



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

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

**DATE:** April 7, 2015

**TITLE:** Amendment of the City of Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan to update the Goals, Objectives and Policies of the Infrastructure, Conservation and Capital Improvement Elements to Incorporate the Updated 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Case T14011)

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt an ordinance amending the Infrastructure, Conservation and Capital Improvement Elements of the City of Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan to incorporate the updated Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (WSP).

**Background**

The City of Fort Lauderdale is required to update the City's 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (WSP) pursuant to Florida Statutes and provide corresponding language consistent with the WSP and the regional water supply plan in the Goals, Objectives, and Policies of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The intent of the Water Supply Plan is to ensure adequate water supply, strengthen the City's position to compete for funding assistance and ensure local needs are considered by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). Chapter 163, Part II of the Florida Statutes states that Comprehensive Plan amendments related to the WSP must be adopted within 18 months after the SFWMD approves an update to its regional water supply plan. The SFWMD plan, entitled *2013 Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan Update*, was adopted on September 12, 2013.

The WSP is incorporated in the City's Comprehensive Plan in the Infrastructure Element section of the Plan. Related Goals, Objectives and Policies are also located in the Conservation and Capital Improvements Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. As shown in the *Proposed Goal, Objective and Policies Text: Water Supply Plan* (Exhibit 4), the proposed associated Comprehensive Plan text amendments ensure that the updates meet statutory requirements. To accomplish this, the proposed amendment updates Objective 2.3 of the Infrastructure Element of the Comprehensive Plan to reference the SFWMD's 2013 Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan, extends the City's

commitment to meet potable water service demands of the City through 2025 and adopts the Water Supply Facilities Work Plan by reference. The amendment adds Policy 2.3.8 to the Infrastructure Element, which aligns the Comprehensive Plan with the City's current Consumptive Use Permit goal of reducing water demand through conservation strategies. The amendment replaces Policy 1.4.1 of the Conservation Element to ensure that the City continues to monitor well fields and address impacts of climate change. It also amends Objective 1.6, Policies 1.6.2-1.6.5 and adds Policy 1.6.1 to the Capital Improvement Element of the Comprehensive Plan to ensure that current language is used, such as referencing the City's Community Investment Plan, which replaced the Capital Improvements Plan.

The proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment is consistent with the City's current Comprehensive Plan, specifically Goal 2 of the Infrastructure Element, in that it ensures that the City develops and maintains an adequate water supply, treatment and distribution system, which meets the existing and projected needs of the service area in an efficient, economical, and environmentally sensitive manner. It furthers Goal 1 of the Conservation Element by helping to conserve, protect and appropriately utilize the City's natural resources.

On November 19, 2014, the City's Planning and Zoning Board (PZB), acting as the Local Planning Agency, unanimously recommended that the City Commission transmit the amendment to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO). The PZB staff report and meeting record are attached as Exhibits 1 and 2, respectively.

On January 6, 2015, the City Commission unanimously passed the proposed amendment on first reading by a vote of 5-0, and authorized staff to transmit the amendment to the FDEO and other applicable reviewing agencies. The proposed amendment was transmitted to these agencies for review and comment and all applicable agencies have commented that there are no adverse impacts associated with the proposed amendment. One agency, the FDEO, offered a technical assistance comment in order to strengthen the City's Comprehensive Plan and ensure compliance with the provisions of the State's Community Planning Act. The FDEO recommended that Objective 2.3 of the Infrastructure Element be revised to make it more explicit that the City is incorporating the updated WSP by reference into the Infrastructure Element of the City's Comprehensive Plan (See Exhibit 3). The proposed Comprehensive Plan text amendment has been updated to reflect this comment and is included as Exhibit 4.

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) concurred with the above FDEO recommendation and provided several additional technical comments related to the WSP. The comments mainly focused on clarifying some of the tables and maps and did not result in any changes to the overall findings of the plan. The revised executive summary of the WSP and the updated WSP are attached as Exhibits 5 and 6, respectively.

With the second reading of the proposed ordinance, the City Commission shall use this public hearing to consider the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment and the

record and recommendations forwarded by the Department of Sustainable Development, PZB, FDEO, SFWMD and other reviewing agencies.

**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 within the Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 2: Be a sustainable and resilient community.
- Objective 6: Secure our community's water supply.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Ready*.

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 - Staff Report from the November 19, 2014 PZB Meeting

Exhibit 2 - Minutes from the November 19, 2014 PZB Meeting

Exhibit 3 - Agency Comments

Exhibit 4 - Proposed Comprehensive Plan Changes

Exhibit 5 - Executive Summary of the Water Supply Plan

Exhibit 6 - Proposed Water Supply Plan

Exhibit 7 - Proposed Ordinance

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