



**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** January 21, 2015

**TITLE:** Ordinance Amendment relating to Wastewater Service Adjustments for  
Excessive Consumption and for Water and Wastewater Service  
Adjustments for Unexplained Excessive Consumption

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission (1) amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale to allow for a credit for wastewater service when a water leak has occurred and the loss of water did not enter the sewer system; and (2) allow for a credit for water and wastewater service of unexplained consumption recorded on a utility meter.

**Background**

Section 28-76(h), Code of Ordinance of the City of Fort Lauderdale, currently provides for an adjustment of excessive consumption for wastewater services, if verified as resulting from a leak of water that did not enter the sewer system, based on the prior twelve months average rate. The amendment, as proposed, provides that an adjustment on excessive consumption may be granted for wastewater services, if verified as resulting from a leak of water that did not enter the sewer system, based on the prior twelve months average consumption. The amendment is recommended to change the method for calculating the adjustment on wastewater charges when the water loss does not enter the sewer system; the current method does not allow full credit on the excessive wastewater charge.

Section 28-173, Code of Ordinance of the City of Fort Lauderdale, as created, provides that an adjustment of unexplained excessive consumption for water and wastewater services may be granted, upon the showing of proper verifications including an affidavit of no leaks on the property, based on the prior twelve months average consumption and applicable block rate. The creation of Section 28-173 is recommended to allow consumption at a reduced rate for account holders who have experienced unexplained excessive consumption and are not eligible for a leak credit.

**Resource Impact**

There is no fiscal impact to the City.

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Internal Support Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 12: Be a leading government organization, managing resources wisely and sustainably.
- Objective 2: Routinely examine and improve procurement and payment processes.

This item also furthers the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We are United*.

**Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Ordinance No. C-14-

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