

The AVENTURA



ANNUAL REPORT

2014





CARTIER
TIFFANY & CO.
BURBERRY

NORDSTROM

FENDI

BALLY

TORY BURCH

BROOKS BROTHERS

MACY'S

APPLE

EMILIO PUCCI

JUST CAVALLI

ROLEX

BLOOMINGDALE'S

ADIDAS BY STELLA MCCARTNEY

BOSS HUGO BOSS

+ OVER 300 STORES

AVENTURA MALL



Come Celebrate Founders Day on Sunday, November 8, 2015

AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

Celebrating 5 years of the Arts in Aventura

5



Celebrate five years of
performing arts and
cultural programming on
Friday,
October 23, 2015



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TheAventura
was produced by
City of Aventura

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Special thanks to Sara Fiedelholtz

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Aventura Community Green Garden

Andrew Goldstein Photography

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CITY COMMISSION



Enid Weisman
Mayor

Our mission is to join with our community to make Aventura a city of the highest quality and a city of excellence. We do this by providing responsive, cost effective and innovative local government services.



Teri Holzberg
Commissioner, Seat 1



Denise Landman
Commissioner, Seat 2



Howard Weinberg
Commissioner, Seat 3



Robert Shelley
Commissioner, Seat 4



Enbar Cohen
Commissioner, Seat 5



Marc Narotsky
Commissioner, Seat 6



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180



Dear City of Aventura Resident,

It is my privilege as your recently elected Mayor to present the City's Annual Report for 2014. I am honored for the opportunity to serve this great community and am committed to addressing your concerns, as well as maintaining and enhancing our quality of life.

In November of this year the City will be celebrating its 20th year anniversary since incorporation in 1995. I want to take this time to thank the City Founders and all of the previous Mayors and City Commissioners who have served over the years, and have truly made this the "City of Excellence." I look forward to Founders Day this fall, to celebrate this important milestone.

As we look forward, your new City Commission recently adopted the following list of policy goals and priorities to focus on over the next several years, which was developed based on input from the community:

- Work with the Miami-Dade County School Board to address high school capacity issues by reviewing all alternatives.
- Continue to explore alternate transportation modes to alleviate traffic and support pedestrian and bicycle friendly initiatives.
- Collaborate with Northeast Miami-Dade Cities to review traffic issues.
- Ensure that redevelopment projects that require land use/zoning revisions do not have a negative impact on the community.
- Work with the County to ensure that the hours of operation and the programming at the new Library facility address all age groups in the City.
- Monitor and participate in regional efforts to address the impact of rising sea level.

We have already started work and have made some progress on many of the items on the list.

I am pleased to report that the Northeast Miami-Dade County Library branch is scheduled to be complete in May of this year. We look forward to the grand opening of this facility and invite the entire community to attend. This state of the art facility will provide a central meeting place for our community, to fill the void left by not having a library, as well as the loss of local bookstores.

The Aventura City of Excellence School (ACES), the City's Charter School, completed a successful 11th year and scored an "A" on the School Performance Grade, issued by the State of Florida. The school administration, staff, teachers, parents, and students should be commended for a job well done.

The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center will be celebrating its fifth season in November of this year. In its fourth season, the Center increased the number of ticket buyers and expanded the number of days the facility was booked. In fact, many of the events were sold out, which shows the continued support of this beautiful facility. I invite you to participate in the Center's fundraising projects: "Walk of the Arts" and "Honor Roll," which give residents and businesses a chance to support local cultural programs while becoming a part of Aventura history.

As we begin 2015, I want to take this opportunity to thank the community for its valuable support, as we address many difficult and important issues on behalf of the future of the City of Aventura. As always, your input is important to us and we welcome your thoughts and ideas as we address these issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Enid Weisman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Enid Weisman



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8910



To the Residents of Aventura:

I am pleased to present the TheAventura Annual Report to the community which includes an overview of the City's accomplishments this past year and information on municipal services. In addition, this document has been designed as a useful resource for City

residents and visitors. Each year as we prepare this annual report to the citizens of Aventura, we reflect on and seek to communicate with you the achievements of the past and our plans for the upcoming year.

This year we will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of our City since incorporation in 1995. Much has been accomplished over this period of time from new parks and an "A" rated K-8 charter school to a world class Arts & Cultural Center. Over \$106 million has been spent on infrastructure, ranging from traffic improvements and expansion of drainage systems to our signature landscaping. Every effort was made to enhance the quality of life for our residents. All this was accomplished without raising taxes and to this day the City's tax rate still remains the lowest in the County.

This past year the City focused on fostering a more pedestrian and bike friendly community. Pedestrian Warning signs were placed at the intersections along Country Club Drive as a safety measure. They will be replaced by reflective flashing beacon signs in the near future. The Florida Department of Transportation completed a project requested by the City to provide for bike paths along the Lehman Causeway that connect our internal system to Collins Avenue and Biscayne Boulevard. The Police Department initiated a bike safety program to educate both motorists and bike riders about the rules of the road.

As a City we continue to explore alternative transportation opportunities to alleviate traffic congestion. Over 25,000 riders a month utilize the City's free shuttle bus service, to travel to their destinations throughout the City. Although the lack of right-of-ways precludes the addition or expansion of more road lanes, several turning lane projects have been completed to facilitate traffic flow. We are working with the Florida Department of Transportation to address traffic flow issues on Biscayne Boulevard. The City has supported new mass transportation projects like Florida All Aboard and the expansion of Tri-Rail, to alleviate traffic congestion.

The safety of our residents, businesses and visitors remains a high priority. The crime rate for 2014 decreased, compared

to the prior year. The City is proud of the efforts of our Police Department. The Department was recently reaccruited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. The men and women of our Police Department, as well as our security partners at the Aventura Mall and the various condominiums, have played a major part in creating the reputation for a safe community in which to live, work and play.

This past year a highly successful Community Green Garden was added to the southern portion of Founders Park that includes 34 planters, where residents can plant vegetables and flowers. In addition, the very popular movie night at the park was expanded to four events, based on feedback form the community.

Looking forward, the following major capital improvement projects are scheduled for completion in 2015:

- NE 185 Street/Biscayne Boulevard turning lane extension.
- Resurfacing of NE 207 Street and Biscayne Lake Gardens.
- NE 29 Avenue Drainage, Sidewalk and Eesurfacing Improvements.
- Design of new park located on NE 188 Street.
- Restoration and repair of Soffer Exercise Trail.

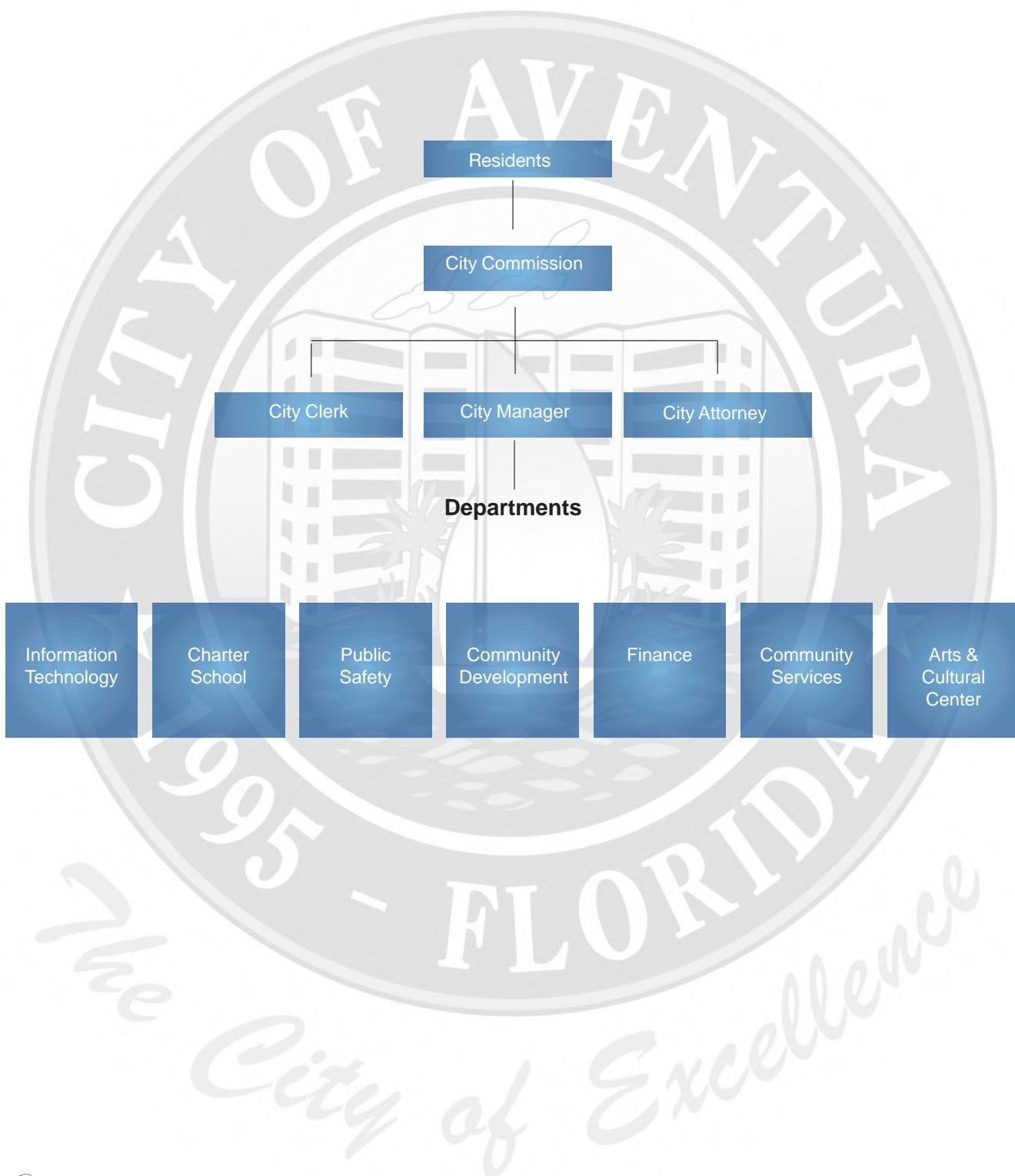
I am proud to work with informed elected officials, a dedicated group of City employees and involved citizens, as we continually strive to maintain and improve our community.

This is an exciting time to be a part of the City of Aventura. As we look forward to 2015, we have made incredible strides in creating the type of community residents take pride in and others seek to emulate. I hope you enjoy reading about the progress of your community, the City of Excellence.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM
City Manager

CITY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





CITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



PUBLIC SAFETY

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
Non-Emergencies: 305-466-8989
Emergencies: 911

The City of Aventura Police Department (APD) is committed to its mission, and it is recognized as an outstanding police department within the law enforcement community of Miami-Dade County.

APD's mission is to provide a full-service, community oriented police department; respond to all service calls in a timely and professional manner; ensure all crimes are thoroughly investigated, and those who are arrested are successfully prosecuted; and create partnerships that enhance law enforcement and quality of life by interacting with and engaging the community. With such dedication and superior job performance by both sworn and civilian men and women, the Department has successfully received CALEA reaccreditation.

The department continuously works on projects to improve service call responsiveness which subsequently benefits the delivery of efficient and professional public safety service to the City of Aventura community. In 2014, officer and support personnel capabilities were enhanced with the implementation of a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system used to facilitate incident response and communication to officers in the field. Typical CAD system functions include resource management, call taking, location verification, dispatching, unit status management, and call disposition. The CAD system works in conjunction with a Records Management System (RMS) which the department has to upgrade. A RMS is an agency-wide system providing documents or electronic files directly related to law enforcement operations. Additionally, the production of a new 911 call system started in 2014. These projects make for a safer Aventura community.

The Department supports children and community programs such as the DARE Program, Red Ribbon Week, National Night Out, an Annual Food Drive, and security surveys for businesses and residences through the Aventura Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit. In conjunction with the Salvation Army, the Department also conducts a holiday toy drive where the APD supplies over 250 toys for underprivileged children.

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) awarded reaccreditation to the Aventura Police Department. The coveted award symbolizes professionalism, excellence, and competence recognized by an independent organization. A team of CALEA-trained assessors visited the agency and determined compliance with standards, viewed agency operations, conducted a public information session, and reported its findings to its commission which resolved the final



reaccreditation status. The Department must stay in compliance with the standards set forth by the accrediting commission and assures that its service continues to be excellent.

Out In Force



The Aventura Police Department provides a variety of community programs focusing on crime and drug prevention, emergency preparedness, community safety, and involvement.

These programs include: DARE, Red Ribbon Week, National Night Out, and the Aventura Safe Kids.

- The Drug Abuse Resistance and Education (DARE) program provides the life skills children and teens need to avoid involvement with drugs, gangs and violence.

- By wearing red ribbons and participating in community anti-drug events sponsored by APD, the young people of Aventura pledge to live drug-free lives during the annual Red Ribbon Week, the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program.

- The National Night Out program promotes the City of Aventura neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in the fight for a safer nation.

- The Aventura Safe Kids program teaches online safety to children and brings awareness to parents and teachers about children's online activities, trends and behaviors.

- Community Patrol Officers have volunteered to take on additional duties to assist persons with non-crime related matters.

- The Department has been trained in bike patrol methods and tactics, and they patrol various areas of the City on bicycles.

- The City of Aventura works in a partnership with the Miami-Dade Office of Emergency Management to help prepare the community for large-scale emergency events which may impact police services and the availability of resources for a prolonged period of time.

- Officers work in conjunction with the City of Aventura Code Compliance Division to respond to community issues.



Bike Safety

Although the Don Soffer Exercise Path and the William Lehman Causeway are the most popular areas for residents and visitors to bike in the City of Aventura, the City streets and sidewalks are also booming with bike activity. Safety is of the utmost importance.

Here are a few **safety tips** while enjoying a bike ride:

1 Bicycle Bell

Using a bicycle bell increases safety on sidewalks and is a great way to alert those within the cyclist's immediate surroundings of their presence. Ring the bell before passing patrons and use common courtesy.

2 Rules of the Road

When riding on the roadway, be sure to follow the rules of the road. The State of Florida legally defines a bicycle as a vehicle. Bicyclists have the same rights to the roadways and must obey the same traffic laws as the operators of other vehicles. These laws include stopping for stop signs and red lights, riding with the flow of traffic, using bike lights at night, and yielding the right-of-way when entering a roadway.

3 Wear a Helmet

The State of Florida's Department of Transportation requires that a bicycle rider or passenger under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet that is properly fitted, fastened securely, and meets the nationally recognized standard.

4 Bike Lights

A bicycle operated between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a visible white light and both a red reflector and a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light. Additionally, wearing a reflective vest is also encouraged to assist motorists in seeing the bicyclist and for the rider's safety.

5 Tire Air Pressure

Make sure the bicycle is in good condition, and has proper tire air pressure. The Aventura Police Department provides a bike safety check, and bicycle riders are encouraged to stop by to have their bikes inspected.



AVENTURA CITY OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL

3333 NE 188 Street
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-1499
aventuracharter.org

Aventura City of Excellence School (ACES), the first municipally-run charter school in Miami-Dade County, serves 1,008 students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

ACES's well-rounded formula for success has led it to remain one of the top schools in the state by providing a safe learning environment, a talented teaching staff dedicated to best practices, and a responsive leadership team fostering a school culture of excellence.



A Whole Child Approach

With the support of both parents and teachers, ACES leads the way in educational excellence with a challenging core curriculum complemented by a whole child approach which supports student interests and individual development including character education.

In 2013 - 2014, students explored their interests and talents through a variety of unique programs.

- Participate in Student Government Association, National Junior Honor Society, chorus, and in City of Aventura special events including Founders Day, Veterans Day, and Arbor Day.

Aventura City of Excellence School continues to reach new heights in academic achievement and community involvement creating a foundation for success and an unparalleled experience for its students.

Elementary

Elementary students:

- Attended an assortment of special classes including art, music, physical education, dance, media, technology, and Spanish.
- Had an opportunity to enroll in student interest clubs including jazz dance, table tennis, kickball, crochet, school rocks, Middle Eastern dance, line dancing, and much more.

Middle School

At the middle school level, students had the opportunity to:

- Enroll in gifted classes, high school courses, and choose from a group of elective courses including art, drama, dance, journalism, TV production, guitar, and physical education/ health.
- Participate in intramural sports including volleyball, basketball and tennis.
- Participate in competitive sports including boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' soccer, flag football, and volleyball.

2014 Achievements

In 2014, ACES proudly reached several major achievements.

- ACES earned an "A" rating for the 11th consecutive year.
- ACES is the second highest performing K-8 combination school in the state of Florida as measured by the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test.
- The state of Florida recognized ACES as one of the states "highest performing charter schools".
- ACES expanded its technology to include two additional laptop mobile labs used in all grade levels and subjects.
- ACES students outperformed all area high schools in algebra, geometry and biology as measured by end-of course exams.
- The middle school boys' football team won the International Athletic League Conference Championship.

Thursday • Donnerstag • Jeudi • Μερcredi

Friday • Freitag

☾ 12:28 • 12:21

☾ 12:28

138 + 228

17

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15:00

Meeting

The City of Excellence

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8901

The City Clerk serves as the City of Aventura's corporate secretary. The Clerk is the official records keeper and custodian of the City seal. The City Clerk is a constitutional officer appointed by and reports to the City Commission.

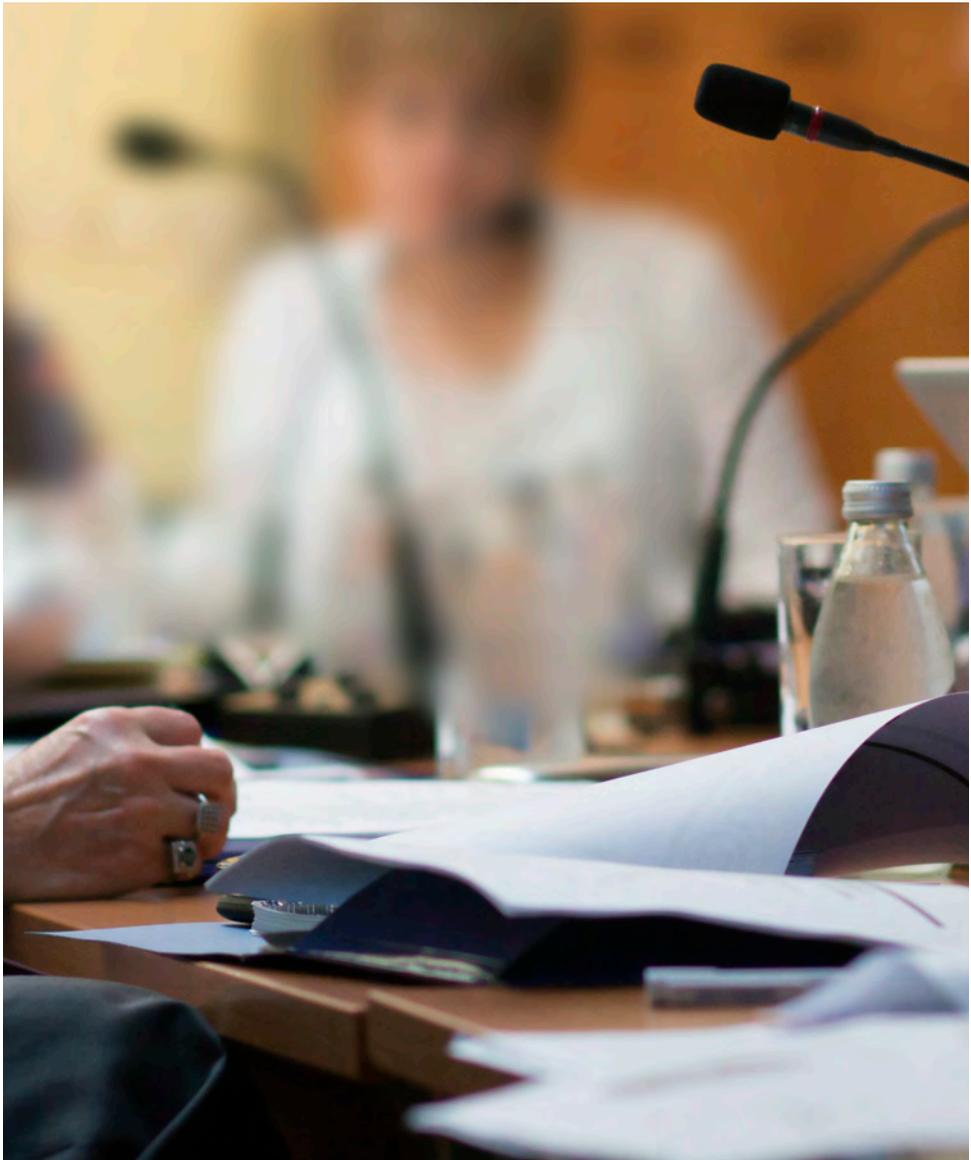
In 2014, the City Clerk's Office prepared: 38 sets of minutes and 39 public notices; published 21 legal advertisements; drafted 9 ordinances and 32 resolutions; responded to 1,858 lien requests; and prepared 449 welcome letters to new residents.

Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the City Clerk include:

- Recording the meeting minutes and all official actions of the City Commission and its Advisory Boards.
- Attesting to and maintaining custody of all records of the City including ordinances, resolutions, contracts, deeds, etc.
- Publishing and distributing public notices, as required by law.
- Administering the publication and supplementation of the City Code of Ordinances.
- Serving as the municipal Supervisor of Elections, conducting all City elections in accordance with City, County and State laws.
- Establishing and coordinating the City's records management program in compliance with Florida State law.
- Responding to public records requests and lien searches.
- Scheduling code enforcement hearings and providing clerical support to the Special Master.
- Providing administrative support to Commissioners and assisting the City Manager with special projects.
- Administering oaths and providing notary services.
- Serving as the Financial Disclosure Liaison.
- Preparing proclamations and certificates of appreciation, appointment, and attendance.

Residents are encouraged to attend City Commission meetings, which are held in the Government Center Commission Chamber on the plaza level at 19200 West Country Club Drive. To confirm all meeting dates, times and locations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 305-466-8901, or visit cityofaventura.com





FINANCE

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8920

The City of Aventura's Finance Department's central responsibility is to provide the City's operating departments with administrative support to better serve its employees, residents and businesses in a cost-efficient/effective manner. Finance, accounting, risk management, purchasing, and personnel are the essential support services provided.

Finance establishes and maintains a network of effective internal controls that are designed to safeguard the City's assets and to preserve the City's strong financial condition by conducting the City's business in a fiscally prudent manner. Additionally, Finance provides accurate and timely financial information to the City Manager, operating departments, elected officials, external auditors, citizens and federal, state and local oversight agencies.



Core Responsibilities

The department's core responsibilities include:

- Providing administrative, operational and financial assistance to the City Manager and operating departments.
- Providing accounting, payroll, procurement, accounts payable, budget, grant monitoring, and revenue collection functions.
- Monitoring and projecting the City's fund balances.
- Providing analysis, preparation and assistance with the production of all financial reports including the City's Annual Budget, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the Aventura City of Excellence School Special Purpose Financial Report.
- Monitoring and developing financial strategies to ensure fiscal solvency and financial statement integrity by maintaining a network of effective internal controls.
- Monitoring and implementing reporting requirements recommended by the State's Auditor General, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.
- Safeguarding the City's assets by analyzing and mitigating risk factors as well as providing risk management and safety coordination services.
- Overseeing the treasury and debt management functions.
- Participating in the negotiation of the collective bargaining agreement.
- Recruiting, hiring, training, and maintaining high-quality employees.
- Reviewing, creating and ensuring compliance with the City's administrative policies and procedures.

Awards and Acknowledgements

For the 18th consecutive year producing a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, the City of Aventura was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

The prestigious and highly coveted award is granted to a government for publishing a legible and efficiently organized CAFR, while satisfying both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

The City of Aventura continuously strives to maintain the requirements for certificate and annually submits its CAFR to the GFOA.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8900



The City of Aventura's Information Technology (IT) Department provides a secure, stable and high-tech computing environment which includes software, hardware, network infrastructure, telephone systems, and 24/7 help desk support for City staff.

IT ensures City departments and staff are able to deliver reliable services by:

- Providing software support and maintenance for specialized business applications as well as email with spam control.
- Identifying, selecting and implementing cost-effective technology solutions.

Throughout 2014, the City of Aventura continued using computer and network innovations to increase operational effectiveness. Upgrades were made to existing software applications and computer equipment incorporating new technology where appropriate.

In 2014, Information Technology completed major projects including:

- Upgrades to the City virtual computing infrastructure.
- Upgrades to the Aventura City of Excellence School's (ACES) wireless infrastructure.
- Piloting a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program

allowing staff and teachers to use their personal computing device in support of ACES's educational objectives.

- Upgrades to the core public safety applications, including Computer Aided Dispatch(CAD) and mobile dispatching to officers on the field.

IT supports green technology. The server virtualization project continues to reduce the number of physical servers, while increasing the number of servers available to support computer operations. This technology reduces electrical and air conditioning requirements in the data center, which results in lower energy use and costs.

IT Supports

City-wide:

- 170 desktop computers
- 95 laptops
- 7 touch-screen tablets
- 42 servers

Aventura City of Excellence School:

- 400 desktop computers
- 60 laptops
- 90 touch-screen tablets
- 2 servers

City Communications

The City of Aventura supports a highly accessible government that shares information using both modern and traditional channels to reach its community and encourage community engagement.

Keep in Touch

On the Web

cityofaventura.com

The official website for the City of Aventura is home to all City related information regarding its government, resources, forms, and eGovernment services.

aventuracharter.org

The official website for the Aventura City of Excellence School has information for parents and students including its popular Google calendar.

aventuracenter.org

The official website for the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center provides detailed show information and ticket sales.

[@cityofaventura](https://twitter.com/cityofaventura) [#cityofaventura](https://www.facebook.com/cityofaventura)

The official Twitter, Facebook and Instagram handles and hashtag for the City of Aventura. Twitter and Facebook are used as an additional resource for the City to disseminate information about City news and events. The City's latest tweet is also available on the City's website homepage. The City hashtag enables social media users to build community, search and share information and images about the City of Aventura.

[@aventuracenter](https://twitter.com/aventuracenter) [#aventuracenter](https://www.facebook.com/aventuracenter)

The official Twitter and Facebook handle for the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center provides show and theater related information.

On the Go

Digital street signs located at the north entrance of Aventura Mall on Biscayne Boulevard and at the intersection of

NE 188th Street and NE 29th Avenue are used to provide information about City events, park hours, the Aventura City of Excellence School, and upcoming shows at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center.

On the Tube

Comcast Channel 77 is home to Aventura TV (AVTV), the City's information channel. AVTV runs listings of City events, programs and resources for its residents 24/7, including encore presentations of City meetings.

On the Airwaves

The City of Aventura's official information radio broadcasts on 1650 AM.

In Print

The City produces several print publications including: the Aventura Annual Report, Aventura Update newsletters, seasonal Aventura Activities catalogs which contain a listing of City classes & programs, flyers and posters, and the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center calendar of events booklet.

In Person

The City Commission meets monthly and invites the community to participate at its meetings. The City Manager meets with the owners of new businesses located in Aventura on a regular basis at "Meet Your City Manager" meetings.



EGovernment

Online Services For Speed and Convenience

The City of Aventura is committed to providing innovative and efficient delivery of eGovernment services to its community.

Online Registration System (ORS)

Register for recreational activities, classes and programs.

ePermits

Check building permit status and inspection requests.

MyAventura

Sign up to receive e-Notifications about the City's latest news.

Customer Service Requests

Submit a request for City service.

FAQs

A listing of common, City-related, frequently asked questions.

Public Records

The City's public document repository.

Document Central

A library of downloadable electronic forms available in PDF format.

Online Ticket Purchase

Purchase tickets for Aventura Arts & Cultural Center shows and events at aventuracenter.org.

The City continually upgrades these systems as technology becomes available, while being financially prudent.

WHEN IT RAINS, IT POURS

Understanding Aventura's Stormwater Drainage Systems

The City is only responsible for draining the publicly owned streets. Private property owners such as shopping centers, Aventura Mall and condominiums are solely responsible for draining their parking lots, driveways and roadways.

When it rains, water is directed towards catch basins located where the curb meets the pavement, or to the grassy swales between City streets and sidewalks.

The run-off water, called stormwater, is then directed through a system of underground structures, wells, and pipes. It is here that the water is pre-treated, or cleaned, when debris, leaves and other materials sink to the bottom of catch basins and the clean water then drains through a pipe, located near the top of the basin. These catch basins are cleaned on a regular basis to prevent a build-up of debris and silt, and to ensure that the maximum volume of the pre-treated stormwater is able to move through the basins and then directed to outfalls that drain into the Intracoastal Waterway.

Some of the stormwater drains into the grassy swales, designed to hold a certain volume, which then naturally percolates back into the underground water tables.

Since the incorporation of the City, many improvements have been made to the stormwater system throughout the City, including upsizing pipes, adding drainage pipes where none was available, and increasing capacity to the existing system. In fact, over \$10 million, including State funding, has been spent on these improvement over the past 19 years.

Why does Aventura experience some flooding after major rain events?

The answer lies within how much total rain the City receives during a storm. During a recent severe rainstorm, approximately eight inches of rain fell within three hours. There have been other severe rain events that have caused flooding in some areas of the City, and the common factor was the excessive amount of rain that fell within a short period of time.

There is no drainage system that can remove stormwater during those extreme rain events, without causing temporary flooding or ponding in some areas of the City. The good news is that during the recent storm, most streets were clear after an hour and a half after the rain stopped, and all City streets were clear three hours after the storm had passed. This is a good indication that the

Stormwater System Improvements

Over \$10 million, including State funding, has been spent on improvements over the past 19 years.

Since the incorporation of the City, many improvements have been made to the stormwater system, including upsizing pipes, adding drainage pipes where none were available, and increasing capacity to the existing system.



system works. Severe rainstorms are regional events that affect all of South Florida. There have been several private properties in Aventura and other neighboring cities that had to close streets and parking lots for up to 24 hours, after the same storms.

The City continues to monitor the system and include projects in our Capital Improvement Program, to improve drainage and reduce flooding. An example of this process is the NE 29 Place and Aventura Boulevard drainage improvements, partially funded by State grants, which will commence in the spring of 2015. Fiscal year 2015/16 improvements will include NE 191 Street.

During major rainstorms, it is advisable to stay indoors whenever possible. If you see other stalled vehicles, don't attempt to try to make it through the area. It is not advisable to drive through any standing water, since submerged debris could cause major damage to your vehicle.



LIVING
ANNUAL REPORT 2014



COMMUNITY SERVICES

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8930

The City of Aventura Community Services Department is dedicated to provide Aventura residents with quality service, parks, facilities, events, programs, and activities.

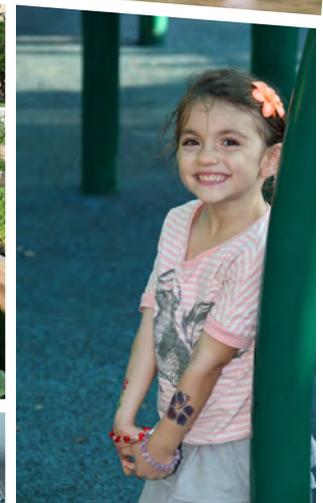
The Department provides recreational and leisure activities, as well as management of City parks, the Community Recreation Center, facilities, right-of-ways, streets, landscaping, beautification efforts, and the Aventura Express Bus service via its Public Works and Parks and Recreation divisions.



Public Works

The Public Works Division is responsible for:

- Maintaining the City's landscaping, streets, right-of-ways, storm water drainage, decorative street-lighting, banners and informational signage, public buildings, and school.
- Managing and maintaining all City owned buildings and facilities.
- Acting as a liaison to public utility service providers and responding to citizens' concerns related to the division.
- Issuing Public Works permits to utilities performing improvements on the public right-of-ways and reviewing engineering plans.
- Mapping resources with an automated Geographic Information System (GIS) to provide accurate information regarding zoning, land parcels and infrastructure.



Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Division is responsible for:

- Operating Founders Park, Founders Park SplashPad, Waterways Park, Waterways Dog Park, and Veterans Park.
- Youth and adult athletic leagues and programs including seasonal tennis camps.
- Special events and programs fostering community pride and spirit including: Arbor Day, Senior Prom, 4th of July Fireworks, Halloween Harvest, Veterans Day, Movie Nights, and Founders Day.
- Cultural arts, theater and leisure programs offering trips and tours for seniors to local theaters, museums, historical landmarks, arts festivals, shopping malls, and restaurants.



- The Aventura Community Green Garden, where residents grow produce, flowers, plants, and herbs in their assigned garden planter.
- Community Recreation Center programming including arts and crafts; music; dance; aerobics; yoga; spring, summer and winter camps; and Teacher Planning Day Program.

City parks provide Aventura residents with a wide variety of amenities and outdoor recreation opportunities to refresh, relax and recharge including: athletics, a water playground, picnics, and exercising.

Youth athletics are provided year round and include: tennis, soccer, basketball, flag football, softball, and Little League. In 2014, over 1,000 children participated in the City of Aventura Youth Athletics. Additionally, the City also offers adult softball leagues and tennis programs.

Community Recreation Center

The City of Aventura Community Recreation Center (CRC) offers a complete and balanced program of recreation activities, fitness classes, youth programs, social activities, and camps to members of all ages.

Special Events

The City hosted an array of exciting events for the entire family to enjoy throughout the year.

- For its 17th consecutive year, the City was named a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and was recognized for this honor at the City of Aventura Arbor Day celebration.
- Over 130 seniors danced the night away at the annual Senior Prom.
- 4th of July was celebrated with a special aerial display of fireworks viewable from any location along Country Club Drive.
- Over 1,600 children and their parents enjoyed seasonal activities in a safe environment at the annual Halloween Harvest.



- The 19th annual City of Aventura Founders Day Weekend celebration consisted of a world-class performance, A Salute to Andrew Lloyd Webber, at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center followed by a full day of Founders Day festivities.
- About 4,500 friends, family and neighbors attended a series of four fun family-friendly movie nights at Founders Park and Waterways Park.

Aventura Express Bus

The Aventura Express Bus serves Aventura's busy lifestyle with a convenient schedule and five ADA compliant, air conditioned buses. In 2014, approximately 280,000 passengers utilized the Aventura Express Bus on five routes that operate six days per week throughout the city.

2014 Attendance Summary *Park and Community Recreation Center*

Founders Park including the SplashPad: 176,182

Waterways Park: 76,925

Community Recreation Center programs, classes and activities: 76,752

Total Park/CRC Attendance: 329,859

Special Events, Camps, Senior Trips, and Athletics

Arbor Day, Senior Prom, 4th of July Fireworks, Halloween Harvest, 29,753

Founders Day, Veterans Day, and Movie Nights:

Winter, spring and summer camps: 1,025

Teacher Planning Days: 200

Active Adult Trips and Tours: 315

Tennis, softball, T-ball, soccer, basketball, flag football, baseball: 1,394

50 green markets: 22,135

Total Event/Program Attendance: 54,822

Calendar of Events 2015

April

- 3 Teacher Planning Day
- 18 Movie Night
- 24 Arbor Day Ceremony

May

- 9 Movie Night
- 16 Not-So-Senior Prom

June

- 1 Summer session of recreation classes & programs begin
- 5 Teacher Planning Day
- 8 Summer Camp begins

July

- 4 Fireworks along East and West Country Club Drives

August

- 21 Summer Camp ends
- 31 Fall session I of recreation classes & programs begin

September

- 14 Teacher Planning Day
- 23 Teacher Planning Day

October

- 26 Fall session II of recreation classes & programs begin
- 30 Teacher Planning Day
- 31 Halloween Harvest

November

- 8 20th Annual Founders Day
- 11 Veterans Day Ceremony
- 25 Teacher Planning Day

December

- 21-31 . . . Winter Camp

Teacher Planning Day
Program
at the Community Recreation Center

2015:
April 3
June 5
September 14
September 23
October 30
November 25

City of Aventura Community Recreation Center
3375 NE 188 Street | 305-460-3883
cityofaventura.com #cityofaventura

MOVIE
Night

April 18, 2015
May 9, 2015

Founders Park
3105 NE 190 Street

20 YEARS
CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

FOUNDERS DAY November 8, 2015

The City of Excellence
CITY OF AVENTURA
1995 - FLORIDA
1995 - 2015

CITY OF AVENTURA
SUMMER CAMP

JUNE 8 - AUGUST 21, 2015

Camp Discovery Ages 5-8
Camp Explorer Ages 9-14
Sports Camp Ages 7-14
Travel Camp Ages 10-14

City of Aventura Community Recreation Center
3375 NE 188 Street, Aventura, FL 33180
305-460-3883
cityofaventura.com #cityofaventura

Aventura Youth Athletics

2014 / 2015 Season

Through May, 2015 October - December, 2015
Little League Youth Basketball

August-October, 2015 September 2015-January 2016
Youth Flag Football Youth Soccer

Come Out to Play



The City of Aventura is home to a variety of leisure services for all ages. Aventura has parks, tennis courts, indoor & outdoor basketball courts, playgrounds, fitness trails, a dog park, SplashPad, play fields, and the Aventura Community Green Garden.

Waterways Park

On the City's north side is the 7-acre Waterways Park. The park has a covered playground, fitness trail with exercise stations, an outdoor basketball court and multipurpose lighted athletic fields. Shade can be found under the covered patio and outdoor shelter.

Waterways Dog Park

Just east of Waterways Park is the Waterways Dog Park, a 1.5 acre waterfront park offering open space for dogs and their owners to socialize and exercise. Dog amenities include two comfort stations equipped with water fountains and showers. A large covered patio with benches provides a place for visitors to relax. A valid Aventura resident identification card is required for entry.

Founders Park

The City's largest park is the 11-acre Founders Park. The northern part of the park features the SplashPad, the popular and interactive, water feature playground for children. The SplashPad is free for Aventura residents and is open spring through early fall. Founders Park is also home to a multipurpose athletic field. The park's playground is fenced with new equipment and four sun shelters.

The Aventura Community Green Garden features garden planters for residents to grow produce, flowers, plants, and herbs. The garden is located at Founders Park South, along with walking paths, restrooms, and a bayside view of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Veterans Park

The 2-acre Veterans Park has an open play field, covered playground and an on-site restroom. The multipurpose park is ideal for relaxing or playing a casual game of soccer.

Arthur I. Snyder Park

Named after the City of Aventura's first mayor, Arthur I. Snyder Park is a beautifully landscaped waterfront park, adjacent to the Community Recreation Center. The park features covered areas and an outdoor plaza with an open quadrangle play area adorned with shade-providing trees.

Don Soffer Exercise Trail

The 3.1 mile Don Soffer Exercise Trail circles the Turnberry Isle Resort Golf Course along Country Club Drive, and it is a popular location to walk, run, jog, rollerblade, and bike. The trail consists of a 10-foot wide paved ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible path landscaped with an abundance of trees for shade, ground lighting, benches, chilled water fountains, trash receptacles, and crosswalks. Convenient bags and receptacles are available from dispenser boxes along the path for residents enjoying the trail with their pets.

Community Recreation Center

Aventura's Community Recreation Center (CRC) offers a wide range of indoor activities. The Community Recreation Center offers a NCAA (National College Athletic Association) regulation indoor basketball court with a maple floor; fitness center; technology center; and classrooms to support the recreation center's classes, activities, programs, and camps. The CRC is a member based facility which is open to all Miami-Dade County residents. The membership fees are based on household size and age groups.

The Aventura Activities catalog is the official guide for all recreational activities in the City of Aventura. It offers a complete catalog of current classes, activities, programs, camps, special events, park guide, and registration information. The catalog is published online and is available at cityofaventura.com.

Get in the Game



A quick drive around Aventura shows this is a community with a zest for sports. To support its classes, clinics and a variety of organized athletic programs such as soccer, football, baseball and softball, the City of Aventura features multipurpose athletic fields and sports facilities including an outdoor basketball court, a lighted field at Waterways Park for evening games, and tennis courts at Founders Park.

Youth Athletics

Aventura's team sports follow the National Standards for Youth Sports to raise awareness through leadership and education conducive to teaching skills, physical fitness and positive self-esteem.

- From fall to spring, children have the opportunity to participate in a variety of athletic sports including: flag football, basketball, girls and boys soccer, tennis, and the Aventura Little League.
- Throughout the year, young athletes can participate in special sport skills training sessions including soccer, strength and conditioning, and Football Funatics. Private sports and wellness coaching are also available.
- Tennis lessons are available for different age groups: ages 3&4, ages 5-10, and junior tennis for ages 8-12. Private tennis lessons are also available.

The collective support of parents, volunteer coaches and dedicated City staff creates an environment where children can have fun and learn new skills.

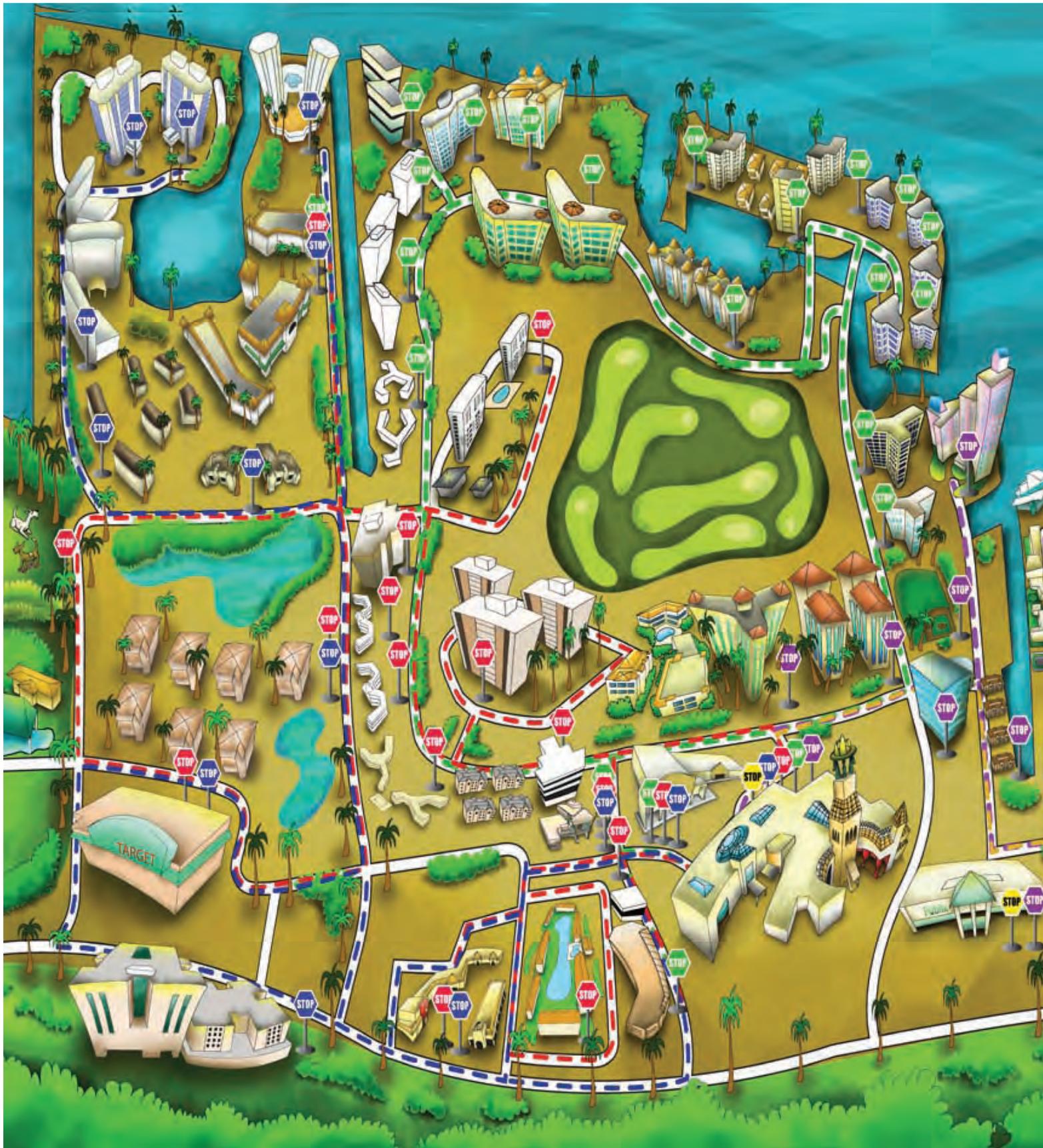
Adult Athletics

Adults can get in on the sports by joining a softball league, playing in a social round-robin tennis match, participating in adult tennis clinics which provide instruction about all aspects of the game, or enrolling in a high-energy, cardio tennis workout.

For details, view the Aventura Activities catalog at cityofaventura.com.

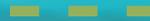
Community Recreation Center 305-466-3883
 Founders Park 305-466-0183
 Waterways Park 305-466-8008





For your convenience, maps are available online by visiting the Residents section of cityofaventura.com, or pick up a copy in the Government Center's Lobby, 19200 West Country Club Drive.

Aventura Express Bus Service

-  Blue Express Route
-  Green Express Route
-  Red Express Route
-  Purple Express
-  Yellow Express



When do the buses run?

Monday - Friday:

Blue, Green, Red, Purple: 7:45 AM to 6:30 PM

Yellow: 8:45 AM to 6:30 PM

Saturday: All Routes 8:45 AM to 9:30 PM

There is no Express Bus service on the following holidays:

Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day & New Year's Day.

Where are the bus stops located? Are these bus stops drop-off/pick-up locations?

Bus stops are located throughout the City and all are for drop-off and pick-up. For specific bus stop locations, visit cityofaventura.com to view and/or download the Aventura Express Bus service maps.

May I connect with county buses?

Yes. Connection with Miami-Dade and Broward County buses can be made at the Aventura Mall Express Bus stop.

How often does the bus come to the Aventura Mall?

Each Express Bus stops at the mall every hour. For example, the Yellow bus starts its route from the mall on weekdays at 8:45 AM and returns to the mall at 9:45 AM.

What time does the last scheduled Express Bus leave the Aventura Mall?

ROUTE	DAY	LAST SERVICE
All routes	Monday - Saturday	5:45 PM
Saturday Night Express bus (North route)	Saturday night	8:00 PM
Saturday Night Express bus (South route)	Saturday night	8:15 PM

Where is the Aventura Mall Express Bus stop located?

The bus stop is located outside Macy's north entrance.

How much does the bus cost?

The City of Aventura offers free Express Bus service.

How do I know which route stops near my home?

The routes cover the following areas

Blue serves northern Aventura

Green & Red serve central Aventura

Purple & Yellow serve southern Aventura

Aventura Green City

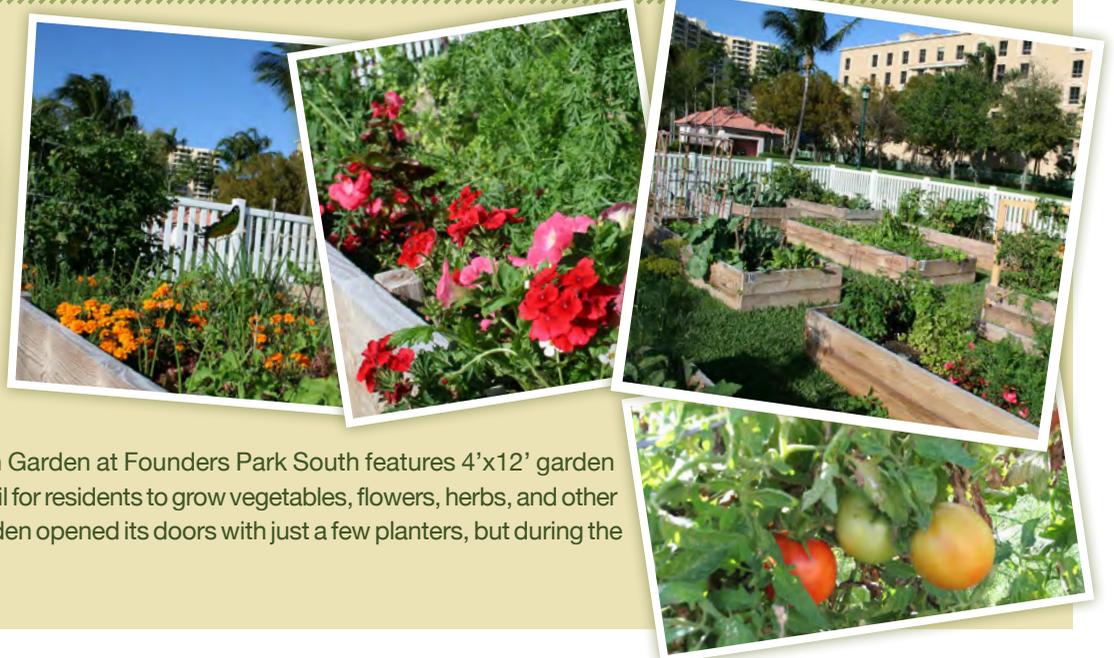
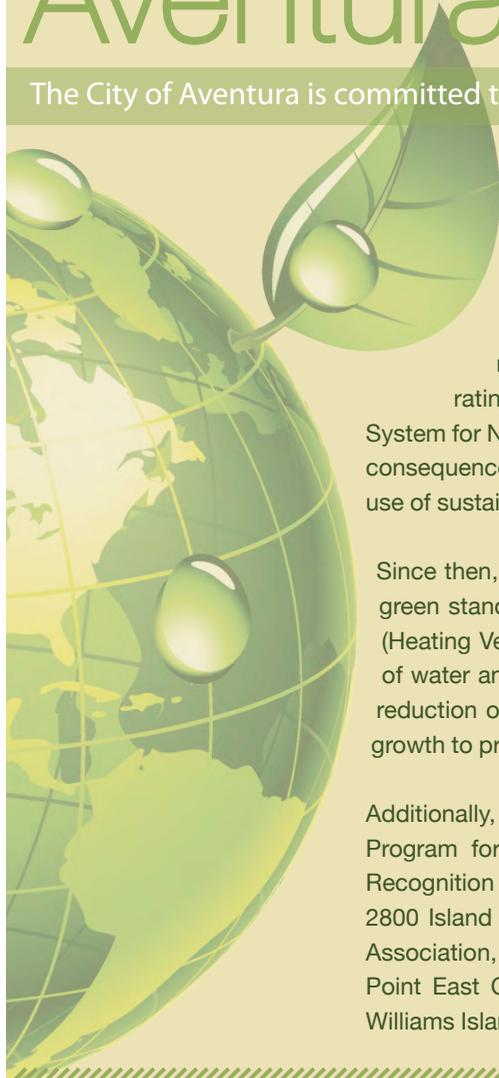
The City of Aventura is committed to reducing its carbon footprint on the environment.

The City of Aventura's GO GREEN campaign encourages all City departments and its community to practice environmental sustainability by making responsible decisions that reduce negative impact on the environment, save energy, and lower operational costs.

In 2009, the City Commission passed an ordinance promoting green building for new construction, and its incentives are measured against the industry standard rating, the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System for New Construction which includes some prerequisites like the reduction of environmental consequences due to construction, better indoor air quality, access to daylight and views, and the use of sustainable building materials and waste reduction.

Since then, the City and its community continues to increase its sustainability efforts to maintain green standards including: recycling; replacing light bulb for energy efficient bulbs; using HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning) systems and technologies promoting the conservancy of water and energy; the use of native landscaping and natural light to create resources for heat reduction on rooftops as well as energy generation for solar panels; and reducing invasive plant growth to protect natural wildlife.

Additionally, the City invites the public to participate in the annual GO GREEN Recognition Award Program for residential and commercial properties. Congratulations to the 2014 GO GREEN Recognition Award recipients which included the following properties: 2600 Island Boulevard, 2800 Island Boulevard, 3000 Island Boulevard, 7000 Island Boulevard, Bella Maré Condominium Association, Biscaya III Condominium Association, Hamptons South Condominium Association, Point East Council, Point East Four Condominium, Portsvie at the Waterways Tower 1, and Williams Island P.O.A.



The Aventura Community Green Garden at Founders Park South features 4'x12' garden planters filled with sterilized topsoil for residents to grow vegetables, flowers, herbs, and other plants. In March of 2014, the garden opened its doors with just a few planters, but during the year, the garden has expanded.



ARTS & CULTURE

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

3385 NE 188 Street
Aventura, FL 33180
877-311-SHOW (7469)

aventuracenter.org #aventuracenter



In its fourth stellar season, the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center (AACC) made a lasting impact on local arts and culture.

Among the 120 performances in the beautiful waterfront theater were intimate shows by Broadway star Chita Rivera, Chicago's legendary Second City comedy troupe and comics Wil Shriner and Sarge.

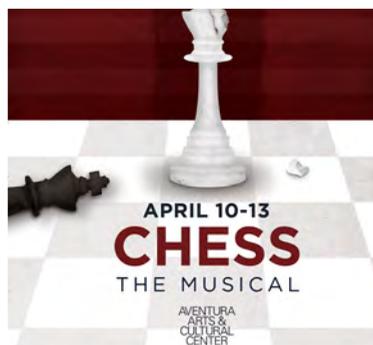
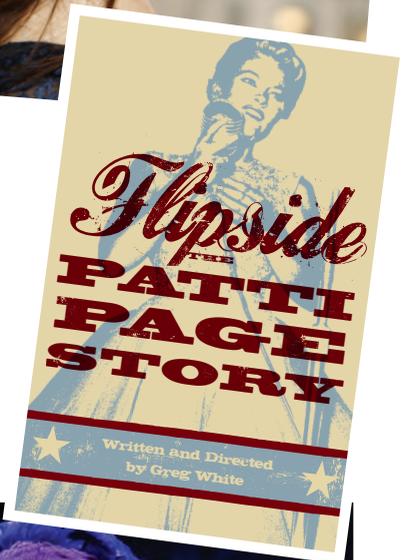
Creative collaborations with local non-profit companies were highlights as Slow Burn Theatre Company's musical *Next to Normal* received more Carbonell Award nominations for theatrical excellence than any other production in South Florida.

In addition, Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida and the Miami International Piano Festival once again presented their captivating seasons at AACC, which also hosted South Florida Symphony Orchestra, New World School of the Arts Repertory Dance Ensemble, Baila Flamenco, Florida Grand Ballet Theater, The Rhythm Foundation, Inc, Pablo Malco Foundation, and Universal Dance Studios.

Cross cultural exchange was fostered with the Aventura Foreign Film Series, The Harvey Nevins Swing Orchestra, Portuguese fado sensation Antonio Zambujo, Bossa Nova with Beatriz Malnic and Brazilian Voices, CLADDAGH: An Explosion of Celtic Dance and Passion and African-style Cirque Zuma Zuma.

Committed to community, AACC presented the Aventura Marketing Council's annual showcase of remarkable young talents which benefited the Council's Education Foundation. Citizens Interested in Arts also returned to award its support to South Florida arts organizations.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts, which manages AACC, presented its Family Fun Series and summer camp as part of a year which featured educational experiences with the Aventura City of Excellence School.



Arts in Education

Studies have shown that students involved in the arts improve academic skills and develop the social skills and creativity needed to succeed later in life. In 2014, the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center (AACC) offered many innovative educational programs through its longstanding partnership with the Broward Center for the Performing Arts and the Aventura City of Excellence School (ACES).

In addition to the opportunity to learn firsthand about technical production and the entertainment industry, students attending ACES participated in numerous events on the stage including a talent showcase and graduation.

Children from throughout the community were introduced to the arts while reinforcing literacy-based skills through the Broward Center Family Fun at the AACC. Offered on weekends as a complete and engaging family outing, the four-show series included free pre-show arts and crafts, and face painting as well as post-show complimentary snacks.

The City of Aventura also presented professional school-day performances of Golden Dragon Acrobats and additional performances of Peter Pan in weekday Smart Stage Matinee performances.

When school was out, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts and the Performance Project School of the Arts presented two



sessions of age-appropriate summer camps at AACC for children ages six to 13 that served as an introduction to all facets of the performing arts. Every camper experienced the joy of performing onstage in a Broadway-style show at AACC as they gained self-confidence and learned important team-building skills.

For more information about upcoming family theater performances and summer camp, visit aventuracenter.org.

THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
& THE PERFORMANCE PROJECT SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



Ages 6-13

Session 1: June 22 - July 17

Session 2: July 26 - August 14

**AVENTURA
ARTS &
CULTURAL
CENTER**

3385 NE 188 Street
Aventura, FL 33180

877.311.7469

aventuracenter.org

#aventuracenter



2015

AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

Calendar Highlights

April 9
Magical Jazz Night with
Nicole Henry

May 9
Spring Gala - Arts Ballet
Theatre

April 12
Vincenzo Maltempo

May 31
The Sixth Baila Flamenco
Festival

April 18
Carolyn Dorfman Dance

June 4
Young Musicians Concert

April 19
The Harvey Nevins
Orchestra Concert

June 14
Kirova Ballet Academy

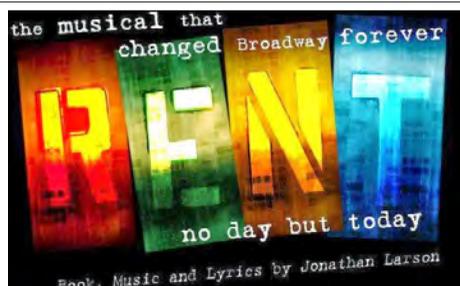
April 25
Band Together for Survival

June 22 - July 17
Summer Camp Session 1

April 26
Cinderella

July 20 - August 14
Summer Camp Session 2

April 30 - May 3
Rent



Groups of 10 or
more **SAVE!**
General Orders and
Group Sales
877.311.7469

Box Office Information

Box Office is open Tuesday - Saturday, Noon - 5 PM
and 1.5 hours prior to performances.

Ticketmaster 800.745.3000

Groups & Information 877.311.7469 (SHOW)

Valet parking and self parking are available
for all events.

3385 NE 188 Street | Aventura, FL 33180 | 877.311.7469
aventuracenter.org #aventuracenter





When is the box office open?

The box office is open Tuesday - Saturday from 12 PM – 5 PM and 1½ hours prior to the start of a performance.

I purchased tickets to an event, but now I cannot attend. What do I do?

All ticket sales are final. Once a sale is completed, there are no refunds or exchanges for ticketed events. However, we are happy to work with you so that someone else such as a friend or family member may use your tickets. For more information, contact the call center at 877-311-7469 to speak with a friendly customer service representative.

I am in a wheelchair or have difficulty with steps. Where will my seats be located?

The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center is fully compliant with ADA rules and regulations. We have wheelchair accessible seating in rows A and L to accommodate your needs and allow you to completely enjoy the presentations. These seats are available on the website at aventuracenter.org or can be reserved by contacting the call center at 877-311-7469.

When I placed my ticket order, I requested for my tickets to arrive by mail, but they did not arrive. What should I do?

Unless you request box office pick-up, tickets purchased at least 14 days prior to an event will be mailed to the address you provided at the time of purchase. Tickets ordered less than 14 days prior to the event will automatically be held at the box office.

If you believe your tickets were mailed and you did not receive them, please contact the call center at 877-311-7469. The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center will be happy to arrange a lost ticket pass for you. To pick up your pass, present a picture ID at the box office window 1½ hours prior to curtain.

I live outside the continental United States. How will I receive my tickets?

The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center does not mail tickets outside the continental United States. The Center will automatically hold your tickets at the box office for pick-up during regular business hours or on the day of the event. To claim your tickets, please present a picture ID at the box office window.



WORKING

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8940

Striving to provide high quality customer service in a centralized location to City of Aventura residents, business owners, developers and contractors alike, the Community Development Department is comprised of several divisions working together.

Building

The Building Division enforces the Florida Building Code by reviewing and issuing permits, inspecting all new construction and renovations in the City of Aventura. In 2014, the Building Division issued 5,244 building permits and performed 10,438 inspections. Building permits generated approximately \$2,189,583 in revenues. Inspection requests and results are available to the public via the ePermits section of the City's website at cityofaventura.com.

Local Business Tax Receipt

The Local Business Tax Receipt Division issues local business tax receipts for businesses and home occupations, as well as inspections to ensure all businesses have obtained their business tax receipt. During 2014, the Division issued 2,383 local business tax receipts which generated approximately \$910,164 in revenues.

Planning and Zoning

The Planning and Zoning Division processes all land development applications including: site plans, re-zonings, variances, conditional uses, and comprehensive plan amendments. The City's Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations provide a cohesive blueprint for development and redevelopment of the City. The blueprint addresses strategies to accommodate growth while maintaining neighborhood integrity, ensuring appropriate height, transitions and linkages, limiting the intensity of future development and redevelopment in a manner that is consistent with current development patterns, and minimizes further negative impacts to the City's infrastructure and quality of life. The goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan, also referred to as the Master Plan or General Plan, are restated as specific planning and zoning regulations in the City's Land Development Regulations. The documents are updated frequently to reflect current community goals. In 2014, there were 30 land development applications reviewed and processed by the Planning and Zoning Division.

Code Compliance

The Code Compliance Division ensures businesses are legally operating with local business tax receipts and necessary building permits are being obtained for construction at residences and businesses. Code Compliance officers enforce City codes such as the property maintenance ordinance, and noise and signage regulations. The Code Compliance Division issued 139 warnings and violations last year and collected approximately \$3,055 in fines. In addition, the Division also coordinates the Special Master Hearings for the City's Traffic Intersection Safety Program. In 2014, 445 hearings were conducted.



Building Permits

When is a permit required?

In accordance with Section 105.1 of Florida Building Code, a permit is required to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of any building or structure, including: tile, wood flooring and marble, any electrical work, installation of ceiling fans, replacement of an air conditioner unit (heat load calculations required), installation of a water heater, changing or connecting a toilet or sink, shower or bathtub fixture.

Are the building permit forms available online?

All City of Aventura building permit forms are available in the Document Central section of cityofaventura.com.

May I schedule inspections and check the status of my permit online?

Yes. The ePermits system on the City's website is available to schedule inspections and to check the status of permit applications.

Do I need to file a Notice of Commencement?

Yes. A Notice of Commencement is required to be recorded by the owner in the Miami-Dade County Court if the value of the project exceeds \$2,500.

How can I expedite review of my permit?

Reviews may be expedited by submitting the following:

- A completed application, including notarized signatures of the owner and qualifier.
- Two (2) sets of plans drawn to scale and signed and sealed by a professional when required.
- Two (2) surveys, as required for some types of review.
- Two (2) sets of calculations as required by Code- these include energy calculations, heating/cooling load calculations, and/or structural load calculations.
- Two (2) sets of Product Approvals as

required by Code- these include roofs, utility sheds, windows, exterior doors, awnings, shutters, skylights, trusses, among others.

- If applicable, a letter from condominium association approving work being done on a unit.
- A letter from contractor requesting expedited review and agreeing to pay any additional costs associated with the expedited review.

I just received a Notice of Violation from the City of Aventura for an open building permit, what should I do?

- Notice of Violations are sent out to both contractors and homeowners for open permits with the City. The only way to close out this Violation would be to renew the permit and call in any final inspections pending.
- If you are the homeowner, please contact your contractor and advise them of the open permit.
- Permit information may be viewed online on the ePermits system on the City's website, www.cityofaventura.com.

When does my permit expire?

- All permits are active 180 days from the date of issuance or last approved inspection.

What type of payment is accepted for building permit fees?

- Check, cash or money orders are acceptable forms of payment.

Is an upfront fee required at the time of permit submittal?

- Yes. The upfront fee is \$130 and will be credited towards your total permit fee at the time the permit is issued.

How do I register a contractor?

- The contractor registration form is available in the Document Central section of cityofaventura.com.

Local Business Tax Receipt

Any person, firm, association, or corporation maintaining a business location or branch office within the City of Aventura's city limits for the privilege of engaging in or managing a business, profession, or occupation within the City is required to have a Certificate of Use and file a Local Business Tax Receipt application (formerly known as the Occupational License). The tax receipts are required to be renewed annually before October 1. Fees for these filings are determined by the type of business or profession.

All new Business Tax Receipt applicants require a DERM (Department of Environmental Resource Management) and a Water and Sewer Notice of Compliance per Miami-Dade County. For more information visit: miamidade.gov/derm.

Business Filing Requirements Include:

- Certificate of Use and Occupancy (home-based businesses excluded).
- Declaration of Use (home-based businesses excluded).
- Legal description of property (home-based businesses excluded).
- Federal Employer Identification or Social Security Number.
- Proof of current Fictitious Name Registration from the State Division of Corporations. For more information, call 850-487-6058.
- Proof of Articles of Incorporation.

For more information, visit: sunbiz.org.

Additional Requirements May Include:

- Professions regulated by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation must submit a current state license. For more information, call 850-487-1395.
- Retail and wholesale merchants must complete and file an Affidavit of Merchants Inventory, indicating average value of inventory maintained by business.
- Restaurant owners must file a current state license with the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. For more information, call 305-470-5680.

Penalty For Operating A Business Without Filing

Operating a business without a current local business tax receipt filing starts with a fine of \$250 but can escalate to closure of the business and imprisonment.



FUTURE

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

2014/2015 Budget Priorities / Goals

The following represents the pre-established priorities and goals that provided a framework for the preparation of the 2014/15 Budget Plan.

- Maintain current service levels and programs.
- Increase police staffing to address service needs and workload requirements.
- Address drainage infrastructure improvements in areas subject to flash flooding and the long range impacts of climate change.
- Expand events and programs that promote a sense of community.
- Provide funding to maintain landscaped areas, City facilities and the City's infrastructure to continue to provide a high quality maintenance program.
- Expedite plan review and permitting for projects that create jobs and spur economic activity.
- Continue to adopt "Go Green" initiatives in order to save energy, conserve precious natural resources and reduce our impact on climate change. These initiatives over time will also reduce our annual operating cost and impacts on the environment.
- Continue to utilize technology to improve productivity and lower costs of providing services.
- To address the City's infrastructure needs, implement and fund the "pay-as-you-go" Capital Improvement Program without additional debt.



Budget Highlights

Some of the major points emphasized, in the proposed budget, are as follows:

- For the 19th year, no property tax increase.
- Total expenditures in all funds increased by 1.9%.
- The operating cost increases were held to less than 4% without reducing current service levels.
- For the first time in three years, reserve funds were not used to balance the budget and fund nonrecurring capital projects.
- Added two police officer positions to address increased service needs and workload requirements.
- Increased funding for community events such as Movie Night series, programming at the Arts & Cultural Center and special programs.
- Funded \$1,328,000 for drainage, street lighting, road resurfacing and safety improvements on NE 29th Place.
- Included \$710,000 for road resurfacing on NE 207th Street and Biscayne Lake Gardens.
- Continued to implement and update technology enhancements that develop our “Electronic Government” to allow the public to interact more easily and conveniently with the City and to automate City operations.
- Updated the City’s Traffic Video Monitoring System by funding \$1,500,000 in system upgrades and expansion to the latest state of the art equipment.
- Funded police equipment needs from laptop computers to new police vehicles in the amount of \$781,450.
- Continued to adopt “Go Green” initiatives in order to save energy, conserve precious natural resources and reduce our impact on climate change.

CITY OF AVENTURA SUMMER CAMP



JUNE 8 - AUGUST 21, 2015

Camp Discovery Ages 5-8

Camp Explorer Ages 9-14

Sports Camp Ages 7-14

Travel Camp Ages 10-14



City of Aventura Community Recreation Center

3375 NE 188 Street, Aventura FL 33180

305-466-3883

cityofaventura.com #cityofaventura

1995-2015

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE



great entertainment in a beautiful waterfront setting



AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

Celebrating 5 years of the Arts in Aventura

5

3385 NE 188 Street | Aventura, FL 33180
877.311.SHOW (7469)

aventuracenter.org #[aventuracenter](https://twitter.com/aventuracenter)

