

City of Lauderhill

*City Commission Chambers at City Hall
5581 W. Oakland Park Blvd.
Lauderhill, FL, 33313
www.lauderhill-fl.gov*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Monday, February 10, 2025

6:00 PM

City Commission Chambers

City Commission Meeting

LAUDERHILL CITY COMMISSION

***Mayor Denise D. Grant
Vice Mayor Sarai "Ray" Martin
Commissioner Richard Campbell
Commissioner Melissa P. Dunn
Commissioner John T. Hodgson***

***Kennie Hobbs, Interim City Manager
Andrea M. Anderson, City Clerk
Hans Ottinot, Interim City Attorney***

I CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Grant called to order the Regular City Commission Meeting at 6:04 PM.

II ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Commissioner Richard R. Campbell, Commissioner Melissa P. Dunn, Commissioner John T. Hodgson, Vice Mayor Sarai Martin, and Mayor Denise D. Grant

ALSO PRESENT:

Kennie Hobbs, Jr., Interim City Manager
Hans Ottinot, Interim City Attorney
Constance Stanley, Police Chief
Andrea M. Anderson, City Clerk

III COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (AND CITY MANAGER RESPONSES TO THE PUBLIC, IF THE TIME PERMITS DURING THIS PORTION OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION)**IV ADJOURNMENT (NO LATER THAN 6:30 PM)****I CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING****II HOUSEKEEPING**

A motion was made by Vice Mayor S. Martin, seconded by Commissioner R. Campbell, to ACCEPT the Revised Version of the City Commission Meeting Agenda for February 10, 2025, including moving items 11 and 12 to be heard immediately after presentations. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner R. Campbell, Commissioner M. Dunn, Commissioner J. Hodgson, Vice Mayor S. Martin, and Mayor D. Grant

Abstain: 0

III PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG FOLLOWED BY GOOD AND WELFARE**IV CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Commissioner M. Dunn, seconded by Commissioner R. Campbell, that this Consent Agenda was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner R. Campbell, Commissioner M. Dunn, Commissioner J. Hodgson, Vice Mayor S. Martin, and Mayor D. Grant

Abstain: 0

V APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VI PROCLAMATIONS / COMMENDATIONS (10 MINUTES MAXIMUM)**VII PRESENTATIONS (15 MINUTES MAXIMUM)**

- A. A PRESENTATION FOR BLACK HISTORY AND REGGAE MONTH (REQUESTED BY MAYOR DENISE D. GRANT).
- B. A PRESENTATION ON FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS (REQUESTED BY MAYOR DENISE D. GRANT).
- C. LAUDERHILL TEACHERS APPRECIATION PRESENTATION (REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER MELISSA P. DUNN).
- D. A PRESENTATION OF RECOGNITION TO FIRE CHIEF ROBERT TORRES FOR AN INNOVATION AWARD FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER KENNIE HOBBS).

Attachments: [Chief Robert Torres FCI Award Letter](#)

- E. A PRESENTATION FOR THE STATEWIDE SENIOR DOMINO TOURNAMENT (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER KENNIE HOBBS).

XI QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS (IF NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA)

All persons speaking on the following quasi-judicial matters were collectively sworn in.

- 11. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-22: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA GRANTING TO EAGLES NEST COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL A SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE DEVELOPMENT ORDER, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS, TO ALLOW WITHIN THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (IL) ZONING DISTRICT A CHARTER PRIMARY SCHOOL WITH TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, WITH BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAMS IN A 31,667+ SQUARE FEET BUILDING LOCATED ON A 2.07± ACRE SITE LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS A PORTION OF TRACT E, INDUSTRIAL 100 UNIT 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 85, PAGE 2 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 3698 NW 15TH STREET, LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-22](#)
[AR RES. NO. 25R-02-22](#)
[Attachment A - Application](#)
[Attachment B - Development Review Report \(DRR\)](#)
[Attachment C - Narrative](#)
[Attachment D - Floor Plan](#)
[Attachment E - Survey](#)
[Attachment F - Public Notice Affidavit](#)
[Attachment G - Conditions of Approval \(UNSIGNED\)](#)

Interim City Attorney Ottinot collectively swore in all persons wishing to speak on agenda item 11.

City Planner Molly Howson gave an overview of the subject resolution, as detailed in the backup, highlighting the following:

- The City heard from Eagle's Nest Charter Academy (ENCA) in 2014, as they sought to move into the subject location previously occupied by RISE Academy; ENCA was granted a special exception to operate a charter school in 2014 with a five-year window, thus expiring on March 19, 2019
- In 2019 ENCA requested an extension of the special exception; at that time, city staff had concerns about the location being in the light industrial zoning district, so staff again recommended denial in 2019, but the City Commission approved ENCA for a five-year extension, which expired in June 24, 2024
- In 2015, the State Legislature issued a requirement for cities, municipalities, and counties to treat charter schools no differently than they would public schools
- In 2024, when ENCA requested another extension of their special extension; in light of the 2015 State law, the school was no longer a permitted use in subject zoning district, so city staff recommended denial, and removed those approval permissions from the City's Land Development Regulations (LDR); staff informed the applicant when they approached the City for the extension that they could not obtain it
- With State legislation requiring municipalities to treat charter and public schools equally, despite a special exception approval for charter schools being removed from the LDR, a special exception remained in the LDR for public schools, so ENCA was able to submit the subject application
- City staff's concerns were strictly based on the suitability of the location for a school; staff had no concerns about ENCA being responsible operators.

Keith Poliakoff, the applicant's representative, highlighted the following:

- The subject property had been used exclusively for a school since 1997
- Despite the zoning being light industrial, the aerial of the site location showed the school site was bordered by the Georgetown townhomes, a vacant lot, a store that sold parts for boats, and across the street there was a moving company that had become partners with the school
- 95 percent of the school's students arrived by bus, and more than 70 percent lived in Lauderhill; with the planned closure of another nearby public school, they

expected that percent to be 100 percent Lauderhill residents

- The school currently had 295 students with a capacity for 300 students;
- The site was 100 percent built out as a school
- They expected the school to be rated B by 2026; their Coral Springs school had an A rating for the current school year
- The applicant's ability to make improvements and upgrades to school buildings and the site was made difficult by city staff continuing to make them come back every five years to apply for an extension to their special exception, nor did it foster an environment in which students and their parents could feel confident in the permanence of the school's location, where students' younger siblings could attend as they became of age
- The applicant sought approval for an indefinite special exception, allowing ENCA to remain at the subject location until it was no longer in operation, thus removing the need to return before the Commission every five years to extend the special exception; this would bolster their confidence in making improvements
- Highlighted the school's significant community involvement in city initiatives and events, such as food drives, Fire Safety Week, Lauderhill's Fall Festival, submitting an entrant for Lauderhill's Teacher of the Year Award; they supported the City's parks and facilities by utilizing them for activities and events
- From 2014 to date, the school had an excellent track record of never having any accidents, complaints, issues, etc.
- The applicant disagreed with staff's comment that the subject site was in an industrial area, as they felt this was not truly an industrial area; therefore, ENCA should not be constantly penalized for being in an industrial area
- The applicant disagreed with staff comment four as to economic benefits and liabilities; though staff acknowledged there were economic benefits from the school being located where it was, staff failed to realize that communities gained success when they attract residents wishing to live near successful schools; students' parents patronized local businesses traveling to and from the school for their children, and they consistently sought to do business with companies and organizations in the areas, particularly those that serviced the school
- Regarding comment seven, in which staff did not find the applicant's use to be consistent to the health, safety, and welfare of the general public, the applicant was puzzled how staff used this factor to not find in favor of the school, considering the school's positive track record at the subject site
- The applicant heard through the grapevine that city staff mentioned the applicant was asked over the years to make improvements; the applicant had no record of any such requests and they were willing to do so if they felt sure of the permanence of their location; as they loved their school, and they wished it to be a jewel in the City, a school Lauderhill students wanted to attend
- The principal, parents, school alumni, and other professionals were present to support the school and the subject application.

Commissioner Dunn wished to know if 95 percent of the students were bussed to the school and from which Lauderhill neighborhoods did students originate.

Mr. Poliakoff understood students outside a two-mile radius of the school were eligible to be bussed to ENCA.

Christine Mentis, Executive Director, and former principal of ENCA, said she oversaw the Lauderhill and Coral Springs campuses. This was her third time coming before the City Commission for the special exception approval to ensure the school's operation at the subject site. She noted they had four buses transporting approximately 200 of the 295 students to their school; students lived two to four miles in surrounding areas of Lauderhill.

The school's bus coordinator explained there were three buses at Eagle's Nest that serviced Lauderhill, Lauderdale Lakes, and Fort Lauderdale within a two- to four-mile radius of the school. Most of the children bussed to the school in Lauderhill came from the NW 56th Avenue area in Inverrary and along Sunrise Boulevard.

Commissioner Dunn commented, with regard to the economic impact of the school, historically, she understood the space was zoned industrial with the vision that the uses in that area would be in the manufacturing industry.

Ms. Howson clarified the economic impact of the school in relation to the subject area's zoning was with regard to the economic benefits and liabilities; staff had to look at the impact, not only of the applicant wishing to occupy the subject site, but the impact on the existing neighborhood, and business uses surrounding the school. She said the City considered the subject area to be Lauderhill's industrial area, of which the City was proud, adding that the business Mr. Poliakoff referenced as selling boat parts was a large marine company that manufactured boat parts; they had outdoor storage, and they produced life safety boats for cruise ships, etc. There was also a stone manufacturer, a moving company, the UPS located in the area, and Broward County Schools had warehousing located in the area. She admitted that though industrial uses were not always the most glamorous, they were very, very important, as this area made up less than five percent of the City's total land area.

Interim City Manager Kennie Hobbs affirmed the subject area was the City's only industrial area, and over the years the City made changes to Lauderhill's light industrial, and commercial warehouse district that abutted the residential community, amortizing some of the uses. He indicated the City often received inquiries from businesses that wished to either expand within the subject area, or were considering moving into that area. With regard to complaints, he stated the City received numerous complaints over many years. City staff held community meetings in the area when the City sought to do improvements in this business district, and, through the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), staff met with the community on such matters. There were complaints from parents who spoke about 18-wheelers traversing the area's streets not being a safe environment for children. He said city staff heard concerns expressed by area businesses that drove 18-wheelers and large commercial vehicles about students crossing the streets while their vehicles drove up and down those streets. Mr. Hobbs thought it misleading to state that Georgetown was part of the subject school community, as they were not; Georgetown was located to the rear of the school, but there was no direct entrance into Georgetown. He said the AT&T site that had a fence that was locked until recently; they did not allow anyone to traverse between the two sites; even the

vacant lot that would be developed into residential was not a part of Lauderhill's industrial area; thus, the aerial shown by the applicant was misleading. He explained it was not city staff who requested that the applicant return before the Commission every five years; city staff consistently recommended denial of the subject item, as they did for the present resolution; this was to facilitate the subject site being utilized for an industrial use. Staff stood behind its recommendation of denial.

Commissioner Campbell mentioned speaking with an ENCA representative on the subject item, and part of what he pointed out in that discussion was nothing he saw thus far that came from the City indicated the school itself posed a problem, nor was anyone involved in the subject process denying the importance of a school. He visited the site and the surrounding area, and he knew the City Commission recently approved a site on which large trucks would be parked that was adjacent to ENCA. The school itself was in good condition, and there was no doubt that the teachers were doing a wonderful job with the students, so this was not what was at issue. He understood from staff that the City desired to keep the school in Lauderhill, just at an alternate location, where the environment was better suited for a learning experience; he knew part of the calculation was the economic cost of physically moving the school from one location to another. It was with the latter that he had a problem; one's learning environment was not restricted to what took place inside the school, but the external environment had to be taken into consideration. Commissioner Campbell remarked that NW 38th Avenue became the City's entertainment district, for which certain businesses were amortized, as their uses were no longer considered suitable; thus, the idea of a business moving out of the subject area for such reasons was not a new concept. He hoped the school could present information that made him feel more comfortable, particularly in light of city staff's statements as to there being more suitable locations in Lauderhill for the school; he questioned why it was so important for the school to remain at the subject location in the middle of the City's only industrial zone. The school was in the middle of an environment in which it was unusual to foster security and education for Lauderhill's students; elsewhere, it would not be possible to put students in such an environment. It upset him when Lauderhill's communities were used as a selling point, as it was clear that residents of Georgetown were not a significant portion of ENCA's student body, since over 200 students were bussed to the school. He hoped the applicant would clarify for him why, since so many students were bussed from other areas in Lauderhill, the school did not seek a more suitable relocation within the City.

Ms. Mentis affirmed economic challenges were the main reason for remaining at the subject location, as charter schools received less funding than traditional public schools, though they were still a public school. There were no additional tuition, fees, etc. that were assessed to their students; their funding came from the State. With regard to relocating elsewhere in Lauderhill, she was unaware of any recommendations from city staff regarding other more suitable sites in Lauderhill. ENCA representatives met with city staff, including the City Manager and Economic Development Coordinator Renee Thrasher, beginning in August 2024 to discuss the needs of the school, and the possibility of relocating to another site in Lauderhill; Ms. Thrasher promised to work diligently to find an

alternate location within Lauderhill. To date, staff was unable to find a suitable site with the appropriate square footage in Lauderhill to which the school could relocate.

Commissioner Campbell pointed out that despite the current industrial uses surrounding the school, as the subject area was zoned industrial, there was no way to predict what future industrial uses might come to the area that could pose further safety challenges for the school's students.

Ms. Mentis responded that for the last ten years of occupying the current space, even with the nearby presence of UPS, etc., they had a good relationship with neighboring businesses and the school was well entrenched in the neighborhood. The school absolutely understood the student safety concerns expressed by the City, and they worked closely with Police Chief Stanley to walk the school site and make adjustments to enhance the safety and security of the school. She said they posted traffic markers and ensured their schedule was in sync with surrounding businesses; when students arrived and departed, there was ample staff assisting students and parents. The school was not invited to participate in any conversations mentioned by Mr. Hobbs regarding safety concerns due to the presence of the school; in ten years of the school occupying the subject site, they had a perfect safety record, with no students being injured, etc. in any way. She knew there were Broward schools located in appropriately zoned areas that had safety incidents; ENCA took the safety of their students very seriously. Again, the school welcomed discussions about possible relocation to a more suitable site in Lauderhill, and if such a location was found, the school would need time to build a reserve to afford that transition.

Mr. Hobbs noted when city staff and ENCA representatives met in August 2024, the time to move was one of the points the then city manager brought up; an outcome from that meeting was Economic Development staff worked with P&Z staff to identify areas suitable for a school. He recalled that an actual property was identified, though it might not have met the criteria the school set for move-in suitability. One of the points staff made at the August meeting was that because the expiration of the special exception had taken place, the school was operating illegally via a noncompliant use in the subject area. He thought a meeting of minds was reached between the parties for the school to operate for the remainder of the school year, while the school sought to identify another Lauderhill location to which they could move; staff agreed in August 2024 that it was not reasonable to expect the school to move immediately. A letter of agreement to this effect was sent to ENCA to sign and return to the City, but this did not happen; the next communication was to meet at the present time, so there was prior communication between the school and city staff, identifying a transition plan that would take the school through to the end of the current school year. He believed there was an understanding that the timeframe was to allow the school time to remain open, while building a reserve for relocation, and notify parents of the upcoming move.

Ms. Mentis disagreed that there was a meeting of minds between city staff and ENCA. The follow-up conversation to the August dialog was that relocating the school in one year was unrealistic while continuing to operate the school,

looking for another location that might require build out, and moving before the next school year began. She felt city planners well knew there was no way to do all this in less than one year, as a school year was less than an actual year. She said the additional part of the follow up conversation was that ENCA would do its due diligence finding another location in the City, and city staff asked school representatives to keep notes of their efforts in this regard; thus, the City was willing to extend the special exception for another year if the school could provide written proof of their efforts. Ms. Mentis said this was the part of the conversation that was left out of the letter from the City that ENCA was expected to sign, so ENCA emailed city staff, stating the letter did not detail everything the city and the school agreed to do in the effort to find another site. ENCA felt that if they signed the letter as sent by the City, it meant they were agreeing to vacate their current location in a year's time, thereby displacing their students after June 2025, which was not the full breadth of the discussion.

Mr. Hobbs explained the reason for the form of the letter was due to the fact that when the last five-year extension was granted to give the school time to find another location; city staff informed the school they would be recommending denial of the special exception application; the then commission granted the applicant five years to do the abovementioned things regarding building financial reserves, finding another location, moving, and notifying parents. He said the City Manager's agreeing to give the school an additional year last year meant the school was given six years to do the above; this was the reason staff was not willing to go beyond a one-year extension.

Ms. Mentis was adamant that at the approval of the second special exception no verbiage was not conveyed to the school that over the five years of the extended special exception the school should relocate, and do all that that process required; this would be supported by the City Commission meeting at which they received approval for a second special exception, at which she spoke for about a minute. She said the only caveat at that meeting was former Commissioner Margaret Bates asking the school to confirm they would not expand to 9-12, they would stay K-8, which the school did; there was no other discussion about finding another location, or they would have actively worked to find another location. She agreed with staff that the school initiated the present special exception renewal process, with no expectation that it would not be renewed; they only wished to stay in compliance with city code.

Commissioner Campbell understood the need for allowing time for the school to relocate, but he was not willing to continuously extend the special exception without a clear understanding of the end result.

Ms. Howson remarked it was zoning staff's job to advise the Commission when uses were compatible or incompatible with each other; at present, the City had a school zone running through the heart of the City's industrial area, and this was not appealing to businesses wishing to locate their manufacturing business to the subject area. She thought staff had a very productive and attentive relationship with both Ms. Mentis, and the property owner, Mr. Lacvalla 2:23:13 for the duration of the special exceptions' history, and staff's hope was that there was a way to keep the school in Lauderhill, as they were clearly a great benefit. Staff was willing to discuss a reasonable timeframe with ENCA, with

the understanding that the school had to move location.

Mr. Hobbs indicated that in the City's last conversation with the school regarding moving to another location, staff felt one year was sufficient, of which half of that time had now passed. In response to the Commission asking staff what would be a reasonable time to give the school to relocate, the end of next school year was felt to be a fitting timeframe; staff did not support another five-year extension being granted.

Mayor Grant commented, in observing the persons present in support of the school, including students, she saw a lot of learning, and it appeared students were attentive and happy. It was difficult for her, particularly as a mother and a resident, to support closing a school just because it was not in the right area. She mentioned being raised in New Jersey, in close proximity of New York, where oftentimes a school was next to a business; learning, for her, could happen anywhere, and this was a better situation than that found in places around the world where students walked miles to school without shoes, and were taught in environments lacking desks, chairs, etc., yet some scored higher than those in places with every resource available to them. Some Broward schools were not doing very well, despite the resources available to them, and ENCA was a school with limited resources that continued to provide quality education, showing improvements in their grade, moving from an F to a B, which was excellent. Mayor Grant said the safety component was very important, asking for data/records to support complaints related to safety concerns having the school so close to light industrial uses.

Mr. Hobbs responded that staff find the recordings, as proper noticing was issued to all property owners and businesses in the area, including safe neighborhood districts (SNDs), of CRA meetings, etc.; the recordings would show the complaints and concerns expressed by residents and businesses.

Mr. Poliakoff stated there were no complaints. Residents and business owners might have attended any one or more public meetings where they expressed safety concerns, but there were no documented complaints in the City against ENCA. Staff might not like that a school occupied the subject site for some 27 years, but ENCA was a wonderful asset to the City, and he hoped Mr. Hobbs would recognize what a great benefit it was to the community; he said he felt very disappointed.

Mayor Grant acknowledged the need for the City to be reasonable, particularly in light of the direction it appeared the Commission was heading, one in which she preferred not to go. She questioned what the plan would be if the students and teachers were displaced by not allowing the school to stay at the subject location, particularly as the majority of the students, and some of the teachers were Lauderhill residents with families to take care of, and they contributed to the City's economy. She asked staff to give examples of relocation options in Lauderhill.

Interim City Attorney Ottinot asked for the focus of the discussion to remain on the renewal of the special exception in relation to the zoning aspect, as this was the issue.

Mr. Hobbs replied the City's zoning code spoke to zoned areas suitable for schools and that information was communicated to the school and available to the public. He clarified that at no time when staff recommended denial, or encouraged the school to find another location in Lauderhill, was there any question about liking the school; in fact, Ms. Howson was on record as stating ENCA was an excellent asset to the Lauderhill community. Staff's only position was in relation to the zoning; that is, the incompatibility of the use, a school, in relation to the surrounding industrial uses for which the area was zoned; staff communicated information to the applicant on what areas in Lauderhill were zoned for schools.

Interim City Attorney Ottinot stated the subject resolution proposed a five-year extension of the existing special exception, taking it to 2029.

Vice Mayor Martin struggled with the whole process of the subject resolution, and he supported granting the school more time to relocate, but not five years.

Commissioner Campbell clarified he was not recommending the displacement of students; he thought the school should remain open in Lauderhill, if possible, but this was a matter of zoning, so it could not be said that regardless of the zoning issues, the school must remain at its present location. He supported granting the school reasonable time to find and move to a new location, with city staff working with the school to explore all possibilities in Lauderhill. There were times when schools were located next to less than advantageous neighbors, but the City Commission and city administration had to do the best they could to put schools in safe areas. He said after a two-year extension the school might return before the Commission to state finding another location in Lauderhill was impossible, but he felt the possibilities for alternate locations in Lauderhill had yet to be properly explored.

Ms. Mentis commented ENCA absolutely respected all the work the City did in Lauderhill, as well as the conversations that took place between city staff and school administrators. They met with city staff to discuss alternate locations, and they independently worked to find other locations in Lauderhill for the school; ideally, they wished to remain in Lauderhill, but, based on conversations, no suitable location was found to which ENCA could relocate. She urged staff to reproduce the list of alternate locations they provided to ENCA, as she had an email from staff confirming no alternate locations were found in Lauderhill. The buildout of their subject location was close to \$1 million, and the school could not create a reserve to hold funds, so it was unrealistic to expect them to relocate within a year.

Mr. Poliakoff asked if the Commission could table the subject resolution to the next Commission meeting to allow time for staff to present a list of alternate locations within Lauderhill that were built out, and ready for the school to occupy that were within four miles of its current location.

Adonis Lumpkin, the educational consultant for ENCA, and a Lauderhill property owner, urged the Commission to listen to the persons speaking in support of keeping ENCA at its present location, and to acknowledge the persons present

to show support for the school. The Commission had the power to allow the school to remain at its present location, if they so wished; not doing so contributed to the ongoing disenfranchisement of certain groups in cities, states, and the country as a whole. He noted the Commission could create a special zoning for ENCA to allow the school to remain at its present location, and the school would ensure every safety measure possible was put in place to address safety concerns. ENCA did its best to remain good neighbors to surrounding businesses, and good partners with the City, utilizing local services for school events, venues, etc.; they were a positive part of the Lauderhill community.

Commissioner Hodgson mentioned hearing nothing adverse in the present meeting's dialog in relation to the presence of the school since its being at the subject location, particularly with regard to the safety of its students. He, too, desired evidence of expressed safety concerns due to the school being at its present location, agreeing with Mayor Grant of the need to be cognizant of the school's students who would be affected, asking if their interest was being taken into consideration. Considering that such a significant number of ENCA'S students were Lauderhill residents, the question of what would happen to them if the school was forced to close was a serious concern. He questioned which was more importance, attracting businesses to the subject area, or the future of the students; he felt the Commission needed to give more serious thought to the matter before voting on the subject resolution.

Commissioner Dunn mentioned doing her due diligence on the proposed resolution prior to the present meeting, including communicating with the community, meeting with several of area businesses, speaking with an ENCA representative, and meeting with city staff; her primary question was as to the number of Lauderhill students the school served. She came to the meeting prepared to have an open conversation with the school about how to make the subject situation work, but after hearing Mr. Poliakoff's presentation, along with what she learned in her online research about ENCA, she now had more questions. Her main concern was the bussing in of 90 percent of the students from Fort Lauderdale, Lauderdale Lakes, and Lauderhill, amounting to about 200 students, with the remaining 95 coming from communities closer to the school. Despite the promise made to former City Commissioner Bates that the school would not serve students beyond eighth grade, the beginning sentence on the school's website stated the school was state-approved to serve students K-12, though they currently served K-8. Commissioner Dunn remarked she was in the marketing businesses, and oftentimes when businesses wished to state their intentions, they led with such a sentence, covering themselves with what they did currently. She looked at how the school was promoted on a number of websites, such as Niche, where they, too, stated the school had 284 students in grades K-12; this was a red flag for her, asking why if the school only served K-8 they had other verbiage on their website.

Ms. Mentis stated K-12 was their current charter approval, which they received in 2014/2015. They were originally Eagle's Nest Elementary, and they received a high performance designation from the State of Florida for receiving three consecutive A grades. She said when they went through the renewal process with Broward County Public Schools (BCPS), they were able to expand their

grade levels from K-5 to K-12, as they were recognized as a reputable school that knew how to operate well. BCPS expanded their contract to accept up to 500 students; their current contract with BCPS allowed them to have up to 800 students; the school knew it lacked the capacity to physically accommodate 800 students at its present location. She commented that because the State and the County approved the school for K-12, everything online that mentioned the school included its K-12 designation; they had parents who constantly asked them to expand, so their children could remain at the same school K-12. Operationally, the school was very comfortable continuing to service students K-8.

Commissioner Dunn mentioned another business that came before the Commission with a similar challenge to that of the school's; it was an assisted living facility (ALF), and she recalled the then commission voted 5-0 not to extend the special exception, due to a zoning change, and the City's vision for the neighborhood in which the ALF was located.

Mr. Hobbs added that in 2006, the City, through the CRA, developed a redevelopment plan that spoke specifically to uses within the area zoned light industrial, and warehouse district. The plan was advertised, with multiple community meetings related to the anticipated use of that area. He noted that during that time businesses were amortized from that area based on the approved plan that was publicly discussed, including public hearings at City Hall, where staff spoke specifically to what those uses were, what anticipated uses would be, and the plan for the City envisioned by the Commission and community. Mr. Hobbs stated that plan was again updated in 2023, so the anticipated uses for the subject area were known and vetted, and in relation to ENCA specifically, when the first special exception was applied for in 2014, staff recommended denial, and still did to date. The special exception was approved with a limit of five years, and there was no talk of the school coming back for an extension, yet the school returned before the Commission in 2019, and, again, received approval to extend for five years, but this approval was not with an understanding that the school should return to request another extension in five years. Staff understood the various concerns of the parents and residents, and that staff, per the Commission's directive, should work with the applicant to determine a reasonable timeframe for the school to relocate. He reiterated that staff's recommendation was solely based on the subject use, and the existing zoning of the area; this was a matter that had been going on for over 20 years, and the elements involved were discussed repeatedly at public meetings, etc.; the City's conversations on the anticipated uses for the subject area began in the 1990s.

Mayor Grant observed it appeared that her colleagues were more inclined for the school to relocate, asking them to suggest a reasonable timeframe for the school to relocate.

Commissioner Campbell thought staff's recommended one year was cutting it too close, and it would likely take more time to find a relocation site and move, so he was leaning toward extending the school's special exception for two more years.

Commissioner Dunn concurred with a two-year extension, thus changing the language that recommended the special exception being in effect until 2029 to 2027. Additionally, language should be added to the resolution that during the two-year extension the school would create an action plan for the relocation, and that the two-year extension would be the final extension on the special exception. She did not support approving the school remaining at the present location indefinitely, and/or be grandfathered in as an allowable use in the area.

Vice Mayor Martin supported a two-year extension.

Mr. Hobbs sought clarification as to when the two-year extension would begin.

Interim City Attorney pointed out the end date of the two-year extension would be July 1, 2027.

Mr. Lumpkin remarked a two-year extension was unreasonable, as a space to accommodate the school was nonexistent; if five years was off the table, then four was better than two, as three years was still insufficient.

Commissioner Campbell said he was sticking to the two-year extension, as the present conversation regarding the school relocating began years before the present meeting; at the time of the last five-year extension in 2019, city staff clearly communicated the need for the school to find an alternate site. If at the time the two-year extension expired the school was well into the process of relocation, they could ask the Commission to consider a possible one-year extension.

Mr. Lumpkin asked if this language could be included in the resolution.

Commissioner Campbell did not think this was necessary.

Interim City Attorney Ottinot responded the school would be in the same position without the inclusion of the language, as if they were well into the process of finding a new location, and they still needed another year, they could simply ask the Commission, as it would still be a discretionary discussion, regardless of staff's recommendation. With the extension of the special extension being to July 1, 2027, the extension was, in fact, more than two years. He clarified the only amendment to the subject resolution was to condition eight, changing the end date from July 1, 2029, to July 1, 2027.

Mayor Grant opened the discussion to the public.

Brent Lewis, Lauderhill resident, remarked that academic achievement was very important to him and a public education allowed him to attend college, to later get a job, and then start a business in Lauderhill. In the subject instance, he felt as though he was being misled or hustled; as he reviewed some of the Florida Department of Education data, beginning with 2015, he saw that the grade for ENAC was F, and in subsequent, consecutive years, it was D, C, C, D, C. He understood the thinking that in the next academic year they would be moving toward reaching a B, but the data indicated the school grade varied between C and D, which meant next year it could be a D. The English

achievement score showed ENCA at a C, a mathematics achievement score of D, and a science score of F; the file number to view this data was fldoe.org/file/18534/schoolgrades24.xlsx. Mr. Lewis believed that the school cared about their students, but their academic records did not show this to him.

Brandy Biven, second grade reading teacher at ENCA, stated the last time she stood before the Lauderhill City Commission, she was a student at ENCA, and it felt like a full circle moment in her life. The school was truly a special place, where learning, growth, and transformation happened every day; the school was more than just a place for academic education; it was a community built on support, dedication, and a shared belief that every student had the potential to succeed. She said from their credible teachers who poured their heart and soul into their work, to their families, and staff who continuously supported each other, they cultivated an environment where every student felt seen, heard, and empowered to reach their full potential. Ms. Biven commented that her time as a student at ENCA was nothing short of evolving, as she not only went in with challenges, she came out with a sense of pride and a new outlook on education. The obstacles she faced as a student paired with the guidance from her teachers shaped her academic journey and personal growth; she did not just learn from her textbooks, she learned from peers, mentors, and the collective energy of the entire school. She was inspired to give back to the next generation of students and when she returned to ENCA as a teacher, it was not just a career choice, it was a calling, as she wished to give back in the same ways her teachers gave to her. She was now filled with gratitude and a deep sense of purpose, as teaching was not just a job, it was a privilege, and an opportunity for her to continue to grow alongside her students, learning from them just as she did when she was in their shoes. The energy and enthusiasm at the school was truly contagious, as their students were not just preparing for the future, they were actively shaping it, and she was incredibly proud of the students, staff, and families that made it so unique; together they were creating a legacy of excellence, of which she was excited to be a part.

Albert Green, Lauderhill resident, stated he went to the smart school that was once located in the same building, in which he now worked as the ENCA's interim principal, so he was a living witness to what the building could do for its students. He worked hard at his job at a school in Lauderhill, with Lauderhill students, in the city in which his family and he resided, and he was investing, putting back his time and energy into ENCA, urging the Commission not to take that away.

Mayor Grant received no further input from the public.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor S. Martin, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, that this Resolution be approved, changing the special exception end date to July 1, 2027, as discussed. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner R. Campbell, Commissioner M. Dunn, Commissioner J. Hodgson, Vice Mayor S. Martin, and Mayor D. Grant

Abstain: 0

XII QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS, FIRST READING

12. ORDINANCE 25O-02-105: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, GRANTING TO AIRPORT COMMERCE, LLC, A VARIANCE TO ALLOW A NEW FAST FOOD RESTAURANT WITH A DRIVE-THROUGH WITHIN THE COMMERCIAL GENERAL (CG) ZONING DISTRICT WHICH IS RELIEF FROM THE CITY'S LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS ARTICLE III, SECTION 5.32.2.E, REQUIRING A MINIMUM 1000 FEET DISTANCE FROM ANOTHER FREESTANDING FAST FOOD DRIVE-THROUGH RESTAURANT; SAID PROPERTY IS LOCATED ON AN APPROXIMATELY 4.8 ACRE SITE LOCATED AT 5517-5577 WEST OAKLAND PARK BOULEVARD, LAUDERHILL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attachments: [ORD. NO. 25O-02-105](#)
[AR ORD. NO. 25O-02-105](#)
[Attachment A - Application](#)
[Attachment B - Development Review Report \(DRR\)](#)
[Attachment C - Narrative](#)
[Attachment D - Conceptual Site Plan](#)
[Attachment E - Survey](#)
[Attachment F - Public Notice Affidavit](#)
[Legal Description airport commerce- EXHIBIT A](#)

Commissioner Dunn understood, after reviewing the backup, and speaking to the applicant's representative, the subject project would bring another fast food restaurant to the subject area, where three already existed, as did a food desert. The health outcome data for the subject area showed poor health that was being exacerbated by unhealthy eating to a large extent; thus, she could not support the subject item.

Interim City Attorney Ottinot collectively swore in all persons wishing to speak on agenda item number 12.

Commissioner Campbell understood Commissioner Dunn's concerns, but he wished the same concern was expressed about a month prior, as where he lived there was a strip of about six fast food restaurants, and the Commission voted to increase that number to seven. He understood that the existing Wendy's in the subject area that was close to the proposed restaurant would soon close; as a pro-business person, he thought it was always possible to create reasons to prevent folks from running businesses as opposed to opening the City's doors to welcome more business to Lauderhill.

Vice Mayor Martin sought clarification, as after speaking with staff, he understood the proposed development was not really a new restaurant, it was just the relocation of an existing restaurant.

Hope Calhoun, the applicant's representative, affirmed this to be the case; the

proposed ordinance was just the first step in providing the subject Wendy's the opportunity to relocate. As she understood, the existing Wendy's located just to the west of the proposed site intended to close and relocate if their site plan was later approved.

Commissioner Dunn pointed out that there was a difference between the area referred to earlier in Inverrary, and the subject area when it came down to access to healthy food, as the latter had a high incidence of diabetes and chronic disease that was exacerbated by the prevalence of fast food restaurants. She said in the subject area, there was a cluster where the cancer rate was 72 percent higher than the rest of the County; her concern laid with the health and wellbeing of the community's residents. She, too, was pro-business, and she constantly advocated for the economic mobility of the City's residents through entrepreneurship and this was a matter of public record. As elected officials, the Commission had the ability to shape public health with the types of policies passed, hence her opposing the City changing its distancing rule that allowed more tobacco stores in Lauderhill. She felt denying the proposed ordinance was a similar opportunity for the City's elected officials to put policies in place to protect the public good, particularly since the Commission advocated for a healthier community.

Commissioner Hodgson respected the views expressed for a healthier Lauderhill, but he, too, was pro-business and the creation of employment.

Commissioner Campbell hoped at the Commission's next workshop there could be an agenda item detailing the number of restaurants in Lauderhill, and their types, asking if the City should look at eliminating some of the fast food restaurants in the area where he lived, as there were folks in his area with health challenges. As the City had no policy in place for the Commission to be selective as to the types of restaurants in Lauderhill, the Commission could not be selective in only approving the location of certain types of restaurants in specific areas of the City.

Planning & Zoning Director Daniel Keester-O'Mills said the City had several uses subject to separation requirements, and fast food restaurants was one such use, for which the requirement was 1,000 feet. Several cities had such a requirement, and Lauderhill had not received a significant number of such variance applications over the years, and this was mostly due to the five criteria outlined in the report in the backup. He said the application before the Commission was for a new restaurant, and in moving from the existing location, this left the question of what would happen to the building from which the Wendy's would relocate, as it could, potentially, allow another drive through operator to occupy that building, unless Wendy's demolished it once they left. Even if they did demolish the building, the existing location was more than 1,000 feet from the proposed new location.

Mayor Grant wished to know the closing date of the existing Wendy's on Oakland Blvd.

Ms. Calhoun indicated she was unsure of that date. One of the things that made the proposed new site unique was that in 2012 there was a master site

plan for the subject property, and the specific parcel being discussed included a fast food restaurant. She doubted there would be similarly situated parcels in Lauderhill of this size that had previous approval for a drive through restaurant.

Mayor Grant questioned if the new Wendy's would be a regular Wendy's with a drive through, or would be there anything special added.

Ms. Calhoun explained she represented the property owner, and Wendy's would eventually come before city staff, and the City Commission with their proposed site plan. She understood this would at least be a newer, updated version. If the subject ordinance was approved, the Wendy's applicant would present a site plan application.

Mayor Grant asked if it was possible that both Wendy's would be operating at the same time.

Mr. Keester-O'Mills answered yes.

Commissioner Dunn sought confirmation that with the new Wendy's, there would be five fast food restaurants in the subject area.

Mr. Keester-O'Mills replied there was actually a sixth fast food restaurant right off of Oakland, a Haitian restaurant with a drive through component.

Mayor Grant wondered if Haitian food was considered fast food, as Jamaican food was not considered fast food, asking if it was the contents of the food that deemed it fast food, or was it because the restaurant had a drive through.

Ms. Howson remarked it was the amount of preparation that was done before the food was served that determined if a restaurant fell into that category.

Commissioner Dunn asked about traffic.

Mr. Keester-O'Mills explained the traffic aspect had yet to be reviewed, as this would be part of the site plan application process.

A motion was made by Commissioner J. Hodgson, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, that this Ordinance be approved on first reading to the City Commission Meeting, due back on 2/24/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Commissioner R. Campbell, Commissioner J. Hodgson, Vice Mayor S. Martin, and Mayor D. Grant

No: 1 - Commissioner M. Dunn

Abstain: 0

VIII ORDINANCES & PUBLIC HEARINGS - FIRST READING (NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA) (AS ADVERTISED IN THE SUN-SENTINEL)

1. ORDINANCE NO. 25O-02-104: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, AMENDING

THE CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 2, ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION," ARTICLE IV, ENTITLED "CITY COMMISSION," SECTION 2-157 ENTITLED "AGENDA" TO REQUIRE A SIMPLE MAJORITY TO CHANGE AN AGENDA'S ORDER OF BUSINESS; AMENDING SECTION 2-159 ENTITLED "ORDER OF BUSINESS" TO CHANGE THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AT REGULAR MEETINGS; AMENDING SECTION 2-160 ENTITLED "CONSENT AGENDA" TO ALLOW ITEMS TO BE APPROVED AS GROUPED WITHOUT A SEPARATE TITLE READING; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER KENNIE HOBBS, JR.).

Attachments: [ORD. NO. 25O-02-104](#)

[AR ORD. NO. 25O-02-104](#)

[Memorandum- Proposal to Revise Agenda Procedures and Prioritize Quasi-Judicial Matters](#)

[Agenda - City of Pompano Beach](#)

[Agenda - City of Tamarac](#)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor S. Martin, seconded by Commissioner J. Hodgson, that this Ordinance be approved on first reading to the City Commission Meeting, due back on 2/24/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner R. Campbell, Commissioner M. Dunn, Commissioner J. Hodgson, Vice Mayor S. Martin, and Mayor D. Grant

Abstain: 0

IX ORDINANCES & PUBLIC HEARINGS - SECOND READING (NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA) (AS ADVERTISED IN THE SUN-SENTINEL)

- 1A.** ORDINANCE NO. 25O-01-102: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 2 ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION," ARTICLE II ENTITLED "OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES," BY DELETING SECTION 2-21 ENTITLED "COMMISSION TO APPROVE JOB DESCRIPTIONS PRIOR TO FILLING POSITIONS AND CHANGES IN JOB DESCRIPTIONS"; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER KENNIE HOBBS, JR.).

Attachments: [ORD 25O-01-102 Ordinance removing job description approval](#)

[AR 25O-01-102](#)

[Memo to City Commission from City Manager - Job Descriptions.pdf](#)

This Ordinance was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

- 1B.** ORDINANCE NO. 25O-01-103: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY

COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$933,852 AND A CAPITAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,746,014 AND A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$128,339 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025; REFLECTING APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS TO VARIOUS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS AS SPECIFICALLY INDICATED IN THE BREAKDOWN IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2,808,205; PROVIDING VARIOUS BUDGET CODE NUMBERS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER, KENNIE HOBBS, JR).

Attachments: [ORD 25O-01-103 Ordinance budget adjustment](#)

[AR 25O-01-103](#)

[1-27 Budget Adjustment.pdf](#)

This Ordinance was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

X RESOLUTIONS (IF NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA)

2. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-21: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS TO AUTHORIZE AN AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL METERING SERVICES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATED METER READERS BASED ON A PIGGYBACK OF PASCO COUNTY CONTRACT IFB-SN-23-007; AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000,000 FROM THE APPROPRIATE BUDGET CODE NUMBER; AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER AND INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY TO DRAFT AND EXECUTE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER KENNIE HOBBS, JR.).

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-21](#)

[AR RES. NO. 25R-02-21](#)

[2023-02-10 PASCO CO CONTRACT](#)

[BCC 02-07-2023 - C36 UTOM23-0144 - Agreement National Metering Services](#)

[National Metering Services, Inc Bid Schedule](#)

[Test Proposal](#)

[LauderhillFI2024](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

3. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-23: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY

COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$23,186.24 FROM THE FIREHOUSE SUBS PUBLIC SAFETY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO PURCHASE A BULLSEYE FIRE EXTINGUISHER SIMULATOR PACKAGE TO TEACH RESIDENTS ON THE PROPER USE OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS; AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER KENNIE HOBBS, JR.).

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-23](#)

[AR RES. NO. 25R-02-23](#)

[APPROVED Q1 2025 Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant](#)

[FH Subs 2024 - Letter to CM](#)

[FH letter to FC](#)

[Letter to FH](#)

[CHECKLIST ONLY 12-2021](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

4. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-24: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL APPROVING THE SIXTH AMENDED ANNUAL CALENDAR OF CITY HOSTED SPECIAL EVENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER KENNIE HOBBS, JR.).

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-24](#)

[AR RES. NO. 25-02-24](#)

[Updated Commissioner Events \(Sixth\)](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

5. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-25: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL APPOINTING ORAL DURLOO AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE LAUDERHILL COMMUNITY AND BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD TO REPRESENT GEOGRAPHIC AREA 3 FOR THE REMAINDER OF A TWO (2) YEAR TERM EXPIRING JULY 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-25](#)
[AR RES. NO. 25R-02-25](#)
[CBAB Board List](#)
[CBAB Zone Map](#)
[Durloo, Oral - CBAB Application](#)

A motion was made by Vice Mayor S. Martin, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, that this Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner R. Campbell, Commissioner M. Dunn, Commissioner J. Hodgson, Vice Mayor S. Martin, and Mayor D. Grant

Abstain: 0

6. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-26: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL APPOINTING CORENA WIGGINS BY COMMISSIONER RICHARD CAMPBELL TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE VACANT UNEXPIRED FOUR (4) YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE NOVEMBER 2026 OR CONCURRENT WITH THE COMMISSIONER SEAT, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-26](#)
[AR RES. NO. 25R-02-26](#)
[YPAB Board List](#)
[Wiggins, Corena - YPAB Application](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

7. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-27: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL APPOINTING RODNEY HUMPHREY BY MAYOR DENISE D. GRANT AND BARBARA ROBINSON BY VICE MAYOR SARAI "RAY" MARTIN TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF AN UNEXPIRED FOUR (4) YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE NOVEMBER 2026 OR CONCURRENT WITH THE RESPECTIVE MAYORAL AND COMMISSIONER SEAT, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-27](#)
[AR RES. NO. 25R-02-27](#)
[Recreation Advisory Board List](#)
[Humphrey, Rodney - Recreation Advisory Board Application](#)
[Robinson, Barbara - Recreation Advisory Board Application](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

8. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-28: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL APPOINTING SHAYLA MCCLOUD AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR DENISE D. GRANT TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE VACANT UNEXPIRED FOUR (4) YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE NOVEMBER 2026 OR CONCURRENT WITH THE COMMISSIONER SEAT, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-28](#)
[AR RES. NO. 25R-02-28](#)
[EAB Board List](#)
[McCloud, Shayla - EAB Application](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

9. RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-29: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL APPOINTING CHRISTOPHER LEWIS TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE UNEXPIRED FOUR (4) YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 2028; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attachments: [RES. NO. 25R-02-29](#)
[AR RES. NO. 025R-02-29](#)
[LAHAC Board List](#)
[Lewis, Christopher - LAHAC Application](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner J. Hodgson, seconded by Commissioner M. Dunn, that this Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner R. Campbell, Commissioner M. Dunn, Commissioner J. Hodgson, Vice Mayor S. Martin, and Mayor D. Grant

Abstain: 0

10. RESOLUTION 25R-02-30: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF BROWARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025; AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER AND APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO SET UP A BUDGET AND A POLICY TO EFFECTUATE THIS RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY INTERIM CITY MANAGER KENNIE HOBBS, JR.).

Attachments: [RES 25R-02-30 Establishing Community Impact fund with Broward Foundation](#)
[AR RES. NO. 25R-02-30](#)
[Memo - Community Impact Fund](#)

Commissioner Dunn wished to amend the memo by adding a phrase at the end of the sentence in the fourth paragraph, as contained in the backup; she proposed: "... designed to address the social determinants of health in Lauderhill." Being specific about the social determinants of health spoke to the community as a whole along five different key areas. She knew this was in alignment with the Foundation's mission and Lauderhill's Strategic Plan.

Commissioner Campbell observed that the sentence of the paragraph in question was currently written to apply to anything; if this was the case, he questioned why specific language should be added. As the present language allowed the ability to fit to anything, adding specific language could lead to excluding things in the future.

Commissioner Dunn pointed out that social determinants of health were quite broad; for example, one criterion was social connectedness, which could be projects for parks, and sports; another criterion was economic mobility. The reason for her suggested language was to bring this back to the City's strategic plan, making sure whatever projects were proposed were intentional in their impact on the Lauderhill community's health and wellbeing. The language was to provide focus and intention behind the creation of the subject fund. She noticed in the community plan the City put forward how, for example, a major portion of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars were used to support infrastructure development. Thus, the message to the community would be that the subject funding would be used to address community issues the City did not have funding to address in its general budget.

Commissioner Campbell continued to feel there was no need to amend the language for the reasons he stated earlier.

Mayor Grant thought the broadness of the proposed resolution gave the City more flexibility, facilitating the City's ability to direct the committee that would be established; the City would be involved in the selection of committee members. The City would then be in a position to guide and recommend to that committee projects that were of most importance to Lauderhill.

Mayor Grant opened the discussion to the public.

Jonathen Allen, Lauderhill resident and Vice President of the Community Foundation of Broward (CFB), thanked the Commission for considering the subject resolution, and Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. Ottinot for drafting the resolution. The fund would be implemented in whatever manner the Commission deemed best; Lauderhill would be one of two Broward cities creating the subject fund that would be a perpetual fund to support community impact needs, as determined by the Commission, the governing body, well into the future. He added that members, residents, and businesses of Lauderhill could make contributions to the subject fund.

A motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Vice Mayor S. Martin, that this Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner R. Campbell, Commissioner M. Dunn, Commissioner J. Hodgson, Vice Mayor S. Martin, and Mayor D. Grant

Abstain: 0

- 10A.** RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-31: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, AWARDING THE KEY TO THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL TO DR. JULIUS GARVEY FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING THE LEGACY OF HIS FATHER, MARCUS GARVEY, AND HIS ADVOCACY FOR THE PARDON AND EXONERATION OF MARCUS GARVEY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY MAYOR DENISE GRANT).

Attachments: [RES 25R-02-31 Honoring Dr. Julius W Garvey-2-10-25](#)
[AR 25R-02-31](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

- 10B.** RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-32: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, AWARDING THE KEY TO THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL TO THE HONORABLE OLIVIA "BABSY" GRANGE FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CULTURE, ENTERTAINMENT, WOMEN AND GENDER AFFAIRS, AND SPORTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY MAYOR DENISE GRANT).

Attachments: [RES 25R-02-32 Honoring Oliva Babsy Grange-February -10-25](#)
[AR 25R-02-32](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

- 10C.** RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-33: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, AWARDING THE KEY TO THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL TO ROHAN MARLEY FOR HIS DEDICATION TO UPHOLDING THE LEGACY OF HIS FATHER, BOB MARLEY, AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CULTURE AND REGGAE MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE WORLD; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY MAYOR DENISE GRANT).

Attachments: [RES 25R-02-33 Honoring Rohan Marley-2-10-25](#)
[AR 25R-02-33](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

- 10D.** RESOLUTION NO. 25R-02-34: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, AWARDING THE KEY TO THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL TO BOBBY R. HENRY FOR HIS REMARKABLE CONTRIBUTIONS, DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE BROWARD COUNTY COMMUNITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY MAYOR DENISE D. GRANT, MAYOR).

Attachments: [RES 25R-02-34 Honoring Bobby Henry 2-10-25](#)
[AR 25R-02-34](#)

This Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda. (See Consideration of Consent Agenda for vote tally.)

XIII QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS, SECOND READING

XIV UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XV OLD BUSINESS

XVI NEW BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION TO CANCEL OR RESCHEDULE THE MARCH 10, 2025 CITY COMMISSION MEETING AND THE MARCH 17, 2025 CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP.

Mayor Grant noted it was necessary to cancel the March 10 meeting, as some Commission members would be traveling to Washington, D.C., and others would be out of town, so a quorum would not be achieved. For March 17 and 18, at least two elected officials would be traveling to Tallahassee for Broward Days, so there was a possibility of not achieving a quorum.

Mr. Hobbs explained staff would work with the Commission for a date to reschedule the March 17th workshop; the Commission could vote on the new date at the March 31, 2025, Commission meeting.

Commissioner Dunn opined that attending Broward Days had less meaning for the City than attending the Florida League of Cities' Legislative Days, where there would be the combined power of local elected officials from across the state discussing a particular, set agenda that could include some of President Trumps recently passed executive orders, with which, in some cases, Governor DeSantis was in alignment. She intended to attend Legislative Days.

- There was a City Commission consensus to cancel the City Commission meeting of March 10, 2025.

XVII COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC OFFICIALS SHALL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY BEFORE ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hodgson thanked Mayor Grant for hosting the Black History Month event, at which recognition was given to such persons as Rohan Marley,

son of Bob Marley, and Dr. Julius Garvey, son of Jamaican National Hero, Marcus Garvey, and Jamaican entertainer, Ernie Smith. It was a fantastic afternoon.

Commissioner Dunn stated on the coming Wednesday there would be a Lauderhill Health and Prosperity (LHPP) meeting; anyone interested in becoming a member could visit the City's website, searching LHPP to sign up. On the following Thursday, cohort ten of Lauderhill Shines would begin, for which there were over 50 applications, from which 25 Lauderhill business owners would be selected to participate. She thanked Vice Mayor Martin and Commissioner Hodgson for their support in welcoming cohort ten. She attended the Solid Waste Authority workshop earlier in the day, and they were considering various models for managing solid waste; when the City was going into further discussions about the development of a 40-year master plan, she would recommend the executive director of the Solid Waste Authority address the City Commission. Mr. Hobbs assigned two members of city staff who were subject experts in this area to ensure that whatever was put forward for consideration was in the best interest of both the County and the City.

Commissioner Campbell reminded his fellow elected officials that presentations, while extremely important, should adhere to the established timeframe; if an upcoming agenda already had three or four presentations, he suggested his colleagues consider moving an added presentation to a subsequent meeting agenda.

Interim City Manager Hobbs thanked staff for planning and executing an exceptional Martin Luther King (MLK) Black History Month celebration at the Lauderhill Performing Arts Center (LPAC) the past Saturday night; the Commission was thanked for their support in promoting the event. The event was well attended, and staff received great feedback from residents and businesses; it was said that the 2025 event was one of the best concerts held over the last several years.

Mayor Grant thanked everyone for attending and celebrating the City's Black History Month events. She agreed with adhering to the timeframe set for presentations; moving forward, she would monitor this aspect of future meetings with more vigilance. The MLK concert was excellent; city staff did a great job marketing, and executing the event.

XVIII ADJOURNMENT - 10:09 PM