



**APPROVED  
BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
January 21, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.  
101 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Tower 101,  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>10/2025 through 9/2026 Cumulative Attendance</b>	
		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
William Brown, Chair	P	2	0
Melissa Milroy, Vice Chair	P	2	0
Melinda Bowker [via Zoom]	P	2	0
Olivier Cale	P	2	0
Rich DeGirolamo	P	1	1
Ronald Goff	A	0	1
Jason Juffras [via Zoom]	P	1	0
Anide Metellus-Thompson	P	1	0
David “Max” Ortolani	P	1	0
Samantha Perryman-Jones	P	1	0

**Staff**

Rickelle Williams, City Manager  
 Christopher Cooper, Deputy City Manager  
 Yvette Matthews, Assistant City Manager  
 Quentin Pough, Assistant City Manager  
 Laura Reece, Director, Office of Management and Budget  
 Carl Williams, Director of Parks and Recreation  
 Linda Short, Finance Director  
 Porshia Garcia, Community Services Director  
 Ella Parker, Deputy Director, Development Services  
 Stephen Golan, Fire Chief  
 Susan Grant, Special Advisor  
 Patrick Reilly, City Auditor  
 Charmaine Crawford, OMB Department and Board Liaison  
 J. Opperee, Prototype Recording Secretary

**Communications to the City Commission**

**Motion** made by Mr. DeGirolamo, seconded by Mr. Cale, to request the City develop a Certificate of Use pilot program that would include benchmarks, and implement it for one year, after which it would be evaluated. In a roll call vote, motion passed 9-0.

### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Budget Advisory Board was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

### **II. Roll Call**

Roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

**Motion** made by Ms. Milroy, seconded by Ms. Perryman-Jones to allow Mr. Juffras and Ms. Bowker to participate via Zoom. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

### **III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 10, 2025**

**Motion** made by Ms. Milroy, seconded by Mr. Ortolani to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025 meeting. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

### **IV. Floor Open for Neighbor Input**

Esthel Brennan, President of Riverside Park Residents' Association, requested the City add Public Service Aides to the budget for traffic control at schools. She discussed issues with parents who were circumventing the proper pick up/drop off process causing traffic in neighborhoods near schools. She suggested starting with one aide that could be used as a test case. Ms. Matthews said the Police Department was running a pilot program now using existing employees and was noting success. They would evaluate the program and its costs when creating the next budget. Ms. Brennan said neighborhood members had informed her that this had been 90% effective in deterring turnaround traffic. Chair Brown asked if funds from the School Zone Camera Program could be used to pay for the aides. Ms. Matthews said the funds were first used for crossing guards but would also go into the General Fund.

New Board member Jason Juffras introduced himself. Quentin Pough, Assistant City Manager introduced himself.

### **V. Old Business**

Suggested Budget Advisory Board Assignment List - Drafted by Olivier Cale

Mr. Cale explained to Board members not present at the last meeting the purpose of the assignment list he had drafted after the Board's previous discussion. Ms. Matthews said staff could also provide data and research they had already done. Mr. Cale thought the key was for Board members to look at the data in a resident-centric way, not a municipal organization way. Ms. Reece confirmed that meetings any Board members wished with City staff should be arranged through Ms. Crawford.

Mr. DeGirolamo asked what was expected of Board members and Ms. Reece said staff could share information and then Board members would report back to the full Board. Chair Brown advised Board members to communicate through staff and not directly with each other. Ms. Reece confirmed that if two Board members met with staff at the same time, it would need to be a publicly noticed meeting. Ms. Williams suggested some larger

topics could be bifurcated for two Board members to cover separately. Ms. Reece stated Mr. Cale currently had two topics: budget reduction scenarios and revenue trends. Mr. Juffras agreed to take on budget reduction scenarios so he was not partnering with another Board member.

Ms. Milroy asked the timing for deliverables and Mr. Cale suggested a progress report in February and reminded Board members that they wanted to form an overall consensus and vision at their March meeting, in time for the April joint meeting with the City Commission. Chair Brown asked for an update at the Board's February meeting on possible property tax changes from Daphnee Sainvil, Intergovernmental Affairs Manager.

Stephanie Provo asked if the Board would investigate waste, fraud and abuse and if there were targets for spending cuts. Chair Brown said this was not the Board's responsibility. Patrick Reilly, City Auditor, described the various audits City departments regularly underwent to identify issues and invited Ms. Provo to contact him with any information regarding waste, fraud or abuse.

## **VI. New Business**

### **A. Performance Measures and Outcomes for New Departments/Re-organizations**

Ms. Reece explained how to find the performance measures for the new departments in the 2026 budget book that Board members had received.

### **B. Community Redevelopment Agency Benchmarks and Invest Fort Lauderdale Update**

Vanessa Martin, Acting CRA Manager, and Christopher Cooper, Deputy City Manager, provided the presentation, a copy of which is attached to these minutes for the public record. Mr. Cooper explained that the way the CRA increment rate was structured, per the State, was that it could be either 0% or between 50% and 99% of the tax increment collected in that district now. Chair Brown asked Ms. Williams to find out when the City Commission anticipated reviewing the contribution and would want input from the Board.

Mr. DeGirolamo recalled Board members had expressed concerns about projects that were not progressing, as well as hospitality development projects that received mixed support from the Board. Mr. DeGirolamo also wanted to know exactly what was spent and where during the initial two-year extension period.

Mr. Cale wanted data indicating jobs attached to investments and was concerned about commercial projects that received incentives and then abandoned their projects. He said the vetting process and project metrics should be available for the Board. He also wished to know projects' return on investment. Mr. Cooper agreed to bring that level of detail back.

Ms. Milroy had attended the Arcadian project opening recently and said she was "beyond impressed." She wished to see a graph showing projects in progress, with anticipated

completion dates. Ms. Bowker asked about the affordable housing projects and Ms. Martin said the projects in the presentation had been approved and approximately five were open. She agreed to provide a more descriptive chart that would break down the affordable housing units. Mr. Juffras wanted more information on the City's affordable housing goals to know if the projects were making significant contributions.

Mr. DeGirolamo suggested communicating with the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee [on which he also serves].

### **C. Review of General Fund Revenue Enhancement Opportunities**

Ms. Reece provided a presentation on the ad valorem taxes and fees. Porshia Garcia, Community Services Director, continued the presentation, discussing Vacation Rental and Business Tax fees. Ella Parker, Deputy Director, Development Services, discussed Development Services fees. Carl Williams, Director of Parks and Recreation, addressed recreation fees and events fees. Stephen Golan, Fire Chief, discussed ambulance transport fees. Linda Short, Finance Director, explained lien search fees. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes for the public record.

Ms. Parker said the City wished to implement a Certificate of Use fee that would be required prior to a business applying for a Business Tax Receipt, which would help applicants understand if their use was appropriate and permitted in that location, thereby reducing after-the-fact denials of Business Tax Receipts and preventing applicants from incurring substantial costs up front. Mr. Cooper discussed how this would be implemented. Mr. DeGirolamo asked if the City had received feedback from businesses and Ms. Parker said they had and they intended to get more. Mr. Cale thought this was an excellent opportunity and advised staff to market it properly to businesses. Ms. Milroy asked how this would affect a mall and how long the process would take. Ms. Parker thought there would be opportunities to continue to evaluate the methodology to make the process more seamless. Ms. Garcia believed implementing the Certificate of Use would significantly speed the issuance of Business Tax Receipts.

### **VII. Communications to/from City Commission**

**Motion** made by Mr. DeGirolamo, seconded by Mr. Cale, to request the City develop a Certificate of Use pilot program that would include benchmarks and implement it for one year, after which it would be evaluated. In a roll call vote, motion passed 9-0.

### **VIII. Board Member Comments**

Mr. Cale wished Board members to be provided with the amount of money in each revenue "bucket." Regarding taxes and fees, he asked how they defined "reasonable" and how often the City could raise them. Ms. Reece explained that taxes were governed by State statute and each had its own rules. Fees the City set had no limit on how often they could be raised, but that must be done by ordinance. Ms. Reece agreed to add to the presentation information regarding the requirements for changes and an estimate of how much additional revenue could be generated.

Ms. Metellus-Thompson asked if Parks and Recreation had a Special Needs Division and Mr. Williams said they had a subdivision that assessed individuals that required special care, but they did not have a Special Needs Division. Ms. Metellus-Thompson noted if they had dedicated special needs programs and coaches, the City could keep more revenue from those programs. Ms. Williams noted they offered wheelchair adaptations of sports. Chair Brown asked to see the hardship case policy for recreation facilities.

Chair Brown asked staff to bring the film permit fee recommendation back to the Board to review prior to it going back to the City Commission. He then discussed the vehicle for hire process and encouraged staff to look at all permit fees. Chair Brown said the City Commission had held its goal setting session recently and he thought their priorities were the same as last year: homelessness, public safety, and infrastructure.

Ms. Williams discussed the City Hall project and said the City Commission had a target budget of approximately \$200 million. Ms. Williams addressed the possibility of a fourth Police district and said the City Commission had given direction to continue investigating. She did not anticipate this would result in a significant increase in personnel.

Ms. Matthews said the City wished to continue to expand broadband and to ensure residents had access to available programs. She agreed that otherwise, the Commission's goals had remained consistent.

Ms. Reece said she would send an email regarding changing the meeting dates in June and August.

Ms. Bowker thanked Ms. Matthews for providing the data she had requested regarding taxable revenue comparing District 4 and the other three districts. She asked for a breakdown by district, and to share that information with the entire Board.

## **IX. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.



*CITY OF FORT  
LAUDERDALE  
COMMUNITY  
REDEVELOPMENT  
AGENCY*

# *MISSION*

The mission of the Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) is to enhance the quality of life in the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights and Central City CRA.





# *STRATEGIC FOCUS*

- Prioritize completion of \$79M in-progress and inactive projects to deliver committed outcomes.
- Align expenditures with projects that yield clear, measurable outcomes, including tax base growth, affordable housing, job creation, and infrastructure improvements.
- Reevaluate unencumbered prior year awards to ensure financial feasibility, readiness, and strategic alignment.
- Aggressively seek grants, partnerships, and alternative funding sources to mitigate reduced City Tax Increment Financing (TIF).



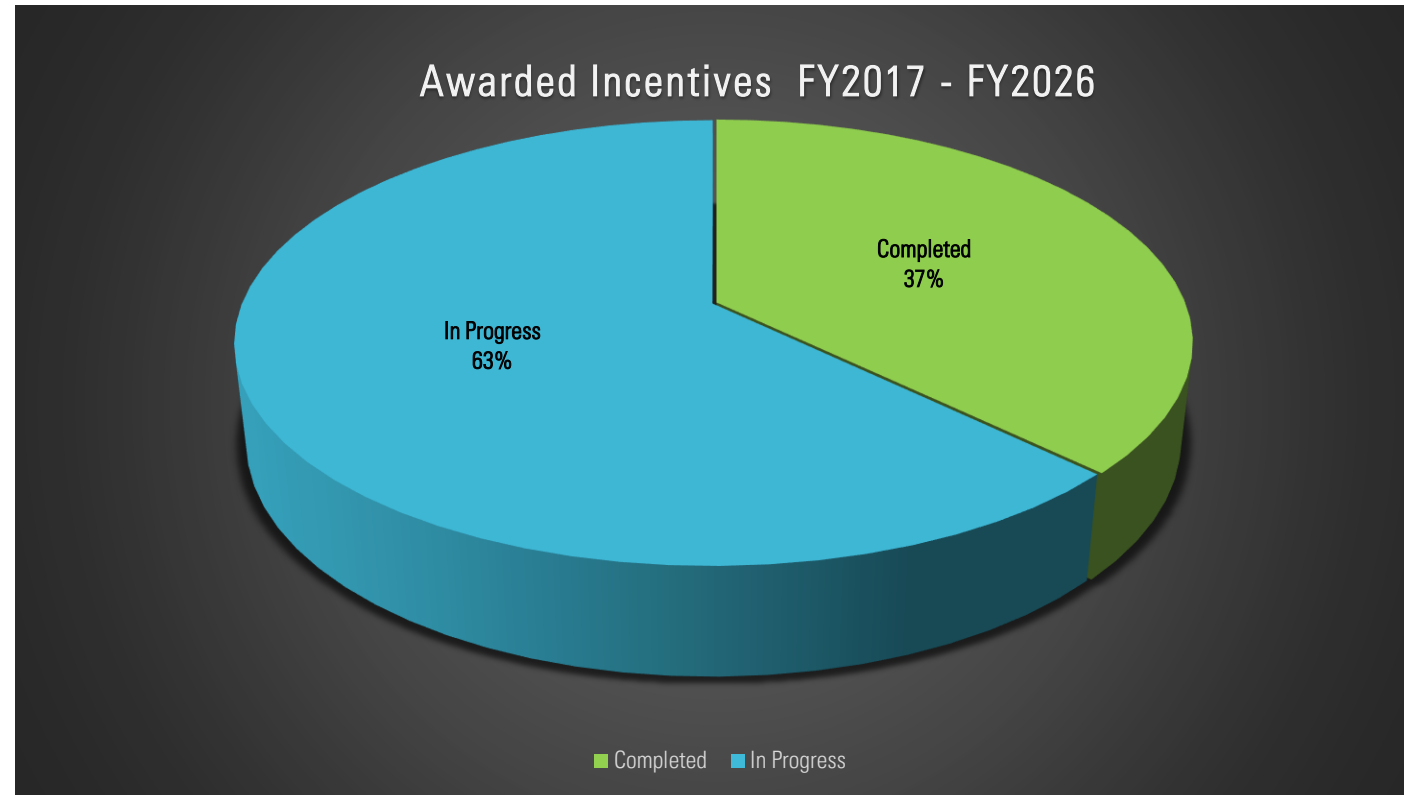
# *MEASURING SUCCESS*

The City of Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights (NPF) CRA will measure success through a combination of housing and economic development outcomes. Key performance indicators will include the development of mixed-use housing projects with defined affordable housing units, as well as measurable economic growth.

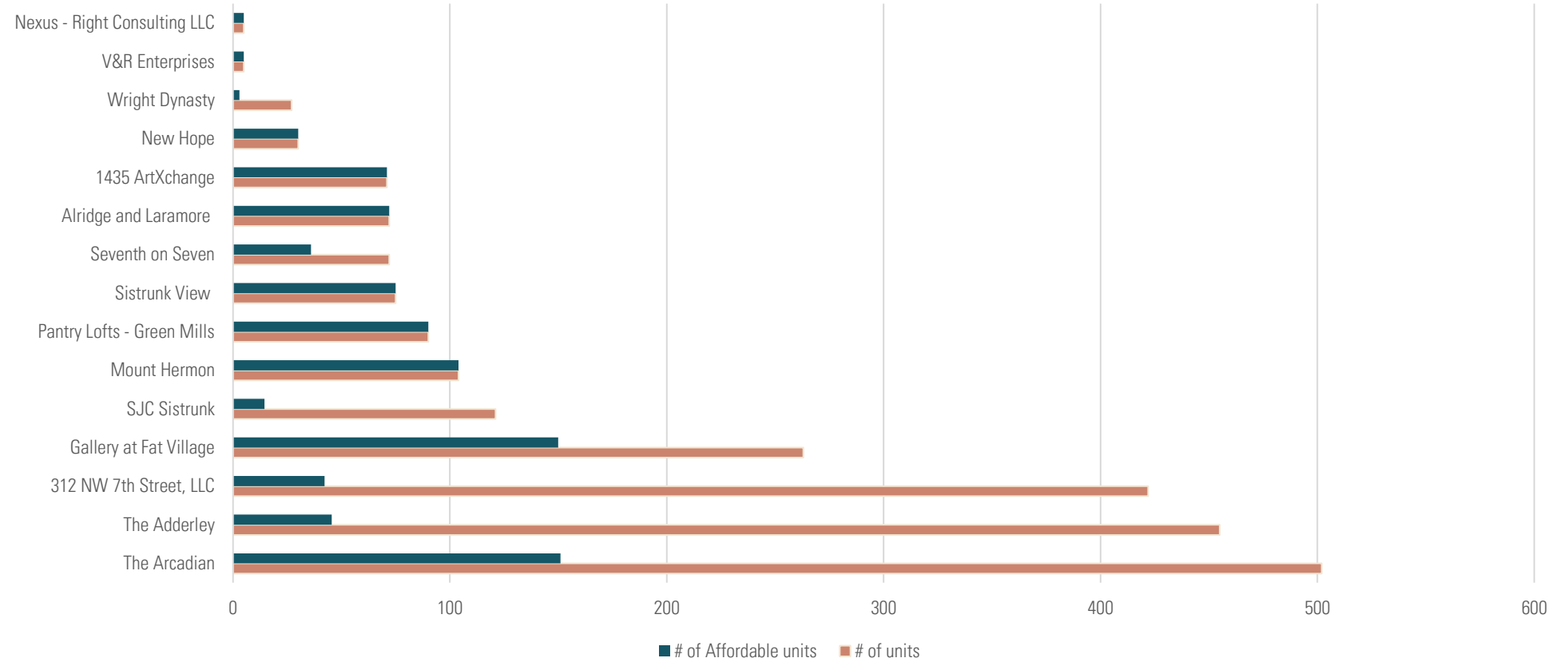
1. Product Delivery – Project completion, with on time and on budget performance.
2. Return on Investment – Growth in assessed value, tax base and private capital leverage.
3. Affordable Housing – Number of affordable units delivered.
4. Economic Impact – Job creation

# *INCENTIVE SUMMARY*

- \$126M in Tax Increment Financing (TIF) awarded within the NPF CRA Area.
- \$79M In Progress Projects
- \$47M Completed



# *NUMBER OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS*



# *FINAL TAKEAWAYS*

- The investments directly advanced core housing and economic objectives resulting in the advancement of approximately 896 affordable housing units, expanding housing access, homelessness reduction, and elimination of the housing burden.
- The CRA will maintain its focus on the completion of projects, leveraging external funding sources, and monitoring performance to help sustain long term economic and community benefits.



- Vanessa Martin
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- [vmartin@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:vmartin@fortlauderdale.gov)



CITY OF  
FORT LAUDERDALE

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# Revenue Enhancements Fiscal Year 2026

# Agenda



Basis of Authorization



General Fund Revenues



Revenue Enhancements – Recent Adjustments



Revenue Enhancements – In Progress



Revenue Enhancements – Potential Enhancements



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# Basis of Authorization

# Basis of Authorization

- The ability of local governments to raise revenue, for governmental operations, is limited by the state constitution
- With the exception of the ad valorem tax and constitutionally and statutorily authorized home rule revenue sources (i.e. fees and assessments), local governments are dependent on the Florida Legislature for authority to levy other forms of taxation

*Source: The Florida Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research, "2022 Local Government Financial Information Handbook"*

# Type of Revenues Authorized by the State Constitution and State Law

- **Ad Valorem Taxes** – State Constitution permits counties and municipalities to levy property taxes up to 10 mills (\$10 per \$1,000 of assessed value)
- **Home Rule Authority Revenues** – Under the Florida Constitution, local governments possess expansive home rule powers to impose fees and assessments to pay the cost of providing a service
- **State-shared Revenues** – Florida Legislature has passed several laws providing for the sharing of fees and taxes assessed by the State

Mobile Home  
License Tax

Alcoholic Beverage  
License Tax

Distribution of Sales  
and Use Taxes

Half-Cent Sales Tax

Firefighter  
Supplemental  
Compensation

# Home Rule Revenues: How can we legally charge fees?

## Regulatory Fees

- Authorized under Home Rule authority
- Must be directly related to the cost of the regulated activity
- Revenue must be used solely to support regulated activity

## Proprietary Fees

- On the City's exclusive legal authority to charge for certain services or privileges
- Must be reasonable in relation to the value of the service
- Appropriate when the payer receives a special or direct benefit

## Special Assessments

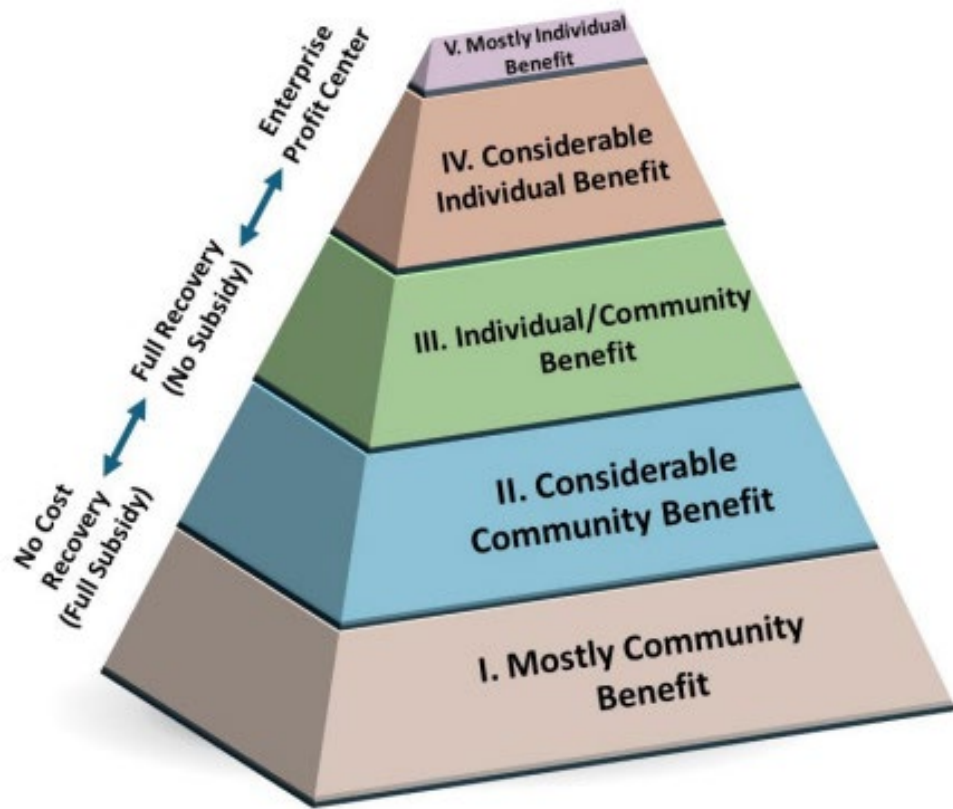
- Governed by state law and collected through the property tax bill
- Valid if the assessed property derives a special benefit from the improvement or service
- Assessment must be fairly and reasonably apportioned

# Additional Revenues Authorized by the Legislature

The legislature has authorized certain revenue sources for County and local governments through legislation providing authority for governments to assess a tax or fee, including the following:

- Communication Services Tax
- Insurance Premium Tax
- Local Options Fuel Taxes
- Fines and Forfeitures
- Gross Receipts Tax on Commercial Hazardous Waste Facilities
- Convention Development Taxes
- Local Business Tax
- Tourist Development Taxes
- Discretionary Surtax on Documents
- Motor Fuel and Diesel Fuel Taxes
- Highway Safety Fees (Red Light Cameras)
- Local Option Food and Beverage Taxes
- Tourist Impact Tax
- Green Utility Fee
- Municipal Parking Facility Space Surcharges

# Cost Recovery Philosophy



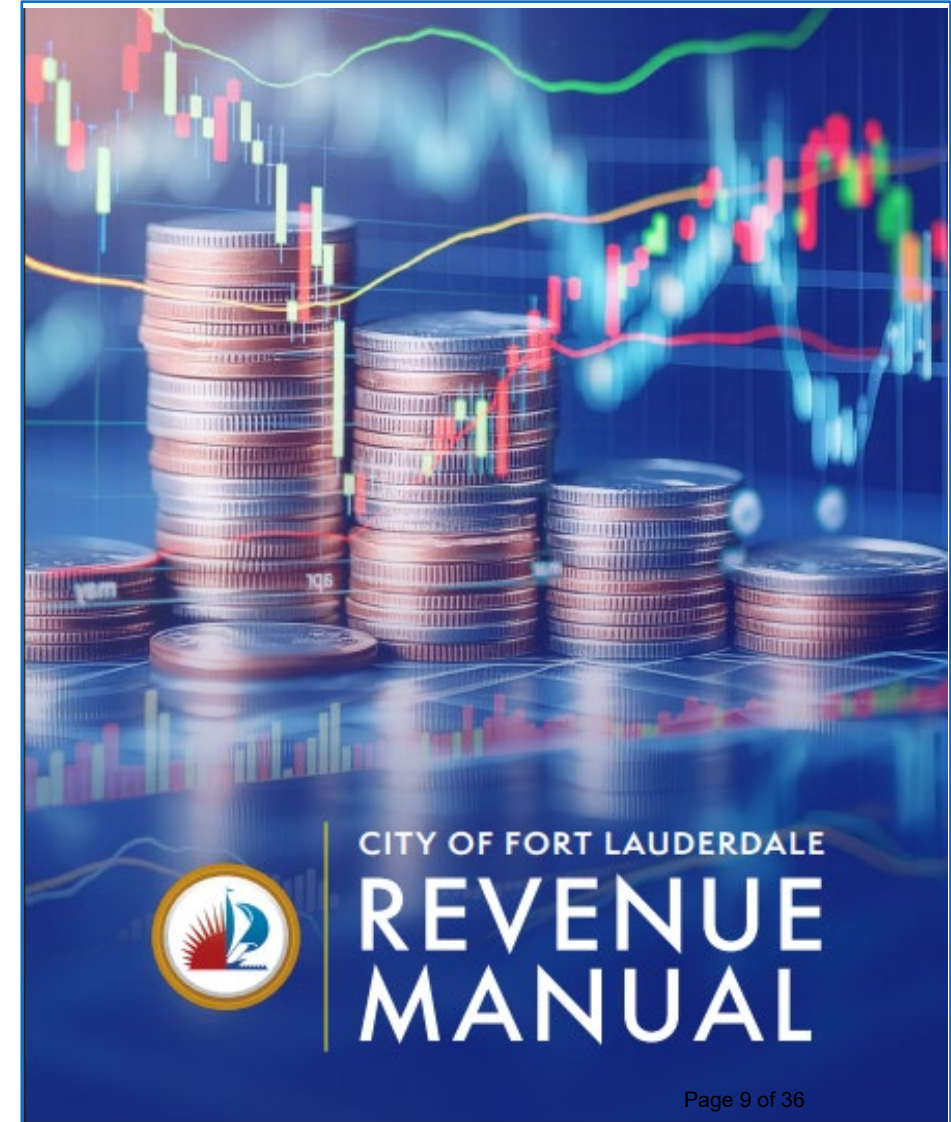
- The City uses the **Pricing and Cost Recovery Pyramid Model** to identify its philosophy for setting fees
- It assists in classifying various facilities, programs, and services offered to neighbors into an approved philosophy for subsidy or cost recovery
- The more the community benefits, the more subsidy it receives

# Fort Lauderdale Revenue Manual

- [The Revenue Manual](#) serves as a reference for revenues collected by the City
- Describes revenue sources, identifies the legal authority for the City to collect the revenue, and identifies the fiscal capacity for each revenue



Scan the QR code  
for access to the  
Revenue Manual

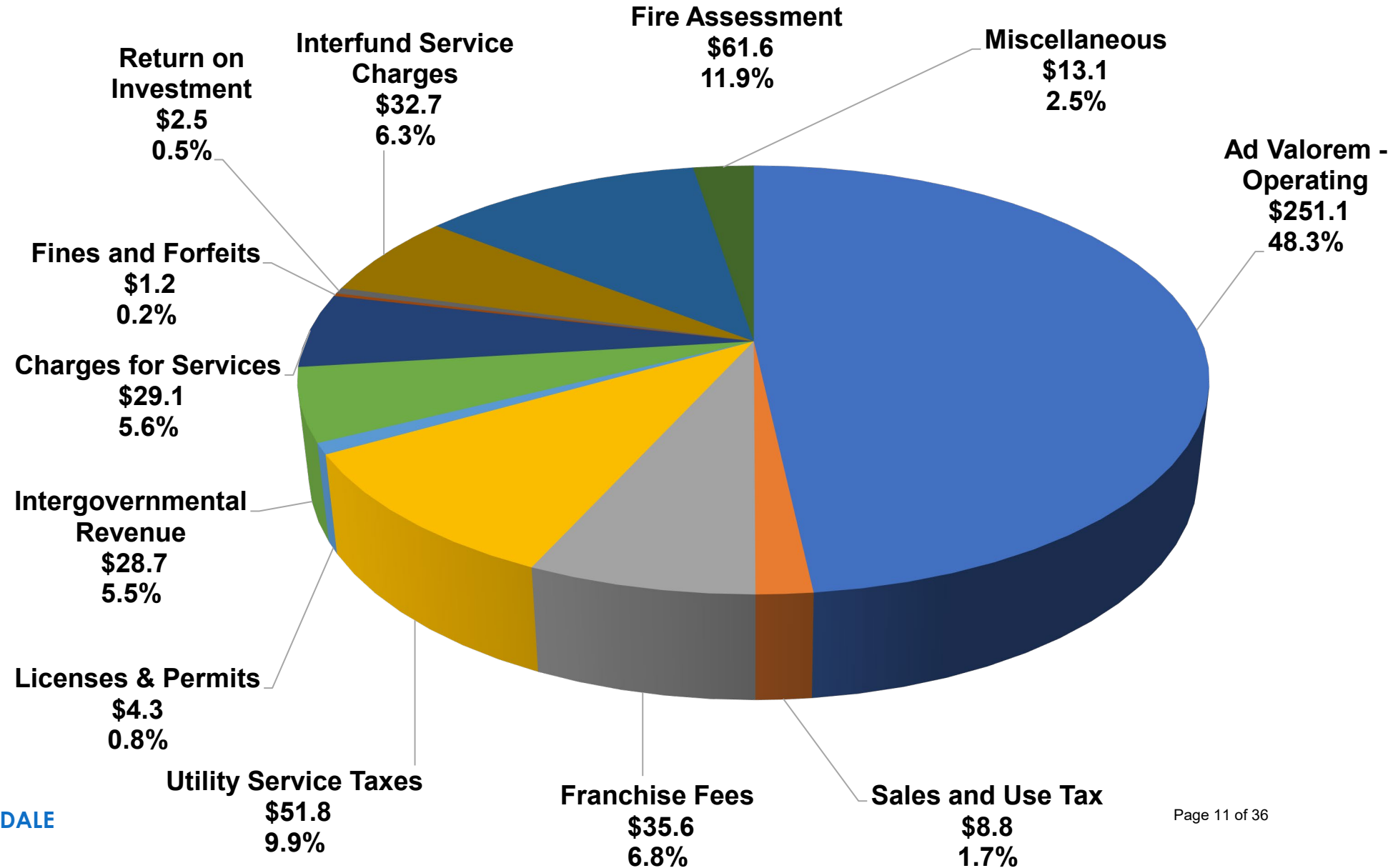




# General Fund Revenues

*Review and Enhancement Initiative*

# General Fund Revenues



FY 2026  
Adopted  
General  
Fund:  
**\$520.4**  
million

# Key Revenue Drivers

- Some General Fund Revenues are directly attributed to the cost of specific services, such as the Fire Assessment Fee.
- There are five (5) key revenue drivers that account for approximately **82%** of General Fund Revenues:
  1. Ad Valorem Taxes
  2. Fire Assessment Fee
  3. State Shared Revenues
  4. Utility Service Taxes
  5. Franchise Fees



# Breakdown of Key Revenue Drivers

Revenue Driver	FY 2026 Adopted Budget (in millions)	Percentage of Total Revenue
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$251.1	48%
Fire Assessment	61.6	12%
Utility Service Taxes	39.8	8%
State Shared Revenues	38.4	7%
Franchise Fees	35.6	7%
<b>Total from Above Sources</b>	<b>\$426.5</b>	<b>82%</b>
Total General Fund Revenue	\$520.4	100%



# Revenue Enhancements – Recent Accomplishments

Revenues updated within the past three (3) years

# Vacation Rental – Community Services Department

- On August 18, 2015, the City Commission created the Vacation Rental Registration Program via Ordinance No. C-15-29 and adopted the vacation rental registration fee structure via Resolution No. 15-183. In 2017, the City Commission adopted Resolution No. 17-81, reducing the initial registration and inspection fees below full cost recovery.
- This Program ensures that vacation rental operators are current with state and local licenses as well as requiring vacation rental properties to meet minimum housing and life safety standards as stated in the City of Fort Lauderdale’s Code of Ordinances.
- On September 16, 2025, an updated cost analysis was presented to the City Commission to adopt a new cost structure for vacation rental fees. It was determined through the analysis, that the new registration fee was 40% below cost recovery. The City Commission voted to adopt the new fee structure.

Fee Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Difference
New Registration Fee	\$350.00	\$880.00	+\$530.00
Renewal Registration Fee (Standard)	\$160.00	\$650.00	+\$490.00
Renewal Fee (Owner-Occupied)	\$80.00	\$200.00	+\$120.00
Safety Inspection / Re-Inspection / No-Show	\$75.00	\$100.00	+\$25.00
Late Registration Payment Fee	\$75.00	\$100.00	+\$25.00
Transfer Rental Agent Fee	\$35.00	\$50.00	+\$15.00

\*Proposed fees are rounded for ease of implementation.

# Development Review Fee – Development Services Department

- Fees assessed to applicants developing non-residential or residential properties of five (5) units or more. The committee is comprised of City departments and divisions including Building, Engineering, Landscape, Police, Sanitation, Transportation and Mobility, and Urban Design and Planning
- Fees were increased via resolution in FY 2024
- Development review fees can be increased via resolution to cover any increases in the cost of living or additional expenses related to the cost of providing these services



# Specialty Permit Fees – Development Services Department

- The services provided include review of development applications and permits to ensure compliance with the City's Unified Land Development Regulations (ULDR) section 47-24.1.H.
  - Engineering, Urban Design and Planning (including Historic Preservation), Zoning and Landscaping services
- Fees were increased via resolution in FY 2024 by 6% to cover the increase in operational expenses for these services
- Permit fees can be increased via resolution to cover any increases in the cost of living or additional expenses related to the cost of providing these services

# Tennis Fees – Parks and Recreation Department

- Tennis fees were increased by 20% following the renovation and reopening of the Jimmy Evert Tennis Center
- Reflects the enhanced amenities and service improvements
- Utilization levels and customer feedback will be monitored throughout the year to assess performance and demand



# Beach Food and Beverage Service Permit – Parks and Recreation Department



- On November 1, 2022, the City adopted an ordinance for a one (1) year pilot program to allow for the sale, service, and consumption of food and alcoholic beverages on the public beach directly in front of the hotels facing SR A1A
- In November 2023, the ordinance was amended to remove one (1) year pilot and was officially put into effect. The fee was \$25 per number of guest rooms
- On January 6, 2025, there was a second reading to amend the fees to \$30 per number of guest rooms + \$1,200 lump sum fee



# Revenue Enhancements – In Progress

# Business Tax – Community Services Department

- Business tax rates were reclassified on July 19, 1994, which established new base rates and created categories that still remain in effect today
- Fort Lauderdale business tax rates were amended in 2004 and then again in 2008
- The City has the ability to raise the Business Tax Receipt by a maximum of 5% **every other year** based on a limit placed by Florida State Statutes 205.0535 § (4)
- Fees are proposed to be increased by 5%. The First Reading of the Ordinance was held on January 20, 2026, with a Second Reading on February 3, 2026

# Fire Ambulance Transport Fee – Fire Rescue Department



- These fees are charged for Basic (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) emergency transport services to emergency facilities via the City's medical rescue units and are charged when an emergency occurs
- The fees were last increased in 2017
- The Fire Rescue Department has conducted a rate study and will consider 4.5% - 10% rate increases for levels of service

# Lien Research Fee – Finance Department

- This is an administrative fee collected for services associated with lien research
- The fee is charged for City services furnishing information regarding unpaid utility bills, special assessments, code enforcement actions, or any other revenues due
- The fee was last revised on June 15, 2020
- A \$75 fee increase to \$200 is being considered



# Outdoor Event Permit – Parks and Recreation Department



- In August 2025, the department presented a proposed update to the outdoor event permitting fee structure to the City Commission.
- The proposal includes an increase to the base application fee and introduces impact-based daily license fees based on event size, location, duration and operational demands.
- The revised model replaces the flat-fee approach with a rating matrix that classifies events as Limited, Moderate, or Major Impact and better aligns fees with the true cost of City impacts.

# Existing Fees (Potential rate adjustments)– Development Services Department

Fee Type	STATUS
<b>Banner Signs</b>	Established fee (\$10/banner); increase or flat-rate structure under review
<b>BOA Continuances</b>	Established fee (\$954); warrants review to assess cost recovery and COLA adjustment
<b>Letter of Non-Objection / Coastal Construction Control Line (CCCL)</b>	Established fee (\$318); warrants review to assess hourly cost recovery and COLA adjustment
<b>Variance Meetings</b>	Implement fee (\$150) after second meeting
<b>Construction Value–Based Engineering Permits</b>	Fee structure exists; develop standardized list of minimum fees for improvements based on scope of work, instead of cost of construction
<b>Engineering Capacity Letters / Re-Analysis</b>	Fees established; implement standardized fees based on scope of work to address cost recovery based on project complexity

# Existing Fees (Potential rate adjustments)– Development Services Department, continued

Fee Type	STATUS
<b>Expedited Reviews</b>	Fees established; implement a standardized fee to add cost recovery of higher-level staff involvement.
<b>Engineering Re-reviews &amp; Revisions</b>	Fees established; implement a standardized fee to add cost recovery of higher-level staff involvement.
<b>Administrative Site Plan Reviews (Level I &amp; II)</b>	Established fees; warrants review to assess hourly cost recovery and COLA adjustment
<b>Busker Permits</b>	Established one-time fee (\$25); implement renewal fee to capture administrative costs of renewals
<b>Community Residence</b>	Fee established (\$300); prescribed in ordinance, not COLA-adjusted; ordinance amendment required
<b>Extension of Time Requests (Written)</b>	Fee established (\$150); implement standardized fees based on scope of work to address cost recovery based on project complexity

# Existing Fees (Potential rate adjustments)– Development Services Department, continued

Fee Type	STATUS
<b>Oversized / Complex Development</b>	No scale or complexity-based fee structure; instead of approval level, scale fee based on development square footage and intensity, phasing, etc.
<b>Plat Applications</b>	Established fee (\$4,293); review needed to reflect recent process amendment
<b>RAC Signage</b>	Established fee (\$477); not COLA-adjusted
<b>Uptown Development - Site Plan Level Updates</b>	Update fee; SPL II fees lower than SPL III despite similar workload



# Revenue Enhancements For Consideration

# Film Permits – Community Services Department



- Fort Lauderdale's unique architectural styles and upscale ambiance make it a popular film and television location. Each year, approximately 300 film permits are issued in Fort Lauderdale
- Currently all film permits in Fort Lauderdale are processed through Broward County, but this is a potential revenue for the City
- There are no fees for film permits in Broward County, but production is responsible for the cost of any county or municipal services needed

# Code Enforcement Administrative Fees – Community Services Department

- As part of the code enforcement fines, an administrative fee is charged, but it is not at full cost recovery
- An analysis of full cost recovery will need to be completed
- A change in the fee structure will require a resolution from the City Commission

# Parks and Recreation – Overview of Revenues

- The Parks and Recreation Department is conducting a comprehensive review of all revenue streams to evaluate current performance, ensure alignment with market conditions and confirm that the City’s fee structure remains competitive and affordable for Fort Lauderdale residents

Program	Last Updated
Athletic Fees – Youth Programs	2014
Utility Fees – Dock	2023*
Commercial Yacht Fees	2023*
Softball Complex – Mills Pond	2012
Swimming Program Fees	2017
Miscellaneous Recreation Revenue (Rental of pavilions, fields, etc.)	2017
Beach Cabana Rentals (contract)	2023

\*Fees are assessed annually by department to ensure they are still competitive

# Parks and Recreation Fee Analysis

## Athletic Fees

- The department is evaluating whether current rates accurately reflect the cost of delivering youth and adult sports programs. Participation trends and cost-recovery goals are being analyzed to inform recommendations for potential fee adjustments

## Program Fees – Day Camp and Afterschool

- Program fees include revenue from essential community services, such as afterschool care and summer camp, which are subsidized to ensure participation remains affordable for families
- In June 2025 changes were implemented to the scholarship program. Residents can apply for a fee reduction on a sliding scale. This improves equity and contributes to responsible cost recovery

# Parks and Recreation - Fee Analysis

## Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center



- Select memberships at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center will see fee increases to better align with operational costs and market benchmarks
- Adjustments are being thoughtfully evaluated to balance affordability for residents while supporting the ongoing maintenance and operation of a premier regional aquatic facility

# Certificate of Use – Development Services Department

**Intent:** Verifies business type is permitted to operate in a specific area/zoning district.

- Required before business obtains Business Tax Receipt (BTR) and officially opens or operates.
- Utilized for new businesses or changes in business operations.
- Provides applicants with information on City’s review process, parking requirements, prevents incompatible uses and addresses safe operations.
- Ensures smoother approval path for business operations, saving time and avoiding upfront costs for leasing a property or investing in space renovations.
- Requires staff coordination and review time.
- Common practice in other jurisdictions.

## Basis:

- 1.5 hours per application
- UD&P hourly rate: \$159
- Minimum fee: \$238.50
- Estimated Volume: ≈1,700 applications annually (2022–2025 average)
- Estimated Revenue Impact: ≈\$405,450 annually

**Approval Path:** City Commission approval required.



# Proposed New or Add-on Fees – Development Services Department

Fee Type	STATUS
<b>Board of Adjustments (BOA) Appeals to City Commission</b>	No fee; hourly-based fee proposed
<b>BOA Deferral Requests (Applicant - Initiated)</b>	No fee; applicant-paid recovery recommended
<b>Follow-Up / Extended Review Meetings</b>	No fee beyond DRC; fee proposed after threshold
<b>Historic Preservation Board Certificate of Appropriateness – New Construction</b>	No fee; staff cost recovery recommended
<b>Parking Reductions (Administrative Review)</b>	No add-on fee; PZB preparation cost recovery proposed
<b>Planning and Zoning Board Mailer Preparation</b>	No cost recovery; applicant-paid pass-through proposed
<b>Transfer of Development Rights Retransfer</b>	No fee; fee proposed aligned with staff processing

