



**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA
324 EAST PINE STREET
2ND FLOOR MEDIA ROOM**

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024
AT 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MINUTES

1. June Minutes

PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION

1. Introduction to New Sustainability Coordinator: Holly Langston
2. Water and Sewer Infrastructure
3. Communication Goals

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING AGENDA

STAFF COMMENTS

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting is open to the public. Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. The City of Tarpon Springs is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for access for the disabled. Anyone needing assistance regarding this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (727) 938-3711, fax a written request to (727) 942-5619, or email a written request to cityclerk@ctsfl.us at least two days prior to the meeting. For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the Code Enforcement Division at (727) 937-0017 or TarponCode@tspd.us

MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS
June 20, 2024

THE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MET IN THE CITY HALL MEDIA ROOM, 324 E. PINE STREET, TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ON THURSDAY, June 20, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

DENISE MANNINO	CHAIRPERSON
DR. CAROL MICKETT	MEMBER
DORY LARSEN	MEMBER
ROBIN SAENGER	MEMBER
SIOBHAN NEHIN	ALTERNATE #1

ALSO PRESENT: THOMAS KIGER DIRECTOR -PUBLIC SERVICES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Denise Mannino called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Thomas Kiger called roll.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE MAY 2024 MINUTES:

MOTION:	DORY LARSEN
SECOND:	ROBIN SAENGER

Vote on motion: Upon viva voce vote, the motion carried unanimously.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairperson Mannino stated that the committee welcomes the public and would love to have more public input.

3. A. ARBORIST PRESENTATION - TREE REMOVAL PERMITS:

Prior to beginning the presentation on tree removal permits, Shannon Brewer provided an update on the current Limb up for Safety project to the stakeholders. She stated that four interns have mapped 2,300 trees. The project will continue with the resulting work alleviating financial burden on residents as well as increasing access for fire trucks.

The presentation on tree removal permits highlighted the differences between the City Tree Ordinance and Florida Statute 163.045. The City tree ordinance is one of the oldest in the City (ordinance No. 6) and dates back to 1887. Shannon shared the process for applying the City ordinance vs. the State Statute. The 2019 State Statute allowed for

Sustainability Advisory Committee

an alternate mechanism for removal of residential trees. However, a rewrite of Statute 163.045 in 2022 fixed the process by adding definitions as well as by defining required documentation as an eighteen-part report. Shannon highlighted the importance of ethics in the ISA, which bind Arborists to operate according to the ISA standards. Lastly, Shannon discussed vegetation and electric line maintenance; tree removal is provided for by the utility if the tree is located within the Right of Way. She provided resources and the benefits of urban trees. Shannon participates in a regional Urban Forestry Working Group. The Urban Forestry Master Plan for the City will also be happening, but the timeline is not yet set.

Committee members engaged in a brief question and answer period regarding the information presented.

3. B. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE – THOMAS KIGER:

Thomas presented an update on the Greenhouse gas emissions target (GHG)/Climate Action Plan (CAP) joint effort; this project covers two big action items from the Sustainability Plan. ICLEI is the consultant that will do the technical work. The project kicked off in May and the baseline selected is the 2019 Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory. Thomas provided the Committee with a table showing the 2019 electricity usage by city sector. Thomas also discussed the reasons ICLEI was chosen as the consultant as well as the project schedule. The shared scope of work includes establishing 2030 and 2050 targets.

3. C. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR BECKETT BRIDGE FUNDING – THOMAS KIGER:

Thomas presented the need for support for the Beckett Bridge replacement project. This is a County led project, but the City is financially responsible for the replacement of the water and sewer lines. The City is supporting the County in pursuit of funding. This project is a critical component for evacuation; updates to it will be beneficial for resiliency as well as future pedestrian and bicycle connectivity. The goal is to help the county get federal funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Project. Committee members volunteered to collect more letters of support from the community as well if needed.

MOTION TO SIGN AND SEND LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR FUNDING TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION PETE BUTTIGIEG:

MOTION:	DORY LARSEN
SECOND:	ROBIN SAENGER

Vote on motion: Upon viva voce vote, the motion carried unanimously.

TEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Planned items for the next agenda include community engagement, aging infrastructure in the city (utilities and water), the Bayshore Project, and stormwater management as a broad topic.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Georganna Frantzis brought up the importance of the priorities of the Sustainability Plan being highlighted to the Charter Review Commission. She specifically mentioned Action Items 36, 37, and 38 regarding diversity, coordination with other community groups and stakeholders.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Thomas Kiger provided an update the new sustainability coordinator, Holly Langston, who will be starting on June 27.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

The Committee members provided general comments on Committee members and attendance, as well as how to engage with the Charter Review Commission. Chairperson Mannino asked if she could write a letter to the Charter Review Commission and staff commented that she could do that on her own as a citizen who is interested in what they are doing. Staff is also ensuring that copies of the Sustainability Plan are provided via the City Clerk. Committee requested if copies of the Comprehensive Plan could be brought to the next meeting.

Adjournment:

MOTION: ROBIN SAENGER
SECOND: DR. CAROL MICKETT

To adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Vote on motion: Upon viva voce vote, the motion carried unanimously.

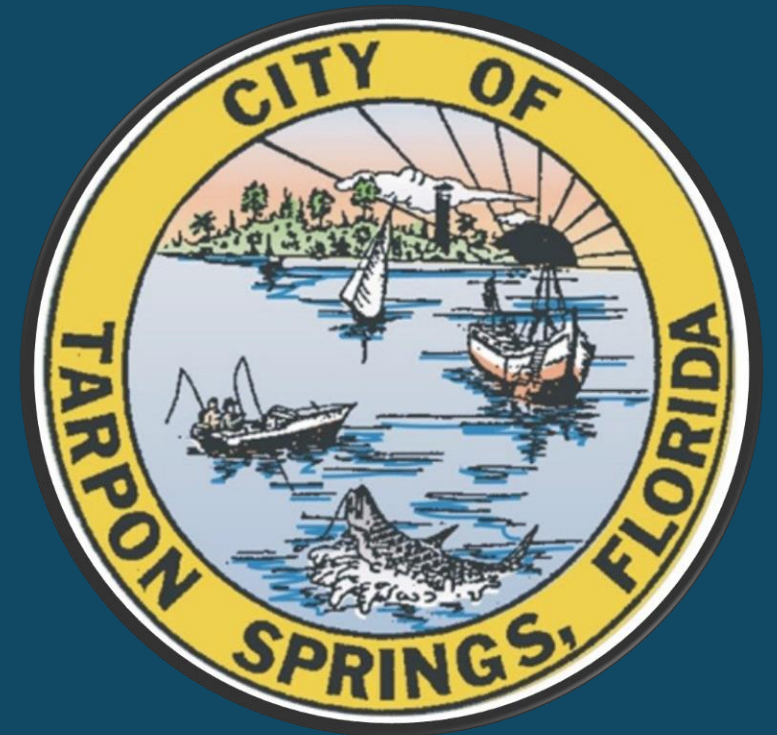
DENISE MANNINO
CHAIRPERSON

THOMAS KIGER
DIRECTOR –
PUBLIC SERVICES

CITY CLERK'S NOTE: This meeting has been recorded in its entirety and the recordings are kept on file in the City Clerk's office for the required retention period.

WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

Prepared by the Public Services Department





Strengths

Alternative Water Supply (RO Plant)

High level of Water Treatment

80% Reclaimed Water

Advanced Wastewater Treatment in Place

Emergency Response Plans (Generators, Plans, Mutual Aid Agreements)



Challenges

Funding for Aging Infrastructure

Staffing in a competitive hiring environment

Emerging Regulations

- Lead and Copper Rule (EPA)
- PFAS Standards (EPA)
- Outfall elimination (SB64)
- Wastewater maintenance and reporting requirements
- Cybersecurity

WATER AND SEWER CURRENT ISSUES

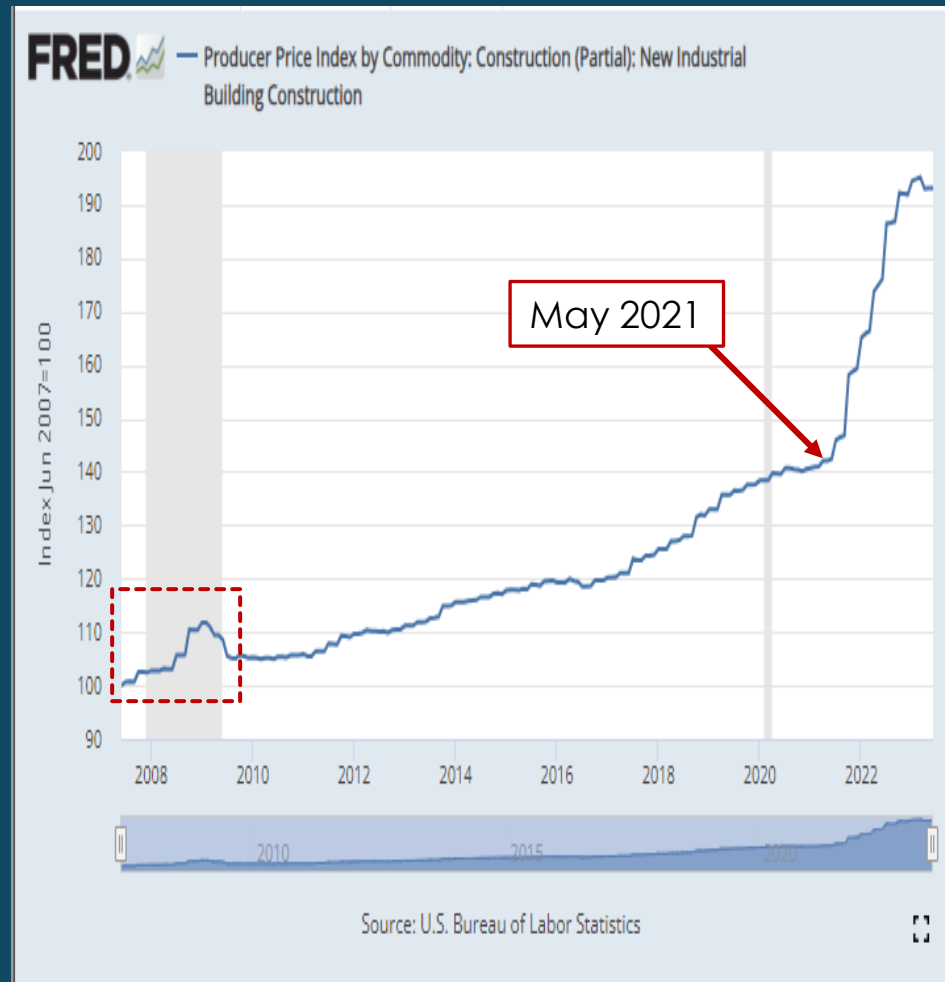
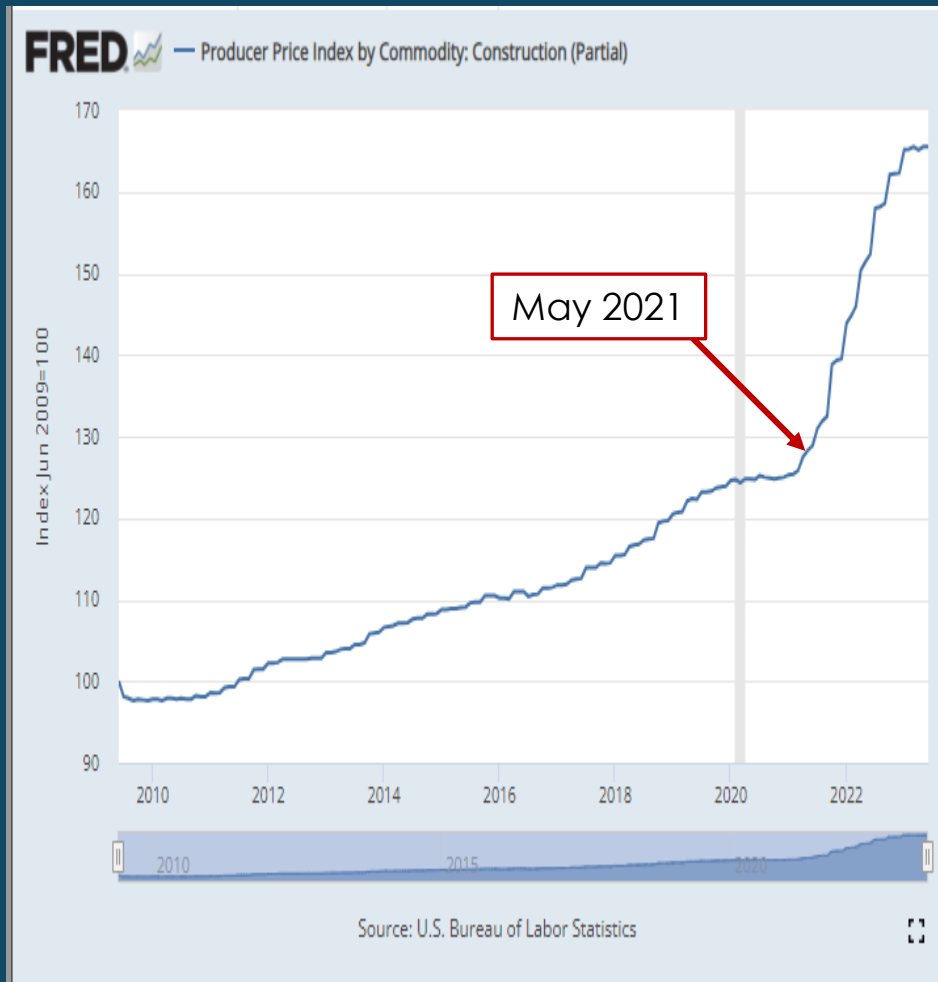


Utility Capital Program Status

- Recently Completed several key Projects over last 10 years
 - *RO Plant Construction*
 - *Reclaimed Master Plan Complete*
 - *AWWTF Chlorine Conversion Project*
 - *Solar Phase I and II*
 - *MLK Water Main Replacement*
- 2024 and 2025 are catch-up years for projects
 - Prioritize and Complete legacy projects
 - Had to defer several major FY24-FY26 projects due to funding shortfalls
- Implemented a new CIP and financial management plan in FY24 to focus on new goals



2021 to 2024 Construction Cost Inflation



National Cost Index – Construction

- General Construction - Up 33% from Jan 2020 to June 2023
- Industrial Construction - Up 40% from Jan 2020 to June 2023
- Note: Cost decrease after 2008 Recession was small and temporary.

2023-2024 Capital Improvement Plan Updates

- *Transitioned to a 20-year CIP*
- Goal-based CIP: focused on long-term proactive outcomes
- All projects were re-prioritized and new cost estimates developed
- Set new goal-based objectives for aging infrastructure
- Had to defer several major FY24-FY26 projects due to funding shortfalls, but progress accelerates in FY27
- Several legacy projects were prioritized for completion



Addressing Aging Infrastructure: CIP Needs and Goals

Capital Area	Goals and Challenges	Timeframe	Costs
RO Water Plant	- Wellfield is at capacity. - Need to build out remaining wells.	2-7 years	~\$5 - \$10M
Water Distribution (Pipes)	50-60 miles of older metallic pipe (cast iron and galvanized) 30- year replacement program	Major program from 2027 - 2056	~\$70M-90M over 30 years.
Wastewater Treatment Plant	- Built in 1985. Needs 40 and 50 year rehabs. - Major electrical upgrades scheduled (FY26)	- Phase I: within 5 years 50-year rehab: 2030s	First Phase ~\$8M. \$25M-\$30M in 2030s.
Lift Stations	- Average lift station over 35 years old. - Increase rehab schedule over 10 years.	10-20 Years	~\$5M through 10 years
Sewer System	Goal: 4000 Feet of pipe lining annually. Line 70% of clay lines over 20 years.	20 years	\$12.5M over 20 years.

Long term- need to support \$6M-\$7M in capital annually to maintain current level of service

New 20-year CIP Goals and Outcomes:

1. Avoid Rate Shock in early years
2. Replace all cast iron and galvanized water mains (2027-2056)
3. Fully fund 40-year WWTF rehab
4. Accelerated Lift Station Rehab schedule to 2-year interval
5. Fully funded sewer rehab program to line 70% of clay sewer lines by 2043
6. Shifting funding to more pro-actively schedule new priority projects
7. Plan to continue CIP updates and bring to BOC again in 2025



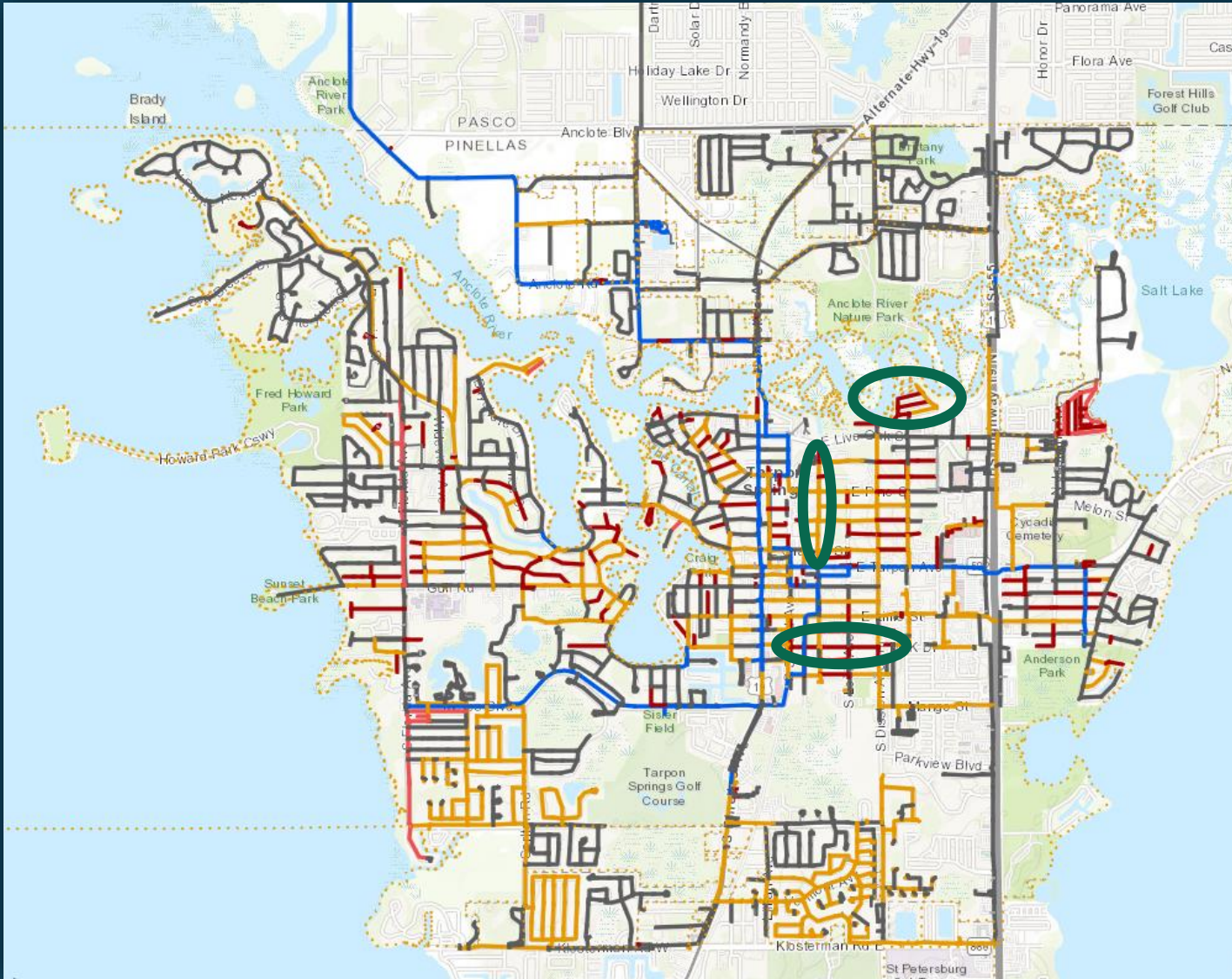
CIP Updates- New CIP Funding Levels

Division	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	TOTAL
Lift Stations	\$ -	\$ 230,000	\$ 467,770	\$ 991,600	\$ 373,000	\$ 1,175,750	\$ 354,000	\$ 964,250	\$ 370,000	\$ 993,648	\$ 5,920,018
Meter Repair	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 153,750	\$ 167,995	\$ 173,000	\$ 178,000	\$ 183,000	\$ 188,000	\$ 193,000	\$ 198,000	\$ 1,684,745
RO/Wells	\$ -	\$ 548,225	\$ 1,106,125	\$ 785,688	\$ 1,190,000	\$ 1,330,000	\$ 3,220,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 1,896,000	\$ 3,070,000	\$ 15,446,038
Water Distrib	\$ -	\$ 680,000	\$ 560,000	\$ 696,204	\$ 1,408,000	\$ 1,448,000	\$ 1,488,000	\$ 1,529,000	\$ 1,570,000	\$ 1,611,000	\$ 10,990,204
WW Collections	\$ -	\$ 520,000	\$ 610,000	\$ 635,000	\$ 661,000	\$ 687,000	\$ 713,000	\$ 739,000	\$ 765,000	\$ 791,000	\$ 6,121,000
WWTF	\$ -	\$ 525,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 3,982,000	\$ 2,312,969	\$ 1,548,450	\$ 180,000	\$ 870,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 2,457,000	\$ 12,095,419
FY23 Ongoing Projects	\$ 4,453,368	\$ 5,183,575	\$ 3,022,000								\$ 12,658,943
Grand Total	\$ 4,453,368	\$ 7,936,800	\$ 5,999,645	\$ 7,258,487	\$ 6,117,969	\$ 6,367,200	\$ 6,138,000	\$ 6,590,250	\$ 4,934,000	\$ 9,120,648	\$ 64,916,367

Key Changes:

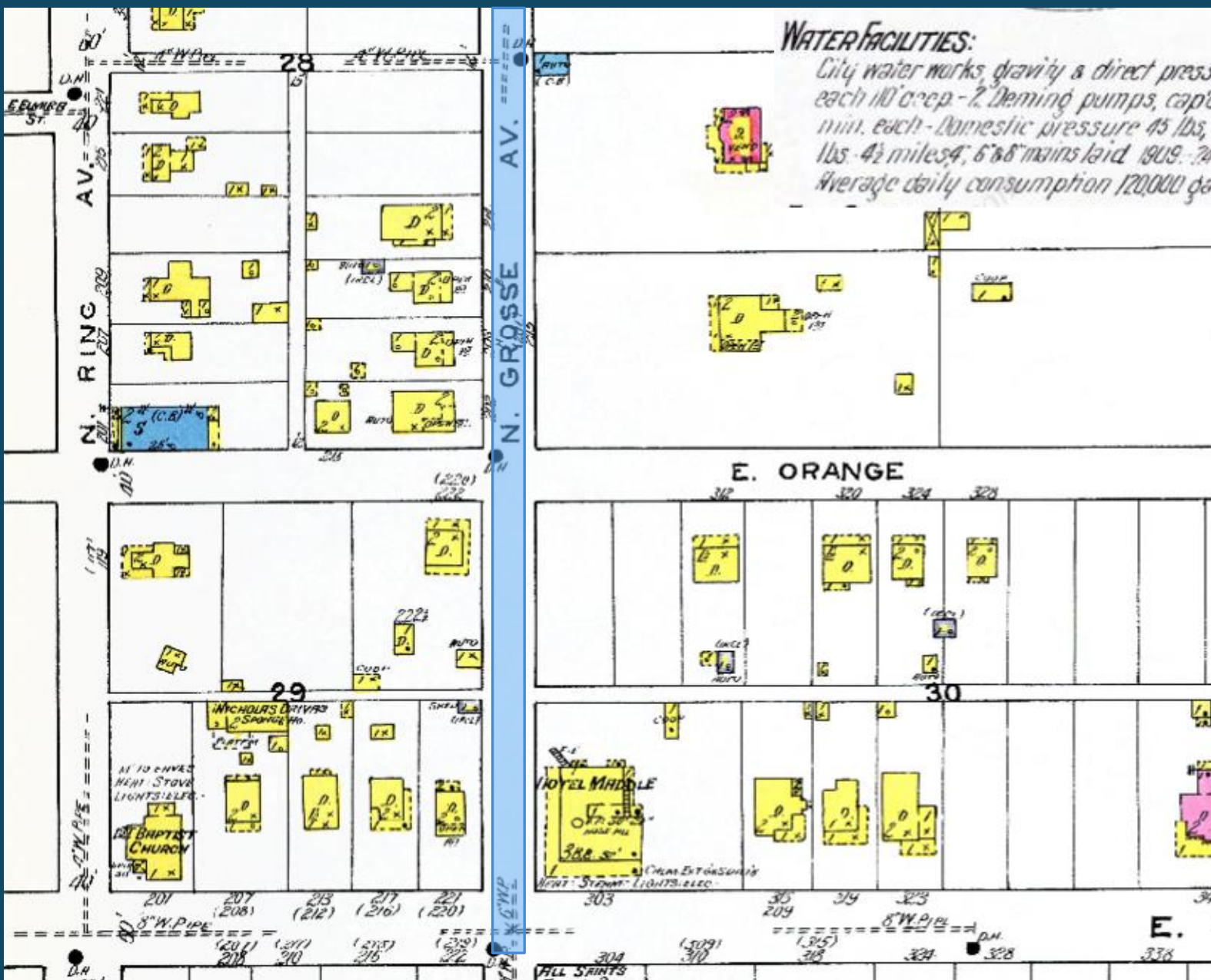
1. Planned FY24-FY25 CIP Spending cut by \$4.3M
2. Total 10-year spending on new projects increased ~\$4M
3. Focus on existing infrastructure (No plans for City-led reclaimed expansion or future major septic to sewer through 2032)

WATER DISTRIBUTION INFRASTRUCTURE (2022)



Pipe Material	Miles of Pipe
PVC	98.4
Cast Iron	43.1
Galvanized Pipe	14.7
Ductile Iron Pipe	12.7
HDPE	6.5
Other	3.3
Total	181.8

Staff have worked diligently over the last several years to map all water mains and document pipe materials. This helps prioritize water main projects.



Progress: 1919 vs 2024

Map Source: 1919 Tarpon Springs Fire Insurance Map. Published by Sanborn Map Company. Accessed: Univ of Florida Library Digital Collections; July 2024

Other Key Ongoing Projects:

1. Cybersecurity Improvements - \$1.4M
2. Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical Resiliency Project - \$3M - \$4M
3. Aeration (treatment) upgrades at the AWWTF)
4. Replacing water main on Alt-19 Bridge
5. Updated Water Supply Plan



EMERGING REGULATIONS: EPA LEAD AND COPPER RULE

Proposed Lead and Copper Rule Improvements Include:



Locating legacy lead pipes



Improving tap water sampling



Lowering the Lead Action Level



Strengthening communication
with consumers



Achieving 100% lead pipe
replacement within 10 years

www.epa.gov/lead



EPA LEAD AND COPPER RULE: PROGRESS TO DATE

- Completed enhanced sampling practices: All samples met EPA standards
- Completing an inventory of all water service lines in the City
- Staff conducted over 6000 inspections
- Zero lead service lines found to date
- Developing online map for public engagement

Lead Service Line Inventory

Lead

0

Any portion of the service line is known to be made of lead

Galvanized

552

The service line is not made of lead, but a portion is galvanized and the system is unable to demonstrate that the galvanized line was never downstream of a lead service line.

Non-Lead

10,904

All portions of the service line are known NOT to be lead or GRR through an evidence-based record, method, or technique.

Unknown

1,161

The service line material is not known to be lead or GRR. For the entire service line or a portion of it (in cases of split ownership), there is not enough evidence to support material

Verified Service Lines

6,652

012,618

Replaced

0

Total number of lead service lines replaced.

The table below matches the inventory reporting guidance released by the EPA on August 4, 2022.

If using ArcGIS Online, use the Download Data button located at the bottom corner of the table to export the service line inventory to a CSV.

If using ArcGIS Enterprise, export the service line inventory from the ServiceLine_reporting service.

Account ID	Address	Other Location Identifier	Sensitive Population	Disadvantaged Neighborhood	Utility Material
1	1788 POINSETTIA AVE APT A, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Unknown - Material U
2	317 WOOD DOVE AVE, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Unknown - Unlik
3	1456 SAVANNAH AVE, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Unknown - Unlik
4	1256 N FLORIDA AVE, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac
5	1408 RIVERSIDE DR, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac
6	1610 GULF RD, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac
7	1609 EXPLORERS DR, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac
8	637 KENNETH WAY, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac
9	117 PARKSIDE COLONY DR, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Unknown - Material U
10	205 N FLORIDA AVE, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac
11	716 CHESAPEAKE DR, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Unknown - Unlik
12	816 BAYSHORE DR, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Unknown - Unlik
13	714 PALM AVE, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac
14	1500 OLEANDER DR, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac
15	1414 GULF RD, TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689				Non-Leac

Lead Service Line Inventory Table

Lead Service Line Inventory Map

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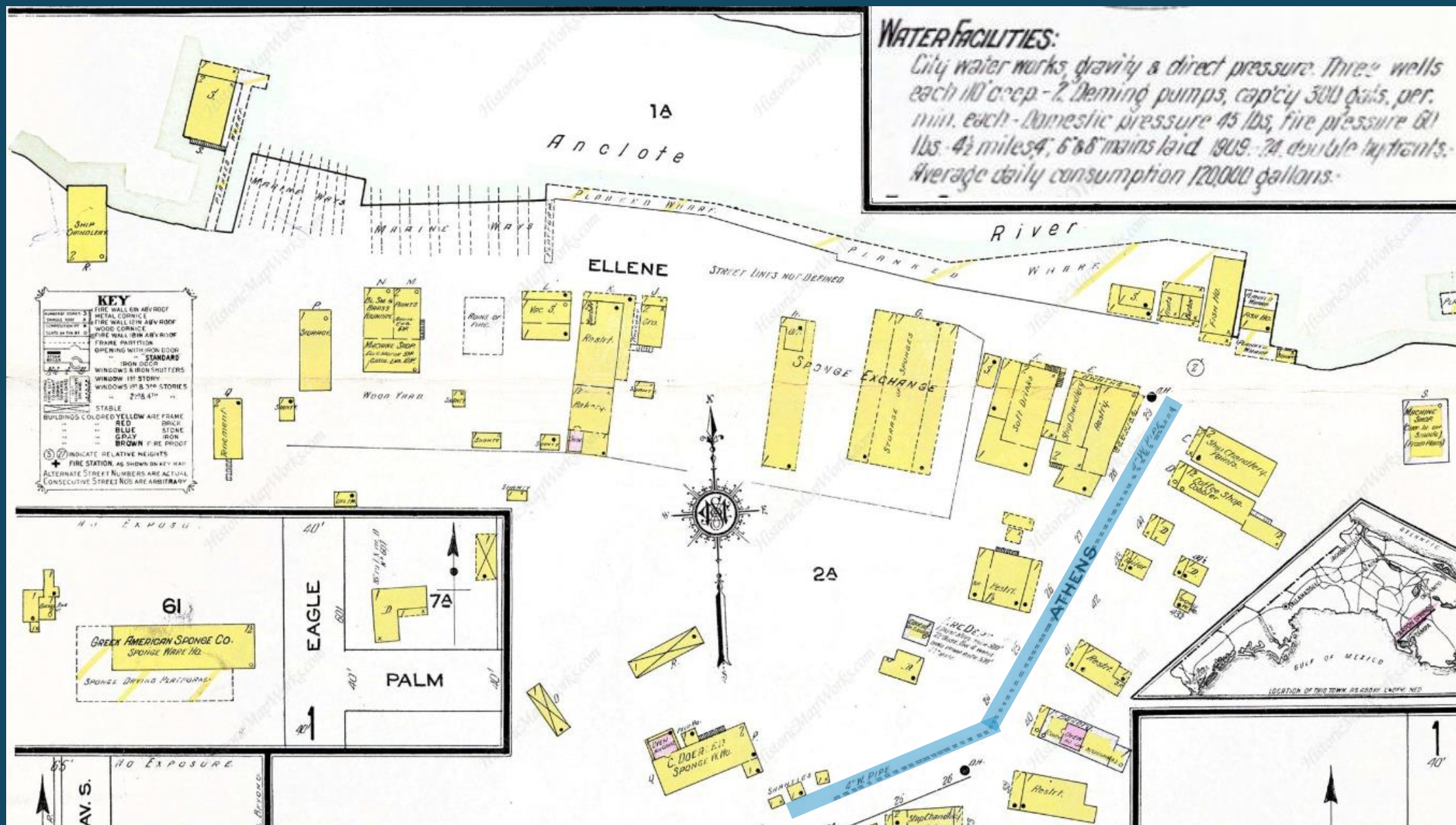
- **Complete field inspections by October**
- **Complete City service line inventory and submit to FDEP**
- **Developing a plan for service line replacement (EPA guidance pending)**
- **October – Notify customers if service line requires replacement or further inspection**
- **Some older galvanized service lines will require replacement (likely less than 500)**

The Most Important Question:

Is our Water Safe?

- Tarpon Springs water is safe and gets safer every year!
- Our Water is highly regulated by FDEP to meet over 90 contaminants regulated by the US EPA
- Tarpon Springs drinking water meets or exceeds all EPA Primary Drinking Water Standards!
- The City publishes an annual consumer confidence report, available on the City Website.
- *US Drinking Water Standards are established to protect public health and are calculated so that little or no adverse health risk would be expected based on a lifetime average consumption rate of two liters of water, per day, for 70 years*
- *EPA continues to develop regulations for new "Contaminants of Emerging Concern," to continue to improve the safety of drinking water as scientific knowledge grows*





QUESTIONS?

Map Source: 1913 Tarpon Springs Fire Insurance Map- Sheet 1. Published by Sanborn Map Company. Accessed: Univ of Florida Library Digital Collections; April 29, 2022



Communication

Plan

Key Themes

For Community Engagement on Sustainability

Key Themes



1. Educate the Community on local sustainability issues and actions

- Dynamic engagement at community events
- Newsletter



2. Build a stronger sense of community (around environmental issues)

- Integrate environmental themes into other community events when possible
- Social media messaging



3. Integrate new residents into the community

- Youth, seniors, business community
- Be Floridian (Tampa Bay Estuary Program)



4. Energy Efficiency and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Climate Action Plan (in progress)
 - Will identify measures to increase energy efficiency and target reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Outcomes

