



AVENTURA Update

Fall 2018

The Official City of Aventura Newsletter
cityofaventura.com     @cityofaventura



Community Services
Programs & Activities
4



Municipal
Election Canceled
7



Aventura Arts &
Cultural Center
8



Don Soffer Aventura
High School
10

A Commitment to Community Involvement

The City of Aventura's newsletter represents the City Commission's continued commitment to keep the community updated about important City government issues and services. This newsletter is published on a periodic basis and your comments and suggestions are welcome.

Mission Statement

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.

City Commission Approves New Budget

Low Tax Rate and Excellent Services Continue

Recently the City Commission adopted the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2018. The budget adopted the same tax rate as the prior year of 1.7261, which is the lowest rate in Miami-Dade County. This represents the 23rd year in a row, since the City's incorporation, with no property tax increase. In addition, no additional debt is proposed. The City's portion of the total property tax bill represents approximately 10% of the total. The other large portions represent the County and School Board. Just as important as it is to keep taxes low, this was accomplished while maintaining the current service levels and programs Aventura residents and businesses currently enjoy.

The budget process produced a total budget of \$59,606,774 or 17.8% less than the previous year. This is primarily the result of the completion of major capital outlay projects, the budgetary impacts of Hurricane Irma and the inclusion of the funding for the Aventura Charter High School Construction Fund in the prior year. Capital Outlay expenditures are budgeted at \$2,931,925 and decreased by \$18,463,696 compared to the prior year. Projects included range from park improvements to road resurfacing and the commitment to invest in state-of-the-art technology to serve and protect our residents. Maintaining our infrastructure, from government buildings to our park facilities, continues to be a major funding priority to protect these assets well into the future.

Operating costs for all funds decreased by \$129,291 or 0.3% as compared to the previous year. General Fund operating costs decreased by 1.1% mostly due to the impacts of Hurricane Irma experienced in the prior year. The budget maintains our current level for all City services except the following areas:

- Added one (1) new Police Officer position to serve as a School Resource Officer for the new Aventura Charter High School to enhance safety and security.

Aventura Update

Mayor

Enid Weisman

Commissioners

Denise Landman Marc Narotsky
Dr. Linda Marks Robert Shelley
Gladys Mezrahi Howard Weinberg

Interim City Manager

Joanne Carr

City Clerk

Ellisa L. Horvath, MMC

City Attorney

Weiss Serota Helfman Cole
& Bierman

Art Director/Designer

Annette Gonzalez

Directory

Main Number 305-466-8900
Mayor and Commission 305-466-8901

Interim City Manager 305-466-8910
Joanne Carr

City Clerk 305-466-8901
Ellisa L. Horvath, MMC

Aventura Arts & Cultural Center 305-466-8002
Jeff Kiltie, General Manager

ACES Charter School 305-466-1499
Julie Alm, Principal

Community Development 305-466-8940
Joanne Carr, Director

Community Services 305-466-8930
Kimberly Merchant, Director

Finance 305-466-8920
Brian K. Raducci, Director

Information Technology 305-466-8928
Karen J. Lanke, Director

Police 305-466-8989
Bryan Pegues, Police Chief

Public Works / Transportation . . 305-466-8970
Joseph S. Kroll, Director

- The number of part-time seasonal Park Attendant hours was increased at a cost of \$24,000 to provide adequate coverage in the peak season and accommodate increased attendance at our park facilities.
- Added four (4) more weekends to the SplashPad season.
- A new “sci-tech camp” is a program for residents to explore the interconnections between science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) while challenging their creativity and problem-solving skills. The cost will be offset by fees charged for this service.
- The employee health insurance costs rose by 5%, which had a \$134,000 impact on the budget.

The model of privatizing many service areas of the City’s operations over the years has served the City well and has allowed for a more cost effective service delivery system, as compared to the traditional government structure. Strong fiscal policies and prudent budgeting have enabled the City to maintain the lowest tax rate in the County, while providing high-quality services to our residents.

The budget addresses the following priorities and goals that the City Commission has either adopted or supported through policy or initiatives:

Enhance the safety and security of our residents, schools and businesses:

- Continue community outreach initiatives to engage the community in joint problem solving and crime prevention techniques.
- Add one (1) new School Resource Officer for the new Aventura Charter High School to be opened in August 2019.
- Improve communications with the community by expanding social media and community policing efforts by the Police Department.
- Increase overtime costs to meet the demands of police service requirements and community safety.

Provide and support quality educational choices for Aventura students to succeed academically and become productive citizens:

- Continue to operate Aventura City of Excellence School K-8 as an “A” rated high performing school and provide support services through various City departments.
- Continue to take the necessary steps to ensure the opening of the proposed Aventura Charter High School by August 2019, including the funding of the upfront operating and capital construction costs.

Maintain efficient and responsive government which embraces the highest standards of service and financial stability:

- For the 23rd year in a row, no increase in the tax rate is recommended.
- Continue to focus on maintaining and protecting the City’s infrastructure by funding capital outlay projects, from park improvements to road resurfacing expenditures, in the amount of \$2,931,925.
- Maintain healthy reserves that protect the City’s ability to provide quality services no matter the economic times and address unforeseen emergencies.
- Continue the model of privatizing many service areas of the City’s operations while maintaining a small workforce, which has allowed for a more cost effective service delivery system, as compared to the traditional government structure.
- Continue to utilize technology to improve productivity and expand E-government applications.

Continue to explore alternate transportation modes to alleviate traffic and support bicycle friendly initiatives:

- Continue to fund the free Aventura Express Shuttle Bus system that serves almost 26,000 riders a month and extend service to new developments.
- Continue to implement recommendations included in the unfiled Master Plan for Pedestrian and Bicycle Connectivity.
- Maintain the Aventura BCycle bike share program.
- Continue to collaborate with state, county and local officials to address possible solutions to traffic issues.

Community Engagement, Parks, Programs and Special Events:

- Expand part-time seasonal Park Attendant hours, in order to provide adequate coverage in the peak season and accommodate increased attendance at our park facilities.
- Continue the new afterschool program at the Community Recreation Center for Aventura students that attend Aventura Waterways K-8.

- Continue youth travel soccer and basketball leagues in response to increased demand for these services in the community. The cost will be offset by fees charged for this service.
- Continue the “Community Ride with the Police Department” Special Event, which provides opportunities for the residents to interact with the Police.
- Increase funding to support a wide variety of programming for all age groups at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center.
- Continue to fund Family Movie Nights at Founders Park.
- Provide adequate funding to maintain our parks and recreation facilities at a high level.
- Employ the use of the Youth Advisory Board.

Environmental Sustainability and Go Green Initiatives

- Maintain Tree City USA status.
- Continue to improve the energy efficiency of all City facilities including the replacement of worn air conditioning systems.
- Ensure that redevelopment projects that require land use/zoning revisions do not have a negative impact on the community.
- Include funding to continue to retrofit street lighting throughout the City with more energy efficient LED fixtures.
- Monitor and participate in regional efforts to address the impact of rising sea level and the long-range impacts of climate change.
- Implement strategies and recommendations included in the City’s Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan to address drainage infrastructure improvements and long-range impacts of climate change.
- Continue the “Go Green Award Program” sponsored by the Community Services Advisory Board to recognize condominiums and businesses that have made efforts to reduce energy consumption and implement recycling programs.
- Provide adequate funding to maintain our signature landscape, streets, rights-of-way and facilities.
- Maintain the silver level certification recognition by the Florida Green Local Government Program.

Community Services

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

Directory

Parks & Facilities

Community Recreation Center
3375 NE 188 Street
305-466-3883

Founders Park & SplashPad
3105 NE 190 Street
305-466-0183

Peace Park
3200 NE 188 Street
305-466-0183

Veterans Park
18375 NE 31 Avenue
305-466-0183

Waterways Park
3301 NE 213 Street
305-466-8008

Waterways Dog Park
3401 NE 213 Street
305-466-8008

Parks & Facilities Hours

**Founders Park, Peace Park,
Veterans Park, Waterways Park,
and Waterways Dog Park**
Open daily 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

SplashPad at Founders Park

A few remaining days are available to enjoy the SplashPad! Check cityofaventura.com for the schedule.

Community Recreation Center

*Open weekdays 7 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
*Open weekends 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
*Subject to change due to holidays.

Calendar 2018

Events & Programs

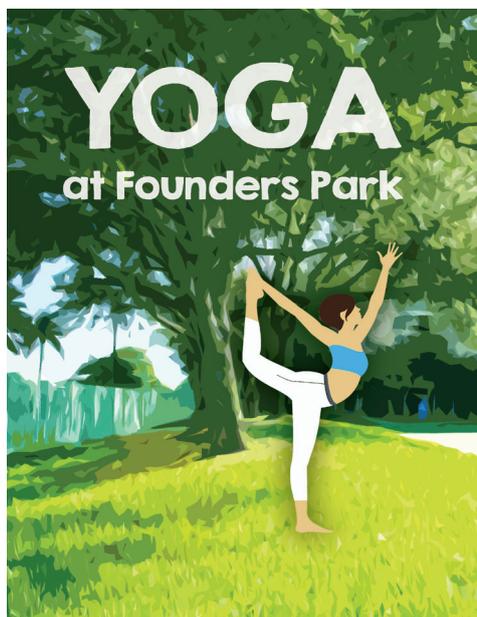
November 6
Teacher Planning Day

November 11
Veterans Day Ceremony

November 11
23rd Annual Founders Day

November 21
Teacher Planning Day

December 24, 2018 - January 4, 2019
Winter Camp and Tennis Camp



Registration is a click away!

Registration for classes, programs, sports, and activities can be completed at the Aventura Community Recreation Center, Waterways Park, Founders Park, or online using the City's Online Registration System (ORS) at cityofaventura.com/ors (restrictions apply).

REGISTER ONLINE

cityofaventura.com/ors



Get Fit at Founders Park

FREE Yoga and Boot Camp Fitness Classes

Stretch and breath every Friday at 9 a.m. with Yoga and get a great workout every other Saturday at 9:30 a.m. with Boot Camp Fitness! All classes are held at Founders Park. Park admission fees apply. Visit cityofaventura.com for complete class schedule and details.

Community Services

Recreational Programs

Aventura Fall Activities

A complete and balanced program of recreational classes are offered throughout the fall. Browse through the official catalog of classes online at cityofaventura.com/ors.

Registration for Aventura **fall** activities is open.

Community Recreation Center Membership

Community Recreation Center members of all ages enjoy a variety of benefits including: the use of an indoor basketball court; a fitness room with a waterfront view; fun activities; and a variety of classes including free classes in Yoga, meditation, Bridge, body-sculpting, Mahjong, Zumba, and strength circuit.

Community Recreation Center membership registration is accepted in person only at the Community Recreation Center, Founders Park or Waterways Park. Learn more about becoming a member at cityofaventura.com.

Sports Programs

Private Sports and Wellness Coaching

Private lessons are available for all ages to improve game and fitness level with skilled coaches that focus on the whole athlete.

Tennis

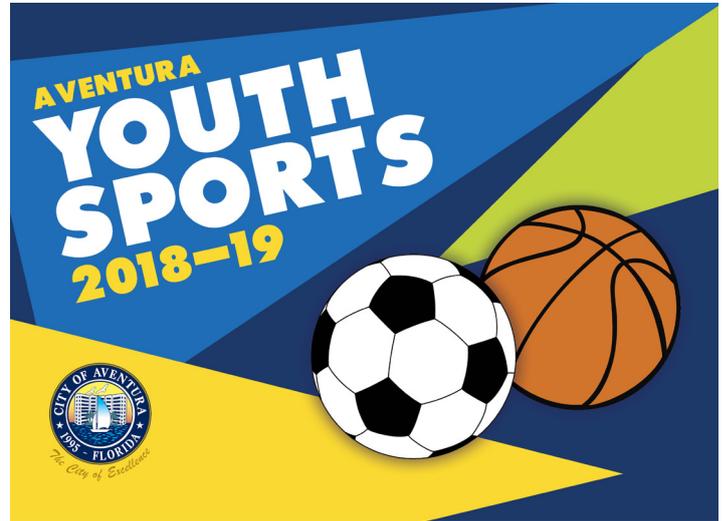
Founders Park is the place for tennis with Mommy and Me Tennis for ages 3-4, 10 & Under Tennis for ages 6-10, Junior Tennis for ages 11-14, and adult clinics.

A great way to learn all the basics at a player's own pace is with 1-on-1 private, customized lessons designed for all ages and levels.

Adult Sports

Through December 2018

Recreational Softball leagues for adults provide the chance to meet new people and enjoy fun games in Aventura's beautiful weather!



Youth Sports: Soccer & Basketball

Recreational Leagues

Through June 2019

Children ages 5-15 participate in **recreational seasonal sports leagues** including basketball, girls' soccer, and boys' soccer.

After-school Leagues

Through May 2019

After-school sports leagues are designed for players in grades Kindergarten through 8 to enjoy sports activity right after their regular school day ends, as opposed to regular seasonal league schedules which include varying times and days including weekends.

Travel Teams

Through June 2019

Players in grades 3-6 of the Aventura Thunder Basketball Team compete in games and tournaments throughout the state of Florida.

Players ages 7 - 15 of the Aventura Football Club (AFC) Soccer Team compete in games throughout the state of Florida.

The complete Youth Sports 2018-19 season schedule, fees and information are available online at:

cityofaventura.com/ors.

*Schedule and seasons are subject to change.



Trips & Tours

Fall Schedule

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Actors' Playhouse in Coral Gables

Friday, December 14, 2018

Fairchild Tropical Gardens in Coral Gables

Winter Camp

Let it Snow-Man

December 24, 2018 -

January 4, 2019

Registration is open!

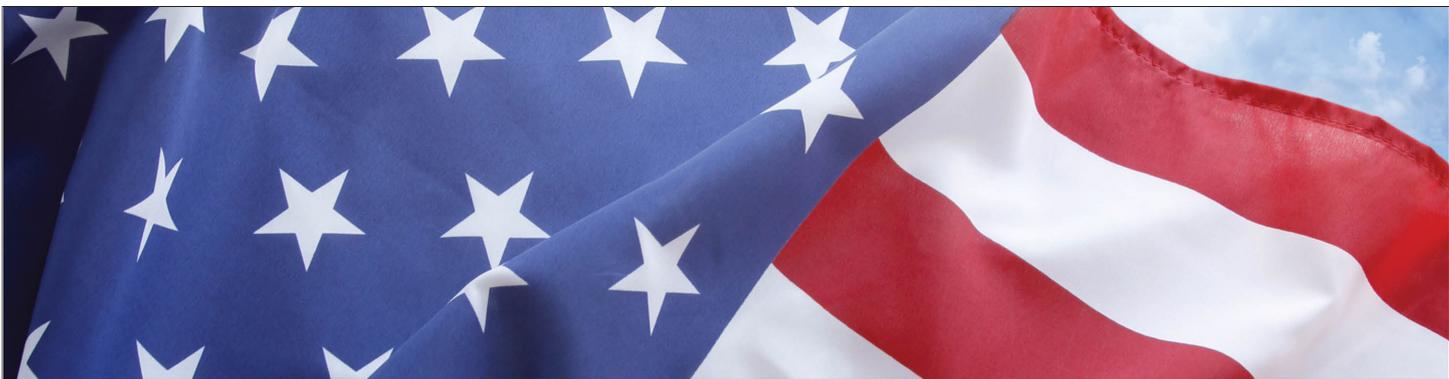


Need more information? Ready to register?

Visit cityofaventura.com/ors

the City's Online Registration System

for fees, additional information and registration.



Veterans Day Ceremony

**NOVEMBER 11, 2018
10 AM**

City of Aventura Government Center
19200 West Country Club Drive

**In Honor of All Who Serve and
Have Served Our Nation**

cityofaventura.com
@cityofaventura

Government Center News

Municipal Election Canceled

Congratulations to Unopposed Candidates

The City of Aventura Municipal Election scheduled for November 6, 2018 has been canceled. Since all of the seats open for election were unopposed, the following candidates have been deemed to be elected by operation of law without further conduct of election process:

Mayor: Enid Weisman

Seat 2: Denise Landman

Seat 4: Robert "Bob" Shelley

Seat 6: Marc Narotsky

The Commission Swearing in Ceremony is scheduled for November 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Government Center.



Founders Day

NOVEMBER 11, 2018
NOON - 5 PM


Celebrate the City of Aventura's
23rd Year of Incorporation

Founders Park
3105 NE 190 Street

cityofaventura.com/foundersday
[@cityofaventura](https://twitter.com/cityofaventura)

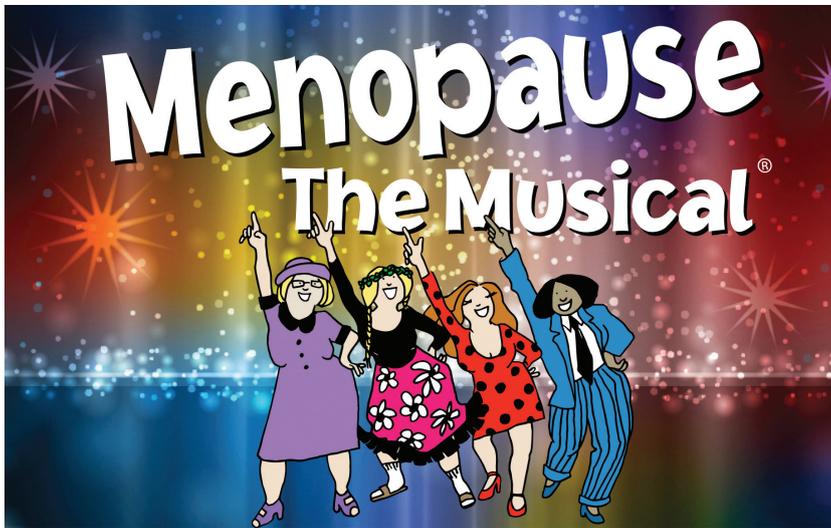
Arts & Culture

The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center Begins a Spectacular New Season

A variety of shows fill the incredible 2018-19 season

The chandeliers cascading down over the main lobby entrance and those hanging high above the side aisles in the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center will be shining on the best and brightest stars this new arts season.

From choosing a subscription or being there for that one must-see show, the first stop is AventuraCenter.org which has complete information and a link to buy tickets.



Fall Highlights

Winner of more than 40 Tony® Awards, G-Four Productions brings one of its blockbuster hits to Aventura when it presents **Menopause the Musical** **October 23–28** in the Hilarious Celebration of Women and The Change!® Set to classic tunes from the '60s, '70s and '80s, this musical parody has entertained millions worldwide – women and the men who love it too - for the past 17 years.

The artistic partnership between the City of Aventura and the acclaimed Slow Burn Theatre Company continues with the 2014 Tony Award winner for Best Musical Revival, **Hedwig and the Angry Inch**

November 29 – December 2. Named by Rolling Stone magazine as “the best rock musical ever!,” this genre-bending, fourth-wall-smashing musical sensation tells a hilarious, harrowing and essentially uplifting story for anyone who’s ever felt different.

Funnyman Steve Solomon returns in **My Mother’s Italian, My Father’s Jewish, & I’m Home for the Holidays** **December 29 – 30.** The star and creator of one of the longest running one-man comedy shows in history is back with more wild and hilarious stories and characterizations about his family, friends and other folks whose sole purpose was to drive him into therapy in the first place.

You won’t believe your eyes when the City of Aventura presents **Mike Super: Magic & Illusion** **on January 12.** A finalist on *America’s Got Talent* and winner of NBC’s *Phenomenon*, he has made the seemingly impossible look so easy with his inimitable, down-to-earth style and personality.

The stars of Broadway’s smash hits such as *Jersey Boys* and *Motown* team up in **The Doo Wop Project** **on January 26** to deliver the classic sounds of five guys singing tight harmonies on a street corner, as well as doo wop-inspired renditions of today’s biggest hits.



See a Show or Enjoy a Series

Series subscriptions once again offer a way to lock in your seats at a savings. Musical theater fans can enjoy a full season of stars with the **2019 Broadway Concert Series** featuring Alice Ripley and Emily Skinner; Faith Prince; Jeremy Jordan; and John Lloyd Young.

Black Box Productions delivers a season full of laughs with **The Stand-Up Comedy Series** featuring Bruce Vilanch; Three Hysterical Broads...Off Their Medication with Sheba Mason, Valerie Storm and Sarah Tollemache; Luis Chataing-Nuevamente in a Spanish-language night of comedy; Bobby Collins; Sarge's Chanukah Chutzpah Tour...Kiss My Mezuzah; Judy Gold; Dom Irrera; and Vic DiBitetto.



Alice Ripley & Emily Skinner



Mike Super

From October through May, the eight films in the **Aventura International Film Series** hosted by Shelly Isaacs will transport you. The series features the best in foreign language cinema from India, France, Israel, Germany, Denmark, Japan, Switzerland and Italy.

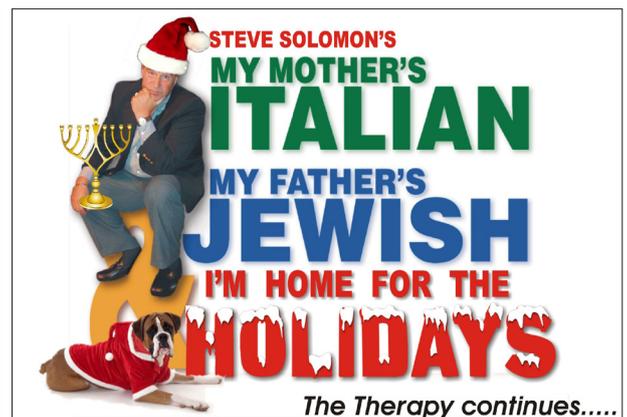
Aventura Arts & Cultural Center is proud to launch the **Nova Southeastern University Lifelong Learning Institute Speaker Series** featuring four challenging and intellectual lectures ranging from politics and civil rights to Picasso and marine science in South Florida.

The **Miami International Piano Festival**, **Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida**, and the **Family Fun Series** presented by **Hoffman's Chocolates** and the **Broward Center for the Performing Arts** will once again present full seasons at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center.

Visit aventuracenter.org for the entire 2018-2019 schedule and to sign up to receive insider emails with the latest news and show information.

Purchase tickets

by phone via Ticketmaster at **877.311.7469**, online at aventuracenter.org, or in person at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center box office Tuesday through Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m. and 90 minutes prior to performances.





DON SOFFER

AVENTURA HIGH SCHOOL

OPENING
AUGUST
2019

FUTURE READY

COLLEGE. CAREER. LIFE.



Learners at Don Soffer Aventura High School will discover their passion and build a bridge between their rigorous high school experience and future to become impactful global citizens. Students will be EMPOWERED to:

DISCOVER THEIR PASSIONS:

- Starts with a learner interview
- Exposure to a wide range of specialty areas including Liberal Arts, Technology, Biomedical, Advanced Studies, and more
- Learning opportunities beyond the school day
- Individual and group challenge-based learning experiences to solve real-world problems

DEFINE THEIR FUTURE:

- Opportunity to earn college credits and industry certifications
- Academic Pathways developed around future career outlook
- Integration of academic and social emotional learning
- Learners will be locally and globally minded contributors to society



CHOOSE THEIR PATH:

- Select Academic Pathways including:
 - > Biomedical and Technology Academies
 - > Advanced Placement Capstone™ Diploma
 - > Advanced Placement courses
 - > Cambridge International courses
- Students will learn in a manner and environment that works best for them:
 - > Flexible learning spaces
 - > Technology enhanced
 - > Personalized learning goals

Opening in August 2019 for Grade 9. A grade level will be added each additional year.

Visit aventuracharterhs.org

Enrollment Office

Temporary office located in the
Aventura Community Recreation Center
3385 NE 188 Street, Aventura, FL 33180
786-481-3032

Hours of Operation:
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Future School Site Location

3151 NE 213 Street
Aventura, FL 33180

Stay Connected!





City of Aventura
Office of the City Manager
19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boca Raton, FL
Permit No. 1807

AVENTURA *Update*

Fall 2018

City Commission Meetings

Commission meetings are held at 6 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month at the Aventura Government Center Commission Chambers located at 19200 West Country Club Drive.

For more information about upcoming Commission meetings and workshops, please visit cityofaventura.com.

To confirm all meeting dates, times and locations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 305-466-8901.

Calendar Highlights

City Events

- November 11 Veterans Day Ceremony
- November 11 23rd Annual Founders Day

City Programs

- November 6 Teacher Planning Day
- November 21 Teacher Planning Day
- Dec. 24, 2018 - Jan. 4, 2019 . . Let it Snow-Man: Winter Camp
- Dec. 24, 2018 - Jan. 4, 2019 . . Tennis Camp

