



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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LETTER TO COMMISSION

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RECEIVED

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: May 3, 2013

SUBJECT: **Emergency Contract for Stormwater Pipe Lining in Sunset Harbour**

The purpose of this LTC is to inform you of a decision to use an emergency contract to procure the services of a contractor who will line stormwater piping in the Sunset Harbour neighborhood.

The Sunset Harbour neighborhood is a low lying area of the City that floods during rainstorms and during extreme high tides. With the opening of more restaurants, Fresh Market, and the parking garage with retail stores, Sunset Harbour has evolved to become a much more active residential community. However, the infrastructure has not kept pace with the residential and commercial development in the area and it is in need of renewal and/or replacement. The existing stormwater is discharged from the neighborhood to Collins Canal via gravity flow and through three pump stations: Pump Station No. 1 in Barry Gibb Park, Pump Station No. 2 in the marina, and Pump Station No. 3 in front of Publix that have one injection well each.

The City is addressing this problem through several projects to provide a 5-year level of service for stormwater. The project underway now is interconnecting Pump Station No. 1 and Pump Station No. 2 and adding two additional injection wells to each pump station.

A second project, now under the cone of silence, will upsize Pump Station No. 3 with two 80 hp pumps, provide it with four new injection wells, and replace the pumps in Pump Station No. 1 and Pump Station No. 2.

A third project consists of neighborhood improvements. Sunset Harbour was not part of the original Neighborhood Improvement Program. Recognizing that improvements are needed, the Commission authorized a capital project entitled Sunset Harbour Neighborhood Improvements with funding in Fiscal Year 2013/14. The stormwater improvements will correct grading issues and provide additional structures at local low spots to improve conveyance to the pump stations and gravity outfalls.

However, it has been determined that much of the existing stormwater piping is not watertight. As a result, while the proposed improvements will provide a 5-year level of service for stormwater, there would still be flooding during extreme tides because the groundwater rises with the tides and backflows into the streets through the stormwater infrastructure.

Parts of Sunset Harbour are at elevation 0.5 feet. Typical high tides in the City average about 0.3 feet. Perigean spring tides reach elevations around 1.6 feet. Last October and November, these high tides reached as high as 2.2 feet. (All elevations are based upon NAVD88, which is a vertical datum.) If the pipes are not lined by October, the City can expect that Sunset Harbour will experience tidal flooding again.

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Therefore, I have authorized staff to prepare an emergency contract to line the existing stormwater piping in the neighborhood to prevent this expected tidal flooding. Proceeding with an emergency contract will allow the City to begin construction several months earlier than would be possible otherwise.

Staff will be piggybacking on a Broward County lining contract that has established unit prices for pipe lining. Therefore, costs will be controlled.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.


MT/JJF/MH/RMS