


LTC #313-2025

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Honorable Mayor Steven Meiner and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager 

DATE: July 25, 2025

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF "OPERATION CLEAN WATER" PROGRAM.

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to provide the Mayor and City Commission an update of "Operation Clean Water" adopted on March 19, 2025 by Resolution No. 2025-33559.

At the July 10, 2025 meeting of the Land Use and Sustainability Committee, City staff provided an update of the item "Discuss the North Beach Water Quality and Park View Canal Report." At the conclusion of the discussion, a motion was made, directing the Administration to provide weekly updates of its efforts at the Park View Canal, with a focus on Biscayne Beach Elementary outfall hotspot and associate pipe-lining, above ground cleanliness (alleyways, street sweeping, pressure washing), and homeless outreach.

Biscayne Beach Elementary

Rehabilitation of private gravity sanitary sewer laterals associated with Biscayne Beach Elementary is progressing. The City has been coordinating with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to secure access for closed circuit television (CCTV) inspection and lining. An Access Agreement is expected by next Friday, August 1, 2025, at which point work will proceed in coordination with the City contractor. Permits have been secured, and all specialty materials and subcontractors are ready to begin the rehabilitation of the private lateral lines. The target date for the commencement of rehabilitation efforts is the week of August 11, 2025.

Ultraviolet Sanitization Pilot Project

Ultraviolet (UV) pilot project equipment, including UV sterilizers, have been purchased and provided to Dr. Helena Solo-Gabriel's group at University of Miami (UM). Efforts for the use of the UV sterilizers are tentatively scheduled to commence second half of August 2025, pending execution of an agreement between UM and the City. During the UV pilot project's deployment, the City's Public Works Engineering, Sanitation, and Operations Divisions will be present for the duration of the activities to assist UM with pre- and post-treatment sampling in order to assess the efficacy of the treatment.

Stormwater Management

Seven Downstream Defender water quality structures which are designed to capture sediments, oils, and floatable debris before the stormwater discharges into the canal, are in the final stages of permitting with the Miami-Dade County Environmental Resources Management (DERM). These hydrodynamic separators are currently at 90% design with a projected budget of \$800,000. The separators will operate via gravity flow at seven outfalls. Construction activities are scheduled to commence in the first quarter of 2026.

Routine maintenance efforts remain ongoing: stormwater structures from 72nd to 77th Streets between Dickens Avenue and Collins Avenue have been cleaned twice since March 2025, with a third cleaning scheduled during the week of July 28, 2025, and two more cleanings scheduled to occur before the end of the 2025 calendar year. City staff are also looking to procure customized storm drain markers to increase stakeholder awareness of dumping activities being prohibited in the City's storm drains, see preliminary samples below.



Sanitation

The Sanitation Division of the Public Works Department continues to perform mechanical and hand-sweeping activities three (3) times per week, with supplemental Multihog (a compact multi-purpose tractor w/ sweeper attachment) cleaning on alternate days. Additional efforts include daily garbage collection, increased service to Crab Alley, doggie-bag station maintenance, and alleyway inspections for container compliance. Collectively, these measures are removing 2.5 to 3.5 tons of material daily, reinforcing the City's commitment to restoring water quality and environmental health in the Park View Canal.

Summary:

- Hand crews and mechanical sweeping are conducted three times per week in the Park View area (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). A Multihog operates on alternating days (Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday), focusing on alleyways between 73rd and 76th Streets.
- Eleven (11) doggie-bag waste dispensers have been installed throughout Park View. These dispensers are refilled twice weekly, and the associated waste is collected daily (seven days a week).
- Service frequency in Crab Alley has increased from twice to three times per week. Crews have been equipped with extended-reach pick sticks (up 6 feet) to improve access within the mangroves.
- The City's contracted haulers, Waste Management and Waste Connections, have been tasked with inspecting all garbage cans in the alleyways from 73rd to 76th Streets to ensure all plugs are in place and lids are functioning properly.
- An additional litter receptacle has been installed at the intersection of 75th Street and Dickens Street end.

Homeless Services Engagements

Below is a summary of the Housing & Community Services Department's activities in the Park View area from July 18, 2025 through July 24, 2025:

Park View Homeless Services Engagements:		
7/18/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 9:30 AM. (1) person(s) engaged. Interested in medical assistance only.	New Hope visit at 11:00 PM. No persons found.
7/19/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 3:44 PM. No person(s) found	New Hope visit at 12:32 AM. No persons found.
7/20/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 8:37 AM. No person(s) found	New Hope visit at 10:35 PM. No persons found.
7/21/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 9:45 AM. (1) person engaged. Accepted medical assistance referral.	New Hope visit at 11:41 PM. No persons found.
7/22/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 2:58 PM. (1) person engaged. Follow up on medical assistance referral.	New Hope visit at 10:30 PM. No persons found.
7/23/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 9:20 AM. No person(s) found	New Hope visit at 12:30 AM. No persons found.
7/24/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 9:41 AM. No person(s) found	New Hope visit at 1:15 AM. No persons found.

For more information, contact Rodney Knowles, Assistant Director of Public Works at RodneyKnowles@miamibeachfl.gov.


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