



**Agenda
City of Cocoa
Regular Meeting**

**February 18, 2025
5:00 PM**

65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL 32922

I. Opening Matters:

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

1. Agenda: Special Meeting of February 18, 2025.

III. Adjournment:

IV. Notice to the Public:

This is a public meeting. All interested parties may attend in person. The facility wherein this public meeting will be held is accessible to the physically handicapped. In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk of the City of Cocoa, listed below, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting: Monica Arsenault, City Clerk, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, by telephone at (321) 433-8488 or via email at marsenault@cocoafl.gov. Additionally, interested persons may view or listen to the meeting electronically at the following internet sites:

1. <https://tinyurl.com/s5e875r> or
2. <https://cocoa.legistar.com/DepartmentDetail.aspx?ID=26365&GUID=FF9D3369D354-4FAB-800A-57D0AEE30153&Mode=MainBody>

However, the City is not responsible for technical difficulties that may occur while attempting to view or listen to the meeting on the internet.

Interested persons may submit their written comments or questions regarding the meeting prior to the meeting through Email at meetings@cocoafl.org, or via E-comments through the online agenda. Any electronic comments submitted will be made part of the meeting record. Written comments or questions not relevant to the Council meeting agenda will not be made part of the meeting record but will be maintained as public record.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, the City hereby advises the public that: if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at its meeting or hearing, that person will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose, affected persons may need to assure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, and such record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for the introduction or admission into evidence of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals otherwise not allowed by law.

Although members of the public are entitled to be heard by the City Council on certain items on the meeting agenda pursuant to the City Council Rules of Procedure, members of the public are not entitled to an immediate response by either administrative staff members or Council; however, the City Council or administrative staff may provide a response at their discretion. When presenting before the City Council, all comments or questions should be directed to the Mayor or the chair of the meeting. Comments or questions should not be made directly to administrative staff without permission from the Mayor or chair.

Public debate by individual speakers from the audience on public hearing items shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Applicants or representatives of recognized groups with special interests in a matter shall be limited to ten (10) minutes; and total debate on a single issue shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes. Only one presentation per person per item shall be allowed.

A Council member may add an item to the agenda during the meeting only at the time the agenda is approved. If the item requires action by the Council, then it may be added to the agenda by an affirmative vote of the Council, and written documentation must be submitted at the time the item is added to the agenda. Matters may also be raised by the Council, City Manager or City Attorney under reports and acted upon by the City Council. This agenda is posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and at the Central Brevard Library and Reference Center in Cocoa for public review.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Memo Date: 02/04/2025
Agenda Date: 2/18/2025
Prepared By: Monica Arsenault, City Clerk
Through: Stockton Whitten, City Manager
Requested Action: Approve the February 18, 2025 Special City Council meeting agenda as written or with amendments.

BACKGROUND:

N/A

PRIORITY AREA CONNECTION:

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

N/A

PREVIOUS ACTION:

N/A

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Approve the February 18, 2025 Special City Council meeting agenda as written or with amendments.



AGENDA

City Council Priorities Workshop

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**Cocoa City Hall
City Council Chambers
65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL 32922**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Cocoa City Council will hold a City Council Priorities Workshop on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., in City Council Chambers, located in Cocoa City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL 32922, as publicly noticed.

I. Workshop Topics are as follows:

1. Priority Areas and performance measures
2. Fund Balance Updates
3. Parks Update/Discussion
4. Public Safety Priorities
5. Waste Management
6. Public Comment

Please note that Action may be taken on various item(s) at this Workshop

II. Adjournment.

Notice To The Public:

This is a public meeting. All interested parties may attend. The facility wherein this public meeting will be held is accessible to the physically handicapped. In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk of the City of Cocoa, listed below, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting: Monica Arsenault, City Clerk, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, by telephone at (321) 433-8488 or via email at marsenault@cocoafl.gov.



City Council

FY 2026 Priorities and Planning

Special Meeting

February 18, 2025



Agenda

1. Priority Areas and performance measures
2. Fund Balance Updates
3. Parks Update/Discussion
4. Public Safety Priorities
5. Waste Management
6. Public Comment





PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY STANDARDS

PRIORITY AREAS & PERFORMANCE MEASURES

INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS



PUBLIC SAFETY & COMMUNITY STANDARDS

- Coordinate with Code Enforcement to gain compliance with properties that are chronically a nuisance.
- Provide increased presence in crime “hot-spots” to reduce criminal activity
- Develop a network within neighborhoods to enhance communication between members of the police department and the community
- Ensure that public safety resources are strategically allocated to provide the most effective and efficient delivery of public safety services.



PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

- Decrease residential leaks/loss of water by checking for a leak within 1 business day of the meter being read if consumption is over 50,000 gallons and turn the meter off if active loss is occurring.
- Expand Parking Options in Cocoa Village.
- Repave 2.5 miles of City-owned roadways.
- Plant 15 trees annually in the city using Arbor Mitigation Funds.
- Ensure drinking water production is continuous and in compliance with EPA/FDEP regulations.



ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Enhance available property search tool on the Economic Development website to enhance search features for prospective businesses
- Implement at least two business development conferences or programs in FY 25 that attract at least 50 business owners to learn more about small business and incentives offered through the City of Cocoa.
- Improve Residential Development and Rehabilitation Programs to Ensure a Diversity of Housing Options





COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

- Increase Citizen's Academy participation by 4% each year.
- Maintain a branding kit with standards and a use policy application for the community.
- Host 6 City sponsored special events throughout the year to reach our diverse community.
- Reduce the number of unanswered abandoned calls to 8% and increase the number of contacts from an average of 6,000 per month
- Send a monthly letter and flyer to Cocoa churches giving them information on big events happening in the City of Cocoa.



ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

- Introduce at least two new processes each year that improve citizen engagement and create efficiencies in departmental operations.
- Optimize current spending to achieve higher value, aiming to enhance IT service delivery without increasing overall spending beyond the rate of inflation.
- Reduce the number of misread meters to under 1% of a Meter Reader's daily meter reading submission.
- Achieve an average PO cycle time of 10 business days or show a reduction from the previous year
- Attend at least one recruitment event each quarter, targeting the Cocoa community, minorities, and Veterans.
- Maintain a public records management system that ensures compliance with Florida Statutes 119 and facilitates efficient retrieval and dissemination of information upon request.

www.CocoaFL.gov/budget





FINANCIAL UPDATE



General Fund – Assigned Fund Balance 2021

Original FY21 AFB: \$8,864,000

Fiske Project \$(560,000) (FEMA Grant)

Fire Truck \$(634,500) (ARPA Funds)

Revised FY21 AFB: \$7,669,500

Completed Projects

Provost Park	\$2,120,037
Affordable Housing	\$750,000 (MCB Subdivision)
Stradley Park	\$665,693
Police Headquarters	\$532,113 (Roof and other repairs)
Paving	\$476,395 (DS CRA)
Fuel Tank	\$283,848
Village Parking	\$458,621
Police Vehicles	\$122,000 (Completed FY25)
Donations	\$110,785 (Track and Brevard Museum)
Junny Rios	\$71,523 (Fence)

Completed Projects (cont.)

Brightline CRISI	\$62,835 (Grant)
Dr. Joe Lee Smith Pool	\$113,812
Bracco Pond	\$48,501 (Exercise Equipment & Fence)
Brevard Museum	\$28,929 (Fire Alarm)
Park Improvements	\$27,039 (Design for Bathrooms & Sign)
Economic Incentive	\$20,000

Projects in Process

Junny Rios	\$638,457
Village Parking	\$241,379
Economic Incentives	\$480,000

Balance of Completed Projects: \$475,735
Return to Fund Balance



General Fund – Assigned Fund Balance 2022

Original FY22 AFB:	\$5,440,000
Fiske Project	\$(550,000)
Dixon & IRD	\$(250,000)
Citywide Software Upgrade	\$(1,500,000)
Revised AFB:	\$3,140,000

Completed Projects	
Paving & Sidewalks	\$950,000
Fire Pumper Truck	\$850,000
Fiske	\$550,000 (Originally \$1,100,000)
Police & Fire Cadets	\$125,828
Police & Fire Recruitment	\$79,095
Fleet Software	\$42,033

Remaining	
Affordable Housing	\$328,980
Museum Capital	\$240,000
Police & Fire Recruitment	\$220,905
Police & Fire Cadets	\$174,172



General Fund – Assigned Fund Balance 2023

Original FY23 AFB: \$18,730,692

Projects

Capital Improvements	\$8,083,737
Citywide Software Upgrade	\$3,000,000
Cocoa Park Improvements	\$2,856,038
Grants	\$1,350,000
Affordable Housing	\$1,150,000
Road & Sidewalks	\$973,814
Employee Recruitment Programs	\$558,224
Economic Incentives	\$480,000
Cocoa Village Parking	\$241,379
Sustainability	\$37,500



General Fund – Assigned Fund Balance 2024

**FY24 Assigned Fund
Balance:**

\$16,631,258

SR 524 Design	\$4,300,000
Train Station	5,000,000
Road Resurfacing	500,000
Sustainability Plan	37,500
ERP Software	3,000,000
Economic Incentives	750,000
Cocoa Village Parking	575,000
FY21 Assigned Fund Balance	781,633
FY22 Assigned Fund Balance	1,687,125



General Fund Fund Balance 2024

Total Fund Balance:	\$56,706,247
Nonspendable	2,663,032
Restricted	67,000
Committed for Stabilization	13,000,000
Committed for Capital Reserve	\$500,000
Committed for Grants	191,757
Assigned Fund Balance	16,631,258
FY25 Budget Rollover	3,879,145
Liquidity Reserve	16,774,055
Early Debt Repayment	\$3,000,000



New Money (Estimates)

FY2026 Budget	
Property Tax Increase 3% (Current Millage)	\$363,000
Fire Assessment 3%	\$104,000
Utility/Stormwater Indirect Cost Allocation 5%	\$434,823
Utility Return on Investment (ROI) 10%	<u>\$809,274</u>
Estimated Increase in Revenue:	\$1,711,097



Increase in Expenses (Estimates)



FY2026 Budget	
General Fund Salaries (5 Unions and GF Staff)	\$1,207,892
Medical Insurance 7.5%	\$422,506
General Fund Utilities 5%	\$48,584
General Fund Liability Insurance 5%	\$44,554
General Fund Fuel 5%	<u>\$20,000</u>
Estimated Expense Increase	\$1,743,536

Estimated Shortfall (\$32,439)



Unknown FY26 Financial Impacts

- Additional Homestead Exemption:
 - The tax break allows you to reduce the taxable value of your primary residence by \$25,000 plus an additional exemption of \$25,000 for properties valued over \$50,000. Impact to Cocoa ??????
- Federal Spending Cuts. Impact to Cocoa ??????



CBA Wage Increases

Group	FY24/25	FY25/26	FY26/27
LIUNA	5%	6%	7%
IAFF	5%	6%	7%
PBA R/F	4%	8%	8%
PBA Lt	7%	Pending	Pending
Fire District Chiefs	5%	Pending	Pending
General	5%	6%	TBD





PARKS UPDATE/ DISCUSSION

Parks Operations & Maintenance Agreement Overview



August 2024: New Parks Operations & Maintenance Agreement
Signed between the City of Cocoa and Brevard County

Parks Expenses = D4 Parks Tax Revenue

- City pays additional utilities (electric, water, sewer)
- No expenditures over \$5,000
- Share expenses once revenue cap is hit, not to exceed \$2,500 per item



Parks Operations & Maintenance Agreement Outcome

City Requirements:

- Fund operation and capital projects in the budget
 - \$500,000 in FY25 budget
- City Maintenance of the following parks:
 - Carl Anderson Park,
 - Cocoa Manor, and
 - Gilmore Community Park.



Junny Rios Martinez Park Survey Results

	Pickleball Courts	Pavilion	Playground	Walking Loop	Soccer Mini Pitch
1 - Top Priority	50	53	85	99	26
2	31	51	48	53	36
3	37	56	48	40	49
4	40	41	30	22	41
5 - Bottom Priority	80	37	27	24	86



Junny Rios Martinez Park Improvements

Remaining Available Project Funds - \$638,000

- Based on the survey, below are the costs for the individual project components.
 1. Construct a Park Perimeter Walking Loop - \$70,000
 2. Expand Playground - \$100,000
 3. Install a Pavilion - \$150,000
 4. Construct two Pickleball Courts - \$180,000
- Total Cost - \$500,000



Staff Recommendations for Additional Park Improvements

Remaining Parks Capital Contingency

- County provided cost for Stradley Park Football Field concessions renovations - \$619,300
- County Capital Revenue budgeted for the Football Concession Project - \$284,000
- City Cost - \$335,300
- Softball and Baseball Concession Project County Budget - \$200,000



Provost Park – Mini Pitch Grant

Safe Places to Play Program

Before & After



- Estimated cost to construct \$200,000
- Rolling application, first round due March 31st
- Partnership with Space Coast United Soccer to provide programming
- Bring in a variety of activities and amenities that brings kids and families to utilize the park
- Adding in additional options for sports can lead to additional scholarship opportunities for our youth



PUBLIC SAFETY PRIORITIES



Public Safety Needs for a Growing Community

- Population increase due to new residential and commercial developments leads to demand for public safety personnel
 - Additional patrol to maintain safety and traffic management
 - Enhanced fire and medical response capacity and the possibility of additional stations and resources
 - Brightline Station leading to increased development, higher daily population, and increased traffic
- Proactive investment to keep pace with growth



WASTE MANAGEMENT



Yard and Bulk Waste

- 2021: New WM Contract
 - Requires residents to call-in bulk Yard Waste and Bulk Waste to be picked up instead of a regularly scheduled bulk pick-up day.
 - This helped to lower the amount of increases customers received.
 - Current contract runs through 2028.
- Communication efforts: Postcards, magnets, newsletters, videos, social media campaigns
- New efforts from Code Enforcement?



Yard and Bulk Waste

	Cocoa Beach Resident	Cocoa Resident
Green Waste	\$11.92	\$5.23
Number of Bulk Yard Waste Pickups/week	1	0*

*Must call in all bulk yard waste.

- Working with Waste Management to get pricing for additional regular service
- Waste Management is also working on additional ideas for bulk waste pickup



