



October 1, 2024

Dear Delray Beach City Commissioners

This letter is in support of the proposed changes to the in-lieu-of parking ordinance.

In general, our Chamber supports the proposed changes. Particularly, we are in agreement with the incentives to support historic preservation efforts, provide for adaptive use and revitalize the West Atlantic Neighborhood while maintaining the scale of downtown.

We also are in support of the proposed fee schedule with one exception as follows: For Area 1, we request that retailers be permitted a 50% percent reduction in fees for adaptive reuse or expansion of a non-historic structure or outdoor use area. This request is made from concern that rising costs will make operating prohibitive for retailers in our downtown. Retail is a crucial component to the economic vitality of a downtown and as such we should be especially careful to support and not cause inadvertent harm by raising any fees on an already struggling business sector.

In addition to fee reductions for retailers, we respectfully request that the radius for available public parking options be increased from 750 ft to a minimum of 1000 feet for Area 1 so that all businesses in Area 1 can meet the distance requirement. With these concerns addressed (retail and distance), we fully support the changes proposed to the ordinance.

Kind regards,
Vivian DeMille, Advocacy Chair
Kae Jonsons, Delray Chamber Board Chair
Stephanie Immelman, CEO

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