

MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

LTC # 330-2025

LETTER TO COMMISSION

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

FROM: Eric Carpenter, City Manager



DATE: August 8, 2025

SUBJECT: **UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF "OPERATION CLEAN WATER" PROGRAM - #3**

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to provide the Mayor and City Commission an update on "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 coordinated with the School Board of Miami-Dade County and the contractor, Vortex Infrastructure Services, LLC, to obtain an Access Agreement for the Biscayne Beach Elementary school property. An Access Agreement is a legal document that allows the contractor Vortex, to perform the lateral line rehabilitation work on the School Board's property on behalf of the City, and in the process, it indemnifies the School Board of any liability associated with the work performed. The scope of work will include using closed circuit television (CCTV) to investigate the condition of approximately 1,300 linear feet of existing sewer lateral pipes, remove any tuberculation or deformities from inside of the pipes, and install new structural liners inside of the pipes. Pipe relining is a process wherein a resin-coated liner is inserted into an existing damaged pipe, the liner is then inflated to form a smooth internal surface, thereby creating a new pipe from within the existing one without having to perform any excavation.

The purchase order for the work was issued to the contractor and the Building Permit was issued on Friday August 1, 2025. The Access Agreement was finalized by the School Board on August 7, 2025, and the lateral line rehabilitation and all associated work began on August 8, 2025. The exploratory work is currently underway, and the rehabilitation will follow immediately thereafter. It is anticipated that the full scope of work will take seven (7) days to complete.

Ultraviolet Sanitization Pilot Project

The formal agreement between the City of Miami Beach and University of Miami (UM) for the Ultraviolet Sanitation Pilot Project has been under review by the UM attorneys and the City Attorney's Office. Once the agreement is finalized and executed, the purchase order will be issued, and both parties will proceed with the study.

One of the primary recommendations of the report was to focus on “cleaning” street surfaces, as best as possible, to reduce levels of enterococci entering the stormwater system. Recommendations include increasing the frequency of street sweeping, augmenting street sweeping by removing visible debris and fecal deposits manually, and the possible use of ultra-violet (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), which has approved the responses submitted to their last Request For Information (RFI), issued the Class II permit for the seven Downstream Defender hydrodynamic separator/water quality structures on Friday August 1, 2025, allowing the City to move forward with the final design and the procurement process. 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 that was completed during the week of July 28, 2025.

The Public Works and Communications Departments met with the customized storm drain marker company during the week of July 28, 2025 to determine graphic design specifications and will begin evaluating design options. Drain marker samples were received from the custom storm drain marker company on Friday August 1, 2025, to assist Staff in their graphic design decision making.



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.
- New, once a week service is being provided to the mangroves located between 72nd and 73rd Street on the west side.
- An additional litter can has been placed at 75th Street and Dickens Avenue street end.
- Waste haulers, Waste Management and Waste Connections that were asked to check all the garbage cans in the alleys from 73rd to 76th Street to make sure that all cans had plugs and lids that were functioning properly, have completed their work.

Homeless Services Engagements

Below is a summary of the Housing & Community Services Department's activities in the Park View area from July 31, 2025, through August 5, 2025:

| Parkview Homeless Services Engagements: | | |
|--|--|--|
| 7/31/2025 | Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 8:33 AM. (2) persons engaged. Refused services. | New Hope visit at 8:40 PM. (1) person engaged. Refused services. |
| 8/1/2025 | Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 11:20 AM with the City Manager. (1) person engaged. | New Hope visit at 9:10 PM. No persons found. |
| 8/2/2025 | Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 11:42 AM. (1) persons engaged. Refused services. | New Hope visit at 10:00 PM. No persons found. |
| 8/3/2025 | Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 2:05 PM. No person(s) found. | New Hope visit at 12:30 AM. No persons found. |
| 8/4/2025 | Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 8:59 AM. No person(s) found. | New Hope visit at 10:35 PM. No persons found. |
| 8/5/2025 | Homeless Outreach Services Team visit at 10:55 AM. No person(s) found. | New Hope visit at 12:20 AM. No persons found. |

Code Compliance

To support "Operation Clean Water," Code Compliance has conducted weekly walk-throughs in the North Beach watershed area, completing 589 inspections. These inspections check for sanitation issues such as illegal dumping, overflowing dumpsters, and trash in the alleys. These efforts resulted in 79 written violations for creation of a health hazard/nuisance. The data below is from the timeframe of March 19 to August 5, 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 | 70 |
| Deteriorated Dumpster | 1 |
| Garbage/Trash Alley | 2 |
| Illegal Dumping/Disposal | 50 |
| 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 | 79 |

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

Pursuing Dredging to Increase Flow/ Flushing (No Update)

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 proposed recommendation to increase flushing of the waterway. Bathymetric and geotechnical surveys and flushing analysis are complete. 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, additional innovative approaches, and the appropriate next steps. 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 at RodneyKnowles@miamibeachfl.gov.

DM/RK

*MP
for DM*