



ELECTION 2014

PROPOSED WESTON CHARTER AMENDMENTS

NOVEMBER 4, 2014

Weston residents have important choices to make in the upcoming General Election that impact your city government.

On the ballot will be seven (7) proposed City Charter Amendments. Only a majority vote by the electorate can enact a change to the City Charter.



SUMMARY OF PROPOSED WESTON AMENDMENTS

Proposed Amendment #1. Delete Obsolete Language – would give the City permission to remove references in the City Charter that are no longer relevant.

Proposed Amendment #2. Holding of Special Elections – would extend the time frame for special elections, such as filling of vacancies or approval of charter amendments, to up to 180 days.

Proposed Amendment #3. City Commission Procedures Relating to Quorum and Voting – would allow unanimous approval when less than three members of the commission are eligible to vote due to vacancy or conflicts of interest. The current City Charter requires affirmative votes of at least three members of the Commission to take action.

Proposed Amendment #4. Initiative and Referendum – would add exceptions to the Charter on how electors may propose ordinances to the City Commission. Consistent with state law, the proposed amendment would add the following exceptions: ordinances regarding development orders, comprehensive plan amendments or map amendments.

Proposed Amendment #5. Criteria for, and Limitations on, City Charitable Contributions – would increase the total amount of City charitable contributions from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year.

Proposed Amendment #6. Charter Review Board Members – would provide that the Mayor's appointee to the Charter Review Board live in Weston. It also eliminates the requirement that a majority of the City Commission approve each appointment.

Proposed Amendment #7. Limitation on Economic Development Incentives – would provide that the City shall not grant economic development incentives to any person or entity unless it is part of a federal, state or county program. In addition, it must ensure that the City will recoup at least the full amount of its portion of the incentive within seven years.



Newsday TuesdaySM
S M **T** W T F S

View the Proposed Amendments as they will appear on the ballot:

http://www.westonfl.org/media/docs/misc/2014_Proposed_Charter_Amendments.pdf

Online News Article

Feel free to contact us with any questions that you might have on the proposed amendments so that you may make a fully informed decision. Contact: 954-385-2000 or cityhall@westonfl.org



ELECTION 2014 VIEW YOUR SAMPLE BALLOT NOVEMBER 4, 2014 GENERAL ELECTION

THE UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT FOR RESIDENTS OF WESTON INCLUDES:

State Constitutional Amendments – 1) Water and Land Conservation – Dedicates funds to acquire and restore Florida conservation and recreation lands; 2) Use of Marijuana for Certain Medical Conditions; 3) Prospective Appointments of Certain Judicial Vacancies.

County Question - Reauthorization of the Children’s Services Council of Broward County.

School District of Broward County – Funding Improvements to and Replacement of Public School Facilities Through issuance of General Obligation Bonds.

City of Weston Charter Amendments – 1) Delete Obsolete Language; 2) Holding of Special Elections; 3) City Commission Procedures Relating to Quorum and Voting; 4) Initiative and Referendum; 5) Criteria for, and Limitations on, City Charitable Contributions; 6) Charter Review Board Members; 7) Limitation on Economic Development Incentives.

Offices to be Elected - Representative in Congress District 23, Governor/Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer, Commissioner of Agriculture, Fourth District Court of Appeal, Circuit Judge, County Court Judge and Broward Soil & Water Conservation District Seat 4.



Click to [View Your Sample Ballot](#) – enter your street number and street name.

Sample Ballot

1. House Number of Address

2. Street Name:

Chosen Street: ROYAL PALM BLVD, 33326

[Show a list of all Precincts.](#)

[Precinct statistics](#)

Future Elections	
2014 General Election Sample Ballot Election Date Tuesday, November 4, 2014 Registration Closes Monday, October 6, 2014 Early Voting Starts Monday, October 20, 2014 Early Voting Ends Sunday, November 2, 2014 Would you like to request an absentee/mail ballot for this election? Absentee/Mail Ballot Request	Your precinct (#Q068) votes here on election day. Everglades Elementary School 2900 Bonaventure Blvd Weston FL 33331



For information regarding voter registration please call the Broward County Supervisor of Elections at 954-357-7050 or visit www.browardsoe.org.



ELECTION 2014 SCHOOL BOARD GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND NOVEMBER 4, 2014 GENERAL ELECTION

GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND

**SAFETY
MUSIC & ART
ATHLETICS
RENOVATION
TECHNOLOGY**



The School Board of Broward County approved Resolution 14-88, which has placed an \$800 Million General Obligation Bond on the November 4th ballot.

The proceeds of this bond will be utilized for capital improvements and to purchase technology for teachers and students. SMART stands for: Safety, Music & Arts, Athletics, Renovation and Technology.

To fully understand all of the complexities involved, such as what is a General Obligation Bond; what are the reasons for the bond; what will be improved; and what schools will get what improvements – the School Board has designed a website that can answer these and other questions.

Main Website: <http://browardschools.com/Web/Smart-Futures#.VCxFr2eBHLY>

To see a school by school breakdown of the **\$48,457,000*** earmarked as of now for schools within in the City of Weston or attended by Weston students, please visit: <http://browardschools.com/SiteMedia/Docs/web/SMART/CityReports/Weston.pdf>

SMART Capital Program by School

Country Isles Elementary	1,028,000.00
Eagle Point Elementary	5,237,000.00
Everglades Elementary	1,759,000.00
Gator Run Elementary	3,057,000.00
Indian Trace Elementary	3,839,000.00
Manatee Bay Elementary	2,348,000.00
Falcon Cove Middle	11,329,000.00
Tequesta Trace Middle	4,170,000.00
Cypress Bay High	15,690,000.00
Western High	6,129,000.00*

**not included in the \$48,457,000 total for schools in Weston*



ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER/COO DARREL THOMAS APPOINTED TO *Government Finance Officers Association's Committee on Treasury Investment Management*

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has appointed Assistant City Manager/COO Darrel Thomas to their Committee on Treasury Investment Management.



Darrel Thomas' responsibilities, among others, will be to participate with GFOA in crafting treasury investment policies at the federal level, which will ultimately affect local governments.

Darrel is an ideal selection by the GFOA based on his investment experience in the private sector before coming to Weston, and his day-to-day management of Weston's investments of reserves.

Congratulations Darrel Thomas

For more information about Government Finance Officers Association, please visit <http://www.gfoa.org/>.



GET YOUR TICKETS NOW BEFORE THEY SELL OUT!

**SYMPHONY OF THE AMERICAS
THE MAGIC OF CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE
Saturday, November 8th at 7:30pm**

THE MAGIC OF
Cirque de la
Symphonie

**SYMPHONY
OF THE AMERICAS**

Saturday, November 8th
7:30pm

Cypress Bay High School Theater
18600 Vista Park Boulevard

Ticket Prices:
\$20 in advance
\$30 at the door (if available)
\$10 for students
\$15 at the door for students (if available)

Tickets available at:

- Weston Community Center
20200 Saddle Club Road
954-389-4321
- Community Bank of Broward
1504 Weston Road
954-888-9989

THE
CITY OF WESTON

PRESENTED BY THE
CITY OF WESTON AND
THE WESTON
PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

Cirque de la Symphonie brings the magic of cirque to the music hall. Artists include mesmerizing veterans of exceptional cirque programs throughout the world—acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers, and strong - men. Each artist's electrifying selection is professionally choreographed to classical masterpieces and popular contemporary music in collaboration with the Symphony of the Americas under the direction of James Brooks-Bruzzese. Purchase your tickets today as the event is sure to sell out quickly!

For more information, please visit www.westonphilharmonic.com or www.westonfl.org or call 954-389-4321.



ARTIFICIAL TURF SAFETY IN WESTON



Recent reports in the media have shed a spotlight on the use of artificial turf for sports fields, and the crumb rubber infill in particular. Last week, a national story ran highlighting the concerns of a coach in the Northwest implying that soccer players, and goalies in particular, are developing an unusually high number of cancer related illnesses. The story suggests that playing on artificial surfaces may be the cause.

It is important to note that the concern is focused on the black rubber infill (commonly produced from recycled tires). Infill is an important component of a turf system. It provides the necessary cushion to prevent serious fall injuries and it helps to keep the grass blades upright and in place.

The City of Weston has a limited number of artificial turf installations. *The first use of the turf is in the batting cages, and has no crumb rubber and no infill whatsoever. The second use of the turf is on a small soccer field built into an existing hockey rink, which is made of 100% organic material. It is comprised of coconut fiber, rice husk and cork.*

In addition to this product significantly reducing the heat associated with a crumb rubber field, it also performs much more like a soil and plays more like a traditional grass field. This system was developed in Europe and is used by many soccer clubs including AC Milan. The field held up very well during last month's heavy rains and, in fact, optimal playing conditions call for moisture.



In the coming months, the City of Weston will continue exploring the use of artificial turf. There are numerous benefits to artificial turf, particularly in a community as active as Weston. Artificial turf fields can be played on during wet conditions; they require far less maintenance than grass; they will not develop holes and divots that can cause injury; and they increase capacity.

Parks and Recreation Department staff members have spent many hours researching the best available products and visiting turf field installations. As part of the selection process, staff will review safety, performance, environmental considerations and other variables to choose the best possible product for the community. Weston has always been at the forefront of innovation and protecting the public will continue to be the first priority. For more information, please contact the Parks Department at 954-389-4321.



HURRICANE SHUTTERS

Keep your windows and doors secure

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS – A Continuing Series

Hurricane shutters are used to protect doors and windows from wind-borne objects and to prevent damage caused by sudden pressure changes when windows or doors fail.

Shutters can be made of metal, wood or plastic and are available in different styles; the most common are steel or metal panels, accordion style and roll-down. Home improvement stores sell shutters and a number of companies in South Florida custom-build and install shutters.



If you have never installed your shutters, do a "dry run" before any storms arrive to make sure you are familiar with how they operate. You can identify problems with your shutters that might not be fixable as a storm is approaching.

If you are using plywood to cover windows and doors, select at least 5/8" stock. Pre-drill holes into the plywood sheets and into your masonry and use screws and anchors to secure the plywood; masonry nails are not recommended as they can fail in strong winds.



If you have metal panel shutters, handle them only with heavy work gloves. The panels are heavy and the edges can be sharp. When you use a ladder, make sure you work with a buddy who holds and stabilizes the ladder. Emergency rooms in South Florida report a number of injuries every hurricane season due to falls from ladders.

When a storm has passed and it's safe to venture outside, remove the shutters or plywood from at least one window or door in every room. A fully-shuttered house may be safe in a hurricane, but presents a **fire hazard** by blocking escape routes. Establish an emergency escape plan and make sure everyone in the house is aware of how they should exit in the event of fire.

For more information about hurricane shutters, please visit
<http://www.hurricanecenter.com/hurricane-shutters/storm-windows/>.



October 21, 2014

THERE IS SO MUCH ADDED SUGAR IN OUR FOODS ...IT'S SCARY



In October, there is a good chance that most of us will encounter more sweets than usual with fall festivals, Halloween parties, and of course trick-or-treating (with or without kids ☺). Don't be spooked or tempted, however – you can still make wise and healthy food choices.

Many people are surprised to discover they are consuming as much as 20 teaspoons of added sugar a day. That's scary, not healthy.

Added sugar can often be tracked to the average soda, a fancy blended coffee drink, a slice of cake, chocolate Halloween treats, or even a specialty pumpkin muffin topped with cream-cheese frosting. Read nutrition labels regularly to open your eyes to the hidden sugars (and calories) in foods you might assume were okay.



Here are tips to help sift out some of your added sugars:

- Substitute applesauce for all or part of the granulated sugar in recipes for baking.
- Make nutrient-dense food choices. Make half your plate colorful fruits and vegetables.
- Eat plain oatmeal with fresh fruit instead of packets of flavored oatmeal. Add fresh fruit and/or granola to liven up yogurt.
- Pre-plan menus and snacks, instead of eating impulse items such as candy bars.
- Remember that the words "syrup," "sweetener," and anything ending in "-ose" are code for "sugar."
- Practice moderation instead of deprivation. An occasional treat is okay.
- Monitor portion size.
- Don't buy Halloween candy too far in advance – you might be tempted to eat it yourself.
- Give trick-or-treaters nonfood items instead of candy, such as small toys, crayons, or activity books. They'll outlast the candy, much of which gets tossed anyway.

Stay healthy!



WESTON FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY **BOOK FAIR**

at the Weston Branch Library

Saturday, October 25th

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Over 2,500 Books!

Including...

- Hard and Soft Cover Book
- Children's and Chapter Book
- Spanish and Portuguese Language Books
 - WWII Books
- Fiction and Non-Fiction

Average pricing: \$.50 to \$1.00



Good Friends Make Great Libraries! The Weston Friends of the Library was founded in 1993 and continues today to support library projects and serve as a catalyst for library advocacy. Ongoing services include book fairs, volunteer recognition dinners, holiday celebrations for library staff, and financial support for Broward County Library staff development such as attendance at Florida Library Association conferences.

***The Weston Branch Library is located at
4205 Bonaventure Boulevard.
For more information, please call 954-357-5420.***



BROWARD COUNTY LIBRARY CARDS GO VIRTUAL

**You can now use the WoW mobile app
to create a virtual library card!**

Broward County Library's BCL WoW mobile app is used by thousands of library customers to quickly and easily search for materials, place holds and conveniently locate the closest library as well as find free [library events and classes](#).

The BCL card has gone virtual!

This new feature allows customers to use the app to check out materials using their smart phone or tablet. Customers then can simply show the virtual library card to the librarian at the circulation desk to check out items.

To download the BCL WoW app, please visit [BCL WoW - Broward County Library Without Walls](#). The app is available in the following download formats: Android, Apple and other smartphones.





JOIN THE CHESS CLUB FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AT THE WESTON COMMUNITY CENTER

Why Chess? Because chess develops great mental skills: self confidence, motivation, imagination, intuition, concentration, memory, logical and critical thinking, and reasoning skills. Learn the game in a new exciting interactive way..

The class is taught at various levels for beginning players through advanced, experienced players.

DATES: Ongoing
DAY/TIME: Monday from 4:45pm – 5:45pm
AGES: Boys and Girls, any age!
COST: \$95 for 4 weeks
LOCATION: Weston Community Center
20200 Saddle Club Road



Don't miss out on this great new class! Sign up today! Visit www.chessartkids.com or call Julian Banos at 954-650-2562 for more information.

The Community Center, located inside the Weston Regional Park, offers a wide variety of classes and activities for all ages.

For a complete listing of all classes, please visit the City's website at www.westonfl.org/media/docs/misc/Class_Schedule.pdf or call the Weston Community Center at 954-389-4321.



UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS



QUARTERLY RESIDENTIAL BULK PICKUP

October 22nd – October 25th

Single Family or Multi-family with curbside collection: Wednesday, October 22nd, Thursday, October 23rd - or - Friday, October 24th; **Multi-family with dumpsters:** Saturday, October 25th. For information, call 954-385-2600.



TURN CLOCKS BACK – DAYLIGHT SAVING

Sunday, November 2nd 2:00AM

It is suggested that you turn your clocks back on SATURDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 1st before going to bed. BSO Fire Rescue also recommends changing batteries in all smoke/carbon monoxide detectors/alarms.



GENERAL ELECTION

ELECTION DAY: November 4th 7AM-7PM

Early Voting: October 20th – November 2nd

Early Voting Locations/Times: <http://www.browardsoe.org/>

Vote for Elected Offices, State Constitutional Amendments, City of Weston Charter Amendments and more. **View Ballot:** <http://www.browardsoe.org/content.aspx?id=283>



THE MAGIC OF CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE

Saturday, November 8th 7:30PM

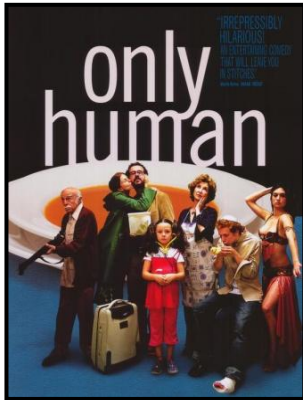
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Artists include mesmerizing acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers and strong-men. Each selection is professionally choreographed to classical masterpieces and popular contemporary music in collaboration with the Symphony of the Americas orchestra under the Direction of James Brooks-Bruzzese.

Location: Cypress Bay Theater, 18600 Vista Park Blvd.

Tickets: Advance tickets, \$20 adult/\$10 student, on sale at the Weston Community Center (954-389-4321) and the Community Bank of Broward.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE EVENTS



FOREIGN FILM SERIES BEGINS! ONLY HUMAN
Monday, November 10th 5:00PM & 7:30PM
Buy your series tickets today for all 5 films through March 2015!

When a Spanish Jewish girl brings home her fiancé, Rafi, to meet her parents in Madrid, her family assumes he is also Jewish. He definitely is not. Hysterical pandemonium ensues. Spain/2004 – English subtitles

Location: Weston 8 Cinema, 1338 SW 160 Ave, Sunrise.
Tickets: \$30 for the entire series; pre-purchase at the Weston Community Center, Community Bank of Broward and Friends Book Store in the Weston Library.



VETERANS DAY
Tuesday, November 11th

All City Administrative Offices will be closed. All parks will be open; and there is regular garbage collection. Veterans Day is set aside to honor the members of our military, past and present.



FREE MOONLIGHT MOVIE IN THE PARK
RIO 2

Saturday, November 15th 7:30PM
It's a jungle out there for Blu, Jewel and their three kids after they're hurtled from Rio de Janeiro to the wilds of the Amazon.

Location: Outdoors at the Event Stage in the Weston Regional Park, 20200 Saddle Club Road, 954-389-4321.
Bring lawn chairs or blankets, the movie is on us!



CITY COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, November 17th 7:00PM

A regular meeting of the Weston City Commission.
Swearing In Ceremony for elected commissioners.
Location: Weston City Hall, 17200 Royal Palm Blvd.



CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES CLOSED THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Wednesday, Nov. 26 - Offices close at 3PM

Thursday, Nov. 27 - Offices closed; Parks close 6pm

Friday, Nov. 28 - Offices closed; Parks are open

There is regular garbage collection on all days.



SAFE SELLING LOCATION FOR POTENTIAL ONLINE BUYERS/SELLERS

BSO's Weston district office's parking lot serves as a safe haven for the City's online buyers and sellers to meet. The Police Services Building is located at 17300 Royal Palm Boulevard. The parking lot is accessible 24 hours a day.



C.E.R.T. BASIC TRAINING PROGRAM - FREE Tuesdays, January 6th - February 24th

Community Emergency Response Team training program is offered by the BSO Division of Fire Rescue. The program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, including CPR certification.

Join 80 other community members by registering now! Call 954-389-2015 to register.



EMS GO PACKETS

BSO Weston Fire Rescue - Free for Residents

The EMS packets are designed to hold your important medical information and legal documents to be placed in an accessible spot so that EMS and hospital personnel can be immediately aware of your medical conditions. Call Fire Station No. 81 at 954-389-2015.



October 21, 2014



CPR SAFE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

BSO Weston Fire Rescue - This program offers FREE CPR classes to residents, organizations and businesses and their employees. Convenient classes are offered as well as training at your own location at a time convenient for you (min. 8 persons). Call 954-389-2015 today.



SMOKE ALARM AND BATTERY REPLACEMENT

BSO Weston Fire Rescue - This program is designed to reach resident seniors or the disabled who are unable to safely install smoke alarms and/or replace the batteries in existing alarms. Call 954-389-2015 to schedule this FREE service for our Weston residents.



WESTON DELIVERS THE LATEST NEWS DIRECTLY TO YOUR INBOX

Select from two options (we recommend BOTH):

- * **Newsday Tuesday:** A collection of weekly city news articles, information and events.
- * **General Notifications:** Updates on projects; media releases; sports registrations, events and more.

Subscribe at www.westonfl.org/EmailSubscriptions.aspx.



REGISTER FOR CodeRED TODAY

All residents and businesses should register with the City's CodeRED Emergency Notification System. The City will send out a message for an emergency situation only. To register, please visit:

www.westonfl.org/Residents/Hurricane/CodeRed.aspx.