

SPRING / SUMMER 2025

# OAKLAND PARK ON THE RISE

**MOVING** the City on the Move!



Message from  
the Mayor

Page 3

Local Projects.  
Lasting Impact.

Page 4

Celebrating the  
First Wave of  
Finished Projects

Page 6

Dynamic Upgrades  
on the Horizon

Page 8

Partnering for  
Progress

Page 11

## CONTENTS

- Message from our Mayor ..... 3
- Local Projects. Lasting Impact. .... 4
- Celebrating the First Wave of Finished Projects ..... 6
- Dynamic Upgrades on the Horizon ..... 8
- A New Chapter for the Oakland Park Library ..... 10
- Partnering for Progress ..... 11
- Low Rates, High Impact ..... 12
- Exciting Changes Ahead ..... 13
- Oakland Park on the Move ..... 14
- Notes from our City Manager ..... 15
- Connect with Us ..... 16

Get news and events throughout the year. Scan here to receive our weekly newsletter.



# We Need You!

## Show Your Civic Pride Through Volunteering

Oakland Park thrives when our residents step up to support the community we all call home. From helping keep our neighborhoods, parks, and streets clean to assisting with events and programs, volunteers play a vital role in making our city shine. Whether you have a few hours or a lifelong passion for giving back, there's always a way to make a difference! Call 954-630-4500 or scan the QR code to get involved today!

### Ways to Volunteer:

- Serve on a City Advisory Board
- Deliver food to seniors and homebound residents
- Support library and literacy programs
- Help during neighborhood & waterway cleanups
- Sign-up to help during special events
- Join tree giveaways
- Participate in community beautification projects



### Save the Date!

**National Neighbor Day** is on September 6, 2025. Call us at 954-630-4500 to sign up.



# Message from our Mayor



Commissioner FITZ BUDHOO, Commissioner AISHA GORDON, Mayor TIM LONERGAN, Commissioner LETITIA NEWBOLD, Vice Mayor STEVEN R. ARNST

Dear Oakland Park Community,

Oakland Park is on the move—and it's thanks to you! This year has brought incredible progress, driven by smart infrastructure investments, stronger support for local businesses and residents in need, and a growing spirit of volunteerism that continues to shape our city's bright future.

We celebrated the opening of Fire Station 9, enhancing emergency response services, and the new Public Works Complex, which improves operations while freeing up five acres for future park space in the heart of Oakland Park. The revitalization of Dr. Carter G. Woodson Park and the addition of the Harlem McBride Community Garden are transforming public spaces, creating new opportunities for residents to gather, grow, and enjoy the outdoors in an area that for too long did not see investment.

Oakland Park shines because of your commitment to one another. From neighborhood clean-ups and tree giveaways to food deliveries for homebound seniors, your participation has helped make a real difference in the lives of our fellow residents.

We are also making strides in adding new affordable housing, generating economic growth, supporting sustainability, and keeping our taxes down even as our property values continue to appreciate. With projects like the Sky Building, Horizon of Oakland Park, and Village at Oakland Park, we are creating new opportunities for residents and businesses and generating new ad valorem revenues while maintaining our charm and character.

Through smart financial planning and a shared vision for the future, we continue to build a stronger, more connected, and more resilient Oakland Park. Thank you for being a part of this journey—I can't wait to see what comes next as we prepare to celebrate our one hundredth year in 2029!

Warmest regards,  
Mayor Tim Lonergan

# Local Projects. Lasting Impact.

*Neighborhood by Neighborhood,  
We Are on the Rise*

Take a look at how progress is unfolding across Oakland Park. This map highlights a variety of exciting projects – from park upgrades to infrastructure improvements – all designed with our community in mind. Every investment helps create a safer, more connected, and more beautiful hometown for the people who live, work, and play here.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Building a Better Oakland Park, Together!

**\$130+ MILLION**  
Invested in citywide improvements

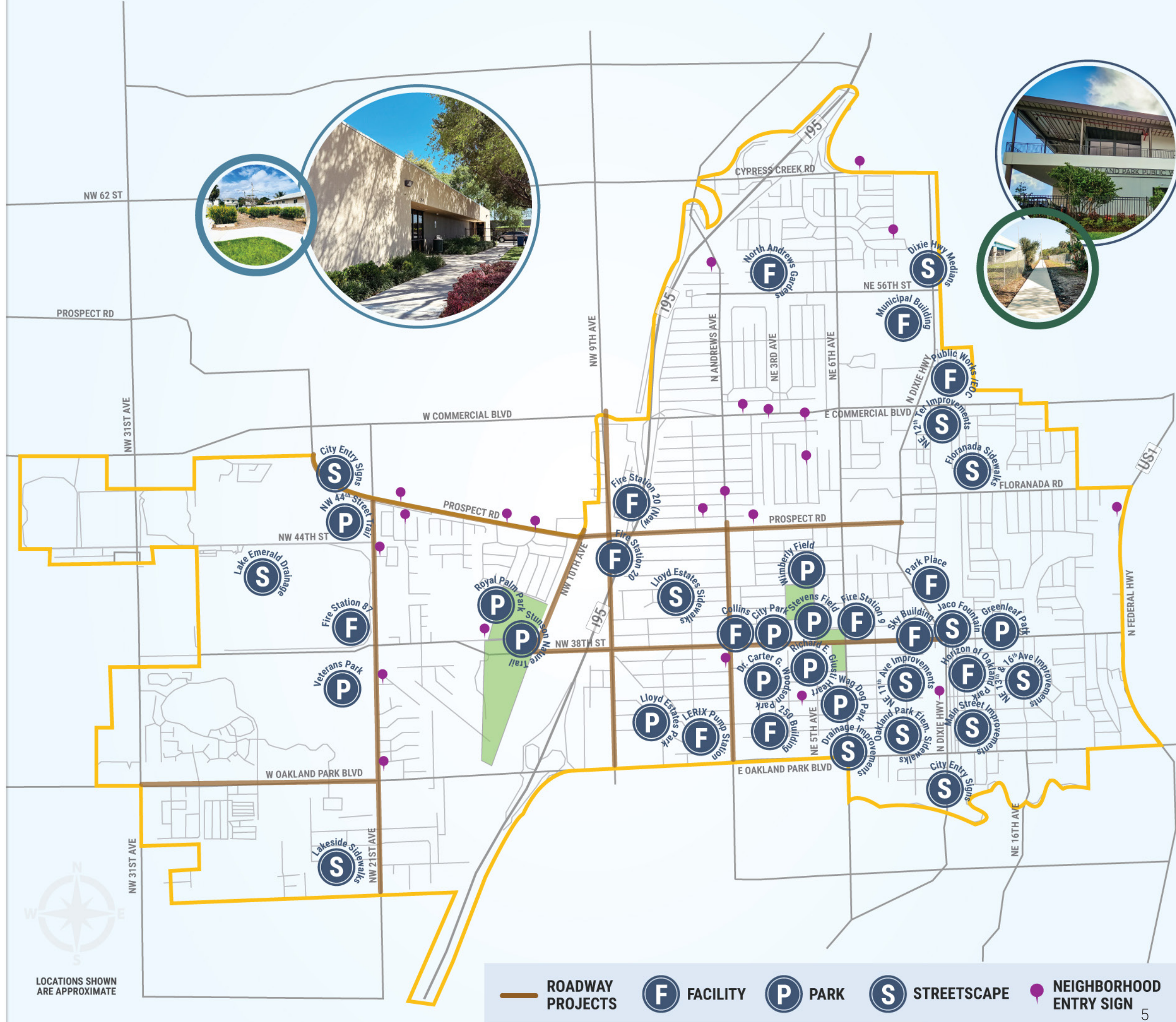
**30+ ACRES**  
Of new parks and green space

**9 MILES**  
Of city-owned streets resurfaced

**66%**  
Of projects funded by grants & partnerships

**162%**  
Property value increase since 2014

**30+ PROJECTS**  
Underway in 2025, improving every neighborhood in Oakland Park



# Celebrating the First Wave of Finished Projects

## Major Milestones Strengthening Infrastructure and Public Spaces

Oakland Park continues to invest in its future, delivering state-of-the-art facilities, enhanced public safety, and revitalized community spaces. These completed projects strengthen the city's infrastructure and resilience, ensuring a safer, more vibrant Oakland Park for all residents.



### FIRE STATION 9

599 Park Lane East

- Modern, hurricane-resistant fire station strategically located for rapid response
- Fully equipped with the latest emergency vehicles and technology
- Expands fire-rescue services, improving response times and community safety
- New home for Fire Administration, ensuring streamlined operations and training



### PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY & EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

5100 NE 12<sup>th</sup> Terrace

- New centralized operations hub, increasing efficiency for city services
- Consolidated staff and resources, freeing up five acres for public parkland
- Improved sustainability with energy-efficient systems and stormwater management
- Engineered for resilience, ensuring reliable service even during extreme weather



### HARDENING OF CRITICAL FACILITIES

#### Protecting Safety and Continuity of Operations

- **Fire Station 87 (2100 NW 39th Street):** Reinforced structures and modernized safety features to protect first responders and residents
- **Municipal Building (5399 N. Dixie Highway):** Upgraded impact-resistant windows and doors for enhanced storm protection
- **Park Place and Parking Lot (1101 NE 40th Court):** Improved resilience and accessibility



Since 2015, we've secured nearly **\$70 million in grants** to help fund essential projects and offset rising construction costs.



### RENOVATIONS TO DR. CARTER G. WOODSON PARK

3490 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

- New basketball court with seating and lighting
- New playground with rubberized surface, picnic and community areas
- Upgraded landscaping and lighting, improving safety and aesthetics
- Expanded green spaces and community garden, supporting wellness and outdoor activities
- New fitness equipment, sidewalks, and expanded recreational programming

### Additional Completed Projects Include:

- 250 Building at 250 NE 33rd Street
- City Centennial Park Phase 1 at 3900 NE 3rd Avenue
- Harlem McBride Community Garden at 3490 NE 3rd Avenue
- LERIX Pump Station in Lloyd Estates on the Sleepy River
- Multi-modal improvements on Andrews Ave., NW 10th Ave., NW 21st Ave., Park Lane, Powerline Rd., and Prospect Rd.
- Neighborhood monument signs in North Andrews Gardens, Oakland Hills, Royal Palm Lake Estates, South Royal Palm Acres, Tamarac Forrest, and Twin Lakes South
- New sidewalks in Lakeside and near Lloyd Estates Elementary and Oakland Park Elementary
- North Andrews Gardens Community Center at 250 NE 56th Court
- Resurfaced nine miles of City-owned streets
- Stunson Nature Trail and Parade of Orchids at 1701 NW 38th Street
- Wag Dog Park at 600 Park Lane East

The FY 2025 CIP budget of \$38.4 is funded by over **\$25.4 million in grants**, meaning approximately two-thirds of the total budget is grant-funded.

# Dynamic Upgrades on the Horizon

*Investing in the Parks, Neighborhoods, and Community Spaces of Tomorrow*

Oakland Park is growing in exciting ways, with new projects underway to improve our parks, streets, and public spaces. These upgrades are all about building a stronger, safer, and more connected community for everyone. With over \$130 million invested in improvements over the past five years, we are working together to create a brighter future—one project at a time.



## SKY BUILDING

*A Catalyst for Downtown Growth*

1100 Park Lane East

- Centralize city operations in modern location, improving access to services
- Mixed-use development featuring retail, public spaces and attainable housing
- Developing underutilized spaces into a thriving downtown hub
- Generates new tax revenue, helping to fund future city improvements and services
- Creates a customer base, attracting new businesses, supporting local economic growth
- Designed to encourage walkability and enhance downtown amenities and vibrancy

## CITY CENTENNIAL PARK PHASE 2

3900 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

- Two new parking lots, improving accessibility for visitors
- Performance platform and outdoor seating, creating a versatile event and gathering space
- New walking trails and butterfly garden, enhancing beauty and recreational appeal
- New community gathering areas, providing more space for events and outdoor activities

## COLLINS COMMUNITY CENTER

3900 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

- Renovated as a central, accessible library location
- Located in City Centennial Park, adjacent to recreational fields and tennis center
- Technology upgrades and meeting space to support education and cultural activities
- Aligns with redevelopment goals, revitalizing the area and increasing engagement

## NE 6TH AVENUE DRAINAGE PROJECT

Park Lane to Commercial

- \$4.8 million investment in flood mitigation and stormwater management
- Upgraded pump station and drainage to reduce flooding risks in surrounding neighborhoods
- Part of Oakland Park's Stormwater Master Plan, securing long-term climate resilience
- Funded through city and grant funding, minimizing financial impact on residents

## ROYAL PALM PARK

1701 Park Lane West/NW 38th Street

- Upgraded park trail and pedestrian-friendly enhancements
- Improved landscaping and stormwater management, supporting sustainability

## STEVENS FIELD

3881 NE 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue

- New restroom building, improving convenience for park users
- LED lighting, increasing energy efficiency and extending field use into the evening
- Field grading and new sod installation, providing a safer surface
- Perimeter walking trail, encouraging fitness and accessibility
- New site furnishings, including benches and shaded seating areas

## VETERANS PARK

3401 NW 21st Avenue

- New kayak launch, paved trails and enhanced lighting, improving safety and usability
- Expanded parking and accessibility improvements, making the park more welcoming for all
- Preserving natural beauty while increasing recreational opportunities

# A New Chapter for the Oakland Park Library

*Expanding Access, Education, and Opportunity in the Heart of the City*

The Oakland Park Library is turning a new page as it is preparing to relocate to a reimagined space at the Collins Community Center in City Centennial Park. This exciting development reflects the City's long-term vision to enhance access to public services by anchoring them in the geographic and cultural heart of the community.

Backed by a \$2 million grant from the Florida Department of Commerce, the new library will integrate cutting-edge technology, flexible spaces for collaboration, and expanded resources tailored to support students, families, and job seekers. This modernized facility will serve as a vibrant hub for the entire community. Strategically located near major civic and recreational amenities, it also enhances access and fosters inclusive, meaningful connections in a historically underserved area.

This transition symbolizes a broader investment in social equity and neighborhood revitalization. Situated in a Qualified Census Tract, this

*"One of the projects I'm most excited about is the improvements to Collins, which will provide a home for our library in City Centennial Park. Moving the Library to the city center not only allows us to enhance and broaden our services in the heart of our community but also aligns with our redevelopment goals by situating the library in a Qualified Census Tract. Equipped with the latest technology and resources, this new space will become a central hub for learning and community activities, providing substantial benefits to our residents and furthering our commitment to revitalization in our CRA and Opportunity Zones. As we plan for our future Library, this first step gives the community the opportunity to enjoy these services in a more central location."*

- Mayor Tim Lonergan

facility will directly support the City's goals for sustainable redevelopment in targeted zones, including the Community Redevelopment Areas and Opportunity Zones. Beyond expanding access to library and community services, the project will help strengthen the social and educational fabric of Oakland Park.

While financial challenges and rising construction costs have necessitated revisions to our original plans, the city's commitment to meeting the needs of the community remains unwavering. This relocation not only provides residents with immediate access to enhanced services and resources but also lays the foundation for future phases of development at City Centennial Park—ensuring that plans for the next chapter of the library continue to evolve as a cornerstone of community engagement and enrichment.



# Partnering for Progress

*How Oakland Park Is Planning for a Stronger Future*

Oakland Park is planning with purpose—guiding growth to reflect community values and deliver lasting benefits. Instead of letting change happen, we're shaping it to protect what makes our city special while creating new opportunities for those who live and work here.

Backed by over \$450 million in private investment, the city is encouraging development that supports attainable housing, local businesses, green space, and high-quality amenities—preserving Oakland Park's character while preparing for the future.

## Housing That Works

To keep Oakland Park livable and inclusive as housing costs rise, we're supporting projects that offer attainable, well-designed homes:

- **Sky Building:** A downtown hub with attainable housing, retail, public space, and a new City Hall
- **Horizon:** Transit-oriented housing with retail and a future commuter rail platform
- **Village at Oakland Park:** 469 attainable units with green space and access to jobs and transit

## Smart Growth, More Green

We're also adding over 30 acres of parks and trails while building vibrant, walkable neighborhoods:

- **Oak Tree Development:** 23+ acres of open space and a 9-mile trail
- **BLYS:** A 12-acre site with a waterfront promenade
- **Centennial Park Expansion:** 5 new acres of recreation space downtown
- **Oaklyn, Ceiba & Parc Residences:** Walkable communities driving job growth and revitalization

Together, these efforts reflect a clear vision: a thriving, connected, and inclusive Oakland Park.



# Low Rates, High Impact

## Oakland Park's Blueprint for Prosperity

Oakland Park is committed to strategic financial management that works to position us for continued growth and prosperity as we prepare to enter our Second Century. Through prudent decisions around general obligation bond issuance, infrastructure investments, and leveraging grants, we've paved the way for private development in our downtown core, ensuring a vibrant future for our city.

One of the cornerstones of Building Our Second Century was issuing general obligation bonds at historically low interest rates—as low as 2.26%—prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of construction inflation. By locking in low borrowing costs, taxpayers will save substantially over the life of the bond as Oakland Park invests in critical infrastructure upgrades that improve the quality of life for residents and provides support for future growth. This foresight proved invaluable as interest rates began to rise post-pandemic, making our early actions even more impactful.

Construction inflation escalated by over 110% since 2018. The initial \$40 million bond budget wasn't sufficient to cover escalating costs. By strategically pairing bonds with grants and other funding strategies, an additional \$25 million has been secured to assist in renovating and building infrastructure that will serve as the backbone for future growth. By matching our bond funding with grant opportunities, we maximize and leverage the impact of every dollar spent.

A significant part of our success story involves fostering private development, particularly in our downtown area. By using our resources, including funding and support from Broward County, to create an attractive environment for investment, we've seen developers step up to transform city properties. These new developments, all mixed-use, are revitalizing our downtown, creating jobs, adding to the local tax base, expanding housing opportunities, and more. These private-public collaborations have been a key driver of our economic resurgence and as private development flourishes, the property tax base will expand, strengthening our city's financial position and providing greater flexibility to invest in additional projects that benefit the community.

As we move forward, our city is well-positioned to continue its growth trajectory. With a solid financial foundation, strategic partnerships with developers, and an unwavering commitment to revitalizing key areas, we are confident that our downtown will continue to thrive, benefiting residents, businesses, and future generations alike. We are proud of the progress we've made and remain focused on creating a sustainable and prosperous future for our city.

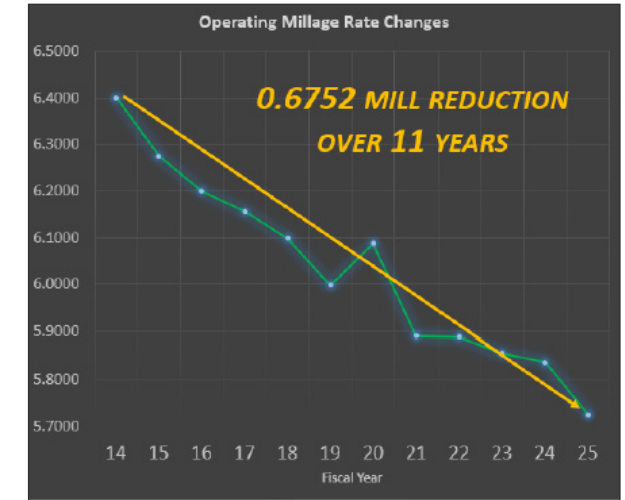
## Strategic Decisions Are Delivering Real Results

- \$40 million in bonds issued at historic low rates
- \$25 million in grants and additional funding secured
- 110%+ construction cost increase since 2018
- New private development expanding tax base and jobs
- Property values have appreciated 162% since 2014

**2/3 of Capital Projects**  
are now funded by outside sources

## City Delivers Consistent Millage Rate Reduction

The city has made significant strides in reducing costs for residents by significantly reducing the operating millage rate to its lowest point in 15 years, with ten reductions over the last eleven years, saving taxpayers more than \$17 million since 2014. Oakland Park is the only city in Broward County to reduce its rate nine times over the last decade.



# Exciting Changes Ahead

*Oakland Park is on the move—both figuratively and literally—building a stronger, more connected future for all!*

As we continue to enhance city services and facilities, this will be a year of transformation! Nearly nine out of 10 city employees will relocate to modernized facilities, allowing us to serve the community more efficiently.

Every effort will be made to minimize disruptions to services and ensure a smooth process. There may be some programming that will be paused during the transition.

We appreciate your patience and support as we make these exciting improvements. For the latest updates, please check with staff or call 954-630-4370.

## Other Improvements

Once our current projects are complete, we have more in store, including:

- Horizon Of Oakland Park
- Glenwood Garden
- Fire Rescue Station 20
- Centennial Park - Phase 3

After City staff in the Municipal Building relocate into the Sky Building, we plan to explore opportunities to reconfigure that space for alternative City operations and services.



# Oakland Park on the Move

## Strategic Relocations That Power Progress

Oakland Park's transformation has been years in the making. Guided by the Citywide Facilities Master Plan and shaped by community priorities, the city launched a series of thoughtful coordinated relocations and renovations to enhance services, streamline operations, and expand public spaces.

Each move was carefully timed to unlock the next—maximizing city-owned land, improving infrastructure, modernizing services, and minimizing disruption. These investments ensure Oakland Park is ready to serve its community well into its 2nd century.

## New and Modernized Facilities

- **North Andrews Gardens Community Center** - Now home to volunteer and Active Adult programs
- **Fire Station 9** - Built on NE 6th Avenue while the original station stayed operational
- **Public Works Complex** - Constructed on NE 12th Terrace, replacing the NE 5th Avenue site
- **Municipal Building Hardening and Park Place Improvements** - Enhanced safety, functionality
- **Collins Community Center Renovation** - Location of library and community services
- **250 Building** - A vacant site was transformed into a new location for Community Enhancement and the Urban Farming Institute

## Relocated Staff and Services

- Volunteer and active adult programs → North Andrews Gardens
- Fire personnel from FS 9, FS 87 → Fire Station 9
- Public Works teams → Public Works Complex
- Library and Parks staff → will move to Collins Community Center
- Community Enhancement and Urban Farming Institute → 250 Building
- Staff from Spihler, City Hall and Collins Community Center → Park Place
- Staff at City Hall and the Municipal Building → Sky Building

## Expanded Public Spaces and Community Benefits

- Park Place can now accommodate childcare, events, and recreation services
- Collins Community Center to serve as a new hub to house library services
- 5 acres will be added to City Centennial Park, made possible by the Public Works relocation
- New park with legacy tree at NE 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue to be developed at no cost through Horizon project
- Former Omega Church site is under design to become the new Greenleaf Park

## Why It Matters

These moves weren't just about buildings, they were about building opportunity. By using land wisely, modernizing services, and creating green spaces, Oakland Park is becoming a more resilient, connected, and community-focused city. As we look ahead to our centennial in 2029, these investments reflect a shared vision: to grow responsibly, serve effectively, and stay rooted in the small-town charm our residents love. We're not just moving buildings—we're building the future of Oakland Park.

# Notes from our City Manager



Municipal government is the government closest to the people. It's where residents have the most direct access to public services—and where their input can truly shape decisions. While cities like Oakland Park operate within county, state, and federal frameworks, we have both the opportunity and the responsibility to build a local government that reflects the unique needs and values of our community.

That work starts with setting clear, meaningful goals. Guided by our City Charter, municipal code, and the annual priorities adopted by the City Commission, these foundations help staff make informed decisions and allocate resources where they're needed most. Each year, the Commission identifies key focus areas: Financial Stability and Sustainability; Infrastructure Needs; Smart Growth and Development; Community Wellness & Recreation; Public Safety and Community Integrity; Oakland Park's Identity; and Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability that also serve to guide staff.

The projects featured in this newsletter show how we are turning these goals into real progress—through infrastructure improvements, better equipped first responders, expanded community programs, and efforts to keep our neighborhoods safe, healthy, and connected.

After more than 35 years in public service—and ten of them here in Oakland Park—I'm deeply grateful to work alongside such a dedicated Commission, staff, volunteers, and community partners. Their commitment is the foundation of our continued progress, and their accomplishments are truly impressive. None of which would be possible without broad community support and encouragement.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve and to be part of Oakland Park's ongoing journey to our next 100 years!

*David Hebert*  
City Manager





3650 NE 12th Avenue  
Oakland Park, FL 33334  
954-630-4200  
www.oaklandparkfl.gov

# Connect with Us

## **Follow Us on Social Media**

Facebook: @OPCityFL  
Instagram: @CityOaklandPark  
Nextdoor: www.nextdoor.com  
Twitter: @CityOaklandPark

SCAN



## **Important Phone Numbers**

Broward Sheriff's Office (Non-Emergency): 954-764-4357  
Building and Community Services: 954-630-4350  
City of Oakland Park (Main Number): 954-630-4200  
Community Enhancement: 954-630-4400  
Community Redevelopment Agency and Economic Development: 954-630-4390  
Engineering and Community Development: 954-630-4419  
Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library: 954-630-4370  
Human Resources: 954-630-4313  
Parks & Leisure Services: 954-630-4500  
Solid Waste Collection: 954-630-4452  
Public Works (After-Hours): 954-561-6275  
Utility Billing Services: 954-630-4280

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