City of St. Petersburg
Committee of the Whole
February 27, 2025 @ 3:00 PM
City Hall, Room 100

Members: Council Chair Copley Gerdes, Council Vice-Chair Lisset Hanewicz, Council Members Brandi Gabbard, Mike Harting, Deborah Figgs-Sanders, Gina Driscoll, Corey Givens Jr., and Richie Floyd

Support Staff: Kimberly Amos – City Council Senior Legislative Aide

1) Call to Order

2) Approval of Agenda

3) Approval of January 23, 2025 Minutes

4) New Business – February 27, 2025

a) Private Laterals City-wide Program **–** *Kira Barrera, Special Projects Coordinator*

Attachments:
1. PowerPoint Presentation

b) Resilient St. Pete (continued discussion from the September 19, 2024 Committee of the Whole) *–Elizabeth Abernethy, Planning and Development Director, & Hannah Rebholz, Floodplain Manager*
- Permitting process in the Special Flood Hazard Areas
- Community Rating System (CRS) Update
- FEMA Grants application and acceptance procedures

Attachments:
1. PowerPoint Presentation

c) Spar Update - *Claude Tankersley, Public Works Administrator & Tom Greene, Assistant City Administrator*

Attachments:
1. PowerPoint Presentation

__**Upcoming Meeting Dates & Tentative Agenda Items**__
March 13, 2025 – TBD

__**General Attachments:**__
Pending and Continuing Referral List
Agenda Item Support Material

City of St. Petersburg
Committee of the Whole
January 23, 2025 Meeting Minutes
City Hall, Room 100

Present: Chair Copley Gerdes, Vice-Chair Lisset Hanewicz, Council Members Mike Harting, Deborah Figgs-Sanders, Gina Driscoll, Corey Givens Jr., and Richie Floyd.

Absent: Council Member Brandi Gabbard

Also Present: City Administrator Rob Gerdes, Assistant City Administrator Tom Greene, City Attorney Jacqueline Kovilaritch, Chief Assistant City Attorney Jeannine Williams, Community Enrichment Administrator Mike Jefferis, Real Estate and Property Management Director Aaron Fisch, Engineering Director Brejesh Prayman, Budget and Management Director Elizabeth Makofske, and City Clerk Chan Srinivasa.

Support Staff: Kimberly Amos, Senior Legislative Aide

1. **Call to Order** – 9:30 AM
2. **Approval of Agenda** – CM Figgs-Sanders motioned for approval. All voted in favor.
3. **Approval of December 12, 2024 Minutes** – VC Hanewicz motioned for approval. All voted in favor.
4. **New Business** – January 23, 2025

New Business:

Salt Creek Property currently on the Weeki Wachee Project List – *Mike Jefferis, Community Enrichment Administrator, Brejesh Prayman, Engineering Director, and Aaron Fisch, Real Estate and Property Management Director*

CM Driscoll reviewed the project considerations, which included expanding the greenspace at Bartlett Park and exploring the possibility of adding a new pump station to support flood mitigation. Real Estate and Property Management Director Aaron Fisch provided geographic statistics of the 2.96-acre property and used a map to demonstrate the proposed drainage options if the city purchases the property. Community Enrichment Administrator Mike Jefferis explained that the pump station, initially planned for Bartlett Park, would be relocated to the west corridor of the purchased property. It would be placed underground, with native plants added to the area to create a nature preserve atmosphere. Engineering Director Brejesh Prayman expanded on the proposed drainage impacts and discussed how the project could be helpful to the city's CRS (Community Rating System) score for flood insurance discounts. CM Driscoll highlighted the opportunity for public education signage and emphasized the minimal estimated maintenance cost. CM Driscoll moved approval of the project. VC Hanewicz requested to clarify that Weeki Wachee funding would not be used for the pump station portion of the project; Mr. Prayman confirmed the pump station would be a stormwater infrastructure cost. VC Hanewicz asked legal if the Weeki Wachee funding requirements were met; Assistant City Attorney Jeannine Williams responded that if the project was approved with no funding amount assigned the item would need to return to a Committee of the Whole Meeting for approval of the funding appropriation. Attorney Williams provided a recommendation to approve the funding in phases as the cost of long-term maintenance needs and other financial impacts are unknown; phase one would involve the property purchase, with the additional phases requiring discussion at a Committee of the Whole and a resolution of approval at a City Council meeting. [1]

CM Driscoll amended her previous motion to send a resolution to the City Council for an allocation from the Weeki Wachee fund not to exceed $2.9M for the Salt Creek Project.

CM Figgs-Sanders inquired whether the city would consider subdividing the property; City Administrator Rob Gerdes responded that the Administration prefers to purchase the entire property. CM Figgs-Sanders then asked for clarification on the red boundary area shown; Mr. Jefferis explained that the area would be preserved, similar to marshland, and referenced Clam Bayou as an example of the intended approach. CM Figgs-Sanders asked when the project may progress; Mr. Fisch responded that negotiations with the seller and due diligence studies require at least ninety days. CM Floyd requested more information on the impact of the planned pump station; Mr. Prayman used several storms as examples to explain how the pump station would help prepare for and resolve issues created by significant rain events. CM Floyd asked for clarification on the east side of the property; Mr. Jefferis explained the area will be an expansion of Bartlett Park with traditional park features such as benches, walkways, and lamps through a grassed area.

Chair Gerdes called for a vote on the motion on the floor, and all committee members voted in favor.

FY26 City Council Budget Priorities – *Elizabeth Makofske, Budget and Management Director*

Budget and Management Director Liz Makofske provided a brief overview of the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) budget process, highlighting important dates, issues anticipated to impact the General Fund, and preliminary budget assumptions. Council Chair Gerdes opened the floor to Councilmembers to provide their priorities for the Administration's use during the development of the FY26 budget. Their budget priorities memos are attached in the order in which each Council Member spoke during the meeting.

Attachments:
Councilmember Floyd FY26 Budget Priorities Memo
Councilmember Driscoll FY26 Budget Priorities Memo
Council Vice Chair Hanewicz FY26 Budget Priorities Memo
Councilmember Figgs-Sanders FY26 Budget Priorities Memo
Councilmember Harting FY26 Budget Priorities Memo
Councilmember Givens Jr. FY26 Budget Priorities Memo
Council Chair Gerdes FY26 Budget Priorities Memo

Review of Committee of the Whole Referral List[2]

CM Harting requested that items #14 (Fleet Maintenance Master Plan) and #15 (Integrated Water Resources Master Plan Update), previously sponsored by Council Member Montanari, be assigned to him. CM Driscoll motioned to remove #16 (Historic Gas Plant Redevelopment) from the referral list. All members voted

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[1] Attorney Williams noted later in the meeting that a new referral to the Committee of the Whole for discussion would be required when any additional phases are considered.

[2] Committee referral lists may be reviewed periodically to allow Council Members to remove their items or refer items to another appropriate committee. Additionally, as Council Members term off City Council, their referral items may require a new sponsor. A review also allows Council Members and City Administration to provide updates on an item's timeframe.

in favor. VC Hanewicz motioned to remove #19 (City Initiated Historic Designation) from the referral list. All members voted in favor.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42 AM.

ST. PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL

January 31, 2025

Mayor Welch,

Thank you for considering City Council's recommendations for the 2026 budget. Below is a list of my top priorities.

- Funding for a citywide Right to Counsel Program. These programs are shown to save municipalities money by lowering the need for more costly housing services
- Funding for lighting upgrades on Central Ave in the Grand Central District (including tree trimming), specifically to improve pedestrian safety after multiple fatalities in the last two years
- $500k for public funding of elections to ensure that our elections garner sufficient focus during the busier even years. Funding for this is to come from savings on the moving of election years
- Funding for a study on the future of our electrical grid; particularly affordability, energy sources, and municipalization
- Funding for expansion and creation of city owned mixed income (social) housing, as well as connected city owned commercial space
- Funding for complete streets, traffic calming in neighborhoods, and side walks
- Funding for crosswalk design on 1st Ave N and S in the Grand Central District
- Utility rate decreases prioritized over property tax decreases
- Funding for the council office to do constituent outreach like mailers to our districts
- Funding for SPFR:
    - Make all engines ALS and place second firefighter paramedic on each rescue
    - Truck 9
    - Heavy Rescue 4
    - Request County Funding for Rescue 2
    - Fourth person back on Engine 12

- Funding for the SPAR public works projects, specifically for stormwater funding outside of the CHHA. Additionally, using ad valorum revenue from new development for infrastructure projects
- Increased spending on public arts
- Funding for piloting community outreach in the CRA area specifically to connect youth to our recreational and educational programs, similar to the "Save our Streets" campaign championed by community groups like Dream Defenders
- Funding for increase the amounts of roads we pave per year
- Continued support for the CALL program

- Funding for a City owned and run grocery store
- Continued support for PSTA partnerships
- Grand Central Masterplan implementation funding

Sincerely,

Richie Floyd
City Council Member, District 8

cc:
City Administrator Robert Gerdes
Chief of Staff Doyle Walsh
Assistant City Administrator Tom Greene

MEMORANDUM
Office of City Council

TO: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

FROM: City Council Member Gina Driscoll

SUBJECT: FY 2026 Budget Priorities

DATE: January 23, 2025

Mayor Welch,

Following City Council's Committee of the Whole meeting on January 23, 2025, I respectfully submit my Fiscal Year 2026 budget priorities for consideration. I look forward to working with you along with my colleagues and City Staff to develop a budget that reflects our city's values and prepares St. Petersburg for a sustainable and vibrant future.

My budget priorities for Fiscal Year 2026 are as follows:

<u>Fire Rescue</u>

1. Station #2 and Fire/K9 training compound – any funding still needed to complete both projects
2. Sufficient allocation to meet staffing goals with an emphasis on increasing the number of firefighter/paramedics
3. Hire recruiter as recommended by the recent management study of SPFR ordered by City Council
4. New ladder Truck 9 for west side service along with the required staffing
5. Heavy Rescue 4 fully staffed (City's only extrication unit, used for all vehicle extrications and technical rescue incidents)
6. Reinstate fourth position for E12 which was needed but eliminated in order to create the District Chief 6 position

<u>Police</u>

1. Budget to meet goal for sworn strength
2. Chiller for police headquarters
3. Fire/K9 training compound

<u>Human Resources</u>

1. Establish a new childcare benefit for City employees (New Business Item forthcoming)

<u>Office of Sustainability & Resiliency</u>

1. Funding for implementation of ISAP
2. Energy efficiency residential grant program to close the financing gap for residents who don't qualify for programs like SELF but still need assistance with affordability
3. Fund Green Business Academy currently in development for sustainable business practices (zero-waste, energy efficiency measures); this could also be funded through City Development Administration/Greenhouse
4. Implementation of new resilience plan currently in development and investments in community resilience initiatives such as neighborhood resilience hubs, coastal restoration, green infrastructure, and hardening of utility infrastructure

Public Works
1. Focus on resilience and implementing projects based on lessons learned from 2024 storms
2. Road paving, including current needs and paving the city's remaining unpaved roads based on residents' requests
3. Sidewalk repairs
4. Increase budget for stormwater to help balance rate increases; match needs to be available for grants

Transportation and Parking
1. Complete Streets – fund properly to get plan on pace
2. Screening for City-owned parking garages that cause light pollution in neighboring homes
3. EV infrastructure

Community Enrichment
1. Facility repairs and maintenance
    a. Williams Park bandshell
    b. Enoch Davis Center
    c. Mirror Lake Library
2. Fully fund swim lessons for all eligible residents along with cost of marketing and outreach to maximize participation
3. Adequate funding to meet staffing goals
4. Consider moving a portion of Penny for Pinellas funding back to Parks
5. Trees for parks

Housing and Neighborhood Services
1. Affordable housing initiatives
2. Food assistance – increase efforts to provide free breakfast and lunch for students as the State continues to refuse funding and ignore new proposals to fill the nutrition gap
3. Utility assistance – increase funding enough to expand eligibility to offset rate increases
4. Increase street outreach to assist the unhoused – currently one staffer for the entire city
5. Startup funding for new "Clean & Safe" program for the downtown core (New Business Item forthcoming)
6. Trees for neighbors

Arts, Culture & Tourism
1. Increase funding for local arts organizations and artists using 1% of the operating budget as a guideline and create a new Artist Sustainability Fund dedicated to ensuring that artists can live, work, and create in St. Petersburg
2. Increase funding for The Florida Orchestra to assist with rising costs
3. Allocation of $140,000 for St. Petersburg Museum of History for preservation of City archives and collections, including digitization, cataloging, protective measures, and climate controlled storage

City Development Administration
1. Significant investment in the Mahaffey Theater for maintenance and upgrades
2. Funding for next steps for the Innovation District and Center for the Arts as recommended by the master plan processes currently underway
3. Initial funding for a new Legacy Business Program (New Business Item forthcoming)
4. Albert Whitted Airport ongoing improvements as well as implementation of next steps based on recommendations from the Advanced Air Mobility Task Force

City Attorney's Office
1. Keep the lawyers happy

I look forward to discussing these items with you in more detail as we continue the budget process. Thank you for taking these priorities into consideration as we work together to serve our great city.

Best regards,
Gina L. Driscoll

MEMORANDUM

Office of City Council

TO: Mayor Ken Welch

FROM: Council Vice Chair Lisset Hanewicz

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Priorities

DATE: February 19, 2025

Mayor Welch,

At the January 23rd Committee of the Whole, my colleagues and I announced our individual budget priorities for Fiscal Year 2026. This memorandum will formalize my priorities while providing details and rationale for each. My priorities, many of which are shared by my fellow City Council Members, are divided into the following categories: Public Safety, Traffic Safety Improvements, Public Works, Affordable and Workforce Housing, Teen Programs, Parks and Recreation Improvements, Urban Forestry, Economic Stability, and Arts and Culture. I am confident these priorities can be elevated and achieved through collaboration with you and your Administration.

1. **Public Safety**
   a. **Public Safety Training Facilities: Police K-9 Training and Fire Training**
      i. **Goal:** Increase funding as needed to continue project in FY 26.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** $3 million in FY 25.
      iii. **Budget Location:** Public Safety Capital Improvement Fund (3025)
      iv. **Rationale:** This project provides funding for the design and pre-construction services for the replacement of the existing Fire Rescue Training and Police K-9 compound at Lake Maggiore Park with a new combined facility to include a multipurpose shared classroom, logistics building, fire and rescue training grounds, a climate-controlled kennel, vehicle parking, and other necessary support facilities.

   b. **St. Petersburg Police Department (SPPD)**
      i. **Goal:** Maintain SPPD's sworn strength personnel, ensure PD has the appropriate resources to improve roadway safety, and maintain funding for take-home vehicles and the Community Assistance and Life Liaison (CALL) program.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** $160.3 million and 1.7 million allocated for the CALL program in FY 25. $480,000 allocated for the Police Take Home Vehicle Program in the Public Safety Capital Improvement Fund (3025).
      iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund (0001), Public Safety; Public Safety Capital Improvement Fund (3025).
      iv. **Rationale:** Maintain funding for personnel and resources to ensure residents receive a level of service consistent with the City's growth, especially considering the number of retiring officers.

c. **St. Petersburg Fire Rescue (SPFR)**
    i. **Goals:** Adequate funding in FY 26 to ensure SPFR has the support and resources to follow the recommendations of the recent SPFR management evaluation and meet the demands of our growing City. Specific requests include:
        1. Prioritize hiring firefighter/paramedics to make all Engines ALS and place a second FF/PM on each rescue.
        2. Support for Engine 1 personnel costs as needed.
        3. Funding to support placing Truck 9 back in service.
        4. Funding to support placing Heavy Rescue 4 back in service.
        5. Leverage a partnership with the County to fund Rescue 2.
        6. Funding for a reserve apparatus facility adjacent to Station 3.
        7. Funding to place a fourth person on Engine 12.
        8. Funding to carry out completion of Station 2.
        9. Funding to carry out the replacement of Station 4 within the next 10 years as identified in the SPFR management evaluation.
    ii. **Appropriation History:** Total appropriation of $71.1 million in FY 25. $47.3 million from the General Fund (operating), $23.5 million from the Emergency Medical Services Fund (1009).
    iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund (0001), Emergency Medical Services Fund (1009), and Public Safety Capital Improvement Fund (3025).
    iv. **Rationale:** Many of the goals mentioned above reflect the need to increase SPFR's level of service and response times due to the City's growth and are in accordance with the 2024 SPFR management evaluation.

2. **Traffic Safety Improvements**
    a. **Complete Streets**
        i. **Goal:** Increase funding for Complete Streets in FY 26 through General and Citywide Capital Improvement funding.
        ii. **Appropriation History:** $800,000 total in FY 25. $400,000 from the Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027) and $400,000 Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
        iii. **Budget Locations:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027) and Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
        iv. **Rationale:** Complete Streets implementation is vital to our community's safety; a safe, efficient, and inclusive transportation network is inextricably linked to the quality of life and upward mobility. Pedestrian fatalities are far too frequent in the City and Pinellas County. With construction costs continuing to rise, a meaningful increase to the Complete Streets budget is necessary to stay on track with our goals for safer streets.

    b. **Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements**
        i. **Goal:** Maintain necessary funding in FY 26 for the various projects and grant funding associated with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements program in FY 26.
        ii. **Appropriation History:** $2.5 million from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements (Grant Fund) (3004) and $250,000 Multimodal Impact Fees (3071) in FY 25.

iii. **Budget Location:** General Capital Improvement Fund (3001), Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements (Grant Fund) (3004), and Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
iv. **Rationale:** The projects in this category seek to create an interconnected network of safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle options. Projects are sometimes supplemented by grant funding.

c. **School Zone Upgrades and Safety Improvements**
   i. **Goal:** Maintain funding in FY 26 to provide the upgrades and safety improvements for the project.
   ii. **Appropriation History:** $300,000 in FY 25, $600,000 in FY 24.
   iii. **Budget Location:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
   iv. **Rationale:** This project provides funding to upgrade school zone traffic and pedestrian safety measures.

d. **Traffic Safety Program**
   i. **Goal:** Maintain necessary funding in FY 26 to address traffic safety concerns citywide. Specific request includes increased funding for new traffic signals/mast arm conversions.
   ii. **Appropriation History:** $125,000 in FY 25.
   iii. **Budget Location:** Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
   iv. **Rationale:** This program supports and funds improvements identified by a citywide review and analysis of various countermeasures to address traffic safety concerns. Priority locations have been identified in neighborhood traffic planning, bicycle and pedestrian planning, and city safety planning activities.

e. **Neighborhood Sidewalks and ADA Ramps**
   i. **Goal:** Maintain or increase funding in FY 26.
   ii. **Appropriation History:** $350,000 in FY 25.
   iii. **Budget Locations:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
   iv. **Rationale:** This project provides funding for the Administration, design, inspection, and construction of approximately 4,200 linear feet of new five-foot-wide sidewalks and ADA ramps in neighborhoods that their respective associations have approved.

f. **Sidewalks (Reconstruction)**
   i. **Goal:** Maintain or increase funding in FY 26.
   ii. **Appropriation History:** $1.3 million in FY 25.
   iii. **Budget Locations:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
   iv. **Rationale:** This funding provides for reconstructing approximately 20,000 linear feet of five-foot-wide sidewalks identified as noncompliant with current standards.

g. **Sidewalks (Expansion)**
   i. **Goal:** Increase funding in FY 26, achieved through a mixture of CIP and Multimodal Impact Fees.
   ii. **Appropriation History:** $350,000 in FY 25 from the Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
   iii. **Budget Locations:** Appropriations for new sidewalks generally come from the Multimodal Impact Fees (3071) and the Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).

iv. **Rationale:** This funding provides for designing and constructing new sidewalks in the city. The Sidewalk Master Plan will be completed later this year and will identify specific needs for expanding our sidewalk system. Additional funding is needed in FY 26 in order to implement swift and measurable improvements.

3. **Public Works**
   a. **Street and Road Improvements – Paving (Roads and Alleys)**
      i. **Goal:** Increase funding $1 million or more in FY 26.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** $6.5 million in FY 25.
      iii. **Budget Location:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027)
      iv. **Rationale:** This funding is for reconstructing segments of paved roadways to complete at least 110 lane miles per year. An aggressive funding increase is needed to keep up with the rising costs of labor, materials, and maintenance.

   b. **Seawall Renovations & Replacement**
      i. **Goal:** Increase funding in FY 26.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** $1,500,000 in FY 25 from the Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
      iii. **Budget Locations:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
      iv. **Rationale:** Appropriations for seawall renovations and replacement will need to increase dramatically based on the upcoming seawall vulnerability study. There are approximately 74,000 feet of city owned seawalls and 500,000 feet of privately owned seawalls in the city. With sea level rise, aging seawalls, and increasing costs, substantial investments are needed to increase our coastal city's resiliency. The upcoming Seawall Vulnerability Study will identify critical projects and their prioritization.

   c. **Water Resources**
      i. **Water Resources Operating Fund**
         1. **Goal:** Increase funding levels in FY 26, keeping in mind the increasing cost of materials and labor.
         2. **Appropriation History:** $215.7 million in FY 25.
         3. **Budget Location:** Water Resources Operating Fund (4001).
         4. **Rationale:** Increase funding levels to support the capacity and reliability of the City's water, wastewater, and reclaimed water systems. Continue to follow the recommendations of the Master Water Plan, as well as support transfers to the Capital Projects Fund to maintain the 50/50 cash-to-debt funding ratio.

      ii. **Water Resources Capital Improvement Fund**
         1. **Goal:** Increase funding levels in FY 26 with a specific emphasis on Water Reclamation Facilities Improvements, Water Distribution System Improvements, and backup emergency generators for wet wells, with a potential for reimbursement from Tampa Bay Water.
         2. **Appropriation History:** $120.6 million in FY 25, with $16.9 million allocated to Water Distribution System Improvement projects.
         3. **Budget Location:** Water Resources Capital Projects Fund (4003).
         4. **Rationale:** Increase in funding is necessary to replace pipes and perform necessary repairs and upgrades for water treatment plants.

d. **Stormwater**

   i. **Stormwater Utility Operating**

      1. **Goal:** Increase funding levels in FY 26, specifically emphasizing maintaining or increasing transfers for debt payments and capital projects.
      2. **Appropriation History:** $41.4 million in FY 25. Transfers from Operating to Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund totaled about $9.9 million, estimated to be a 50/50 cash-to-debt funding ratio of the capital program. Transfers to Stormwater Debt Fund totaled about $3.8 million.
      3. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Utility Operating Fund (4011).
      4. **Rationale:** Stormwater revenue is derived almost exclusively from stormwater fees. Responsible stormwater rates and strategic investments significantly impact the City's ability to cover stormwater's operational expenses while maintaining the necessary annual transfers to capital projects and debt service funds.

   ii. **Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects**

      1. **Goal:** Increase funding levels in FY 26, keeping in mind the increasing cost of materials and labor.
      2. **Appropriation History:** $22 million in FY 25.
      3. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
      4. **Rationale:** Increase funding levels to ensure the city has the resources needed implement the Stormwater Master Plan, replacing and upgrading critical stormwater infrastructure. We need to be investing about $50 million a year to complete $1 billion in stormwater projects over the next 20 years based on our Stormwater Master Plan.

   iii. **Stormwater System Resiliency Enhancements**

      1. **Goal:** Increase funding to $1 million in FY 26 rather than the planned amount of $200,000.
      2. **Appropriation History:** $500,000 in FY 25. Currently, there is a total of $3.2 million budgeted in the five-year plan; $500,000 in FY 24 and FY 25, $200,000 in FY 26, and $1 million in FY 27, FY 28 and FY 29.
      3. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
      4. **Rationale:** This project provides funding for implementing resiliency strategies within the city limits as identified in the completed Basin C analysis, Shore Acres resiliency study, the integrated master plan, and other pertinent resiliency studies. These studies identified various projects that will help address common flooding concerns.

e. **Lake Management and Water Quality**

   i. **Goals:** Increase funding in FY 26 to support maintenance activities on City lakes to protect and enhance water quality.
   ii. **Appropriation History:** Approximately $510,000 in FY 25 from the Stormwater Operating Fund (4011) and $600,000 from the Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013) to Crescent Lake Water Quality Improvements.
   iii. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Operating Fund (4011) and Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
   iv. **Rationale:** To address the extreme environmental stress on our lakes from various sources, including but not limited to contaminants, invasive species, and nutrient

loading. Promote the City's environmental stewardship of its lakes, stormwater infrastructure, and water quality.

f. **Crescent Lake Water Quality Improvements Project**
   i. **Goal:** Maintain funding in FY 26.
   ii. **Appropriation History:** $600,000 in FY 25.
   iii. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
   iv. **Rationale:** To support the improvement of Crescent Lake's water quality, which is currently considered impaired and does not meet state standards. The city was awarded $1,300,000 federal funding through a community project grant for FY26.

4. **Sanitation**
   a. **Sanitation Operating Fund**
      i. **Goal:** Provide the funding necessary for the Sanitation Department to implement a new routing and optimization software.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** N/A.
      iii. **Budget Location:** Sanitation Operating Fund (4021).
      iv. **Rationale:** The Sanitation Department would benefit significantly from a cloud-based and real-time routing software that improves efficiency internally and provides a higher level of service externally.

5. **Affordable and Workforce Housing**
   a. **Housing Capital Improvements Fund**
      i. **Goal:** Maintain necessary funding in FY 26.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** $1.02 million in FY 25.
      iii. **Budget Location:** Housing Capital Improvements Fund (3000).
      iv. **Rationale:** This funding source aids with affordable and workforce housing programs and serves as the credit line for the repayments of economic stability fund loans. The fund also supplements State or Federal funding when needed.

   b. **Affordable Housing Land Acquisitions**
      i. **Goal:** $1.75 million in FY 26, with the five-year CIP plan of $8.75 million from Penny for Pinellas funding.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** $1.75 million in FY 25.
      iii. **Budget Location:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027)
      iv. **Rationale:** This funding source provides land acquisition or an agreement with a special district that owns the land for affordable residential housing (City Council Res. 2018-385).

6. **Planning and Development**
      i. **Goal:** Provide necessary funding to procure consulting services for a Pinellas Trail Special Area Plan
      ii. **Appropriation History:** N/A.
      iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Planning and Development Services.
      iv. **Rationale:** Funding is required to engage a consultant to assist with preparing a Special Area Plan for the Pinellas Trail in order to advance a TEC-Local designation to allow alternative uses and trail-supportive development standards.

7. **Community Enrichment**
   a. **Teen Programs**

    i. **Goal:** Increase department funding in FY 26 and leverage grant funding opportunities. Continue to support programming at TASCO, Workforce Readiness Programs, literacy/STEM, and mentoring programs while intentionally engaging the underrepresented Hispanic community.
    ii. **Appropriation History:** Approximately $4 million total towards teen and youth programs in FY 25.
    iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Community Enrichment Administration, Economic and Workforce Development, Parks and Recreation, and Neighborhood Relations.
    iv. **Rationale:** Programs targeted towards teens—grades 9-12, specifically—provide immeasurable benefits to teens and the community. Teen programs, such as those offered by TASCO, give teens the skills they need to succeed in life and as they enter the workforce.

b. **Urban Forestry**
    i. **Goal**: Increase funding for tree programs, including the Mini-Grant Tree Program, which provides trees to neighborhoods, businesses, and organizations interested in increasing our urban tree canopy.
    ii. **Appropriation History:** $100,000 in FY 25 for the Mini-Grant Tree Program.
    iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Neighborhood Relations.
    iv. **Rationale:** Tree programs are an excellent way for the city to protect and grow its urban canopy while involving neighbors and business owners who care about improving and beautifying their surroundings.

c. **Parks and Recreation - Facility Maintenance**
    i. **Goal:** Increase the Parks and Recreation Department funding for facility maintenance needs and necessary repairs and renovations. Prioritize the purchase of backup generators for employee shelter locations such as the J.W. Cate and Roberts Recreation Centers.
    ii. **Appropriation History:** $4.3 million in FY 25 for facility repairs and maintenance.
    iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Parks and Recreation.
    iv. **Rationale:** Increased funding is needed to address aging infrastructure and cover any gaps due to the prior rebalancing of Penny for Pinellas resources. The recent hurricanes have highlighted the city's need to be prepared with generators at critical facilities as opposed to having to lease generators.

d. **Vinoy Park Master Plan Implementation**
    i. **Goal:** Provide the necessary funding to support the recommended improvements described in the study completed by AECOM in December 2024.
    ii. **Appropriation History:** N/A.
    iii. **Budget Location:** Vinoy Park is within the Intown CRA and the Intown Redevelopment Plan's objective for the downtown waterfront area entails the continued revitalization of the waterfront parks.
    iv. **Rationale:** Vinoy Park is a vibrant event and social hub and a cornerstone of the waterfront park system. To ensure the park can recover and thrive without being damaged by frequent events, the city commissioned a Vinoy Park Master Plan to guide future improvements. These infrastructure upgrades were also highlighted as a priority in the 2022 Downtown Waterfront Master Plan.

e. **St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Club**
   i. **Goal:** Provide the necessary funding to support the renovation of the grandstand at the St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Club.
   ii. **Appropriation History:** N/A.
   iii. **Budget Location:** City Development Administration General Fund.
   iv. **Rationale:** The grandstand at the shuffleboard courts is deteriorating. As the world's largest and oldest shuffleboard club, the St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Club is a vibrant community asset and historic landmark worth preserving for future generations.

8. **Economic Stability**
   a. **Economic Stability Fund**
      i. **Goal**: $1 million transfer to the fund in FY 26.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** Total contribution of $1 million in FY 25.
      iii. **Budget Location:** Economic Stability Fund (0008).
      iv. **Rationale:** The Economic Stability Fund's crucial role as an interfund loan source to aid in the City's affordable housing goals highlights the need to continue replenishing the stability fund.

9. **Arts and Culture**
   a. **Funding for the Arts**
      i. **Goal:** Continue increasing funding in FY 26 as our budget increases.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** $3.2 million in FY 25.
      iii. **Budget Location:** City Development Administration General Fund (Arts, Culture, and Tourism Division and Community Support Allocations), Enterprise Facilities Department, and Neighborhood Relations.
      iv. **Rationale:** As an internationally recognized City of Arts, the city needs to continue investing in our arts community to foster our artistic development and fuel our eclectic arts ecosystem.

   b. **The Palladium**
      i. **Goal:** Maintain funding of $250,000 in FY 26.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** Four annual installments of $250,000 for per fiscal year beginning in FY 25.
      iii. **Budget Location:** City Development Administration General Fund.
      iv. **Rationale:** In October 2023, the Palladium launched its capital campaign to raise $10 million to renovate the historic church building into a state-of-the-art performing arts center. City support would help to fund the building renovation, including newly configured staging, new seating, and production/sound reinforcement. This funding arrangement mirrors the City's previous support of the Museum of History's capital campaign, wherein the City pledged $1 million over four $250,000 installments.

   c. **St. Petersburg Museum of History**
      i. **Goal:** $140,000 in FY 26 to continue to support the Museum's archival and collections effort and complete deferred maintenance such as waterproofing and HVAC.
      ii. **Appropriation History:** $87,000 in FY 25.
      iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, City Development Administration (Community Support Allocations).

iv. **Rationale:** Continued support of the Museum of History's archival efforts will provide the proper care for its priceless collection. The current funding arrangement has laid the groundwork for permanently protecting the City's historical archives and collections in line with industry standards. The funding also goes towards digitizing documents, photographs, and maps dating back to the original settlers of the lower Pinellas peninsula, allowing the Museum of History to share the City's rich history online with a press of a button.

I look forward to working with you and your Administration to implement these and other shared priorities. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss these priorities in greater detail.

Sincerely,

Lisset Hanewicz

Lisset Hanewicz
Vice Chair, District 4

cc: Rob Gerdes, City Administrator
Tom Greene, Assistant City Administrator
Doyle Walsh, Chief of Staff
Liz Makofske, Budget & Management Director
Jayne Ohlman, City Council Administrative Officer
Members of the City Council

MEMORANDUM
Office of City Council

TO: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

FROM: Council Member Figgs-Sanders

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Priorities

DATE: February 3, 2025

Mayor Welch,

Thank you for considering the needs of our constituents identified by my list of Budget Priorities for the 2026 Fiscal Year. They are not listed in any order of importance since all would greatly impact the quality of life for many St. Petersburg residents. Italicized items are repeated requests.

HOUSING

- Expand City assistance to affordable workforce housing programs catered to organizations of proven housing stock productivity with a highlighted focus on a multi-family business model. The organizations should also be willing to incorporate emergency rental assistance programs and utilize LEED-certified construction shaping our communities to become more environmentally responsible.
- Increase resources to address rental inspection of high call complaint volumes regarding code infractions/violations
- *Increase dollars to continue rental legal aid*
- *Continued incentives for ADUs and Tiny Home Developers*
- *Increase capital to acquire auctioned lots for affordable housing*

NEIGHBORHOODS/DISTRICTS

- *Strategic Plan for neighborhood associations in each District*
- *Continued Youth Farm program funding*
- *Increase N-Team funding to assist with small non-permitted homeowner projects. Particularly for the elderly. Recommended existing job training community programs. This has been a request since 2020.*
- *Expedite shorelines, seawalls maintenance and restoration*
- *Bayway Landscaping Project*

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL SERVICES & ARTS

- ***$250,000 funding for the Lincoln Cemetery Restoration Project***

- *Retain funding and resources for teens transitioning out of foster care*
- *Increase funding for the Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum*
- *Expand Citywide sidewalk and road maintenance plans*
- *Increase funding for the Social Action Funding Committee (other needs not specifically tied to homeliness such as those combating food deserts etc.)*
- *Increase N-Team funding for Hidden Voices Program ($50,000 – non-permitted jobs)*
- *Sustain or increase funding for the CALL Program*
- *Replace/update the acoustics/audio equipment at the St. Petersburg Coliseum*

EDUCATIONAL & ECONOMIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

- *Disparity Study initiatives and assistance for small, women and minority-owned businesses*
- *Partner with and assist funding for local educational systems to upskill, retrain, and provide certifications that would lead to increased opportunities for city employment (i.e., Educational Ecosystem started in 2020 with SPC)*
- *$150,000 - $100,000 for Saturday Shoppes Entrepreneur Academy*

ENVIRONMENTAL

- *Continue funding lake maintenance and equipment needed to perform the maintenance. Specifically, regarding the cattails at Lake Maggiore and Childs Park*
- *Continue funding for Private Lateral Loans citywide program*

YOUTH PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- $325,000 for Arts Conservatory for TEENS Program Funding
- $140,000 funding for Museum of History
- Funding to educate constituents
- *Expand our youth programs to include STEM, STEAM, and mental health services, including immediate household members as prescribed for holist family healing*
- *Increase funding for Youth Development Grants with emphasis on those not focused on STEM/STEAM (apprenticeships etc.)*
- *Increase funding for Directions for Living and homeless children (i.e., Maximo Elementary)*
- Jordan Park Youth Sports Program for Martial Arts

TRANSPORTATION

- *Increase funding for Traffic Safety Programs: calming devices, rapid flashing beacons, crosswalks, etc.*
- *Increase dollars for road maintenance (i.e., potholes, unpaved roads, restriping, resurfacing & alleys etc.)*
- *Incentives for Downtown Employees Parking Program*

- *Review and identify completion of Complete Streets Projects. Especially focusing on pedestrian and bicyclist safety and accessibility. It would be advantageous to continue consideration for additional funding for alternative modes of transportation. Review and identify completion of Complete Streets Projects. Especially focusing on pedestrian and bicyclist safety and accessibility. It would be advantageous to continue consideration for additional funding for alternative modes of transportation.*

ST. PETERSBURG POLICE/FIRE & RESCUE

- Merge operations and HR division into a single division
- Add a recruitment officer to the Administration division
- Funding for Explorer and Camp Unite Programs
- Truck 9 for West St. Pete service
- Separate stations #1 and #5
- Funding for Heavy Rescue Unit 4 staff. Unit needs at least 3 specially trained people by 2026

MEMORANDUM
Office of City Council

TO: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

FROM: Council Member Mike Harting

SUBJECT: FY2026 Budget Priorities

DATE: February 20, 2025

Mayor Welch,

My priorities for FY2026 are listed below:

Budget and Finance
- Economic Stability Fund -Increase transfer by $500k to get to $1M.
- Continue shifting $9M of Penny Funds used for the Annual Pip CIPP and Pipe Repair and Replacement Programs back to the Water Resources Capital Projects Fund
- Finance software to allow all departments flow seamlessly through Finance Dept

City Development

<u>City Development Administration</u>
- $140,000 for the Museum of History Archives Support

<u>Enterprise Facilities</u>
- Continued acceptance of FAA and FDOT grants to Albert Whitted Airport capital projects per CC Resolution 2022-469 passed 9/15/2022

<u>Economic & Workforce Development</u>
- $100K additional funding for the study of the downtown area around Dali/Mahaffey/Grand Prix and Al Lang Field
- Funding for apprenticeship programs, skilled training, and transferable skills initiatives

<u>Transportation</u>
- $750K for Signal Mast Arms
- $1 million for the Sidewalk Expansion Program
- Supplemental funding for North Shore Safe Routes to School
- Funding for a permanent dock for the CrossBay Ferry

Community Enrichment

<u>Parks & Recreation</u>
- Increase Parks and Recreation Dept funding for facility maintenance needs and necessary repairs and renovations

- Funding to repair the Shuffleboard grandstand
- Funding to reconstruct the Willow Marsh Boardwalk
- Funding for 2 generators (Roberts Rec & JW Cate) for recreation centers that serve as storm shelters

Housing & Neighborhood Services

- $1.75M with the five-year CIP plan of $8.75MM from Penny money for Affordable Housing Land Acquisitions

<u>Sanitation</u>

- Provide necessary funding for the Sanitation Dept to implement a new routing and optimization software

Marketing

- Additional capital funding for the Print Shop

Planning

- Creation of Flood Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund with an initial $1.5M
- Land Use Study for Industrial Corridor between 5th Ave S and 9th Ave S from 34th & 49th Streets to determine alternate uses and impact on citizens health

Public Safety

- Funding to relocate and construct a new K-9 Facility
- Funding to renovate/reconstruct the Fire Rescue Training Facility
- Continued funding for CAD RMS system (Funding for the CAD/RMS System -$480K for current Legacy System; 500K for new system)
- Increase SPFR budget for recruitment activities to meet hiring goals
- Evaluate behavioral health assistances services contracted with Dr. Benson for SPPD and SPFR to fund any expanded needs

Public Works

<u>Engineering & Capital Improvements</u>

- Increase funding for the Street and Road Improvements CIP project
- Maintain funding to provide the School Zone Upgrades Safety Improvements
- Additional funding for Bridge Life Extension Program & Bridge Replacement Program
- Funding for Public Seawalls and Prioritization Plan
- Pavement Priorities of 62nd Avenue and 47th Avenue NE

<u>FLEET</u>

- Adjust budget to meet equipment/vehicle goals based on no normal -longer lead times required

<u>PWA</u>

- Funding to implement the findings of the Utility Rate Affordability Analysis
- Funding to plant an additional 1,000 shade trees

<u>SPTO</u>

- Increase funding for road maintenance (i.e. potholes, unpaved roads, restriping, resurfacing and alleys)

- Funding to create a dedicated crew for unpaved alley repair and maintenance
- Increase funding for Sidewalk Reconstruction
- \$5.7M Denver Street Flooding Improvements
- \$9M Arizona Avenue Flooding Improvements
- Appian Way Drainage Project
- Continued funding for updating infrastructure in Shore Acres and Snell Isle
- Funding for any gap for Connecticut Ave and Vicinity Flood Project
- Funding for Lake Maggiore & Childs Park Lake Issues
- Funding for tidal gates at Butterfly Lake (Shore Acres Mini Park & Overlook Bridge)
- Funding to identify specific projects to alleviate flooding in repetitive loss areas
- Increase budget for Stormwater to help balance rate increases
- Increase funding levels for Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects
- Funding for a second stormwater construction team with equipment - \$600,000
- Funding for traffic signal cabinet replacement program
- Modernize traffic signal equipment to bring us closer to a smart grid and regional standard
- Funding for solar powered emergency beacons to operate intersections during power outages

<u>Water Resources</u>

- Continue funding for Private Lateral Loans citywide program

Mike Harting
Council Member, District 3

Cc: City Administrator Rob Gerdes
Assistant City Administrator Tom Greene
Budget Director Elizabeth Makofske
City Council
City Attorney Jacqueline Kovilaritch

MEMORANDUM
Office of City Council

TO: Mayor Ken Welch

FROM: Council Member Corey Givens Jr.

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Priorities – District 7

DATE: February 18, 2025

Mayor Welch,

Please consider this memo as my formal request for 2026 Fiscal Year Budget Priorities. This budget is not merely a financial plan but a commitment to the future well-being of our community. Our ability to effectively serve the residents of St. Petersburg relies on our collective efforts to develop this budget collaboratively. By aligning our goals and fostering open communication, we can deliver the positive outcomes our residents expect and deserve, helping make St. Pete a safer and more connected place for all.

Below are the top priorities I propose for the upcoming fiscal year:

Education & Youth Opportunities

1. Funding for youth & adult programs providing work-based learning opportunities to conduct home repairs, housing renovations, and construction. Increase the hourly wage and number of hires for the N-Team collaboration with the Pinellas County Job Corps
2. Support the Fund Our Future initiative providing educational resources and scholarship assistance
3. Commit $1M to a grant program for childcare & transportation needs in order to remove the financial barriers to accessing youth programs
4. $500,000 to create three Community Engagement Specialist positions that will actively engage with the community and connect families with available programs
5. Subsidize workforce training programs for pre-schools and/or resident led home day cares (support of small business in our community) centers
6. $50,000 investment in the Arts Conservatory for Teens (ACT) Program
7. $75,000 investment in The Gathering of Women, Inc. Food Pantry and Youth Development Program
8. $75,000 investment in the Life from the Inside Out Citizen Re-Entry Housing Program
9. $50,000 investment in the Sanderlin Center's After School Tutorial Program
10. $50,000 investment in the Next Stepp Center's Pregnancy and Parenting Programs
11. $100,000 investment in the STORY 727 Youth Development program aimed at reducing recidivism among juvenile and young adult offenders by enhancing moral reasoning and encouraging civic engagement
12. Continued funding for existing programs and creation of new educational programs at Clam Bayou
13. Funding to implement the St. Pete Youth Farm site plan
14. Funding for Apprenticeship Programs, Skilled Training, and Transferable Skills initiatives
15. Increased funding for Youth Employment Programs & Youth Development Grants

16. Increased funding for St. Pete Works Program
17. Funding for educational workshops on acquiring deeds and navigating probate

Neighborhood Health & Safety: Public Safety

1. Increase the St. Petersburg Fire Rescue Department budget $4M to supplement the recommendations and priorities of the St. Petersburg Association of Fire Fighters Local 747
2. $100,000 funding to provide stipends for community members to participate in planning and promoting city initiatives
3. Increases in funding for the annual Collard Green Festival and Juneteenth events by $15,000
4. Increase Neighborhood Mini Grants Program to $750 annually
5. Funding for Neighborhood Association development and capacity building initiatives
6. Fund a City-owned grocery store and Co-Op in a food desert
7. $1M investment in collaborative initiatives with the St. Pete Free Clinic, Reach St. Pete, and other community partners who to improve access to an inclusive and equitable food system in St. Petersburg
8. Continued funding for Police & CALL Programs to meet staffing and training needs
9. $100,000 in funding for Twin Brooks Golf Course renovation and restoration needs
10. Increase funding for city parks, recreation centers, and library upgrades
11. Fund any considerations for ADA accessibility including translation services and diverse communication methods
12. City-owned incinerator to be proactive rather than reactive during future storm events

Housing Opportunities for All

1. Increased investments in programs that assist with addressing code violations and provide housing rehab assistance. Increase Codes Compliance Department's General Fund by $100K to create a program assisting homeowners within 100% AMI with compliance repairs that are not currently covered in existing programs. Create at least two Codes Compliance Specialist positions who are tasked with identifying properties that could qualify for assistance and working with property owners to correct the violation
2. Create and fund a city-wide program that supports 20 low to moderate income homeowners with subsidies, loan access, and technical assistance to build ADU’s on their properties
3. $6M funding investment in Habitat for Humanity and The St. Petersburg Housing Authority to prepurchase 200 transitional and workforce housing units for Section 8 & Public Housing Program ($30,000/unit)
4. Increased funding for the Eviction and Diversion Program
5. Continued funding for the N-Team
6. $100,000 increase in funding for CASA to facilitate rapid re-housing programs

Environment, Infrastructure, and Resilience

1. Funding for the installation and implementation for a city-owned solar co-op power grid to address rising utility costs
2. Funding for the Lake Maggiore & Childs Park Lake Improvement Projects
3. Funding for Complete Streets projects with a focus on pedestrian safety initiatives, particularly those that address safety concerns for elementary students at schools such as Perkins, Sanderlin, & Fairmount Park
4. Funding for expansion of drainage options and the installation of a new pump station at Bayview retention ponds; considerations for a new sluice gate or dredging of the pond
5. $250,000 increase funding to the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) to expand rapid transit programs and address transportation woes
6. $2M Increase funding for infrastructure and stormwater repairs and upgrades

Equitable Arts, Development, & Business Opportunities

1. Investment in Performing Arts Facilities outside of downtown
2. Fund the basic improvement projects outlined in the Warehouse Arts District Association (WADA)/Deuces Joint Action Plan
3. Fund the Street Scape Improvements on 22nd Street South in accordance with the WADA/Deuces Joint Action Plan
4. Increase funding stipend for city's business districts to $75,000 annually to coincide with the rising cost of inflation
5. Funding to collaborate with organizations that will work to address the city's digital divide. Trainings should be offered on digital literacy skills, cybersecurity, and privacy. Ensure all city owned facilities including recreation centers have broadband access
6. Increased funding for public art projects, artist residencies, or cultural events to enhance community vibrancy and ensure that all museums receive equitable funding opportunities

Thank you in advance for your consideration of these recommendations, I look forward to working with you and your Administration to continue to move our city forward. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss any of these priorities further.

Sincerely,

Corey Givens Jr.
Council Member, District 7

cc: Rob Gerdes, City Administrator
Tom Greene, Assistant City Administrator
Doyle Walsh, Chief of Staff
Liz Makofske, Budget & Management Director
Jayne Ohlman, City Council Administrative Officer
Members of the City Council

MEMORANDUM
Office of City Council

TO: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

FROM: Council Chair Copley Gerdes

SUBJECT: FY26 Budget Priorities

DATE: February 5th, 2025

Mayor Welch,

At the beginning of each year, City Council convenes a Committee of the Whole meeting where each council member outlines their budget priorities. City Administration and staff carefully review and integrate these priorities, alongside input from every department, to create a unified and thoughtful approach to the budgeting process. This collaboration allows us to understand and prioritize the needs of all areas of our community, and I continue to be impressed by the depth and thoroughness of this process year after year.

As we move forward with the Fiscal Year budget, I want to express my gratitude for your continued partnership. The work we do together is essential in shaping the future of our city, and I truly appreciate your leadership in guiding us through these complex and important decisions.

Following the City Council Budget Priorities Committee of the Whole meeting, I am submitting for your consideration my proposed budget priorities for FY26. These priorities reflect my commitment to addressing our growing community's needs and the long-term investments required for its continued prosperity. As our city evolves, so do the challenges and opportunities we face. We must remain proactive and strategic in how we allocate resources to ensure we're fostering sustainable growth, improving the quality of life for our residents, and investing in our future.

With that in mind, my budget priorities for FY26 are as follows:

1. Fiscal Responsibility and Workforce Management

- **Millage Rate:** Maintain the current millage rate to ensure fiscal stability for both the city and its residents.
- **No New FTE Additions:** Rather than adding new Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions, our primary focus should be on addressing the current vacancy list, specifically within Public Safety (Police and Fire). Focusing on this goal will help to ensure our departments are fully staffed and operating at full strength, with a goal of reaching 602 officers in the Police Department. In conjunction with our focus on reaching our goal of 602 officers, I recommend the addition of a third Community Service Officer (CSO) to further support our public safety efforts and community engagement.
- **Legal Team Retention:** It is crucial that we ensure our legal team is retained, enhancing the long-term stability of our operations. By providing the necessary support and resources, we can maintain a skilled and experienced team that will continue to guide and protect the city's interests.

2. Program Funding and Data-Driven Decisions

- **Program and Operational Funding Review:** Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the city's funding for programming across various sectors and subsidies for operations outside of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. This process should be data-driven to ensure contractual programs and operational funding align with city priorities.

3. Public Safety Investments

- **K-9 Center and Training Facility Support:** Continue to support the K-9 Center and the necessary training facilities for both Police and Fire departments.

- **Take-Home Vehicles:** Make certain that all officers have access to take-home vehicles at no fee.
- **Support for New CAD/RMS System:** Support the implementation of a new Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) to improve operational efficiency and strengthen communication between the department and surrounding municipalities.
- **Police Station Infrastructure:** Fund the installation of new chillers at the police station to improve cooling efficiency, especially during power outages when the building is running on generator power.
- **Fire Department Management Study:** Support the Fire Department's management study to optimize operations and support our first responders.

4. Housing and Affordability Initiatives

- **Affordable Housing and Broader Issues:** Continue discussions around affordable housing and broaden the conversation to include transportation, job creation, and other areas that influence affordability for our residents.
- **Continued Investment in PSTA:** Maintain ongoing investment in the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) initiative to ensure reliable and accessible transportation options for our residents.
- **SPAR Program:** Continue support for the St. Pete Agile Resilience (SPAR) program, as it is vital in promoting resilience and strengthening infrastructure in our city.
- **Housing and Neighborhood Services:** Continued support of the Housing and Neighborhood Services department to ensure we remain committed to affordable housing and community revitalization, ensuring neighborhoods are safe and well-maintained for all.

5. Utility Rates and Resiliency

- **Utility Rates:** Continue conversations and explore innovative ways to address rising utility rates, accomplishing sustainability and affordability for all residents.
- **Mobile Generators:** Fund the purchase of two mobile generators to allow for better flexibility and support during power outages.
- **Swim Lessons:** Expand access to swim lessons for all residents to promote community safety, health, and wellness.
- **Shuffleboard Club Repairs:** Allocate funding for necessary repairs to the Shuffleboard Club Grandstand to preserve this historic venue for future generations.
- **Manhattan Casino and Coliseum:** Ensure proper investment in the Manhattan Casino and Coliseum to guarantee they are well-maintained, preserved, and treated with the care they deserve.

6. Infrastructure and Neighborhood Investments

- **Safe Streets and Sidewalks:** Prioritize continued investment in safe streets and sidewalks to enhance walkability and safety throughout our neighborhoods.
- **Neighborhood Connection Grant:** Support the Neighborhood Connection Grant and promote the outcomes this program will bring to our communities.
- **Sprinkler System and Accessibility in Vinoy Park:** Support funding to expand the sprinkler system and widen walkways in Vinoy Park to improve accessibility during festivals and events, aiding in the park's vitality.
- **Al Lang Stadium and Center for the Arts:** Al Lang Stadium and the Center for the Arts should be preserved as cultural gems of our city. These venues should be considered for hosting diverse events that bring people together and support the local economy.
- **Partnership Between Dali, Mahaffey, and Al Lang:** Create a collaborative partnership between the Dali Museum, Mahaffey Theatre, and Al Lang Stadium to enhance cultural offerings and create a stronger, unified arts presence along our waterfront.

7. Education and Youth Initiatives

- **Mayor's Future Ready Academy:** Continue supporting the Mayor's Future Ready Academy to provide youth with the skills and opportunities they need to succeed.

8. Arts and Cultural Enrichment

- **Arts Funding:** Allocate between $500,000 and $1 million for arts programming and initiatives to support St. Petersburg's cultural landscape.

9. Economic and Cultural Investments

- **Support for the St. Pete Chamber of Commerce:** Continue funding for the Grow Smarter initiative and assist the Chamber in securing a permanent home to ensure their continued success in fostering community partnerships and sustainable growth.

10. Council Budget for Enhanced Communication and Travel

- **Ensure Adequate Funding For City Council:** Providing council members with opportunities to engage both within our community and beyond to stay informed on best practices, emerging trends, and regional developments that influence effective decision-making.

In conclusion, these budget priorities are designed to continue St. Petersburg's progress by addressing critical infrastructure needs, supporting public safety, investing in affordable housing, and fostering economic and cultural vitality. I appreciate your careful consideration of these priorities and look forward to collaborating to make the FY26 budget a success for our city and its residents.

Very Respectfully,

Council Chair Copley Gerdes, District 1

	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PENDING/CONTINUING REFERRALS						February 27, 2025
	Topic	**Return Date**	**Referral Date**	**Prior Meeting**	**Referred by**	**Staff**	**Notes**
1	Resilient St. Pete	2/27/25	11/2/23	9/19/24	Gabbard	Boulding Greene Rebholz Tankersley	A revision to this NBI (Gabbard) was approved at the 3/21/24 CC Meeting expanding the discussion topics
2	A presentation on the findings of the Private Laterals Pilot Study. Discussion to include consideration of potential financing programs for residents to be administered by SELF (Solar Energy Loan Fund)	2/27/25	3/3/23	10/12/23 (PSI)	Gabbard	Tankersley Palenchar Barrera	This item was referred to a Committee of the Whole Meeting during the 9/19/24 COW
3	FY '26 CIP Budget	4/24/25	Annual	N/A	Annual	Makofske	
4	FY '26 Operating Budget	5/6/25	Annual	N/A	Annual	Makofske	
5	Review of City Council Policy and Procedures Manual	5/29/25	12/16/21	7/28/22	Council	Legal	Per Chapter 23 Article II Letter D: During the Committee of the Whole to discuss the calendar for the following year, City Council shall schedule a meeting to review the Manual for any updates or other amendments that are necessary or appropriate.
6	FY '26 Recommended Budget	7/31/25	Annual	N/A	Annual	Makofske	
7	2026 Calendar setting and selection of Chair and Vice Chair	12/11/25	Annual	N/A	Annual	Ohlman	
8	FY '27 Council Budget Priorities	1/29/26	Annual	N/A	Annual	Makofske	
9	Joint City Council / CPPC Meeting	TBD	3-Year Cycle	3/31/22	Comp Plan	Abernethy Kilborn	Comp Plan changes discussed to move joint meetings to an **as-needed** basis with the Historic Preservation Annual Report to come to CPPC and COW annually. The next joint meeting is slated to occur in 2025.
10	Stormwater Master Plan	TBD	8/12/21	5/25/23 7/25/24	Administration	Prayman	Proposed changes to City Code are anticipated to be brought forward
11	StPete 2050 Plan	TBD	12/17/19	10/22/20 1/28/21 8/26/21 2/24/22 5/26/22	Administration	Abernethy	Staff is working on the comp plan updates to implement the 2050 plan and anticipates providing a report to council on the draft changes in 2025

~~1/23~~, ~~2/20~~, 2/27, 3/13, 4/24, 5/06, 5/29, 7/31, 8/28, 9/18, 10/23, 12/11

12	Joint City Council / CBAC Meeting	TBD	11/2/23	N/A	Figgs-Sanders	Caper	Discussion on the Community Benefit Program NBI (Gabbard) approved at 1/11/24 CC Meeting requested discussion include committee appointment process for standing & ad hoc members
13	Discussion of potential revisions and/or updates to Section 5.06 of the City Charter concerning the City's Redistricting process.	TBD	12/8/22	N/A	Hanewicz	Pettigrew	
14	City-Specific Dashboard & Update on St. Pete Stat	TBD	4/6/23	3/23/23 (EWD)	Council		Discussion originated at the 3/23/23 EWD Committee Meeting and was motioned by CM Gabbard to bring to a Committee of the Whole
15	Fleet Maintenance Master Plan	TBD	3/23/23	N/A	Harting	Quintana	1/23/2025 - CM Harting took sponsorship of this item from former CM Montanari
16	Integrated Water Resources Master Plan Update	TBD	7/20/23	N/A	Harting	Tankersley Palenchar	1/23/2025 - CM Harting took sponsorship of this item from former CM Montanari
17	Potential Charter Amendments Concerning the City Council and Mayoral Vacancies	TBD	10/20/22	(PSI) 7/13/23 (PSI) 11/9/23 (PSI) 3/21/24 4/18/24	Gabbard Hanewicz	Kovilaritch Pettigrew	PS&I Committee Action item approved at 4/4/24 CC Meeting moved the discussion to COW to address proposed amendments to the current process The item was referred back to a COW at the 9/5/24 CC Meeting for consideration after December 2025
18	Implementation of Priority Dispatch	TBD	10/13/22	N/A	Gabbard	SPFR	This discussion will occur **as-needed** if the implementation of priority dispatch protocols are considered

~~1/23~~, ~~2/20~~, 2/27, 3/13, 4/24, 5/06, 5/29, 7/31, 8/28, 9/18, 10/23, 12/11

City-wide Private Lateral Program Development

Objective

To provide an overview of the City-wide Private Lateral Program

Agenda

- Background
  - What is I/I?
  - Why?
  - Pilot Study
  - Public vs Private Rehabilitation
- City-wide Private Lateral Program Overview
- City-wide Private Lateral Program Schedule
- Next Steps

Background

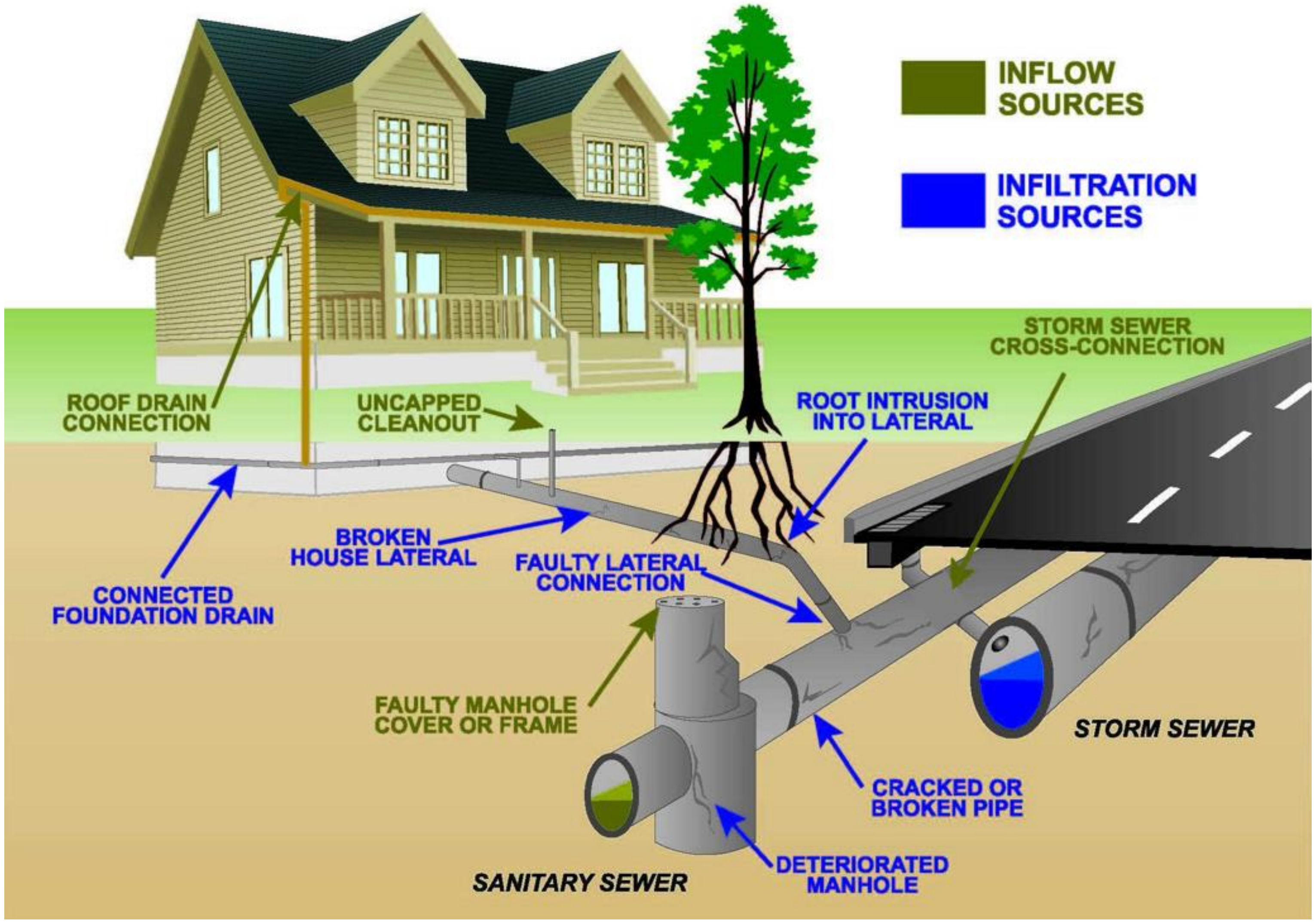
st.petersburg
www.stpete.org

Background

What is Inflow and Infiltration (I/I)?

Inflow is surface water that enters the sewer system from yards, roof and footing drains, downspouts, and through holes in manhole covers.

Infiltration is groundwater that enters sewer pipes through holes, breaks, joint and connection failures, and other openings



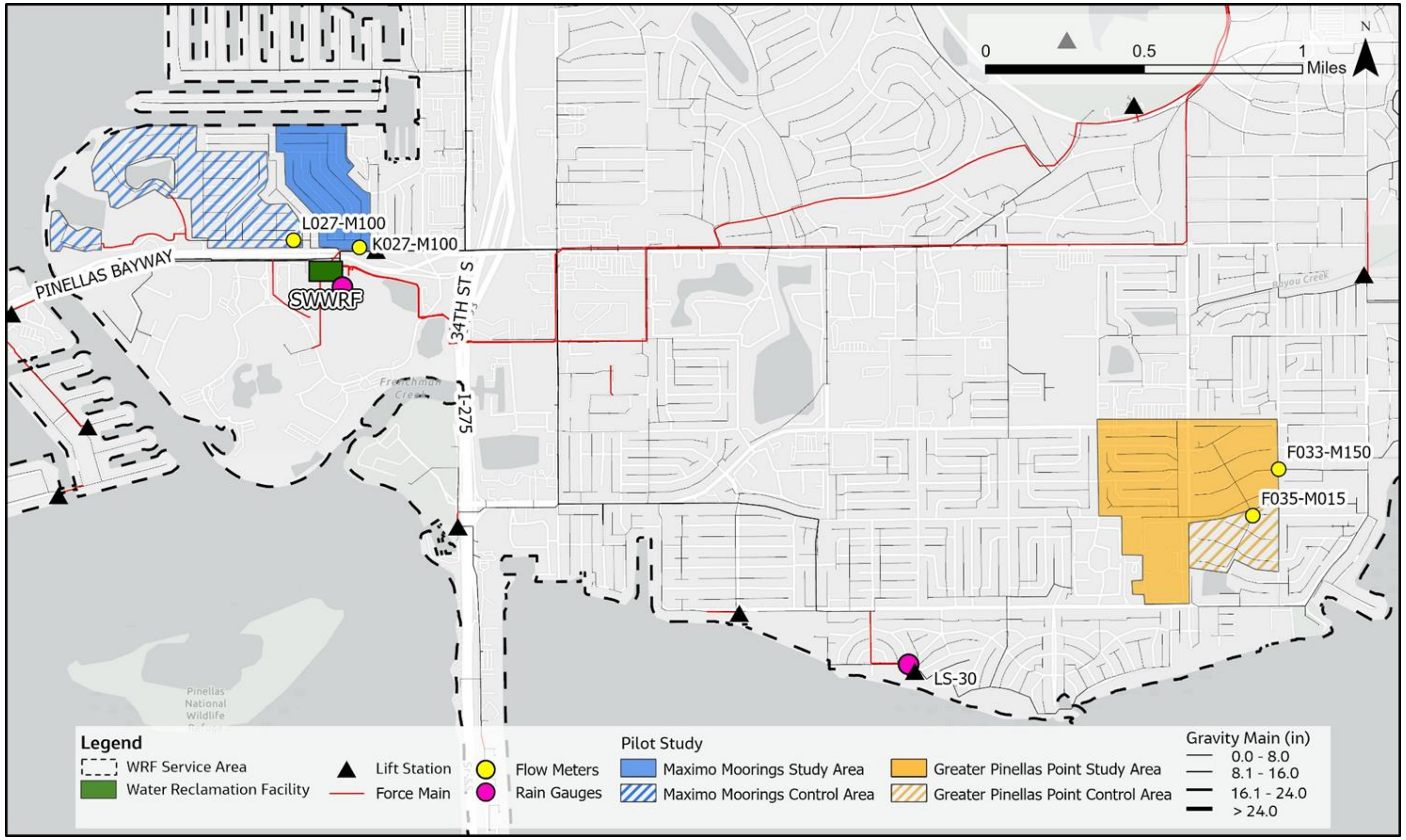
Background

Why are laterals being replaced?

- Regulatory drivers and ordinances, such as the Collection System Action Plan
- Reduction of I/I corresponds with fewer sanitary sewer overflow events
- Improves the reliability of biological based treatment processes at the WRFs
- Minimizes user rates between WRF expansions

Pilot Study Background

Study Areas with High I/I



Results

Participation

Lateral Inspection	Lateral Rehabilitation
61%	43%

Average Cost per Lateral

$5,000*

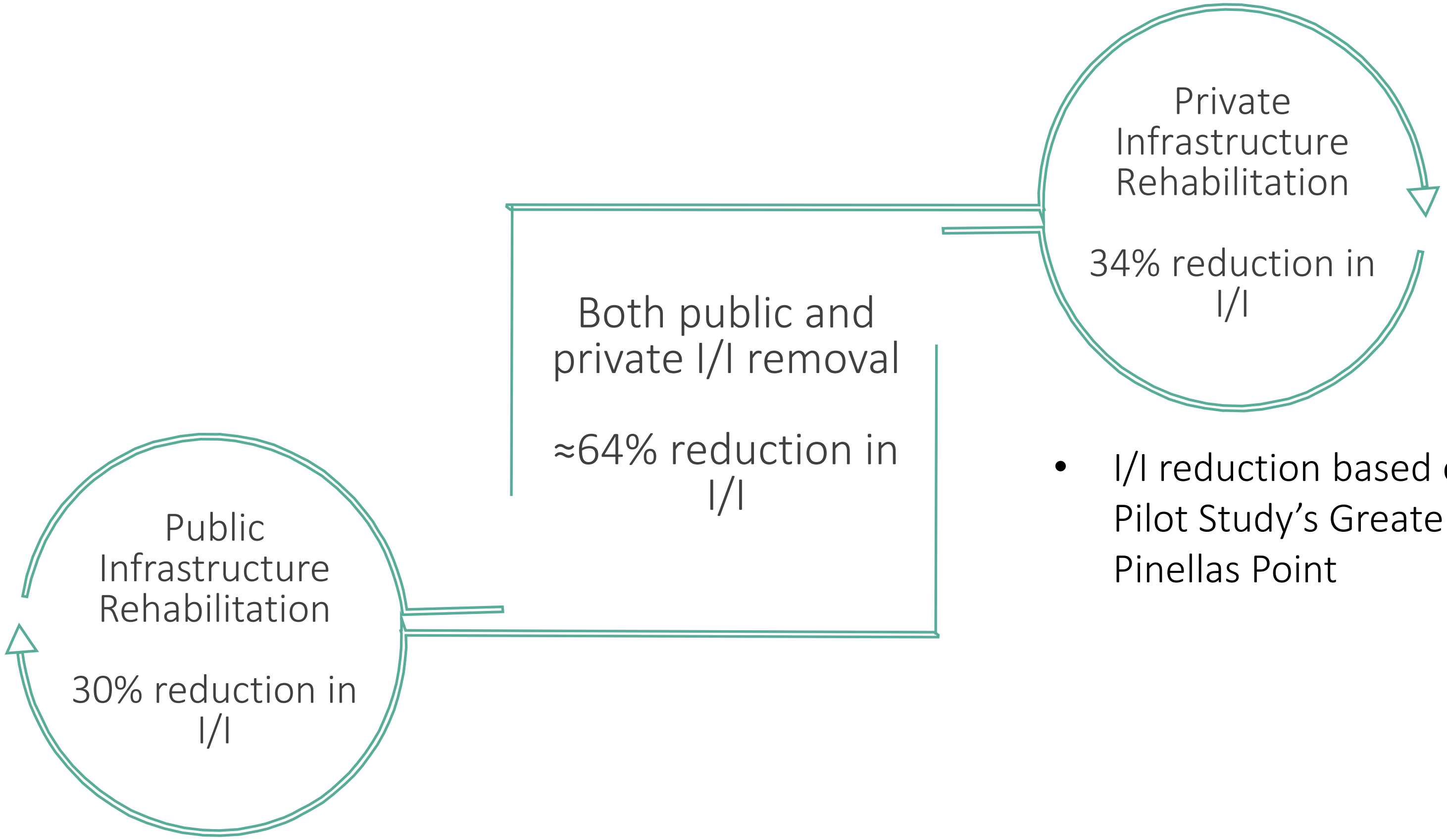
*Note: Cost per Lateral was averaged based on the total cost and the total number of laterals rehabilitated in both Pilot Study neighborhoods. Cost is in 2022 dollars.

Private I/I Reduction

34%**

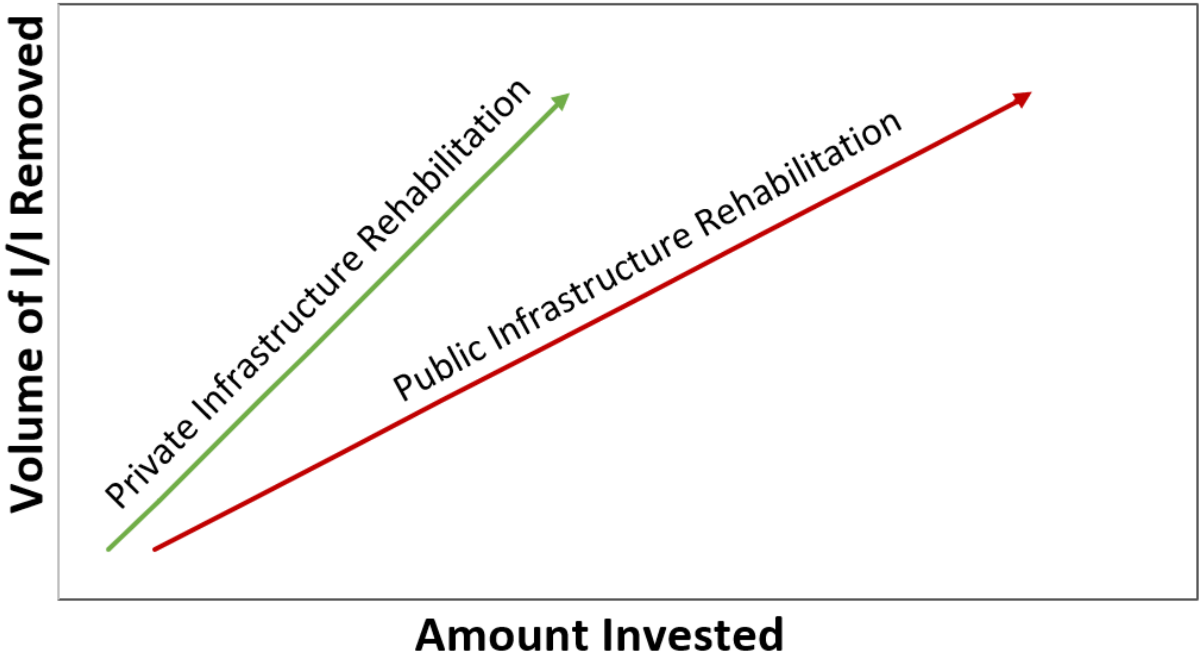
**Note: Based on Greater Pinellas Point. Calculated based on percent difference between pre-rehabilitation and post-rehabilitation RDII in control area and study area.

Benefit with Private and Public Infrastructure I/I Mitigation



- I/I reduction based on Pilot Study's Greater Pinellas Point
- I/I reduction based on work performed by Jacobs for other sewer utilities

Private-side I/I mitigation was found to be more cost-effective with generally the same I/I reduction as public-side I/I mitigation



City-wide Private Lateral Program Overview

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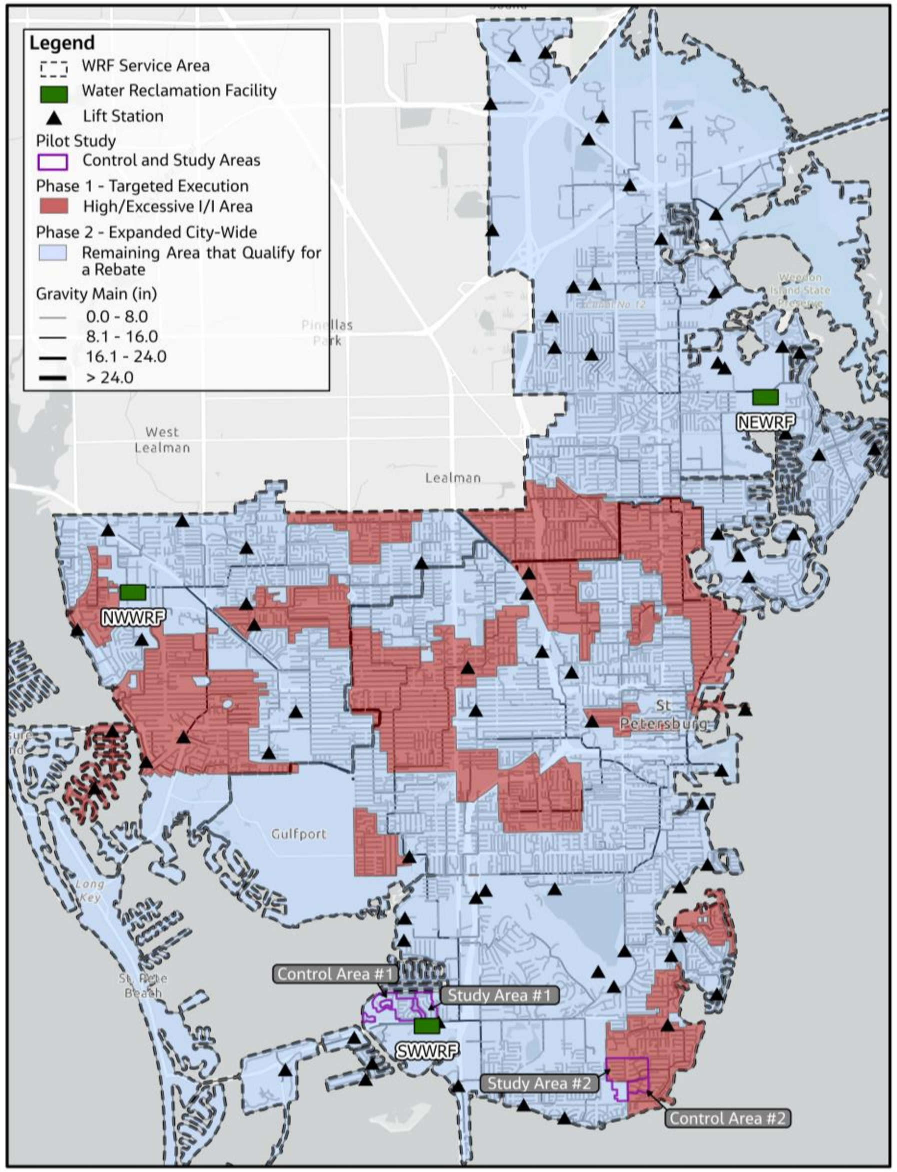
City-wide Private Lateral Program Overview

What?
Phased City-Wide Rebate Program

Phase 1
Years 0 - 2
Targeted execution based on low-income areas and high and excessive I/I areas

Phase 2
Years 3 - 10
Execution expanded city-wide with potential funding for inspections

Who?	Map Color	Eligible Rebate	Phase 1	Phase 2
High/Excessive I/I	Red	Full reimbursement	💧	💧
All Other City Areas*	Blue	Up to $5,000 for each household		💧



Notes: *Residents in other City areas can partake in Phase 1 if an inspection video and quote is provided to the City; ** Program planning not included in schedule shown.

City-wide Private Lateral Program Overview

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Years 0 - 2
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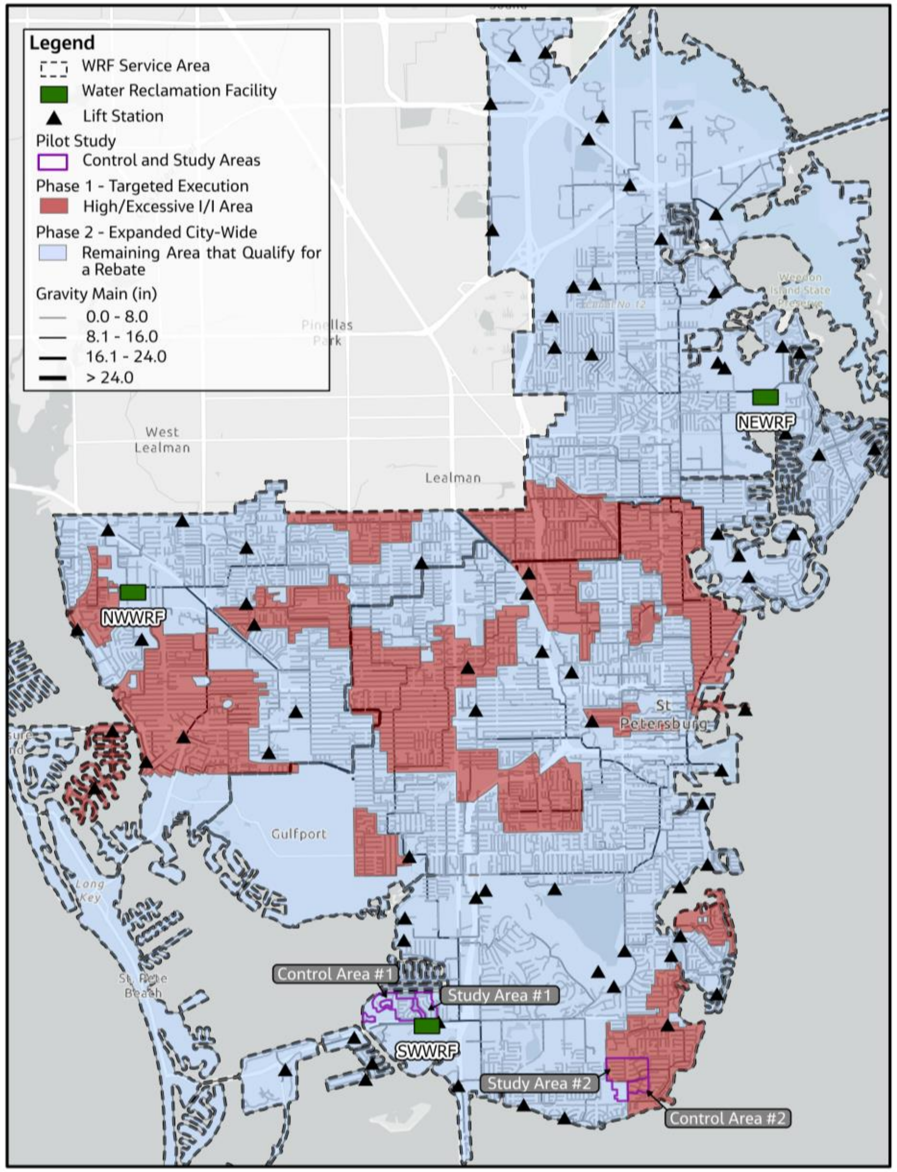
High/Excessive I/I	Red	Full reimbursement	💧	💧
All Other City Areas*	Blue	Up to $5,000 for each household		💧

How much?

Years 0 - 2
- Funded up to $500,000 per year (from CIP Funding)
  - Approximately 100 properties
- Anticipate needing $1,000,000 per year once Program is fully marketed

Years 3 - 10
- Exploring external funding opportunities
  - FDEP Resilient Florida
  - FDEP Water Quality Improvement Grant
  - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
  - Tampa Bay Environmental Restoration Fund



Notes: *Residents in other City areas can partake in Phase 1 if an inspection video and quote is provided to the City; ** Program planning not included in schedule shown.

City-wide Private Lateral Program Schedule

Program Schedule

Sept 2024

City Private Lateral Program Kickoff

Begin City departmental coordination and foundational program development.

Jan-Jun 2025

City-wide Private Lateral Program Development

City program framework and workflow development and troubleshooting, grant application

Continued City departmental coordination

June 2025

Program Phase 1 Launch

June 2027

Program Phase 2 Launch

Next Steps

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Next Steps for Program Success

- Continue departmental coordination for Program launch
- Begin public outreach
- Reviewing current Ordinance to further support the Program

THANK YOU

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Resilient St. Pete Part 2

Committee of the Whole
02/27/25

Topics addressed in the September 19, 2024 COW (Part 1)

1) Report on last five wet weather events
2) After Action Report on the Resilience Community Listening Session held on 02/13/2024
3) Creation of a "Flood Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund"
4) St. Petersburg Resiliency Action Plan Update

Topics to be addressed in the February 27, 2025 COW (Part 2)

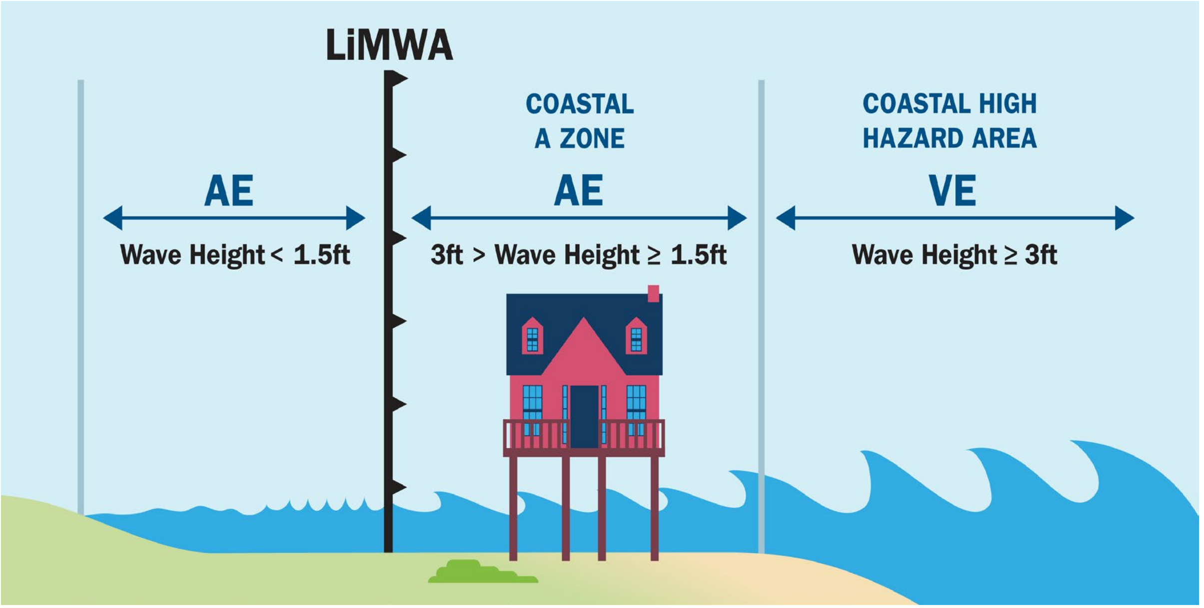
1) Post storm Activities
2) Permitting process in the Special Flood Hazard Areas
3) FEMA Grants application & acceptance procedures
4) Community Rating System (CRS) Update

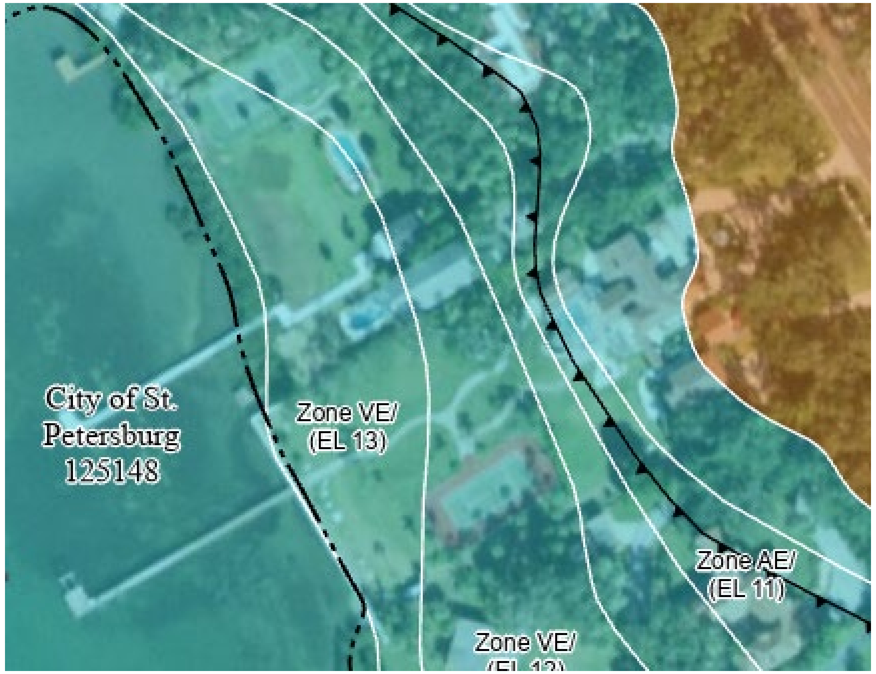
Flood Zones and BFE's

What is the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)?

- Defined by FEMA
- Regulated by Communities
- AE – wave height <1.5ft
- CAZ – wave height < 3ft and > 1.5ft
- VE – wave height > 3ft
- 45% of St. Pete is a SFHA

Find what flood zone you're in at [FEMA Flood Map Service Center]





Helpful Definitions

Base Flood

- A flood having a one-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year, also referred to as the "100-year flood" of the "one-percent-annual chance flood"

Base Flood Elevation (BFE)

- The elevation of the base flood, including wave height

Design Flood Elevation (DFE)

- FEMA provided BFE + 2ft

Substantial Improvement

- Any combination of repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition or other improvement of a building or structure, the cost of which is at least ~~50~~49% of the market value of the building or structure before the first improvement
- The City of St. Petersburg does not have a cumulative look back regulation

When projects are within 25%, a Substantial Improvement / Substantial Damage Packet is required, providing a detailed cost breakdown with a 5% contingency included. This review is to ensure improvements within the SFHA will not surpass our 49% threshold.

Substantial Damage

- Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its condition before it was damaged would equal or exceed ~~50~~49% of the value
- If a structure is determined to be substantially damaged, they are eligible for financial help through NFIP backed insurance, SBA, and FEMA.

If there is Substantial Damage or Substantial Improvement done on a property, that structure is required to come into compliance with Zoning, Building, and Floodplain regulations.

Damage Assessment

- Completed by Planning & Development Services staff after each storm event.
  - Levels of activation depend on storm size.
- Property to property inspections, identifying indicators of damage.
  - Waterlines
  - Structural disrepair
  - Debris
- Data entered into a County-provided damage assessment application via smartphone in the field.
  - Allows photos and notes to be geotagged to specific properties.
- County utilizes the data to assist in emergency declaration process.
- County then releases damage assessment data back to the municipalities.
- All structures that have been marked destroyed and major were inspected for Substantial Damage
- Inspections are then entered into the FEMA-provided Substantial Damage Estimator (SDE) tool.
- Substantial Damage letters are then written from those results.

What We Look For

Damage Assessment Results

	Helene	Milton
Destroyed	146	64
Major	5,190	771
Minor	3,725	2,426
Affected	1,793	1,661
Totals	10,854	4,922

Affected: Cosmetic damage only. EX: shingles and/or siding missing, one or two broken windows, damage to non-living spaces/structures (fence, garage, carports, porches/screened rooms), some flooding on property but not in the home.
Minor: Slight flooding. Your home may require some minor repairs. EX: large portions of roofing material and/or siding damaged, several broken windows, minor flooding inside the home.
Major: Significant structural damage or flooding. Extensive repairs are needed to make your home livable again. EX: portions of roof and/or walls are missing or breached by trees, debris, etc., major shifting or settling of foundation, significant flooding inside home (more than 24 inches).
Destroyed: Home is a total loss and is beyond repair. EX: total collapse of home or home has shifted off foundation, fire damage, catastrophic flooding inside home (greater than 5 feet).

Post Disaster Emergency Permit (PDEP)

The Process

1. Applicants may apply for PDEP's through our online portal (ePlan) or in person at our office located in the Municipal Services Center.
2. Reviewers will compare the provided job cost to current values from the International Code Council Building Valuation Data (ICC BVD) as a minimum value for a proposed scope of work based on the submitted permit application and documented damage assessment.
3. Applications with a scope of work **under** 49% will be issued a permit for their repairs. Applications with a scope of work **equal to or exceeding** 49% will require mitigation or the applicant can provide and independent appraisal for the structure prepared by a state licensed appraiser or obtain a Building Value Reconsideration from the Pinellas County Property Appraisers Office .
4. Permitting staff is available for one-on-one meetings with homeowners to discuss mitigation options.

Why is permitting important?

- Non-compliant structures can and will become obstructions
- Inspections to ensure compliance with the Florida Building Code, FEMA regulations, and CRS
- The safety of our residents

We have currently issued 6,547 PDEP's with 1,590 in process for review

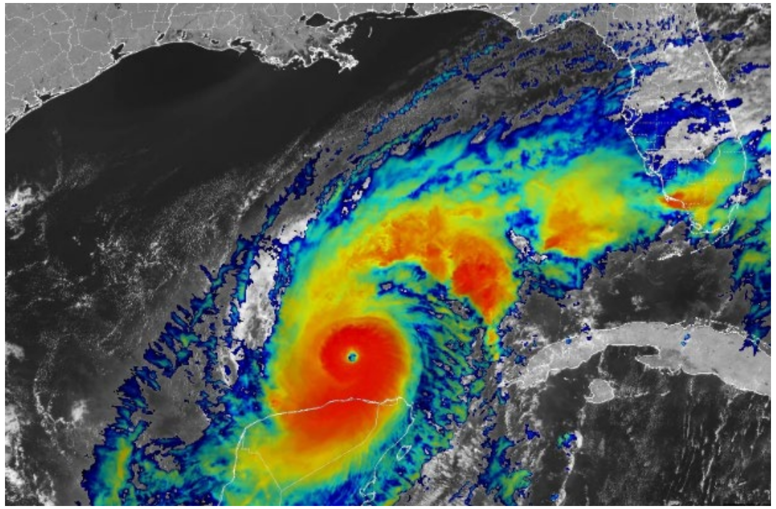
Permitting in the SFHA - Post Helene and Milton

Timeline

- September 26th – Helene Landfall
- October 6th – Milton Landfall
- Planning & Development Services conducted field damage assessments after each storm event
- September 30th – Remote permitting opened at all locations and remained open until the end of October
- November 1st – Letters sent to ~41,000 notifying of permitting requirements
- November 7th – Presentation to HLUT regarding FEMA Requirements (49% Rule)
- November 8th – The 49% Rule Session viewed by over 500 users
- November 11th – Rule49 Webpage
- November 13th – Together, St. Pete Meeting with ~400 registered attendees/viewers
- December - finalized damage assessment lists for each storm event received.

Post Disaster Remote Permitting

- Real time permitting and information close to home
- Activated by a 4ft storm surge or greater
- Locations will open the following days after citywide damage assessment has been done
- Located at:
    - Azalea Recreation Center
    - Enoch D. Davis Center
    - Roberts Recreation Center



- November 6th – State provided 10 field inspectors to perform Substantial Damage inspections
- November 11th – State provided 4 data entry personnel to input inspections into the SDE tool
- November 19th – First Technical Assistance meeting to discuss our floodplain management operations and post-storm measures including Substantial Damage inspections and results.
- December 2nd – We requested additional personnel to assist with plan review and building inspections
- January 3rd – State provided 2 building inspectors
- January 17th – State provided 4 part time plan reviewers
- January 30th – Second Technical Assistance meeting to discuss Code Enforcement's monitoring process, the Building Department's permitting process, and provide an update on Substantial Damage letters.
    - FEMA has submitted this process for a FEMA write-up as a best practice.
- February 24th – Third Technical Assistance meeting to discuss recent media coverage and our permitting process.

Assistance Provided by FEMA and FDEM

FEMA Grants

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Application Process

- The City acts as the sub-applicant on behalf of our property owners.
- Once the application packet is completed it is sent to a consultant where a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) is performed; the BCA must be 1.0 or greater, this indicates the project is cost affective and ready for submittal.
- Applications are submitted for review to the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM).
- Once they have completed their review and find the project to be beneficial, they send the application to FEMA for a ~enter review.
- Once grants are awarded through FEMA and accepted by our City Council, the City will then enter a contract with FDEM and a separate contract with the homeowner.
- The homeowner has their contractor apply for the permit to start the elevation.

Repetitive Loss/Severe Repetitive Loss

- RL – Two or more claims of more than $1,000 were paid by the NFIP within any rolling 10 year period since 1978
- SRL – Four or more separate claim payments greater than $5,000 each (or) Two or more separate flood insurance claims payments where the total of the payments is greater than the property's current value

Matching

- SRL – 100% cost share
- RL – 90% cost share

FMA Funding Source

- NFIP
- Swift Current

FEMA Grants

FMA projects are broken into 5 phases for efficient grant management

- Staff will collect all invoices, receipts, and proof of payments from the homeowner to be reviewed for eligible/ineligible items and to calculate our match if necessary.
- Once each phase is completed, the City reimburses the homeowner for that phase.
- After the homeowner deposits the check, City staff then sends in for reimbursement from FDEM.
- This process is ongoing until all phases are completed.
- After a Certificate of Occupancy is issued, FEMA will do an inspection, and a grant close out packet will be submitted to FDEM.

Phasing helps keep track of project progress, spending, and act as a sense of security for the homeowner to know when they can expect reimbursements throughout the project.

After accepting this grant, NFIP backed insurance must be maintained for the life of that structure.

Exhibit F
Phasing and Remittance Schedule

	Scope
Phase 1	Geotech Soil Report
	Rent
	Utility disconnects
	Engineering/Foundation Design
	Permit Fees
Phase 2	Possible dewatering fees
	Rent
	AJS consultation with Architect & site prep/planning
	House Elevation & mobilization
	Removal & replacement of defective soil
	Garage floor demolition & driveway demo
Phase 3	Foundation and Helical Pilings
	Surveys
	Temp pole hook up
	Rent
Phase 4	Removal of equipment & misc masonary
	Landings for Utility
	Slab pour
	Rent
	Tie in house to walls/finish grade
Phase 5	Utility connections-gas/water/ac
	Framming
	Electrical
	Plumbing
	Tie in survey
	Certificate of occupancy

Elevating an existing structure

Permitting

- "One permit system" helps protect homeowners from project abandonment
- Permit holder must be responsible for all trades during review, construction, and inspection
- Plans will be approved once all FBC and FEMA requirements are met and the project is proposed to end with a Certificate of Occupancy
- Many home elevations have required Zoning variances for structure and equipment setbacks

Construction

- Elevating existing structure with the existing slab
- Abandoning first floor living space with the addition of a compliant second floor living space (not an approved project for FMA)
- All mitigation projects are required to result in a Certificate of Occupancy

Year	Awards Granted	Applications in Review
1996-2000	4	
2014	5	
2015	1	
2017	3	
2020	1	
2022	1	10
2023		4
2024		8

- Grant funds will only cover the structural elevation of the home. They do not cover any type of upgrades, remodels, additional square footage, new windows or doors, new siding, landscaping, etc.
- FMA Grants are reimbursement grants.
- The amount of funds awarded to a project can vary. Most grants are in the $250,000 - $350,000 range.
- All structures must have an Engineer’s Evaluation, including a signed and sealed affidavit from a State of Florida Professional Engineer (PE) stating the structure is safe to elevate.

FMA Grant Award History

Community Rating System (CRS) Update

We received our results from the CRS cycle visit for 2024 in December of 2024. We have maintained our Class 5 standing.

Class 4 Prerequisites

- 4/4 score under the BCEGS – Current score 4/3
- Higher regulatory standards – 2ft freeboard, The 49% Rule, CHHA regulations
- Stormwater Management – We did not receive credit for our drainage system maintenance (470 pts) or for WMP2 (up to 315 pts)
- A Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) – The 2024-2025 LMS Annual Update and the 2025 LMS Five-Year update have been approved by FDEM
- Repetitive Loss Planning (RLAA) – The Repetitive Loss Area Analysis was adopted and approved
- Protection of natural floodplain functions – 287 points received through Open Space Preservation; we received no points for Natural Functions Open Space
- Life safety measures through Flood Warning and Response – Our Flood Warning and Response is one of the best our ISO officer has seen
- 3,000 points – The 2024 cycle visit put us at 2,816 points

Table 110-1. CRS classes, credit points, and premium discounts.

CRS Class	Credit Points (cT)	Premium Reduction	
		In SFHA	Outside SFHA
1	4,500+	45%	10%
2	4,000–4,499	40%	10%
3	3,500–3,999	35%	10%
4	3,000–3,499	30%	10%
5	2,500–2,999	25%	10%
6	2,000–2,499	20%	10%
7	1,500–1,999	15%	5%
8	1,000–1,499	10%	5%
9	500–999	5%	5%
10	0–499	0	0

SFHA: Zones A, AE, A1–A30, V, V1–V30, AO, and AH

Outside the SFHA: Zones X, B, C, A99, AR, and D

Preferred Risk Policies are not eligible for CRS premium discounts because they already have premiums lower than other policies. Preferred Risk Policies are available only in B, C, and X Zones for properties that are shown to have a minimal risk of flood damage.

Some minus-rated policies may not be eligible for CRS premium discounts.

Premium discounts are subject to change.

THANK YOU

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Floodplain Management
Planning & Development Services Department

1. SPAR Update
2. Flood Mitigation Financing Options

Committee of the Whole
February 27, 2025

Part 1 – SPAR Update

Claude Tankersley
Public Works Administrator

The Many Faces of Resilience

Resilient St. Pete Action Plan: A Focus on our Communities

- **Neighborhood-focused** plan that will serve as a pilot for future neighborhood-level flood adaptation in the City and throughout the region
- **Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council** to take the lead on this initiative to evaluate all studies that have been done across the city over the last decade and create an action plan that would address short-, mid-, and long-term actions that could be taken by the City and property owners to mitigate risks in vulnerable low-lying at-risk neighborhoods
- Create **a neighborhood engagement strategy for public input** to use throughout the rest of the Resilient St. Pete planning process

The Many Faces of Resilience

SPAR (St Pete Agile Resilience)

- **Fast Track to A More Resilient St. Pete** (Agile project delivery)
- **Specific infrastructure construction projects to address flooding**:
    - **Accelerated Projects**: Prioritizing and fast-tracking infrastructure initiatives that will provide **immediate and lasting impacts**
    - **Known Investment**: We anticipate advancing an additional $545+ million investments in our 5-year CIP – above what had already been planned
- SPAR projects will focus on:
    - Implementation-ready flood mitigation projects for neighborhoods citywide
    - Hardening our critical utility facilities against storm surge
- SPAR will also **develop funding strategies** to balance the financial burden of flood protection across all beneficiaries

The Many Faces of Resilience

Vulnerability Assessment

- A structured **data collection process** that identifies the **risks to the City's critical assets** from existing or potential **flooding** hazards
- Vulnerability assessments evaluate three main components:
  - Exposure
  - Sensitivity (impact due to exposure)
  - Adaptive capacity
- Four critical asset types
  - Transportation assets and evacuation routes
  - Critical infrastructure
  - Critical community and emergency facilities
  - Natural/cultural/historic assets

The Many Faces of Resilience

Strategic Plan

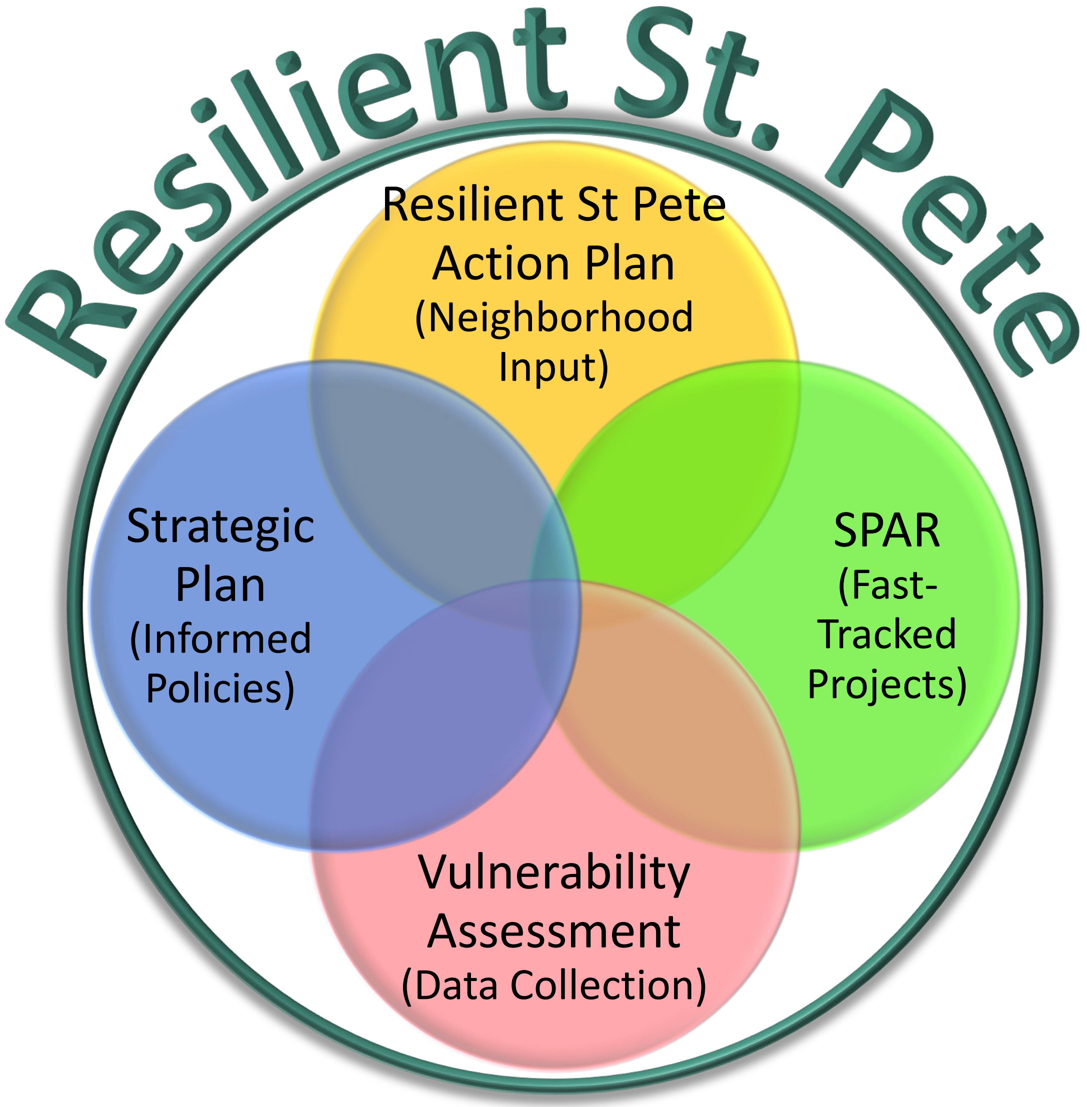
- Comprehensive **informed strategy of resilience policies, projects, and programs** that will help the City prepare for, adapt to, and quickly rebound from acute shocks and chronic stressors that the city may face
- An **overarching planning framework that will build upon** the Vulnerability Assessment, the Action Plan, and recent resilience planning efforts (such as the ISAP, St Pete 2050, St. Pete Water Plan, and Stormwater Master Plan)
- Resilient St. Pete will **incorporate these diverse planning efforts under a comprehensive program** so that we can prioritize investments based on sound science and our community's goals for the future
- **Focus will not be limited to flooding and infrastructure**, but will look at all ways our community is vulnerable (i.e., housing, heat, food insecurity, economy vulnerabilities, etc.)

The Many Faces of Resilience

	Action Plan	SPAR	Vulnerability Assessment	Strategic Plan
Focus	Neighborhood Input	Fast-Tracked Projects	Data Collection	Informed Policies
Description	Pilot for future neighborhood-level adaptation and engagement	Implementation-ready citywide projects to mitigate known flood risks	Vulnerability assessment of critical community assets (exposure/sensitivity)	Citywide and neighborhood-specific strategic adaptation policies
Outcome	Mitigation action plans for pilot at-risk neighborhoods	Fast-tracked project construction to mitigate flood risks	Risk ranking and adaptive capacity for vulnerable assets	Generational resilience policies and adaptation plans
Timeframe	Short-, mid-, and long-term	Next 5 years	Snapshot of existing risks to assets	Decades
Partners*	Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council	A/E consultants and construction teams	Consultants	Consultants

*The public are our most important partners and will be included in all resilience efforts

The Many Faces of Resilience



Resilient St. Pete is:

- **Neighborhood Input** → Action Plan
- **Fast-Tracked Projects** → SPAR
- **Data Collection** → Vulnerability Assessment
- **Informed Policies** → Strategic Plan

SPAR

SPAR
(St. Pete Agile Resilience)

SPAR Projects

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- **Specific infrastructure construction projects** to address flooding:
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  - **Known Investment**: We anticipate advancing an additional $545+ million investments in our 5-year CIP – above what had already been planned
- SPAR will focus on:
  - **Neighborhoods:** Implementation-ready flood mitigation projects for neighborhoods citywide
  - **Utilities:** Hardening our critical utility facilities against storm surge

GSDN – Get Stuff Done Now

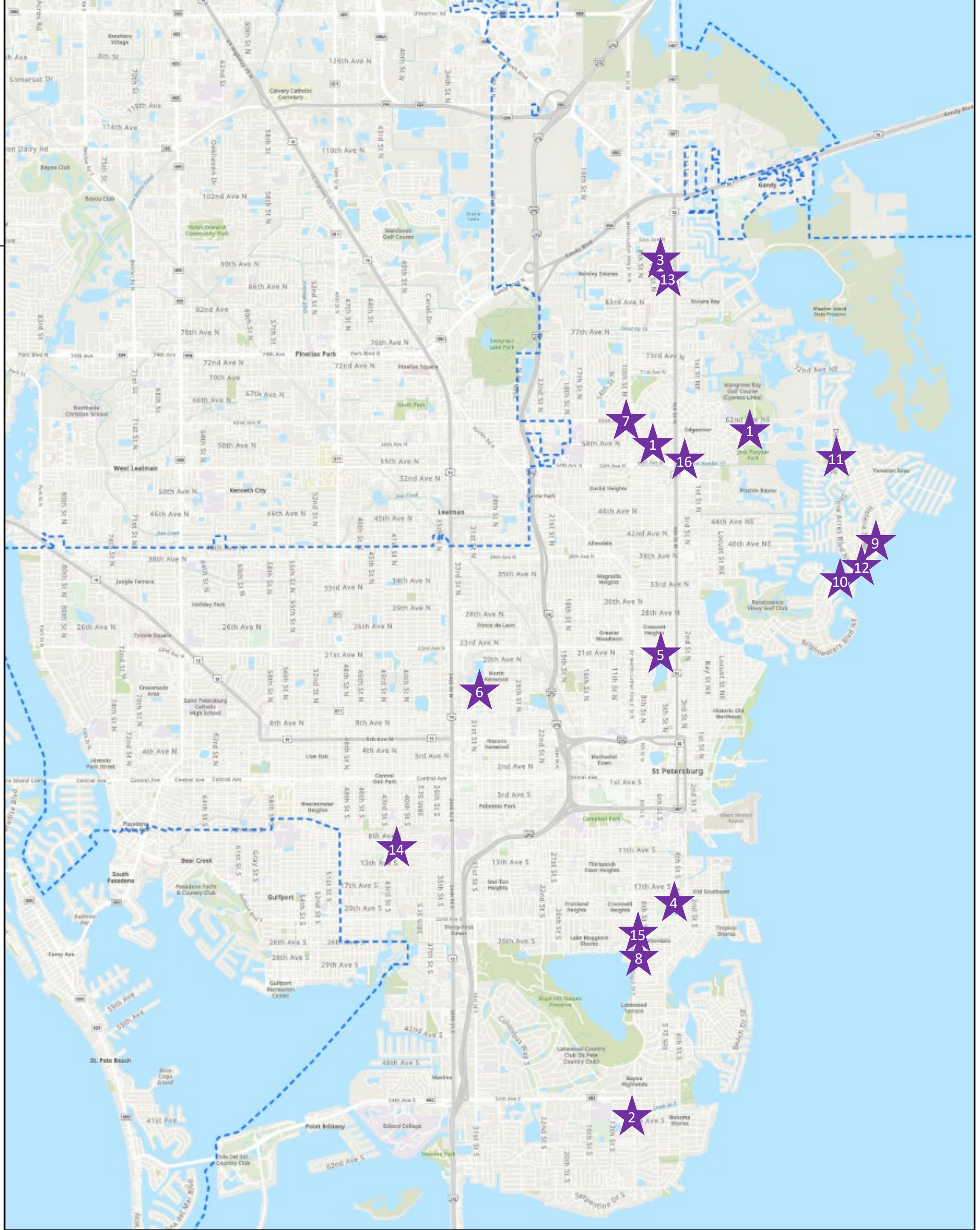
SPAR Projects - Immediate

Project	Timeline	Description
Flood Proofing Critical Buildings	2025	Enhancing flood resilience at sewer treatment plants by installing deployable flood barriers and applying a durable waterproof coating to exterior walls
AquaFence Installation	2025	Installing an AquaFence at Lift Station 85 to provide deployable, reliable flood protection and safeguard operations
Northeast Water Reclamation Facility Improvement Project	2025	Completing Northeast electrical improvements one year ahead of schedule to enhance reliability and support critical infrastructure needs
Citywide Private Lateral Rebate Program	Summer 2025	A rebate program to address and repair privately-owned sewer laterals, reducing inflow and infiltration into the city’s sewer system
Basin C Resiliency Salt Creek Outfall Pump Station Project	2025-2027	Install a new pump station at the Salt Creek Basin to increase the speed at which the excess water from Salt Creek and Lake Maggiore drains, mitigating neighborhood flooding
More to Come!	2025	More projects will be brought to Council in the months ahead

SPAR Projects – 5-yr CIP Stormwater

★ 16 Original Projects in 5-yr CIP

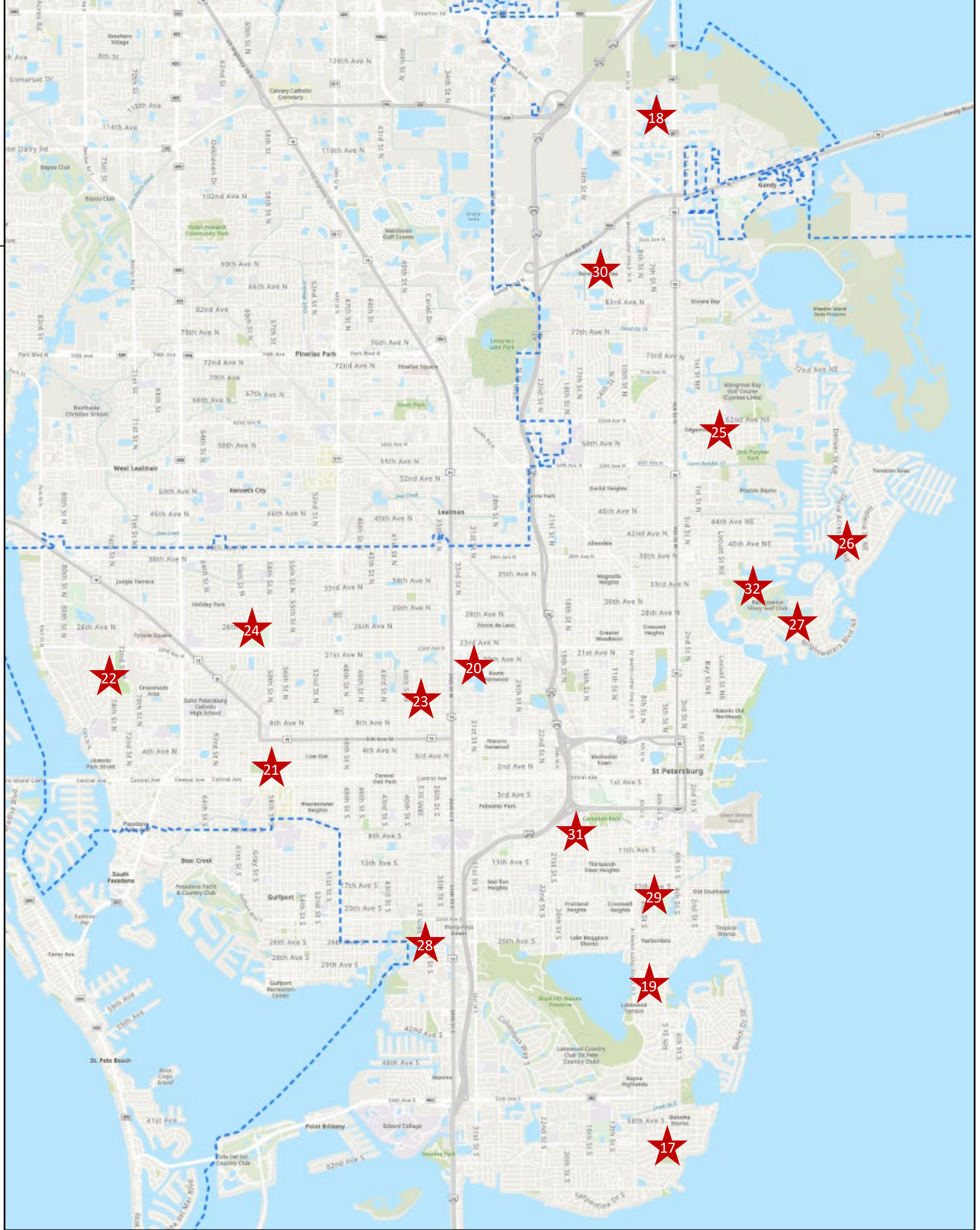
	1	62nd Ave N Stormwater System Resiliency Imps
	2	58th A/S & 11th S/S Stormwater Improvements
	3	92nd A/N Stormwater Improvements
	4	Bartlett Lake/Salt Creek Pump Station and SDI
	5	Crescent Lake 22nd Ave Bypass
	6	Emerald Lake Outfall
	7	MLK at 62nd A/N improvements
	8	MLK S of Salt Creek to 32nd AS SDI
	9	Connecticut Ave NE & Vicinity Resiliency SDI
	10	Shore Acres Flood Gate System
	11	Shore Acres Denver SDI
	12	Shore Acres Arizona SDI
	13	88th Avenue North SDI
	14	Childs Park Pond Sump Modifications
	15	MLK Channel Improvements
	16	W Edgemoor Stormwater Improvements



SPAR Projects – 5-yr CIP Stormwater

16 SPAR Projects added to 5-yr CIP

SPAR	17	63rd A/S & 16th S/S Stormwater Improvements
SPAR	18	116th Avenue North Stormwater Improvements
SPAR	19	Lake Maggiore Wet Weather Stormwater Bypass
SPAR	20	Emerald Lake Wet Weather Stormwater Inj Well
SPAR	21	Bear Creek Wet Weather Stormwater Trmt Area
SPAR	22	Golf Creek & 9th Ave Stormwater Improvements
SPAR	23	Jorgensen Lake Wet Weather Stormwater Inj Well
SPAR	24	Northwest Wet Weather Stormwater Inj Well
SPAR	25	Edgemoor Wet Weather Stormwater Inj Well
SPAR	26	Phase 2 Shore Acres Stormwater Pump Station
SPAR	27	Snell Isle Stormwater Pump Station
SPAR	28	Clam Bayou Tidal Protection Gate
SPAR	29	7 S/S & 18 AS Drainage Imps (Basin C Project 3)
SPAR	30	Barclay Estates Neighborhood Stormwater Imps
SPAR	31	Melrose Mercy Neighborhood Stormwater Imps
SPAR	32	Walnut St NE Stormwater Improvements



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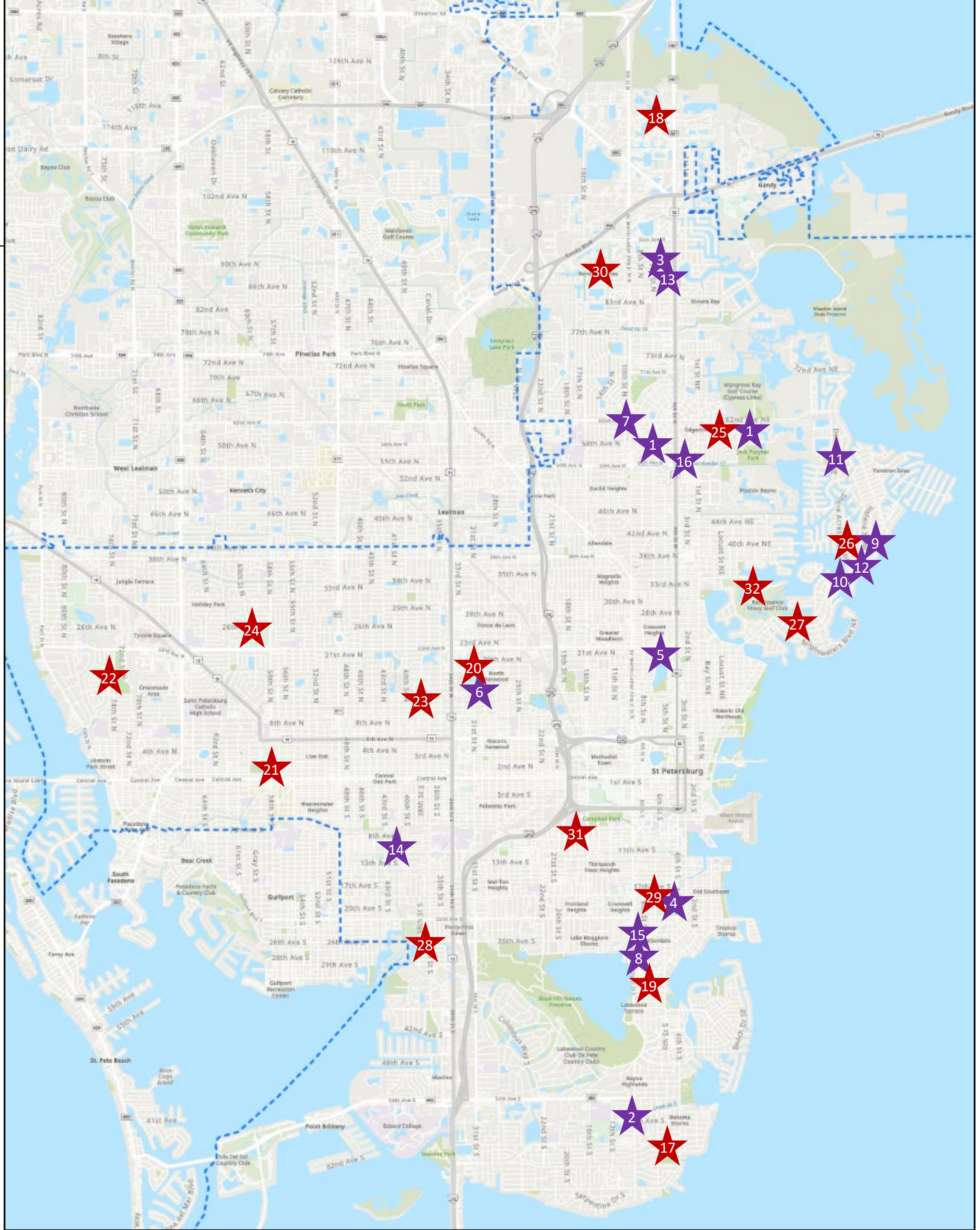
SPAR	31	Melrose Mercy Neighborhood Stormwater Imps
SPAR	32	Walnut St NE Stormwater Improvements



SPAR Projects – 5-yr CIP Water & Sewer

Water (Drinking)		
Water Treatment Plant	2 projects	• Back-up power to Tampa Bay Water well heads • Increase the pumping rate through the 36" Transmission Line
High Service Pump Stations	7 projects	• Back-Up Power reliability • Improve reliability of water disinfection in emergencies • Hardening operations buildings
DIS	12 projects	• Improve ability to locate pipe breaks • Improve ability to locate leaks • Improve reliability of transmission system • Improve reliability of distribution system • Reduce risk of breaks from old brittle pipes • Harden above-ground pipes • Upgrade water meters to digital AMI

Wastewater (Sewer)		
Collection System	8 projects	• Reduce inflow and infiltration (I&I) • Wet-weather express sewers • Address bottlenecks in collection system • Improve resiliency and/or increase ability of LS85 force main
Lift Stations	3 projects	• Elevate equipment, harden wet wells • Planning for higher flow rates in future years as recommended in the St Pete Water Plan • Wet-weather lift station to move sewage faster
Sewer Plants (NEWRF, SWWRF, NWWRF)	14 projects	• Implement flood protection measures including possible stormwater ARS well or perimeter wall • Elevated operations & maintenance buildings • Flood-proofing critical processes • Wet-weather emergency storage • Prepare for wet-weather express sewer flows • Additional storage capacity for reject water • Energy resilience

SPAR – 5-yr CIP Estimated Costs to Accelerate Projects

	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	Total
Projects already in 5-yr CIP	$159 M	$173 M	$180 M	$193 M	$255 M	**$960 M**
SPAR projects added to 5-yr CIP	$38 M	$118 M	$137 M	$121 M	$131 M	**$545 M**
Total	**$197 M**	**$291 M**	**$317 M**	**$314 M**	**$386 M**	**$1,505 M**

End of Part 1

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Claude Tankersley
Public Works Administrator

Part 2 – Flood Mitigation Financing Options

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Tom Greene
Assistant City Administrator

ELEVATE FLORIDA

New Home Elevation Program from the State of Florida

- 1,565 Submitted Applications between February 10

  75% (814) of these were from Pinellas County

  FDEM is estimating enough funding for approximately 950 properties

- Up to Two Years from Application Submittal to Closeout

- Up to 25% property owner cost-share for construction

- Multi-family real estate may be eligible

- Second story conversion and first floor abandonment are not considered eligible techniques

- Property owners can apply on the Elevate Florida Portal found at fdem-resmit.my.site.com

- For inquiries, individuals can email info@elevatefl.org or call the contact center Monday – Friday, 7 am – 7 pm ET at 877-ELEV8FL (877-353-8835)

CDBG-DR

Disaster Recovery and Home Elevation

CDBG-DR funds could be allocated for Elevate Florida cost share on a household-by-household basis. Key considerations include:

- Timing – The timing of Elevate Florida and CDBG-DR funds funding poses the biggest operational challenge

- Overall Benefit – Elevate Florida is not income restricted, so any non-federal match contributed here to non-LMI homeowners would not contribute to the CDBG-DR requirement of 70% LMI expenditure.

- Unmet Needs Analysis (UNA) or Mitigation Needs Analysis (MNA) – All CDBG-DR investments need to addresses either a disaster recovery or mitigation need within the City.

CDBG-DR funds could be allocated to elevate homes within the City, either as a stand-alone program or as part of a homeowner repair program.

End of Part 2

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Tom Greene
Assistant City Administrator