



On January 26th, the City Commission gathered for the Annual Goal Setting Workshop at the L.A. Lee YMCA/Mizell Community Center to set goals for the upcoming year. Key themes from our workshop are as follows: Infrastructure & Resilience, Housing & Homeless, Traffic & Transportation, Parks & Public Spaces, Economic Development & Diversification, and Public Safety. Staff will continue to refine these goals and bring them back to the Commission for final approval. These goals will help guide the preparation of the City's annual budget for FY 2024, which will be adopted in September.

During the meeting I raised a number of issues and concerns that I hope to see addressed in the coming year, including the hiring of additional police officers to deal with crime and expanding calls for service, increased focus on problems with short-term rentals, and panhandling at intersections along Federal Highway. In addition, I outlined my proposed plan for the construction of a new City Hall. The City had been engaged in an effort to partner with the County to construct a joint governmental campus to house both the City and County offices. These efforts eventually were terminated for a variety of reasons. The need for a new building for the City remains however. I've proposed that we construct the new building on the open space adjacent to our existing building, up against the parking garage. This allows us to avoid the cost of acquiring land and building a new garage. In addition, we will be able to continue operation in our existing building while construction is underway.



Finally, at our January 24<sup>th</sup> Commission conference meeting, my colleagues agreed to appoint me as the point person to finalize negotiations with Jorge Mas, Managing Owner of InterMiami for the completion of the park at Lockhart Park. We had our first meeting to get alignment on a scope of work, timeframe and desired amenities. While the final details of the plan are still being developed, I am hopeful that we will be able to complete the long-awaited park in the next 12 months. One of the new requests I've requested be included in the design is the addition of pickleball courts. During the public hearings about the installation of pickleball courts at Snyder Park, it became apparent that there is a large and growing fan base for pickleball. This is precisely the type of activity that will encourage residents throughout the City to get in their cars and drive to Lockhart Park.

I continue to welcome the input of individuals and of our neighborhood associations. I've been able to attend many of their meetings across the district during the past months and plan on attending as many more as my schedule permits.



**Click the image below to view the video explaining the City's vision plan and goal-setting process:**



## Vacation Rental Information



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE



Office of the Commissioner John Herbst  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
954-828-5033

### Vacation Rental Code Violations

- **Gatherings exceeding 20 people**  
Up to four children under the age of 13 do not count towards the occupancy/gathering limits.
- **Excessive noise between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.**  
Noise is excessive beyond a period of 1 minute or longer at a distance of twenty-five (25) feet or more when measured from a source property line.
- **Excessive noise between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.**  
Noise is excessive beyond a period of 1 minute or longer at a distance of fifty (50) feet or more when measured from the source property line.
- **No more than two persons per sleeping room**
- **Solid waste containers lingering**  
Solid waste containers should not be placed out before 6 p.m. the day before pick-up and must be removed before midnight the day of pickup
- **Vehicles parked on the street**  
No on-street parking. All vehicles must be parked within a driveway
- **Unregistered properties operating as vacation rental properties**

Use this Link to see if a property is registered:

<https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/sustainable-development/community-enhancement-and-compliance/vacation-rental-program/registration-enforcement>

### How to File a Complaint

Call 954-828-5207 Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 p.m.

Call 954-828-8000 after hours.

Email complaints to [vrinfo@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:vrinfo@fortlauderdale.gov).

### Fine Amounts and Suspensions

The citation amount for registered and unregistered vacation rentals is \$200.00 for uncontested violations and \$275.00 for contested violations.

- Three violations – 180-day suspension
- Four violations – 365-day suspension.
- An additional 30 days for a maximum of 12 months for every other violation. (i.e., five violations are 395 days suspended).

Please contact District 1 Assistant **Melissa Whiddon**, [mwhiddon@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:mwhiddon@fortlauderdale.gov) or 954-828-5033, for any questions or to schedule an appointment.

