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# HOLLYWOOD DIGEST

## Updates from the City Commission Meeting

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*The City of Hollywood is conducting its Regular City Commission Meetings in-person at City Hall, located at 2600 Hollywood Boulevard. While public access to City Hall and City facilities has resumed, please know that seating inside the Commission Chambers is limited and facial masks remain recommended for the general public.*

To view the meeting agenda, please visit [hollywoodfl.org](http://hollywoodfl.org). Members of the public may watch the City Commission Meetings via the City's website at [hollywoodfl.org/WatchMeeting](http://hollywoodfl.org/WatchMeeting), on Comcast Channel 78 or ATT U-Verse Channel 99.

*This Hollywood Digest is an update of the actions taken and information shared during the City Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021. In case you missed the live meeting, the archived video can be viewed on the City's website at [hollywoodfl.org](http://hollywoodfl.org).*

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## CITY COMMISSION MEETING

### In Memoriam

Hollywood Police Chief Chris O'Brien shared a heartfelt message honoring the lives of Officer Yandy Chirino, who died in the line of duty, and Lt. John Graham. Needless to say, this tragic loss of life has had a profound and devastating affect the families of these two heroes, the Hollywood Police Department family, the City of Hollywood and the greater Hollywood community. Please keep their families, friends, loved ones and coworkers in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time of grief.

### ~ Hollywood Police Officer Yandy Chirino ~

Yandy Chirino was one of the most welcoming, thoughtful, and happy souls. He loved to travel and spend time with his family and friends. Born on March 14, 1993 in Havana, Cuba, Yandy migrated to Miami as a young child with his parents and became a U.S. citizen at the age of 10.

Yandy graduated from Coral Park High School in 2011 and went on the study Criminal Justice at Florida International University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in 2015. He was an MVP athlete who played volleyball, soccer, baseball, and basketball.

Yandy had a dream of becoming a police officer and joined the Hollywood Police Department in 2017. He served the City of Hollywood with pride and professionalism, and he had an incredible work ethic. Throughout his short career as a Hollywood Police Officer, Yandy was recognized



multiple times for his outstanding work, received five commendations and was Officer of the Month for June 2020.

On October 17<sup>th</sup> at around 10:30 p.m., Yandy made the ultimate sacrifice and died protecting the City of Hollywood in an attempt to apprehend a criminal. Yandy was only 28 years old and is survived by his parents, sister, two nephews, girlfriend, friends and his brothers and sisters at the Hollywood Police Department.

The Hollywood Police Department and the entire City of Hollywood offer our deepest sympathies to Officer Chirino's family. Officer Chirino will be remembered for his selfless actions and his sacrifice. He gave his life honorably and without hesitation, protecting those in our community.

Arrangements are being finalized for our Fallen Officer Yandy Chirino #3534.

**Viewing:** Sunday, October 31, 2021

Hollywood Personnel: 1-3 p.m. / Public: 3-6 p.m.

Vista Memorial Gardens, 14200 NW 57 Terrace, Miami Lakes, FL 33014

**Funeral:** Monday, November 1, 2021

Service begins at 10 a.m., Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

BB&T Center, 1 Panther Parkway, Sunrise, FL 33323

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**~ Lieutenant John Graham ~**

The Hollywood Police Department is deeply saddened by the unexpected and devastating passing of Lieutenant John Graham.

Lt. Graham devoted his life to public service, as a member of the United States Marine Corp from 1996-2000 and as a Police Officer here at the Hollywood Police Department for 20 years.

Lt. Graham was a platoon leader in the Police Academy, received a Bachelor of Science from Union Institute in 2012, attended the Southern Police Institute in 2014, and received a Master's in Public Administration from Nova Southeastern University. He was also recently accepted into Nova Law School.

Lt. Graham served for 15 years on the Hollywood Police SWAT team where he held the title of Operator, Team Leader, Assistant Commander, Sniper, Explosive Breacher, and Rappel Master.

Lt. Graham became a Sergeant in June 2013 and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2018. While holding the rank of Lieutenant, he was in our NTL Unit, then Bravo shift Patrol and most recently in the Training Unit.

He was recognized many times for his leadership at the Department. He received 24 letters from the community detailing his hard work and received 12 Supervisor Commendations as well as a Unit Citation. Lt. Graham was Officer of the Month in December of 2007. He was a member of the Florida State Boxing Commission from 2012-2021.

As we struggle to understand, please keep John and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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## **Dixie Highway Corridor Complete Streets Project**

The Dixie Highway corridor has been identified by the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization as a priority project within the Complete Streets Master Plan. The City of Hollywood, the Hollywood Community Redevelopment Agency, and the City of Hallandale Beach have also identified the Dixie Highway corridor as an important municipal goal for Complete Street conversion.

After conducting traffic studies, public engagement activities and public meetings, the Mayor and City Commission voted unanimously to adopt Resolution [R-2021-267](#) as part of the Consent Agenda to support the re-purposing of motor vehicle lanes within the Dixie Highway corridor between Sheridan Street and Pembroke Road for the Complete Streets conversion.

To learn more about Complete Streets in the City of Hollywood, please visit [hollywoodfl.org](http://hollywoodfl.org).

## **City Awards Grant Funds to Non-profit Organizations that Provide Social Services to Hollywood Residents**

As part of the Consent Agenda, the Mayor and City Commission unanimously approved Resolution [R-2021-265](#) to provide grant funding to non-profit organizations that offer social services to residents in the City of Hollywood. Programs available to residents must align with one or more of the following eight (8) areas of concentration:

1. Early childhood education
2. STEAM-focused education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics)
3. Health, wellness or nutrition
4. Shelter and housing
5. Respite care and elder services
6. Diversity and cultural outreach
7. Training and career planning and development
8. Veteran services

[Click here](#) to view a list of the non-profit organizations that were awarded.

## **City Commission Approves Grant Application Submissions for Body-Worn Camera Program and CDBG-Coronavirus Funds**

### **Body-Worn Camera Program**

As part of the Consent Agenda, the Mayor and City Commission voted unanimously to approve Resolution [R-2021-269](#) to ratify the submission of a grant application to the Department of Justice for the Fiscal Year 2021 Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program. If awarded, the \$650,000 grant will greatly assist the City of Hollywood in funding body-worn cameras for law enforcement officers.

### **CDBG – Coronavirus Funds**

The Mayor and City Commission voted unanimously (Resolution [R-2021-272](#)) to authorize the submission of a final grant application packet for Community Development Block Grant packet from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity in the amount of \$760,335.00. If awarded, the City will receive CDBG-CV2 funds as follows:

1.	Small Business Assistance	\$250,000.00
2.	HVAC Replacement Martin Luther King (MLK)	\$340,000.00
3.	Laptops for the provision of Public Services MLK, Washington Park, Kay Gaither, Driftwood	\$ 80,000.00
4.	Wiring and Networking for Community Centers MLK, Washington Park, Kay Gaither, Driftwood	\$70,000.00
5.	General Admin. for Business Assistance	\$20,335.00
<b>Total CDBG-CV2 Investment</b>		<b>\$760,335.00</b>

### **Accepting and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant**

The Mayor and City Commission unanimously approved Resolution [R-2021-273](#) to accept more than \$9.7 million in grant funds from FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security to hire 21 firefighters as part of the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program (“SAFER”). This grant will provide funding for the salary and benefits of 21 firefighter positions for three years.

The SAFER grant, which intends to improve or restore local fire departments’ staffing and deployment capabilities in order to effectively respond to emergencies, will greatly enhance the public safety services we provide to our residents, businesses, and visitors in our City.

### **City Commission Appoints New Members to Marine Advisory Board**

The purpose of the Marine Advisory Board is to develop ways to increase revenue from the marine industry sector in Hollywood; develop strategies to encourage students and residents to pursue careers in the marine industry; develop strategies to increase marine activities and opportunities for Hollywood’s residents and tourists; and to provide recommendations to the Commission with specific findings and recommendations regarding these items.

After expanding the Advisory Board to 10 people maximum, the Mayor and City Commission unanimously approved Resolution [R-2021-270](#) to appoint the following members:

- Frank Mormando, Professional Member
- Doree Shawn, Resident
- Scott Singer, Resident

### **Update on the Implementation of the City’s Homeless Services Plan**

Deputy City Manager George Keller, Emergency and Governmental Affairs Manager Jaime Hernandez, and Homeless Outreach Officer Dwayne Chung provided an update on the implementation of the City’s Homeless Services Plan, which was adopted by the City Commission on July 7, 2021. The following is an update on the implementation status of the action steps:

1. **Increase the reserved bed capacity for homeless individuals in the City of Hollywood at the Broward Outreach Center (BOC).** This process is currently ongoing. BOC representatives have advised City staff they are interested in increasing its overall bed capacity from the current City Commission-approved limit of 110 beds to 175 beds. Services offered at the BOC, including sheltering, educational, medical, financial, family and child services, and other programs the BOC has to help individuals and families recover from homelessness.
2. **Appoint the Hollywood Police Department's Homeless Coordinator to the Broward County Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) Board.** Officer Dwayne Chung rejoined the Hollywood Police Department as the City's Homeless Coordinator in June 2021 after a year of retirement. Prior to his retirement, Officer Chung served as the City's representative on the CoC Board. Officer Chung has resumed attending the CoC board meeting with the City's current CoC representative, Steve Werthman, to assist with any topics or issues that involve the City of Hollywood.
3. **Establish a City of Hollywood Police Department Homeless Task Force comprised of six (6) sworn Hollywood Police Officers.** The Hollywood Police Department currently has 27 Neighborhood Team Leaders (NTLs) and 4 NTL Sergeants, all of whom actively seek to make contact with and assist the homeless by connecting them with available rehabilitative services.
4. **Increasing the hourly and daily coverage of existing field representatives for The TaskForce Fore Ending Homelessness who serve the City of Hollywood to locate, identify and assist homeless individuals and families.** During the City Commission meeting, the Mayor and City Commission unanimously approved Resolution [R-2021-271](#) to execute an agreement with Taskforce Fore Ending Homelessness for homeless outreach services. This pilot program will provide two social workers who will seek out homeless individuals throughout the City five days and week, eight hours a day and connect them with available rehabilitative services throughout the Broward County.
5. **Enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Dania Beach and Hallandale Beach to establish a local transportation system for the homeless population in the three cities that delivers them to critical rehabilitative and assistive services.** City staff held a virtual meeting with representatives from Dania Beach, Hallandale Beach, the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) Dania Beach District, Hallandale Beach Police Department and the Task Force Fore Ending Homelessness on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. After some discussion, representatives from each municipality agreed to continue to explore the idea of a tri-city transportation system, albeit with less apparent need than was originally described.
6. **Work cooperatively with the Broward County judicial system to develop and implement a Community Service program in lieu of traditional criminal conviction and jail time for misdemeanor offenses.** City staff is coordinating a meeting with Judge Corey Amanda Cawthon of the 17th Judicial Circuit Court of Florida, Broward County South Satellite Courthouse for mid-October 2021 to discuss resuming the diversion program and any other possible legal solutions.
7. **Camping Ordinance** - Currently under review.
8. **Enhance funding and resources for the Hollywood Police Department Homeless Reunification Program.** Between October 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021, the Hollywood Police

Department reunited five (5) homeless clients with their families. Since the program's inception in 2015, HPD has reunited 90 homeless clients with their families. HPD continues to have adequate funding for the Reunification Program through revenue generated through the Textile Donation Bin Program, which was discontinued in early 2020. HPD can increase funding for the Reunification Program from other sources in the future if needed.

[Click here](#) to watch the presentation and the discussion that followed.

## PRESENTATION OF THE DIAMOND SERVICE AWARD

The Mayor and Commission, City Manager and the Diamond Service Award Committee recognized the City's Diamond Service Award recipients and 99 employees for their years of service.

Congratulations to Code Compliance Officer **Mabel Cardoso**, who is the winner of the Diamond Service Award. Mabel was nominated by her peers for the most prestigious honor an employee can receive in the City of Hollywood.



Mabel is joined by other exemplary employees also nominated for the prestigious award. They include:

- **Patrick Agenor:** Police Officer, Hollywood Police Department
- **Joshua Collazo:** Grounds, Urban Forestry and Streets Maintenance Superintendent, Public Works
- **Ameer Khan:** Process Control Systems Technician, Public Utilities
- **Eduardo Gonzalez:** Storeroom Supervisor, Police Department
- **John Kinch:** Groundskeeper, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts
- **Julia Miller:** Administrative Specialist II, Public Utilities (Now is a Payroll Specialist in Human Resources)
- **Ryan Diaz:** Firefighter, Fire Rescue and Beach Safety
- **Siana Lakhani:** Environmental Inspector, Public Utilities

Heartfelt congratulations to our winners and nominees. You all are truly deserving of this recognition.

Congratulations also to the 98 City employees and one CRA employee for their years of dedicated service to the City.

Please take a moment to [watch the presentations during the Commission Meeting here](#).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Welcome back to City Hall:** All City facilities have reopened for public access this week. Masks remain recommended for the general public and required for City staff while inside City facilities. In a continuing effort to help stop the spread of COVID-19, we are still encouraging residents to use the City's online services to conduct business when possible and to use the drive through window at City Hall to pay bills and fees. Online services can be easily accessed through the City's website, [www.hollywoodfl.org](http://www.hollywoodfl.org). The Development Services Department's QLess Check-In Service is also available and recommended to be used to reserve your space in line for building permits and other development related services before entering City Hall.



- **King Tides:** King Tides are expected again until today and then again starting November 3<sup>rd</sup> through November 9<sup>th</sup>. This is based on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's tide predictions. Flooding in low-lying areas is more likely during King Tides. Rainfall and wind strength and direction also have a significant impact on the height of the tides causing them to come in higher or lower than predicted. With seven miles of shoreline, 7.9 miles of canals, and a flat topography, Hollywood is vulnerable to the effects of sea level rise and tidal flooding.

The City continues working on both short and long-term solutions to minimize the impacts of tidal flooding and help plan for sea level rise. This past week, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection notified the City that our Tidal Flooding Mitigation and Shoreline Protection project that DCM submitted for Resilient Florida funding has been identified as eligible to proceed through the application process. This is a matching grant for \$14 million to help us make the GO Bond dollars approved by voters for public sea walls and shoreline protection go even further. Additionally, DCM will be bringing an item forward in next month for the Commission's to approve and authorize the City to accept another Resilient Florida Program grant of just under \$300,000 to help cover the cost of developing the needed construction documents for the Phase II Holland Park tidal flooding and shoreline protection project. Congratulations to Gus, Jose and our DCM team for identifying and going after these significant grant opportunities.

- **Notice of Construction at Cathy and Bob Anderson Park:** Construction is scheduled to begin next week on Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Cathy and Bob Anderson Community Park, located at 5800 Thomas Street. The City's contractor will remove the existing playground equipment and install new playground equipment, safety surface, and shade system. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 4-8 weeks, weather permitting. During this construction period the park, grounds and the basketball court will be closed. This improvement is part of the voter-approved General Obligation Bond.
- **Virtual Committee Meetings:** On Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. there will be a virtual public meeting for the **441/SR-7 Linear Park & Mobility Hub Improvement Project**. All are invited to participate in the community meeting to learn more about the improvements planned for the Mobility Hub at Hollywood Boulevard and 441, as well as additional improvements to the new linear park that runs along the east side of 441. Information for how to join this virtual public meeting can be found on the City's website under the Calendar of events, [www.hollywoodfl.org](http://www.hollywoodfl.org). For additional Project information, please call Rudy Damas, Project Manager at 954.921.3410.

Then on Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m., the City will host a **Street Tree Installation Project Virtual Meeting**. A total of 1,250 new shade trees are to be installed in the City as part of the tree mitigation program related to the 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Park Road, and N 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue roadway improvements and bicycle lane projects. Participants will learn more about the scope of work, identified street locations, and additional details of the project plan. Visit [hollywoodfl.org](http://hollywoodfl.org) for information on how to join this meeting.

- **Condolences:** City Manager Dr. Wazir Ishmael shared condolences for the passing of Ofc. Chirino and Lt. Graham. *"Monday was a tragic reminder of the extreme dangers that officers are confronted with each and every day. Rest in peace Ofc. Chirino and Lt. Graham. Your service is appreciated and your shifts are done."* Dr. Ishmael is grateful for the outpouring of support he has received from city managers from across the country.
- **Next City Commission Meeting:** The next City Commission Meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 beginning at 1 p.m. For more information about the meeting, please visit [hollywoodfl.org](http://hollywoodfl.org).