Recommendaion
It is recommended that the Mayor and Commission discuss the attached draft of the City of Fort Lauderdale’s 2015 legislative priorities and funding requests in preparation to formally adopt priorities on November 4, 2014.

Background
The Commission retained the services of two firms, Ericks Consultants, Inc. and Ronald L. Book, PA., to assist the City with lobbying efforts at the State level. These firms will be advocating for the City’s interests during the upcoming legislative session. In preparation for the legislative session, staff has prepared draft priorities for consideration by the City Commission in providing direction to City staff, lobbyists and other interested parties as to the official position of the City of Fort Lauderdale regarding issues, pending legislation and funding requests that could affect the City.

The attached draft document presents legislative priorities and funding requests based on the City’s FY 2015 Commission Annual Action Plan and other previously identified priorities. Neither the Florida League of Cities nor the Broward League of Cities have made their adopted 2015 priorities available at this juncture so they have not been incorporated into these priorities at this time.

In the Fiscal Year 2015 adopted budget, new funding for federal government lobbying services was approved. Separate federal priorities will be presented to the Commission for discussion once a federal lobbyist is retained.

Resource Impact
There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.
**Strategic Connections:**
This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included in the Internal Support Cylinder of Excellence; specifically advancing:

- **Goal 12:** Be a leading government organization, managing our resources wisely and sustainably

Attachment
EX 1 - Draft City of Fort Lauderdale 2015 legislative priorities and appropriation requests

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