



## LETTER TO THE COMMISSION

**LTC No: 26-091**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission  
**FROM:** Rickelle Williams, City Manager *RW*  
**DATE:** March 31, 2026  
**SUBJECT: 2026 Tortuga Music Festival**

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The purpose of this Letter to the Commission (LTC) is to provide information on the 2026 Tortuga Music Festival.

On October 5, 2021, the City Commission approved a five (5)-year agreement between the City of Fort Lauderdale and TMF Holdco, LLC, for an annual three (3)-day music event (Tortuga Music Festival) on Fort Lauderdale Beach (CAM #21-0745). As shared via LTC No. 25-232 on November 19, 2025, the 2026 Tortuga Music Festival will be held on Friday, April 10, 2026, through Sunday, April 12, 2026.

The event period and details for the 2026 Tortuga Music Festival are as follows:

- Set-up: March 23, 2026 - April 9, 2026 (7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.)
- Event Dates: April 10, 2026 - April 12, 2026 (11:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.)
- Breakdown: April 13, 2026 - April 18, 2026 (7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.)

The event organizer attended the February 18, 2026, outdoor events meeting to review the event details with City staff, including the Parks and Recreation Department, Public Works Department, Transportation and Mobility Department, Police Department, and Fire Department. The outdoor events meeting focuses on operational logistics, cross departmental coordination, and event organizer requirements. In addition, Tortuga Music Festival representatives have met with the Central Beach Alliance and the Beach Business Improvement District in advance of the 2026 event to review the event details and logistics.

On March 26, 2026, the event organizer met with representatives from the City Manager's Office, Police Department, Fire Rescue Emergency Management Division, Parks and Recreation Department, and the Strategic Communications Department. The meeting focused on the operational and public safety plans.

The 2026 Tortuga Music Festival features Post Malone, Riley Green and Kenny Chesney as the festival headliners.

Consistent with prior years, there are no permitted road closures associated with the 2026 Tortuga Music Festival. However, the event draws a large crowd and traffic delays should be anticipated. Event attendees are encouraged to use rideshare, public transportation or the Fort Lauderdale Water Taxi to reduce traffic congestion.

In preparation for the event, the following departments have been working diligently with the event promoters. A summary of departmental preparations is outlined below.

### Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department received the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Turtle Permit for the 2026 Tortuga Music Festival and has distributed to key staff. In addition, the required escrow has been received in advance of the event to secure payment for City services. All required insurance documents have been received and reviewed by the Risk Management Department.

### Transportation and Mobility

A special event parking rate of \$30.00 will be in effect at the North Beach Parking Lot, Las Olas Garage, and for on-street parking from Vistamar Street to Las Olas Boulevard from April 10, 2026 through April 12, 2026. Signage will be placed at key locations to notify the public of active event parking rates. Parking staff will monitor demand and supply at barrier island parking facilities and manage operations accordingly.

The City's MicroMover (Circuit) service will follow an operational plan consistent with the approach implemented during the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. Las Olas Oceanside Park will serve as the designated drop-off and pick-up location for event attendees, clearly marked with signage. To maintain service efficiency and minimize the impact of event-related congestion, Circuit vehicles will not operate on State Road A1A south of Las Olas Oceanside Park. This routing adjustment ensures vehicles remain available to riders and reduces service delays associated with heavy traffic along this corridor. Operational changes are being communicated to the public through the Ride Circuit mobile app.

The City is actively coordinating with the Broward County Traffic Engineering Division and the Florida Department of Transportation to review and implement warranted signal timing adjustments along major corridors. Staff will not be approving any lane closures and is coordinating to ensure that no lane closures take place along state roads during this event, outside of any emergencies. These measures are intended to improve traffic flow and help manage congestion during the event. Residents and visitors should anticipate heavier-than-normal traffic volumes along Las Olas Boulevard, State Road A1A/Seabreeze Boulevard, and SE 17 Street.

### Community Enhancement and Compliance

The Community Enhancement and Compliance Division will serve in a support role during the 2026 Tortuga Music Festival, responding to quality-of-life concerns as needed. In advance of the event, staff will conduct proactive monitoring of known high-impact areas to help mitigate impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods.

### Police Department

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) finalized its operational plan and staffing schedule for the 2026 Tortuga Music Festival. FLPD will primarily focus on venue security, crowd management, traffic and pedestrian safety, and rapid response capabilities throughout the event. FLPD is coordinating public messaging including traffic impact announcements and public service announcements in coordination with the Strategic Communications Department.

FLPD is also coordinating with partner agencies to enhance operational readiness and support regional public safety efforts. Assisting agencies include Florida Highway Patrol and federal law enforcement partners, including federal anti-terrorism and homeland security resources.

### Fire Rescue Department

The Emergency Management Division is actively developing a comprehensive Event Action Plan (EAP) for the upcoming 2026 Tortuga Music Festival. This plan is designed to ensure a coordinated, multi-agency approach to public safety, operational readiness, and incident management throughout the duration of the event.

The EAP integrates key stakeholders across all City departments including Fire Rescue, Police, Public Works, Transportation, and Parks and Recreation along with external partners such as healthcare providers, emergency medical services, and state and county agencies. The plan emphasizes operational coordination, real-time communication, and situational awareness to effectively manage large crowds, respond to medical incidents, address weather-related impacts, and ensure rapid response to any emergency.

Overall, this proactive planning effort ensures that all participating agencies operate under a common framework, enhancing interoperability and enabling a safe and well-coordinated event that prioritizes the health, safety, and well-being of residents, visitors, and event staff.

### Public Works

Public Works Sanitation Division staff are communicating with Tortuga Music Festival representatives to coordinate staging and set up of its equipment for the event. Extended hours for the restroom facilities located at D.C. Alexander Park and the Las Olas Oceanside Park have been arranged for event-goers. Additionally, all appropriate permits have been approved and received by the Sea Turtle Oversight Protection (STOP) team to perform dune restoration at 1100 Seabreeze Boulevard, near Ocean Rescue Tower 4, beginning April 10, 2026 through April 13, 2026. A sign will be placed around the dune to alert residents and guests to refrain from traversing the dune and letting them know that the dune is being restored. This sign will remain for a month following the installation (or through May 13, 2026).

### Strategic Communications

The Strategic Communications Department will implement a targeted outreach effort to highlight impacts and promote alternative transportation options available. Messaging will encourage attendees to use the MicroMover, rideshare services, the Fort Lauderdale Water Taxi and other public transportation, while advising visitors to plan ahead and allow additional travel time.

Information will be shared in advance and throughout the event across the City's website, social media and e-news platforms, with coordination between City departments and event organizers to ensure consistent messaging.

For additional information, please contact Carl Williams, Director of Parks and Recreation, at [Cwilliams@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:Cwilliams@fortlauderdale.gov).

c: Shari McCartney, City Attorney  
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