



LAUDERTRAC



INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

Tracking Progress on Fort Lauderdale Commission Priorities for 2021

November/December 2021

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

The City made significant progress in 2021 to improve the reliability of its infrastructure. The focus of this initiative over this past year was to identify and implement, or advocate for, improvements that examine and address infrastructure needs relating to water and wastewater. Focus has also been placed on the continual progress of improving our bridge infrastructure.

Water Distribution

This past year the Public Works Department has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of our water and infrastructure systems. To improve the reliability of the City's water distribution system, the City established a formal valve maintenance program and began to assess the condition of potable water valves, which allow the flow of water to be isolated, or turned off completely, for maintenance and repairs. As a part of this effort, water valves are located and exercised (turned on and off) to ensure they are in good working order. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, over 2,600 potable water valves were exercised. The assessment is anticipated for completion by April 2025.

Wastewater Collection

Resiliency and reliability continue to drive improvements to the City's infrastructure. One of the most notable accomplishments for the City this past year was the project completion of a significant redundant force main. This project included the installation of over 7.5-miles of pipe from the City's large force main pump station in Coral Ridge towards the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant. Following this completion, the City will rehabilitate the original line to serve as a secondary wastewater transmission line to create a fully redundant system. Other key projects that improve wastewater system redundancy include the installation of a force main along Bayview Drive, a subaqueous force main under the Tarpon River, and pipe rehabilitation at the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant.

What's Next

As we reflect on the many accomplishments this year, we remain committed to strengthening and improving the City's infrastructure throughout 2022. Here's a preview of a few projects on the horizon:

- ▶ Perform an asset inventory of the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant. This asset inventory will ultimately be included in the City's asset management plan and improve the City's ability to plan for maintenance and repairs.
- ▶ Upgrade to Automatic Meter Reading/Advanced Meter Reading Infrastructure to modernize approximately 64,000 water meters. This infrastructure will allow for the remote reading and leak detection of water meters and provide real time data collection to improve the accuracy of billing and reduce water loss.
- ▶ Complete the replacement of the Coconut Isle Bridge and Ocean Drive Bridge.



Photo of City crew inspecting and maintaining a water valve.



Fusing Pipe Connection