



THE COUNCIL OF
FORT LAUDERDALE CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

June 11, 2026

City of Fort Lauderdale
1 East Broward Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Mayor Trantalis, Vice Mayor Sorensen and Honorable Commissioners,

On behalf of the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations (CFLCA) and the many neighborhoods we represent throughout our city, we write today with one clear and unified message: we strongly support City Manager Rickelle Williams and her continued leadership of Fort Lauderdale.

Ms. Williams was selected unanimously by this Commission following a comprehensive national search designed to identify the most qualified candidate to lead our city. Today, she is responsible for managing an organization with an annual budget of approximately \$1.2 billion and a workforce of more than 3,000 employees. Since joining the city, she has brought visible organization and accountability to city operations — expediting Parks Bond and infrastructure projects, negotiating agreements in the city's best interest, and making meaningful investments in public safety. This is a significant responsibility, and our neighborhoods have confidence in her ability to fulfill it with professionalism, integrity, and sound judgment.

Ms. Williams has worked diligently since her appointment to implement the vision, priorities, and policy goals established by this Commission — translating direction into action, ensuring city services are delivered effectively, and providing residents with the responsive government they expect and deserve. We are therefore concerned by reports that certain actions and public comments have sought to undermine her authority and decision-making responsibilities. Such actions are inconsistent with Fort Lauderdale's Council-Manager form of government, under which the Commission establishes policy while the City Manager is entrusted with day-to-day administration and operations.

When professional administrative decisions become subject to political interference, it weakens the effectiveness of city management, creates uncertainty within the organization, and ultimately impacts the quality of services delivered to residents. Strong cities depend on clear roles, mutual respect, and accountability within their governing structure. Our neighborhoods are paying close attention. The CFLCA represents civic associations from every corner of Fort Lauderdale — from Croissant Park to Sailboat Bend, from Melrose Manors to Coral Ridge, and many communities in between. While our neighborhoods may not always agree on every issue, we are united in our belief that City Manager Williams should be allowed to lead the organization without unnecessary political interference and with the authority necessary to carry out the policies and objectives established by this Commission.

Fort Lauderdale deserves stable, professional, and accountable leadership. We believe Rickelle Williams is providing exactly that. We respectfully urge this Commission to support the City Manager, respect the governance structure established by our Charter, and allow her the independence necessary to effectively implement your vision and manage the business of our city. We welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns with you directly and remain committed to working alongside city leadership in the best interest of all Fort Lauderdale residents.

Respectfully submitted,

William Brown

President, Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association

cc: Rickelle Williams, City Manager, City of Fort Lauderdale
David Soloman, City Clerk, City of Fort Lauderdale