December 2020

# CREATING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

Throughout 2020 the City made significant progress on a variety of initiatives designed for becoming a stronger and more resilient Fort Lauderdale. The projects will help Fort Lauderdale prepare and adapt to changing climate conditions to create a safe and livable coastal community.



#### Isle of Palms Seawall Completed

Earlier this year, the City completed a 900-foot seawall on Isle of Palms, which was identified as a high priority project in the Seawall Master Plan. The seawall will protect the road and adjacent property during high tides, preserve roadway access properties on this Isle and make the area less vulnerable to long-term impacts of sea level rise. Total project cost was \$2.4 million.



## Progress Continues on Cordova Road Seawall

The City is replacing 2,500 feet of the publicly owned portion of the Cordova Road seawall between SE 7 Street and SE 12 Street to minimize roadway flooding caused by sea level rise, and strengthen community resilience. The seawall is on track to be completed at the end of the month. Additional drainage improvements were recently added to the project scope. Those designs are complete and permit modifications should be approved by regulatory agencies in February 2021. All improvements and road restoration work are scheduled to be completed in April 2021.



## Asset Management System Nearing Implementation

Fort Lauderdale partnered with Cityworks to create a system to track its water, stormwater, and wastewater infrastructure. Cityworks integrates with the City's Geographic Information System to map critical underground infrastructure such as pipes, valves, and meters. The new system is capable of tracking conditions, repairs, inspections, and costs of infrastructure features. System information will provide critical details for assessing equipment and maintenance needs in realtime. Cityworks will also allow staff to proactively plan and allocate funding and resources for future infrastructure maintenance and improvements. A phased rollout of the new system will launch in March 2021.



## Other key milestones achieved in 2020 to strengthen community resilience include:

- Adopted the 2019 Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact's Unified Sea Level Rise Projections to guide future planning and adaptation efforts;
- Conducted Repetitive Loss Area Analysis of locations that experienced past flooding impacts on private property and presented findings to neighborhood stakeholders;
- Began revisions to the Flood Plain Management Ordinance to set higher standards to protect properties from flooding;
- Designated sustainability and resilience of new facilities as main objective for Parks Bond initiative;
- Started to analyze elevations of roads that may be threatened by sea level rise;
- Initiated working on project to underground electrical, cable, and phone service in Las Olas Isles;

- Utilized grant funding to retrofit 16 homes with impact windows, 14 homes with secured roofs, and 16 homes with hurricane doors to increase storm-readiness;
- Initiated design for back-up generators for stormwater pumps at downtown Storm Stations 1 and 2;
- Ordered 18 high-clearance vehicles for public safety use and operations; Added lift kits to select first responder vehicles to increase the number of super-high clearance vehicles available:
- Actively participated in the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce Resiliency Committee monthly meetings; and
- Conducted a Hurricane Exercise and mock activation of the **Emergency Operations Center to coordinate emergency** response efforts.