



# LAUDERTRAC

## INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE FORT LAUDERDALE

Tracking Progress on Commission Priorities for 2020



October/November 2020

## INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

### Redundant Line Project Reaches Another Milestone

A valve on the new redundant sewer force main line was opened on Oct. 30, 2020, bringing the 1.5-mile section of the new transmission line from the New River to SE 17 Street into service. The City is investing \$65 million to construct the new seven-mile force main line, which extends from a lift station at the Coral Ridge Country Club on northeast 37 Street to the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant on southeast 17 Street. See the pipe under construction [bit.ly/redundantline](https://bit.ly/redundantline).

Fort Lauderdale hired two contractors to work simultaneously on the project to expedite construction.

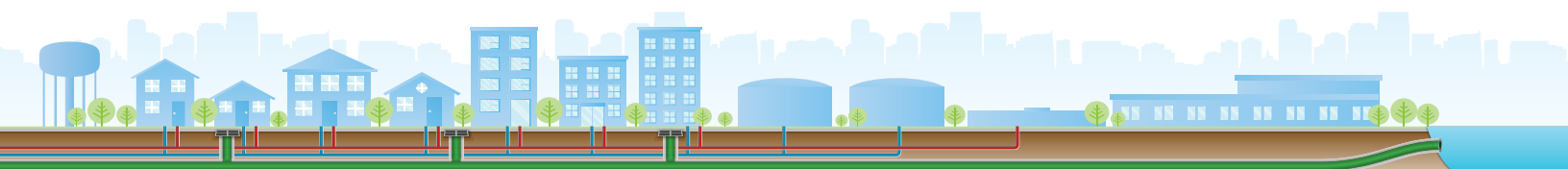
David Mancini & Sons is installing the southern portion of the line, from the treatment plant to northeast 8 Street. Murphy Pipeline is installing the northern portion of the line, from northeast 8 Street to northeast 37 Street. To date, more than 23,000 linear feet of new pipe has been installed. The project is more than 60 percent complete and on track to be finished ahead of schedule.

The new line is made of high-density polyethylene pipe (HDPE). Crews are installing the pipe using a process called underground directional drilling. The trenchless method is more efficient than traditional open cut construction and is helping to expedite installation of the transmission line. Directional drilling also reduces the need for digging, so there is less disruption to roads and traffic; there is also less restoration work, which reduces the overall construction time.

The City is using HDPE pipe because it is more resistant to corrosion than iron. It has fewer mechanical joints and is more flexible than traditional ductile pipe, which will reduce maintenance needs and improve the infrastructure's resilience to rising groundwater tables and sea level rise. Fewer repairs and greater longevity equate to more reliable service and resident quality of life.

Once the entire seven-mile line is activated, the concurrent existing line will be taken out of service, rehabilitated and maintained, resulting in two wastewater transmission lines. The secondary line will create a truly redundant system that will enable the City to use either line as needed, which will minimize interruptions to service.

Project progress and activation of the line reflects the Commission's commitment to addressing infrastructure needs throughout the community. The Commission earlier this year stopped transferring up to \$20 million a year from the City's utility fund to the general operating fund to ensure that money went towards infrastructure upgrades and maintenance. For more information on the redundant line and other infrastructure improvements in the City, visit [www.fortlauderdale.gov/infrastructure](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/infrastructure).



# Progress Continues



## Stormwater Master Plan Forges Ahead

Progress also continues on stormwater improvements. The inclement weather we endured from heavy rain in late October and from Tropical Storm Eta in early November demonstrate the need to have a robust stormwater system. That is why the City will invest \$200 million over the next five years into critical stormwater master plan projects in our most vulnerable areas, including Dorsey Riverbend, Durrs, Edgewood, Progresso Village, River Oaks and Victoria Park, as well as parts of the Las Olas Isles and Rio Vista.

Planned improvements to reduce flooding and make these areas more resilient include eight new pump stations, new drainage pipes, exfiltration trenches, catch basins, permeable pavement, and swales. Construction on \$32 million in improvements in Edgewood is set to begin in the Spring. Another \$38 million will be invested into stormwater infrastructure in River Oaks between 2022 and 2024. Visit the City website at [fortlauderdale.gov](http://fortlauderdale.gov) to learn more about our Stormwater Master Plan and what we are doing to make Fort Lauderdale a safe and resilient coastal community.



## City Pursues New Water Treatment Plant

The City has been evaluating options to upgrade the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant through renovation and rehabilitation. Carollo Engineers however, evaluated the water treatment plant and recommended that the City construct a new one rather than continue to invest in repairs to the old one, which has exceeded its lifespan. Following Carollo's recommendation, the City is exploring options to construct a new plant and investing only in repairs needed to continue to provide quality drinking water for the next seven years, which will include short-term repairs, addition of a pH control system, and improvements to the lime delivery system. By cutting out long-term repairs that do not affect operations, the City expects to save about \$14 million that can go towards other infrastructure improvements.

## Get information and updates



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**24-hour Neighbor Call Center:** 954-828-8000

**Website:** [www.fortlauderdale.gov/infrastructure](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/infrastructure)

**LauderWorks:** [www.fortlauderdale.gov/lauderworks](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/lauderworks)

**Email Updates:** [www.fortlauderdale.gov/enews](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/enews)

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