



LETTER TO THE COMMISSION

LTC No: 25-291

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission
FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager *RW*
DATE: December 30, 2025
SUBJECT: Demolition of the Former Police Department Headquarters and Update on the New Police Department Headquarters

The purpose of this Letter to the Commission (LTC) is to provide the City Commission with an update on the demolition schedule for the former Police Department Headquarters building and a general project update for the new Police Department Headquarters (PDHQ).

Demolition of the Former Police Department Headquarters Building

Demolition of the former Police Department Headquarters building is a significant step towards completion of the development of the overall campus and for occupancy of the new PDHQ. Moss (General Contractor) has been making progress toward demolition since early Fall 2025 when the interior demolition process began, including the abatement of asbestos. With that stage complete, Moss will begin the demolition of the entire building on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, starting with the portion of the building closest to the new PDHQ. Once fully demolished, site work will be necessary as part of the larger campus development plan.

Update on the New Police Department Headquarters

The PDHQ project is within its final stage of development leading to a Partial Certificate of Occupancy (PCO) which will allow the Police Department to begin the process of moving into the new building. It is anticipated that Moss will submit for the PCO in mid-January 2026. To maintain the schedule for PCO and a final Certificate of Occupancy (CO) in Summer 2026, Moss will need to complete a punch list of outstanding items and pass all final building inspections. Based on this schedule, moving into the new PDHQ is scheduled to begin on or around Monday, January 26, 2026.

Phase I and II Report Status

Following the identification of a deflection issue at PDHQ, the City of Fort Lauderdale sought a third-party engineering consultant to validate and assess the original repairs. It was then determined that an additional peer review should be performed to validate the enhancements related to corrective measures. At the request of the City, Wiss, Janey, Elstner Associates, Inc (WJE) completed its peer review in two (2) phases. Phase I

focused on the deflection area analysis and subsequent recommendations to resolve the issue. Phase II focused on an analysis of the remainder of the building by providing findings and recommendations for addressing the findings. Phase I has been completed and all structural enhancement implemented.

The two (2) remaining items from the Phase II report are the installation of a larger slide bearing in the space between the main PDHQ and the Community Center, and the determination if structural enhancement is needed to support the building's shear wall. The slide-bearing installation is in progress and should be completed withing two to four (2-4) weeks. Load testing of the shear wall anchoring components was completed on December 19, 2025. Once the results are verified by WJE and the engineer of record, Thorton Tomasetti, a report will be issued that will confirm if additional work is required or if the components meet structural requirements as designed and installed. A final report is expected on or near January 9, 2026, prior to the anticipated move-in date. Should additional work be required, the move-in process will be adjusted as necessary.

Once the two (2) items are addressed, all of the items within WJE's Phase II report will be closed.

For additional information, please contact Anthony Fajardo, Development Services Director, at afajardo@fortlauderdale.gov or 352-828-5758.

c: Shari McCartney, City Attorney
David R. Soloman, City Clerk
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