


MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

LTC #320-2025

LETTER TO COMMISSION

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

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager 

DATE: August 1, 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 hotspots and associated lateral pipe-lining, above-ground cleanliness (alleyways, street sweeping, pressure washing), and homeless outreach.

Biscayne Beach Elementary

Staff is currently coordinating with Biscayne Beach Elementary and the contractor, Vortex Infrastructure Services, LLC, to obtain an *Access Agreement*; which is a legal document that allows the contractor to perform the lateral line rehabilitation work on the School Board of Miami-Dade County's property on behalf of the City, and in the process, indemnifies the School Board of any liability associated with the work performed.

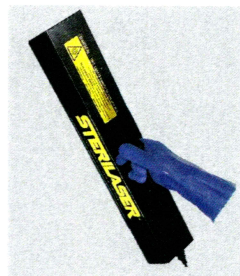
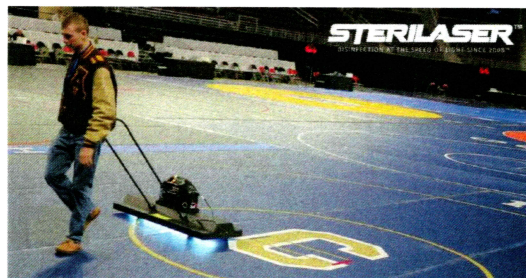
A hard copy of the Miami-Dade County-certified bond for the lining work was delivered to the City's Procurement Department and approved in EXIGIS on Wednesday July 30, 2025, a Requisition was created on Thursday July 31, 2025, the subsequent Purchase Order was issued on Friday August 1, 2025 and a Notice to Proceed will be issued. The lateral line rehabilitation and all associated work will begin Wednesday August 6, 2025, and will proceed in a continuous manner until its completion on Friday August 15, 2025.

Ultraviolet Sanitization Pilot Project

The formal agreement between the City of Miami Beach and University of Miami (UM) for the Ultraviolet Sanitization Pilot Project is currently under review by UM's legal team. City Staff has requested an update from UM on the status of the agreement in order to determine if the UV Pilot Project will be able to commence by the end of August 2025 as initially planned. Once the Purchase Order is issued, both parties will immediately proceed with the study.

One of the primary recommendations of the report was to focus on "cleaning" street surfaces, as well as possible, to reduce levels of enterococci entering the stormwater system. Recommendations included increasing the frequency of street sweeping, augmenting street sweeping by removing visible debris and fecal deposits manually, and the possible use of ultraviolet (UV) light to disinfect street surfaces. UV light is a known disinfection technology which is environmentally friendly in that it does not impart a chemical residual.

The scope of the pilot project includes 73rd Street, which was documented as a “hot spot”. This location was also chosen because it is a uniform, two-lane street with a median which can facilitate experimental and traffic logistics, and it is an area where both University of Miami studies demonstrated elevated levels of enterococci. The street can be partitioned into three segments to evaluate six conditions (one set of three for streets, and another set of three for sidewalks), and the conditions to be tested are: no cleaning, sweeping (industrial for streets and manual for sidewalks), and sweeping plus UV. These conditions are proposed to be tested three times, once at each segment, to assess whether the UV treated segments show a significant improvement over non-UV treated segments.



Stormwater Management

The Miami-Dade County Environmental Resources Management (DERM) has approved the responses submitted to their last Request For Information (RFI), and subsequently will be issuing the Class II permit for the seven Downstream Defender hydrodynamic separator/water quality structures. Construction is 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 completed during the week of July 28, 2025, and two more cleanings scheduled to occur before the end of the 2025 calendar year.

The Public Works and Communications Departments met with the customized storm drain marker company this week to determine graphic design specifications and will begin evaluating design options. Below are sample images from other municipalities:



Sanitation

The Sanitation Division continues to provide:

- Hand-sweeping crews and mechanical sweeping are conducted three times per week in the Park View area (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). The Multihog machine operates on alternating days (Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday), focusing on alleyways between

73rd and 76th Streets.

- The eleven (11) doggie-bag waste dispensers that were installed throughout Park View Island 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.

Homeless Services Engagements

Below is a summary of the Housing & Community Services Department's activities in the Park View area from July 25, 2025 through July 31, 2025:

Parkview Homeless Services Engagements:		
7/25/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 3:00 PM. No person(s) found	New Hope visit at 11:00 PM. No persons found.
7/26/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 10:20 AM and 2:50 PM. No person(s) found	New Hope visit at 11:15 PM. No persons found.
7/27/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 9:57 AM. (1) person engaged. Refused services	New Hope visit at 11:05 PM. No persons found.
7/28/2025	N/A	New Hope visit at 11:30 PM. No persons found.
7/29/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 10:16 AM. (1) person engaged. Follow up on medical assistance referral	New Hope visit at 12:30 AM. No persons found.
7/30/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 2:45 PM. No person(s) found.	New Hope visit at 11:40 PM. No persons found.
7/31/2025	Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 8:33 AM. (2) persons engaged. Refused services.	N/A

Code Compliance

To support "Operation Clean Water," Code Compliance has conducted weekly walk-throughs in the North Beach watershed area, completing 586 inspections. These inspections check for sanitation issues such as illegal dumping, overflowing dumpsters, and trash in the alleys. These efforts resulted in 77 written violations for creation of a health hazard/nuisance. The data below is from the timeframe of March 19 to July 30, 2025.

Violations	Count
City Code Violation	2
Environmental - Illicit Discharge	2
Property Maintenance Violation	7
Deteriorated Rain Gutter	1
Rain Gutter (Stagnant Water)	1
Stagnant Water	4
Tree Debris	1
Sanitation Violation	68
Deteriorated Dumpster	1
Garbage/Trash Alley	2
Illegal Dumping/Disposal	48
Illicit Discharge(Raw Sewage) *	2
No Garbage Container Permit	1
No Garbage Service	1
Overflowing Dumpster	8
Overflowing Dumpster / Illegal Dumping Alley	3
Refrigerator on ROW	2
Grand Total	77

**Discharges were limited to inside of building. Discharge did not enter City's stormwater system.*

Pursuing Dredging to Increase Flow/ Flushing

Since Park View Canal is an angled and narrow canal within the Tatum Waterway, natural flushing to dilute pollutants associated with urban stormwater runoff is limited. Dredging of the canal is a potential option to increase flushing of the waterway. Bathymetric and geotechnical surveys and flushing analysis are completed. These analyses are necessary to understand the efficacy of potential dredging of the canal. The results of these evaluations are being carefully reviewed for desired water quality outcomes. If the construction phase moves forward, project mobilization is recommended to coincide with the hydrodynamic separator installation to reduce sediment inputs into the canal following dredging.

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


DM/RK