



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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: February 6, 2024

TITLE: Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Sovereignty Submerged Lands Easement with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida / BOT FILE NO. 060363966 - South New River Canal - (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve the execution of a Sovereignty Submerged Land Easement with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida for the purposes of acquiring the use of sovereign lands solely for the continued operation and maintenance of a wastewater forcemain and potential maintenance of an abandoned water main crossing under the South New River Canal.

Background

The City owns and operates an 8-inch diameter wastewater forcemain which runs under the South New River Canal and conveys wastewater to a nearby pump station. The City previously operated and is currently responsible for the maintenance of an abandoned 42-inch diameter water main running under the South New River Canal.

The watermain was constructed in 1985 and the Submerged Land Easement that was signed at that time has expired. The proposed Sovereignty Submerged Lands Easement with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida is necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the wastewater forcemain and the abandoned water main beneath the South New River Canal.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact to the City associated with this item.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2024 Commission Priority*, advancing the Infrastructure and Resilience initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- Goal 1: Build a sustainable and resilient community
- Objective: Proactively maintain our water, wastewater, stormwater, road, and bridge infrastructure

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Ready
This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040* Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- The Sanitary Sewer, Water & Stormwater Element
- Goal 2: Develop and maintain an adequate wastewater collection and treatment system, which meets existing and projected needs of the City and adjacent users in the Central Wastewater Region.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Sovereignty Submerged Land Easement

Exhibit 2 – Resolution

Prepared by: Jason Snifeld, Senior Assistant to the Director, Public Works

Department Director: Alan Dodd, Public Works