



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#24-0259

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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: March 19, 2024

TITLE: First Reading – Ordinance Amending Section 28-56 Maintenance by Property Owner, Amending Section 28-58 Making Connections to Sewers, and Amending Section 28-59 Connections to Existing Building Sewers - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve, on first reading, an amendment to the City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances amending Sections 28-56, 28-58, and 28-59 to be consistent with Florida Building Code and Public Works Engineering standards, and to clarify language.

Background

Current City Code language regarding installation of sanitary sewer laterals/services allows for more than one building or property to be connected from private property to the City's sewer system through a single, shared sewer lateral. Furthermore, current Code language requires the City to be responsible for repairs of sewer laterals if they are comprised of defective materials or damaged by vehicular traffic driving over the pipeline. This language is inconsistent with Florida Building Code and City of Fort Lauderdale Public Works Engineering standards. Such inconsistency causes confusion for permit applicants when submitting plans for construction permitting and creates conflict when determining maintenance or repair responsibilities for compromised sewer laterals. Staff is proposing to amend the Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances to remove conflicting information and clarify construction requirements to align with the Florida Building Code and the City's engineering standards and operating procedures.

Additionally, Sec. 28-59 of the City's Code is being updated to add language that clearly defines pipe inspection requirements to ensure inspection reports being provided to the City are consistent with the City's requirement to follow National Association of Sewer Service Companies (NASSCO) inspection and reporting standards. This update helps to

ensure only qualified personnel are conducting pipe inspections throughout the city, and that such inspections are done in a manner that is compliant with industry standards, as well as the City's asset management inspection and reporting protocols.

The proposed ordinance Amendment is attached as Exhibit 1.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2024 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 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 – Ordinance

Exhibit 2 – Business Impact Estimate

Prepared by: Christopher Bennett, P.E., Assistant Director, Public Works
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Department Director: Alan Dodd, P.E., Public Works