

THE H₂O STORY



The Loxahatchee Slough

GOAL:

TO PROMOTE BALANCED WATER RESOURCE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS WHICH ADDRESS WATER SUPPLY NEEDS, FLOOD CONTROL, PRESERVATION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS AND AQUIFER RECHARGE.

Objective 1:

To Promote Adequate Surface Water Management Systems That Protect the Properties in the City from Flooding, yet Minimize Discharge of Run-off to Tide Water.

The Vision Connection:

The City's ability to ensure adequate infrastructure maintenance serves as the foundation of vision achievement. Without the assurance of the proper functioning of these foundational elements, the other components of the vision will become incidental. The H₂O story is a simple one: Every drop counts. The vision includes strategies to recognize and maintain adequate provision of this most basic resource.

Strategies:

- Continue to work with state, regional and local agencies in conjunction with landowners to formulate surface water management plans that meet the City's level of service for the following areas:
 - a. North of PGA Boulevard and west of the Turnpike.
 - b. South of Northlake Boulevard and west of the Turnpike.
 - c. Areas north and south of SR 710 that are not going to be acquired through the Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) Acquisition Program.
- Continue to work with state, regional and local agencies regarding the development of a management plan for the areas acquired through the ESL Acquisition Program. The management plan for the ESL areas needs to be compatible with existing and future drainage systems for the City.
- Recognize the potential need to modify and/or amend current policies with regard to water management systems in the City depending upon the outcome of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) issuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the City.
- Continue work on completing the Master Drainage Plan, inventory, and analysis of City Surface Water Management Systems, recognizing the possibility of increased budget allocations for replacement and renewal of existing systems that are reaching the age of their expected service life.
- Continue to seek opportunities with Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District, South Florida Water Management District and Seacoast Utility Authority to develop stormwater retention systems and storage areas so as to minimize the discharge of surplus fresh water to tide water and maximize availability of fresh water for aquifer recharge and maintenance of ecosystems within the City.
- Continue to seek opportunities for implementing the construction of a salinity control structure at the juncture of RCA Boulevard and Prosperity Farms Road.
- Continue to seek opportunities to work with South Florida Water Management District and the Corps of Engineers on improving flood control in the C-17 Basin.
- Continue the process of identifying areas of poor drainage in the City and undertake the necessary improvements and/or retrofit of existing systems so as to provide these areas with the levels of service adopted by the City.



Objective 2:

To Promote Water Supply Policies and Plans that Balance the Needs of the Urban Population and the Environment.

The Vision Connection:

The vision also includes emphasis on ensuring adequate water supply and supply facilities for current and future needs. Such planning will include a forward emphasis in coordinating with other governmental entities to ensure future reliable water storage and water supply.

Strategies:

- Actively participate in regional water supply issues that evolve through the Corps of Engineers' restudy of the Central and Southern Florida Project, the South Florida Water Management District's Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan, and the Governor's Commission for a Sustainable South Florida. Each of these projects needs to properly address water supply needs for the coastal urban areas of southeast Florida.
- The City's participation in the regional water supply planning process should support the following policies:
 - a. Continued and improved flood control.
 - b. Continued and improved water supply facilities to meet current and future demands without necessitating costly alternative uses of poor quality water.
 - c. Encourage the investigation and consideration of water supply alternatives such as storage and allocation of natural rainfall/runoff.

- d. Appropriate allocation of water supplies to the coastal urban areas and adoption of policies that embrace the concept of shared adversity if supply is in a shortfall.
- e. Encourage water supply managers to provide additional infrastructure for the storage of water that will provide a sustained and reliable supply for all users.
- f. Water allocations must include a sustained water supply for all community interests, people and businesses in South Florida.
- g. While protection of our environment is crucial to our region, environmental goals with regard to preservation and restoration should be realistic and developed from proven scientific principles, so as not to negatively affect the water supply for City residents.

Objective 3:

To Continue to Ensure Adequate Potable Water and Sanitary Sewer Service to City Properties and Uses.

The Vision Connection:

The vision also includes emphasis on ensuring adequate water supply and supply facilities for current and future needs. Such planning will include a forward emphasis in coordinating with other governmental entities to ensure future reliable water storage and water supply.

Strategies:

- Increase the level of service for potable water to 191 gallons per capita daily (gpcd) to reflect usages.
- Increase the level of service for sanitary sewer to 107 gpcd to reflect actual usages.
- Implement an assessment program for extension of water and/or sewer facilities to developed but unserved areas (east of the Slough) where a minimum 52% of properties indicate willingness to participate.
- Promote the philosophy of primary use of the surficial aquifer system be retained or public water supply. Amounts in excess of that required by the respective comprehensive plans would be available for other uses, including irrigation, when no other source is obtainable.
- Promote the use of grey water in the irrigation of new golf courses, parkways, and common landscaped areas.



Seacoast Utility Water Tower

