

River Oaks Stormwater Preserve

The River Oaks Stormwater Preserve features wetlands and an elevated boardwalk over 9.1 acres. The boardwalk includes a historic CSX bascule bridge that enhances the area's unique charm.

Construction began in February 2020 and was completed in Summer 2021. The final design includes a gazebo, boardwalk, stormwater retention pond, wetland areas, tree islands, native plantings, and drainage features such as grass berms, culverts, catch basins, pipes, and control structures.

This project is a major component of a larger master plan to address flooding in the River Oaks and Edgewood neighborhoods. The River Oaks Stormwater Preserve serves as an area where stormwater run-off can be collected, retained, and pretreated prior to discharge into the South Fork of the New River. In the future, stormwater pump stations will be added to manage the run-off.

Over the sprawling wetland, the CSX bridge is a main feature of the boardwalk. Originally built in 1926, it is a Scherzer rolling lift bridge that was donated to the City by FDOT. The bridge was determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and according to the State Historic Preservation Office, preserving it is important as it is an example of a bridge type that is unique to railroad use.

The River Oaks Stormwater Preserve is located at 2117 SW 19 Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315. It is open daily between sunrise and sunset. Parking is limited so carpooling or walking or biking is encouraged. As this is a wetland area, please remember to exercise caution, dispose of trash properly, and never feed wildlife.

If you have any questions, please contact the City's 24-hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000 or lauderserv@fortlauderdale.gov.

If you would like this publication in an alternate format, please call (954) 828-4755 or email strategiccommunications@fortlauderdale.gov.





