

Memorandum



Date: September 24, 2026

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor

Supplement
Agenda Item No. 4(C)

Subject: Supplemental Information on Out-of-Cycle 2026 Application
No. CDMP20260011 to Amend the Comprehensive Development Master Plan

The following supplemental information is provided to the Board of County Commissioners regarding Out-of-Cycle 2026 Application No. CDMP20260011 to amend the Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The information includes: (Exhibit 1) the Initial Recommendation report addressing application no. CDMP20260011 received by the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources.

Roy Coley

Roy Coley
Deputy Mayor

Initial Recommendations Report

Application No. CDMP20260011

Countywide

APPLICATION SUMMARY

Applicant/Representative:	Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
Location:	Countywide
Requested Text Changes:	1) Amend the Introduction of the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Element of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan pertaining to the Water and Sewer Subelement. 2) Amend the Water and Sewer Subelement, including the Monitoring Program, of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan primarily to reflect the May 2026 update of the Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.
Amendment Type:	Standard Text Amendment

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff Initial Recommendation:	TRANSMIT WITH CHANGE AND ADOPT (September 2026)
Community Councils:	Not applicable
Planning Advisory Board (PAB) acting as the Local Planning Agency:	TO BE DETERMINED (September 14, 2026)
Transmittal Action by Board of County Commissioners:	TO BE DETERMINED (September 24, 2026)
Final Action of Board of County Commissioners:	TO BE DETERMINED (November 19, 2026)

Staff's initial recommendation is to **TRANSMIT WITH CHANGE AND ADOPT**, the proposed amendment to the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Element introduction and the Water and Sewer Subelement of the County's Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) for the following reasons.

Principal Reasons for Recommendation:

1. The application, if approved, would satisfy the statutory requirement for the County to adopt the May 2026 update of the Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan into the CDMP. Section 163.3177(6)(c) of the Florida Statutes requires local governments to prepare and adopt a water supply work plan into their comprehensive plans at least every 5 years, within 18 months after the applicable water management district adopts a regional water supply plan. The water supply work plan must identify alternative water supply projects, traditional water supply projects and conservation and reuse measures necessary to meet projected water demand for at least a 10-year planning period. The last update of the CDMP to incorporate the Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in January 2023 through Ordinance No. 23-6. Subsequently, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) approved the most recent Lower East Coast (LEC) Water Supply Plan on September 23, 2024 that was utilized in developing Miami-Dade County's current Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update, dated May 2026 (see Appendix B on Appendices Page 11 herein). The proposed amendment, if approved, would adopt the May 2026 Water Supply Facilities Work Plan into the CDMP by reference and satisfy the statutory requirement.

The SFWMD previously issued the County's most recent Water Use Permit modification on March 8, 2022. The Water Use Permit has an expiration date of December 27, 2065, an annual aquifer withdrawal allocation of 148,018 million gallons, and a maximum monthly allocation of 12,951.61 million gallons, for the 20-year period beginning 2022 through to year 2042. The County's May 2026 Water Supply Facilities Work Plan update is consistent with the County's Water Use Permit and the SFWMD's Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan and the required CDMP revisions are presented primarily in the proposed amendment to Objective WS-7 and its associated policies.

2. The recommended change to the application is the addition of a footnote to 'Table 1: Alternative Water Supply Projects 2022-2042', on page 4 below, that clarifies the listed Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects for the 'South Miami Heights WTP Back-Up' are designated backup facilities for the C-51 Reservoir alternative water facility should, for any reason, it becomes inoperable.

The application proposes updates to the Introduction of the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Element of the CDMP pertaining to the required updates of the Water and Sewer Subelement, updates the Subelement's Introductory text, and clarifies and/or updates several objectives and policies of the Subelement.

REQUESTED TEXT AMENDMENTS

The following presents the proposed text changes to the CDMP. Single underlined words represent the proposed additions and words stricken through are proposed deletions. All other words are adopted text that are in effect and remain unchanged.

- 1) **Amend the Introductory Text, Objectives and Policies of the Water and Sewer Subelement in the County's adopted Comprehensive Development Master Plan as follows:**

WATER, SEWER, AND SOLID WASTE ELEMENT

Introduction

The Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Element is composed of two subelements. The Water and Sewer Subelement contains a goal, objectives, policies, and monitoring measures for the County's water services. The Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) is the largest public water and sewer utility in the southeastern United States. The Department's water system serves over ~~451,000~~464,000 retail customers and 15 Municipal wholesale customers in Miami-Dade County, and the wastewater system serves over ~~367,000~~379,000 retail customers and 13 wholesale customers consisting of 12 municipal customers and the Homestead Air Reserve Base. In November 2007, WASD received a historic 20-year Water-Use Permit (WUP) from the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). Since the 2007 WUP, WASD has requested several modifications to the permit with the most recent WUP modification issued on March 8, 2022, with having an expiration date of December 27, ~~2045~~2065, with an annual allocation of 148,018 million gallons (405.53 MGD) and maximum monthly allocation of 12,951.61 million gallons to year 2042. The permit is a plan for meeting the present and future water needs of the County while protecting natural resources such as the Everglades. The permit requires WASD to develop alternative water supply sources including use of the Floridan Aquifer as an alternative water supply, and the C-51 Reservoir, and continue with its Water-Use Efficiency Program and water loss reduction program. It ensures water will be available for Miami-Dade County's needs and lays the groundwork for capital improvements programmed or planned for the next decade.

* * *

- 2) **Amend the Water and Sewer Subelement including its Monitoring Program as follows:**

WATER AND SEWER SUBELEMENT

GOAL

PROVIDE FOR POTABLE WATER, AND SANITARY SEWER FACILITIES WHICH MEET THE COUNTY'S NEEDS IN A MANNER THAT PROMOTES THE PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY, CDMP-PLANNED LAND USE, AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.

* * *

Objective WS-4. Miami-Dade County shall protect the health of its residents and preserve its environmental integrity by reducing the proportion of residences and commercial establishments within the Urban Development Boundary using wastewater treatment facilities (onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems and interim sewage treatment plants) that are not connected to the central system. Miami-Dade County shall discourage ~~the new or continued use of such facilities through the strict application of the CDMP and land development regulations.~~

* * *

Objective WS-5. ~~Develop and~~ Continue to implement a the comprehensive water conservation program to ensure that a sufficient, economical supply of Biscayne Aquifer water is available to meet current and future water demand without degrading the environment.

* * *

WS-6F. It is the policy of Miami-Dade County that the ~~distribution of potable water from the proposed Hialeah reverse osmosis water treatment plant, which uses the Floridan Aquifer as its source and is located at 4250 NW 114 Terrace in proximity to the area encompassing Application No. 5 in the April 2005-2006 CDMP Cycle [area bounded by NW 154 Street on the south, NW 97 Avenue on the east, and the Homestead Extension of the Florida Turnpike (HEFT) on the northwest], using the Floridan Aquifer as its source, shall be dedicated first to satisfying the total potable water demand from development of the site of Application No. 5 in the area bounded by NW 154 Street on the south, NW 97 Avenue on the east, and the Homestead Extension of the Florida Turnpike (HEFT) on the northwest (that was subject to Application No. 5 of the April 2005 CDMP amendment Cycle).~~ In no event shall a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) for development in the area encompassed by Application No. 5 be issued until it is served by the ~~proposed Hialeah~~ reverse osmosis water treatment plant or by another water supply source authorized under the County's Consumptive Use Permit from the South Florida Water Management District or as otherwise agreed upon with the District and incorporated into the County's CIE Schedules of Improvements.

* * *

Objective WS-7. Miami-Dade County shall ~~create a~~ continue to implement and timely update its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan that identifies and develops those water supply projects necessary to meet the County's projected water demands for a minimum 10-year period.

Policies

WS-7A. The Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Work Plan), dated ~~April 2022~~ May 2026, is adopted and incorporated by reference into the CDMP. This document is designed to: assess current and projected potable water demands; evaluate the sources and capacities of available water supplies; and identify those water supply projects, using all available technologies, necessary to meet the County's water demands.

WS-7B. The County shall consider the most recent approved version of South Florida Water Management District's *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan Update (approved September 23, 2024)* in developing and updating its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan. The Work

Plan will be updated, at a minimum, every 5-years and within 18 months after the South Florida Water Management District's approval of an updated *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan*. Updates to the water supply facilities necessary to satisfy projected water demands shall be provided to the South Florida Water Management District in the Annual Lower East Coast Progress Report. The Work Plan shall address climate change and sea level rise that may impact the potable water infrastructure and sources. The potable water supply facilities necessary to satisfy projected water demands during the 2022 - ~~2030~~2042 period are shown in Table 1, below.

Table 1
Alternative Water Supply Projects 2022-2030

<u>Completion Date</u>	<u>Annual Average Finished Water Quantity in MGD and Source</u>		
Completed	7.50	Hialeah Floridan Aquifer RO WTP-Phase 1-a, 10 MGD & 6 Floridan Aquifer supply wells	AWS
<u>12/31/23 Completed</u>	2.50	Hialeah Floridan Aquifer RO WTP-Phase 1-b, 4 Floridan Aquifer supply wells	AWS
<u>7/31/23 Completed</u>	15.00	C-51 Reservoir	AWS
12/31/2026	12.45	South Miami Heights WTP Back-Up Phase 1 (RO portion)* ₌	AWS
12/31/2033	5.00	South Miami Heights WTP Back-Up Phase 2 (RO portion)* ₌	AWS
Total	42.45		

Notes: RO means reverse osmosis; WTP means water treatment plant; AWS means Alternative Water Supply

* Backup in the event C-51 becomes inoperable

Monitoring Program

This section of the Element outlines the substantive components of Miami-Dade County's monitoring program pertinent to the objectives, policies and parameters referenced elsewhere in this Element.

Water and Sewer Monitoring and Evaluation Program In practice, the use of quantitative measures of objective implementation is preferred to individual policy evaluation. The following measures are recommended for use in monitoring the objectives proposed in this report for the Water and Sewer Subelement. These measures were selected based on their ability to represent overall achievement of an objective and on their ease and economy in collection, recording, and evaluation. At least one measure is recommended for each objective, and one alternative measure is recommended for several objectives. The alternative measure is recommended for those objectives where none of the primary measurements recommended are available from

existing data sources in Countywide circulation at the time of the report. The alternative measurement, if suggested, will always be based on an existing data source.

Objective WS-1. Planning and provision of water and sewer services in concert and conformity with the County's Land Use Element of the CDMP.

Recommended measurement for potable water and sanitary sewer service: geographic area outside of the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) served by water and sewer each year.

Alternative measure for potable water: miles of water mains greater than 6 inches in diameter which exist outside of the UDB. Alternative measure for sanitary sewer: miles of sewer force mains which exist outside of the UDB. Source of alternative measure: Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department Water and Sewer Atlases. It should be noted that the alternative measurements will overestimate system development outside of the UDB, as they will count water and sewer mains located outside the UDB, but not used for local service. The use of the alternative measurements will have to ~~correct~~ be adjusted for this bias.

Objective WS-2. Implementation of procedures to ensure adequate facilities and correct system deficiencies, including Level of Service (LOS) standards for Water and Sewer services.

The achievement of the LOS standards is their own monitoring measures. For the entire objective, the following measures are recommended: treatment plant capacity for the system (water and sewer); reserve capacity of raw and treated water (water); ~~amount of~~ areas of inadequate fire flow (water). Treatment plant capacity is monitored and published by WASD regularly, and does not require an alternative. Other alternative measures include percent water unaccounted for, ratio of peak demand to average demand, treatment plant capacity for individual treatment plants.

* * *

Objective WS-4. Reduction in the use of septic tanks and other private wastewater treatment facilities (onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems and interim sewage treatment plants).

* * *

Objective WS-5. ~~Initiation and maintenance~~ Implementation of the county's Water Use Efficiency Plan objectives including water conservation programs, non-revenue water loss reduction efforts and legislative initiatives.

Recommended measurements include: average systemwide water use per capita; and percent water unaccounted for; peak day to average day water demand ratio; ~~amount of water and wastewater that is reused or reclaimed within Miami-Dade County on an annual basis~~. This data is published annually by WASD so no alternative measure is recommended.

Objective WS-6. Expansion of traditional and innovative sources of raw water.

Recommended measurements include: reserve capacity of raw water and capacity of the aquifer storage and recovery system, and other future innovative projects once implemented as specified in the County's Water Use Permit. No alternative measurements are recommended.

Objective WS-7. Development and maintenance of a Water Supply Facilities Plan.

Recommended measurements include: Consistency between the water supply projects identified in the Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update and those listed in Miami-Dade County's Water Use Permit(s), the *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan*, and the Capital Improvements Element of the CDMP. A second measure would be a comparison of the projected minimum 10 year water demands with the projected water supply projects identified in the Work Plan.

BACKGROUND

The application is filed toward compliance with Section 163.3177(6)(c) of the Florida Statutes that requires local governments to prepare and adopt a water supply work plan into their comprehensive plans at least every 5 years, within 18 months after the applicable water management district adopts a regional water supply plan. The water supply work plan is required to identify alternative water supply projects, traditional water supply projects and conservation and reuse measures necessary to meet projected water demand for at least a 10-year planning period.

The last update of the CDMF to incorporate the Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in January 2023 through Ordinance No. 23-6. Subsequently, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) approved the most recent Lower East Coast (LEC) Water Supply Plan on September 23, 2024 that was utilized in developing Miami-Dade County's current Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update, dated May 2026 (see Appendix 1). The proposed amendment, if approved, would adopt the May 2026 Water Supply Facilities Work Plan into the CDMF by reference and satisfy the statutory requirement.

The first 20-Year Water Use Permit (WUP) for Miami-Dade County was approved by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board on November 15, 2007. Subsequent modifications have been submitted by WASD and approved by SFWMD, with the latest permit issued on March 8, 2022. The SFWMD previously issued the County's most recent Water Use Permit modification on March 8, 2022. The Water Use Permit has an expiration date of December 27, 2065, an annual aquifer withdrawal allocation of 148,018 million gallons, and a maximum monthly allocation of 12,951.61 million gallons, for the 20-year period beginning 2022 through to year 2042. The County's May 2026 Water Supply Facilities Work Plan update is consistent with the County's Water Use Permit and the SFWMD's Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan and is presented in the proposed revisions to Objective WS-7 and associated policies.

The Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) water service area contains interconnected systems and thus, for the most part, functions as a regional system. The service area includes the Hialeah-Preston/Hialeah-reverse osmosis area serving the northern part of Miami-Dade County, the Alexander Orr, Jr., area serving the central and portions of the southern part of Miami-Dade County and the South Dade area (formerly known as the Rex Utility District) serving the southern part of Miami-Dade County. The Biscayne Aquifer is the major source of drinking water, supplying ±97% of the County's potable water needs. Groundwater from the brackish Floridan Aquifer is the drinking water source for the Hialeah Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant. The South Florida Water Management District's September 2024 *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan Update* was utilized, as required, in developing and updating Miami-Dade County's Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update. Detailed information on the WASD water service area, water facilities and water supplies, and conservation efforts is provided in the May 2026 Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update, for which the Executive Summary is attached hereto as Appendix B, Appendices Page 11 herein. (The complete Water Supply Facilities Work Plan may be accessed on the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources website through the weblink: https://energov.miamidade.gov/EnerGov_Prod/SelfService#/plan/f9a74514-dd84-47cc-ab4a-c06852f8da91?tab=attachments).

WASD operates three regional wastewater treatment facilities that serve over 2.7 million customers, identified as the North District, South District, and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants. The North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants currently utilize ocean outfall to dispose of the treated effluent while the South District Wastewater Treatment Plant utilizes injection wells as its primary disposal method for treated effluent.

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APPENDICES

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* Excerpted pages are enclosed herein. The complete application and all related documents are accessible on the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources website indicated by the link below.

** The complete May 2026 Water Supply Facilities Work Plan may also be accessed from the below weblink.

https://energov.miamidade.gov/EnerGov_Prod/SelfService#/plan/f9a74514-dd84-47cc-ab4a-c06852f8da91?tab=attachments

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APPENDIX A
Amendment Application

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APPLICATION REQUESTING AMENDMENT TO THE COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

1. APPLICANT

Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
111 NW 1st Street, 12th Floor
Miami, Florida 33128-1972
(305) 375-2835

2. APPLICANT'S REPRESENTATIVE

Lourdes M. Gomez, AICP, Director
Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
111 NW 1st Street, 11th Floor
Miami, Florida 33128-1972

By:  August 18, 2026

3. REQUESTED TEXT CHANGES

- 1) Amend the Introduction of the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Element of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan pertaining to the Water and Sewer Subelement.
- 2) Amend the Water and Sewer Subelement, including the Monitoring Program, of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan primarily, and as is required, to reflect the May 2026 update of the Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan.

4. DESCRIPTION OF REQUESTED CHANGES

- 1) **Amend the Introduction of the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Element of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) as follows:**

WATER, SEWER, AND SOLID WASTE ELEMENT

Introduction

The Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Element is composed of two subelements. The Water and Sewer Subelement contains a goal, objectives, policies, and monitoring measures for the County's water services. The Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) is the largest public water and sewer utility in the southeastern United States. The Department's water system serves over ~~451,000~~464,000 retail customers and 15 Municipal wholesale customers in Miami-Dade County, and the wastewater system serves over ~~367,000~~379,000 retail customers and 13 wholesale customers consisting of 12 municipal customers and the Homestead Air Reserve Base.

In November 2007, WASD received a historic 20-year Water-Use Permit (WUP) from the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). Since the 2007 WUP, WASD has requested several modifications to the permit with the most recent WUP modification issued on March 8, 2022, with having an expiration date of December 27, ~~2045~~2065, with an annual allocation of 148,018 million gallons (405.53 MGD) and maximum monthly allocation of 12,951.61 million gallons to year 2042. The permit is a plan for meeting the present and future water needs of the County while protecting natural resources such as the Everglades. The permit requires WASD to develop alternative water supply sources including use of the Floridan Aquifer as an alternative water supply, and the C-51 Reservoir, and continue with its Water-Use Efficiency Program and water loss reduction program. It ensures water will be available for Miami-Dade County's needs and lays the groundwork for capital improvements programmed or planned for the next decade.

* * *

2) Amend the Water and Sewer Subelement including its Monitoring Program as follows:

WATER AND SEWER SUBELEMENT

GOAL

PROVIDE FOR POTABLE WATER, AND SANITARY SEWER FACILITIES WHICH MEET THE COUNTY'S NEEDS IN A MANNER THAT PROMOTES THE PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY, CDMP-PLANNED LAND USE, AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.

* * *

Objective WS-4. Miami-Dade County shall protect the health of its residents and preserve its environmental integrity by reducing the proportion of residences and commercial establishments within the Urban Development Boundary using wastewater treatment facilities (onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems and interim sewage treatment plants) that are not connected to the central system. Miami-Dade County shall discourage ~~the~~ new or continued use of such facilities through the strict application of the CDMP and land development regulations.

* * *

Objective WS-5. ~~Develop and~~ Continue to implement a the comprehensive water conservation program to ensure that a sufficient, economical supply of Biscayne Aquifer water is available to meet current and future water demand without degrading the environment.

* * *

WS-6F. It is the policy of Miami-Dade County that the ~~distribution of~~ potable water from the proposed Hialeah reverse osmosis water treatment plant, which uses the Floridan Aquifer as its

~~source and is located at 4250 NW 114 Terrace in proximity to the area encompassing Application No. 5 in the April 2005-2006 CDMP Cycle [area bounded by NW 154 Street on the south, NW 97 Avenue on the east, and the Homestead Extension of the Florida Turnpike (HEFT) on the northwest], using the Floridan Aquifer as its source, shall be dedicated first to satisfying the total potable water demand from development of the site of Application No. 5 in the area bounded by NW 154 Street on the south, NW 97 Avenue on the east, and the Homestead Extension of the Florida Turnpike (HEFT) on the northwest (that was subject to Application No. 5 of the April 2005 CDMP amendment Cycle). In no event shall a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) for development in the area encompassed by Application No. 5 be issued until it is served by the ~~proposed reverse osmosis water treatment plant~~ Hialeah reverse osmosis water treatment plant or by another water supply source authorized under the County's Consumptive Use Permit from the South Florida Water Management District or as otherwise agreed upon with the District and incorporated into the County's CIE Schedules of Improvements.~~

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Objective WS-7. Miami-Dade County shall ~~create a~~ continue to implement and timely update its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan that identifies and develops those water supply projects necessary to meet the County's projected water demands for a minimum 10-year period.

Policies

WS-7A. The Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Work Plan), dated ~~April 2022~~ May 2026, is adopted and incorporated by reference into the CDMP. This document is designed to: assess current and projected potable water demands; evaluate the sources and capacities of available water supplies; and identify those water supply projects, using all available technologies, necessary to meet the County's water demands.

WS-7B. The County shall consider the most recent approved version of South Florida Water Management District's *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan Update* (approved September 23, 2024) in developing and updating its Water Supply Facilities Work Plan. The Work Plan will be updated, at a minimum, every 5-years and within 18 months after the South Florida Water Management District's approval of an updated *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan*. Updates to the water supply facilities necessary to satisfy projected water demands shall be provided to the South Florida Water Management District in the Annual Lower East Coast Progress Report. The Work Plan shall address climate change and sea level rise that may impact the potable water infrastructure and sources. The potable water supply facilities necessary to satisfy projected water demands during the 2022 - ~~2030~~2042 period are shown in Table 1, below.

Table 1
Alternative Water Supply Projects 2022-~~2030~~2042

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7/31/23 <u>Completed</u>	15.00	C-51 Reservoir	AWS
12/31/2026 <u>12/31/2028</u>	12.45	South Miami Heights WTP Back-Up Phase 1 (RO portion)	AWS
12/31/2033 <u>12/31/2035</u>	5.00	South Miami Heights WTP Back-Up Phase 2 (RO portion)	AWS
Total	42.45		

Notes: RO means reverse osmosis; WTP means water treatment plant; AWS means Alternative Water Supply

Monitoring Program

This section of the Element outlines the substantive components of Miami-Dade County's monitoring program pertinent to the objectives, policies and parameters referenced elsewhere in this Element.

Water and Sewer Monitoring and Evaluation Program In practice, the use of quantitative measures of objective implementation is preferred to individual policy evaluation. The following measures are recommended for use in monitoring the objectives proposed in this report for the Water and Sewer Subelement. These measures were selected based on their ability to represent overall achievement of an objective and on their ease and economy in collection, recording, and evaluation. At least one measure is recommended for each objective, and one alternative measure is recommended for several objectives. The alternative measure is recommended for those objectives where none of the primary measurements recommended are available from existing data sources in Countywide circulation at the time of the report. The alternative measurement, if suggested, will always be based on an existing data source.

Objective WS-1. Planning and provision of water and sewer services in concert and conformity with the County's Land Use Element of the CDMP.

Recommended measurement for potable water and sanitary sewer service: geographic area outside of the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) served by water and sewer each year.

Alternative measure for potable water: miles of water mains greater than 6 inches in diameter which exist outside of the UDB. Alternative measure for sanitary sewer: miles of sewer force mains which exist outside of the UDB. Source of alternative measure: Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department Water and Sewer Atlases. It should be noted that the alternative measurements will overestimate system development outside of the UDB, as they will count water and sewer mains located outside the UDB, but not used for local service. The use of the alternative measurements will have to ~~correct~~ be adjusted for this bias.

Objective WS-2. Implementation of procedures to ensure adequate facilities and correct system deficiencies, including Level of Service (LOS) standards for Water and Sewer services.

The achievement of the LOS standards is their own monitoring measures. For the entire objective, the following measures are recommended: treatment plant capacity for the system (water and sewer); reserve capacity of raw and treated water (water); ~~amount of~~ areas of inadequate fire flow (water). Treatment plant capacity is monitored and published by WASD regularly, and does not require an alternative. Other alternative measures include percent water unaccounted for, ratio of peak demand to average demand, treatment plant capacity for individual treatment plants.

* * *

Objective WS-4. Reduction in the use of septic tanks and other private wastewater treatment facilities (onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems and interim sewage treatment plants).

* * *

Objective WS-5. ~~Initiation and maintenance~~ Implementation of the county's Water Use Efficiency Plan objectives including water conservation programs, non-revenue water loss reduction efforts and legislative initiatives.

Recommended measurements include: average systemwide water use per capita; and percent water unaccounted for; peak day to average day water demand ratio; ~~amount of water and wastewater that is reused or reclaimed within Miami-Dade County on an annual basis~~. This data is published annually by WASD ~~so no alternative measure is recommended~~.

Objective WS-6. Expansion of traditional and innovative sources of raw water.

Recommended measurements include: reserve capacity of raw water and capacity of the aquifer storage and recovery system, and other future innovative projects once implemented as specified in the County's Water Use Permit. No alternative measurements are recommended.

Objective WS-7. Development and maintenance of a Water Supply Facilities Plan.

Recommended measurements include: Consistency between the water supply projects identified in the Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update and those listed in Miami-Dade County's Water Use Permit(s), the *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan*, and the Capital Improvements Element of the CDMP. A second measure would be a comparison of the projected minimum 10 year water demands with the projected water supply projects identified in the Work Plan.

5. BACKGROUND

The application is filed toward compliance with Section 163.3177(6)(c) of the Florida Statutes that requires local governments to prepare and adopt a water supply work plan into their comprehensive plans at least every 5 years, within 18 months after the applicable water management district adopts a regional water supply plan. The most recent approved version of South Florida Water Management District's regional water supply plan, the *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan Update*, was approved September 23, 2024.

The Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASD) water service area contains interconnected systems and thus, for the most part, function as a regional system. The service area includes the Hialeah-Preston/Hialeah-reverse osmosis area serving the northern part of Miami-Dade County, the Alexander Orr, Jr., area serving the central and portions of the southern part of Miami-Dade County and the South Dade area (formerly known as the Rex Utility District) serving the southern part of Miami-Dade County. The Biscayne Aquifer is the major source of drinking water, supplying ±97% of the County's potable water needs. Groundwater from the brackish Floridan Aquifer is the drinking water source for the Hialeah Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant. The South Florida Water Management District's September 2024 *Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan Update* was utilized, as required, in developing and updating Miami-Dade County's Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update. Detailed information on the WASD water service area, water facilities and water supplies, and conservation efforts is provided in the May 2026 Miami-Dade County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update, attached hereto as Appendix 1.

WASD operates three regional wastewater treatment facilities that serve over 2.7 million customers, North District, South District, and Central District. The North and Central District Wastewater Treatment Plants currently utilize ocean outfall to dispose of the treated effluent. The South District Wastewater Treatment Plant utilizes injection wells as its primary disposal method.

APPENDIX B

Executive Summary Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan, May 2026

(NOTE: The complete May 2026 Water Supply Facilities Work Plan may be accessed through the weblink: https://energov.miamidade.gov/EnerGov_Prod/SelfService#/plan/f9a74514-dd84-47cc-ab4a-c06852f8da91?tab=attachments)

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Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department

10-Year Water Supply Facilities
Work Plan
May 2026



Executive Summary

This update to the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department's (WASD) Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (Plan) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 163.3177(6)(c)3 of the Florida Statutes for a 10-year planning horizon. Said statutory provision requires local governments adopt a water supply work plan that identifies traditional and alternative water supply projects, conservation and reuse measures necessary to meet projected water demands. This Plan is updated on a five-year cycle within 18-months of an adopted update to the South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) regional water supply plan. The most recent Lower East Coast (LEC) Regional Water Supply Plan, which Miami-Dade County (County) is a part of, was adopted by the SFWMD Governing Board on September 23, 2024.

The 10-Year Plan update describes WASD's existing water supply systems. The document also provides a plan for implementing additional water supply initiatives (including the development of traditional and alternative water supplies), as necessary, to serve existing and future development.

This Plan update includes the following primary sections:

- Section 1 – Introduction
- Section 2 – Water Service Area
- Section 3 – Existing Water Supply Facilities
- Section 4 – Population and Water Demand Projections
- Section 5 – Planned Water Supply Facilities
- Section 6 – Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Plan

The Plan focuses on the evolution of water demands within the County and required actions to meet anticipated future needs. The County's projected finished water demands are now lower than anticipated when the first 20-year water use permit (WUP) application was submitted to SFWMD in 2007.

The decrease in water demands has been a result of numerous drivers internal and external to WASD. Over more than a decade, the County's per capita water consumption and overall drinking water production have decreased. The evolution of water demands can be attributed to several factors including:

- Deceleration of population growth
- Implementation of a county-wide water conservation plan, a component of the County's WUP
- Evolving trends in housing demographics (multifamily construction versus single family homes)
- Changes in water use practices

Over the past several years, the scale of redevelopment within the County has been significant, leading to the replacement of older housing stock and commercial and industrial space with new and more efficient construction. Since 2009, the county's building code, specifically Section 8-31 and 32-84, requires installation of water efficient fixtures including toilets, faucets and showerheads that meet Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense Program standards.

In 2007, the County developed a water conservation plan consisting of several components to reduce water use including the following:

- Indoor high efficiency fixture rebate program providing rebates to properties built before 1996 to incentive the use of EPA WaterSense certified faucets, toilets and showerheads
- Outdoor rebate program providing free landscape assessments and rebates to property owners that upgrade irrigation systems with high efficiency components in landscape irrigation systems
- Media and public education outreach campaigns
- Distribution of free high efficiency fixtures and dye tablets
- Implementation of a water conservation based tiered rate billing structure
- Utility wide leak detection program

Additionally, the following statutory rules have been adopted by the County to promote conservation:

- Two day per week lawn irrigation rule limiting outdoor consumption, a significant use of water in the County
- Encouraging the use of Florida Friendly Landscaping Principles outlined in sections 18-A and 18-B of the County code requiring landscape standards for new construction
- Require the installation of submeters in new multiuse properties. Submeters encourage conservation with individual units billed for their own consumption vs. billing from a single master meter
- Direct WASD's wholesale water customers to develop their own water conservation plan to promote water use efficiency within their jurisdiction.

The County's Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) land use policies have also been instrumental in driving decreases in water demand and wastewater generation. Over the decades, land use policy has incentivized high density development in areas of existing infrastructure and public services (i.e. transit, sanitary sewer, etc.). This in turn has led to a pivot from growth in suburban single-family homes with higher average water consumption, to multifamily buildings including condominiums, apartments, and in some cases, micro-apartments which have much lower water demands. This, plus the implementation of the County's water conservation plan and statutory rules detailed above has led to a decrease in per capita consumption throughout the County from 153.30 gpd in 2006 to 138.71 gpd in 2025. Quantifiable measures outlined in the water conservation plan alone has resulted in cumulative water savings of 16.85 MGD.

Since the 2007 WUP, WASD has requested several modifications to the permit to reflect new population data, revised water demand projections and alternative water supply projects to support the projected water demands. The most recent WUP modification was issued on March 8, 2022 with an expiration date of December 27, 2065. The WUP limits WASD's annual allocation to 148,018 million gallons (392.2 MGD Biscayne Aquifer and 13.33 MGD Floridan Aquifer) and the maximum monthly allocation to 12,951.61 million gallons to year 2042 (20 years). These allocations are included in the wellfield operational plan described in Exhibit 8 of the WUP, dependent on the use of the C-51 Reservoir offset. The WUP modification includes optimization of Biscayne Aquifer water supplies through improved wellfield operations and the C-51 Reservoir project. The wellfield optimization allows for the maximum use of wet and dry season non-regional flows throughout the County by leveraging operational flexibility between Miami-Dade WASD's water treatment plants and wellfields. This Plan has been prepared considering water supplies available to WASD in the utility's current WUP and confirms that currently available water supplies are sufficient to meet demands through the 10-year planning period.

Miami-Dade WASD has also been addressing the new U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations for per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). In April 2024, the EPA introduced regulations for PFAS, mandating the implementation of National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) for these substances, commonly referred to as Forever Chemicals. In response, WASD initiated the PFAS Demonstration Testing Project to identify the most efficient and cost-effective treatment methods for PFAS removal at WASD's water treatment plants (WTPs). The treatment methods under evaluation include granular activated carbon (GAC), reverse osmosis (RO), nanofiltration (NF), ion exchange (IX) systems, and direct wellhead treatment activities, in order to comply with the EPA's compliance date of 2029.

Since the beginning of 2025, the Demonstration Testing Phase of the project has been ongoing. This phase involves evaluating different treatment options including RO at the Hialeah WTP, Nanofiltration at the Alexander-Orr WTP, and various GAC and IX options at the Alex Orr WTP, Preston WTP, and South Dade System. A Blue Ribbon Panel peer-reviewed Final Report with recommendations is anticipated by mid 2026.

This work plan also details WASD's assessment and planning for sea level rise and climate change with relation to water supply. The primary concern to WASD's water supply is saltwater intrusion into the Biscayne aquifer, the primary source of drinking water in Miami-Dade County. Model projections show that municipal wellfields are not expected to experience impacts from saltwater intrusion through approximately 2040. Beyond this timeframe, however, continued inland movement of the saltwater interface is expected to pose increasing risk to water supply infrastructure. Overall, the results indicate that while near-term impacts are limited, long-term conditions will require proactive adaptation, including optimization of wellfield operations and development of alternative water supply sources.