#25-0495

**TO**: Honorable Mayor & Members of the

Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM**: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

**DATE**: May 6, 2025

TITLE: Motion Approving a First Amendment to an Interlocal Agreement with

Broward County to Construct a Redundant Effluent Force Main -

(Commission District 4)

## **Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement (ILA), Article 2.2 paragraph G, with Broward County for the construction of a 60-inch redundant effluent force main from the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant (GTL) to the existing deep injection wells (Project). The Amendment adds twenty-three (23) calendar days to complete the scope of work.

#### **Background**

Between 2014 and 2017, the City of Fort Lauderdale experienced failures in its wastewater collection system resulting in releases of untreated wastewater into surface waters and/or groundwater in violation of Rule 62-604.130, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C). Thus, the City entered into Consent Order No. 16-1487 with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) on September 29, 2017, which was subsequently amended in 2020. Paragraph 6(e) of the Amended Consent Order required the Project to be completed no later than September 30, 2026.

The Project includes installing a new 60-inch diameter effluent force main which will provide redundancy to the existing 54-inch diameter effluent force main that conveys treated effluent from GTL to the deep injection wells. The Project route includes a segment along Eisenhower Boulevard within Broward County Right-of-Way (ROW). On August 22, 2023, the City entered into an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Broward County for the construction of the Project, which required that all work on Eisenhower Boulevard be completed no later than May 16, 2025, so as not to adversely impact the opening of the Broward County Convention Center and Hotel.

Article 2.2, paragraph F of the ILA states, "The existing Florida Power and Light (FPL) power poles located on the East side of Eisenhower Boulevard must be removed by FPL prior to the City starting construction." The City's contractor, Ricman Construction Florida, Inc., obtained permits on July 18, 2024 but was unable to commence work because the

FPL poles were not relocated until August 9, 2024. This resulted in a twenty-three (23) calendar day delay. The City and Broward County have agreed to amend the original ILA, Article 2.2. paragraph G to reflect this delay and change the completion date for this scope of work from May 15, 2025, to June 08, 2025. Broward County has confirmed this date extension is in line with Article 2 of the ILA, Minimizing Impact On County Construction Projects, and per Article 2.1, "will not impact or cause delay to the expected completion of the County projects identified in this Agreement."

# Resource Impact

There will be no fiscal impact to the City.

# **Strategic Connections**

This item is a FY 2025 Commission Priority, advancing the Infrastructure and Resilience initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- Goal 3: Be a sustainable and resilient community.

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 3: Develop and maintain 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.

## **Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Broward County Interlocal Agreement First Amendment

Prepared by: Gabrielle Bork, Senior Project Manager, Public Works

Brandy Leighton, P.E., Division Manager, Public Works

Department Director: Talal-Abi Karam, P.E., Interim Director, Public Works