwalk and Las Olas Oceanside Park (LOOP) activation agreements. Community-produced events include both large-scale and neighborhood-based events that are approved by the City Commission during the budget cycle each year, or coordinated by the Parks and Recreation Department.

A dedicated section for aquatics events, including programming at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center, is under development and will be integrated in a future update. Additionally, the ability to filter events by type (permitted, community, or aquatics) is planned as part of a forthcoming enhancement to improve user navigation and searchability.

The platform is located on the City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Events webpage and will be accessible via clearly labeled links titled "[Events Explorer](#)" and "[Impact Dashboard](#)." These mobile-friendly, web-based applications are designed to be fully responsive, allowing residents to access event information seamlessly from any device, whether at home or on the go.

This initiative represents a significant step forward in ensuring residents are informed, empowered, and connected to the events shaping their neighborhoods. It also reflects the City's ongoing commitment to transparency, responsiveness, and community-centered service delivery.

For further information, please contact Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation Director, at cwilliams@fortlauderdale.gov

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