



MEMORANDUM

Date: May 7, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Brian L. Barroso
City Manager

CC: Matt Willman
Utilities Director

From: Sean McCoy
Principal Engineer, Utilities

Subject: **File ID: 26-5286 Approving the Easement Agreement for relocation of the Fleming Force main on NAS Key West - Trumbo Point Annex; and authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to negotiate and execute contract(s) in accordance with the Agreement, and to execute any necessary budget transfers, and related documents, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.**

Introduction

Staff recommend that the Mayor and City Commission approve the Grant of Easement agreement between the United States of America, and the City of Key West; and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to negotiate and execute contract(s) in accordance with the Agreement, and to execute any necessary budget transfers, and related documents, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.

Background

The Fleming Force main relocation project proposes to construct new force main below Fleming Key cut, allowing the abandonment of the existing force main located on an aerial crossing adjacent to the Fleming Key Bridge. The force main conveys all the city wastewater to the wastewater treatment plant, and in its current location, is exposed and vulnerable to boat and

debris strikes. Although the force main has never been ruptured from a strike, the Fleming Key Bridge has been struck several times. During and following Hurricane Irma, three separate vessel strikes against the bridge were recorded. Outside of major storm events the force main remains vulnerable; in April of 2019 a barge struck the utility bridge due to operator error and required an emergency repair to the damaged and unstable bridge pier, with a cost of \$881,502.

The Force main relocation project meets two of the previous Cities Strategic Plan goals and objectives as bulleted below:

- Climate Adaptation – Goal 1: Protect critical infrastructure from flooding and wind hazards. Removing the force main from an exposed location to a completely underground installation will 100% eliminate the risk of rupturing this critical piece of infrastructure due to impact.
- Environmental Protection – Goal 1: Improve near-shore water quality. In this case, the protection of near-shore water quality. A force main rupture in this location would be catastrophic to our nearshore water quality.

This easement agreement is for both the temporary construction easement and a 50-year permanent easement. The project is 100% designed, and authorizing this easement agreement will allow permitting to be completed followed by bidding for construction.

Procurement

Costs for the Temporary Construction Easement and the 50-year Easement are \$75,260, and will be paid from project number SE35031802, account number 4013503-5356500 Construction-In-Progress. The Navy requests that this payment be made via a credit on a future Navy Utility sewer bill, requiring an internal budget transfer.

Recommendation

The City Manager's Office recommends approval of the Easement Agreement, authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to negotiate and execute contract(s) in accordance with the Agreement, and to execute any necessary budget transfers, and related documents, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.