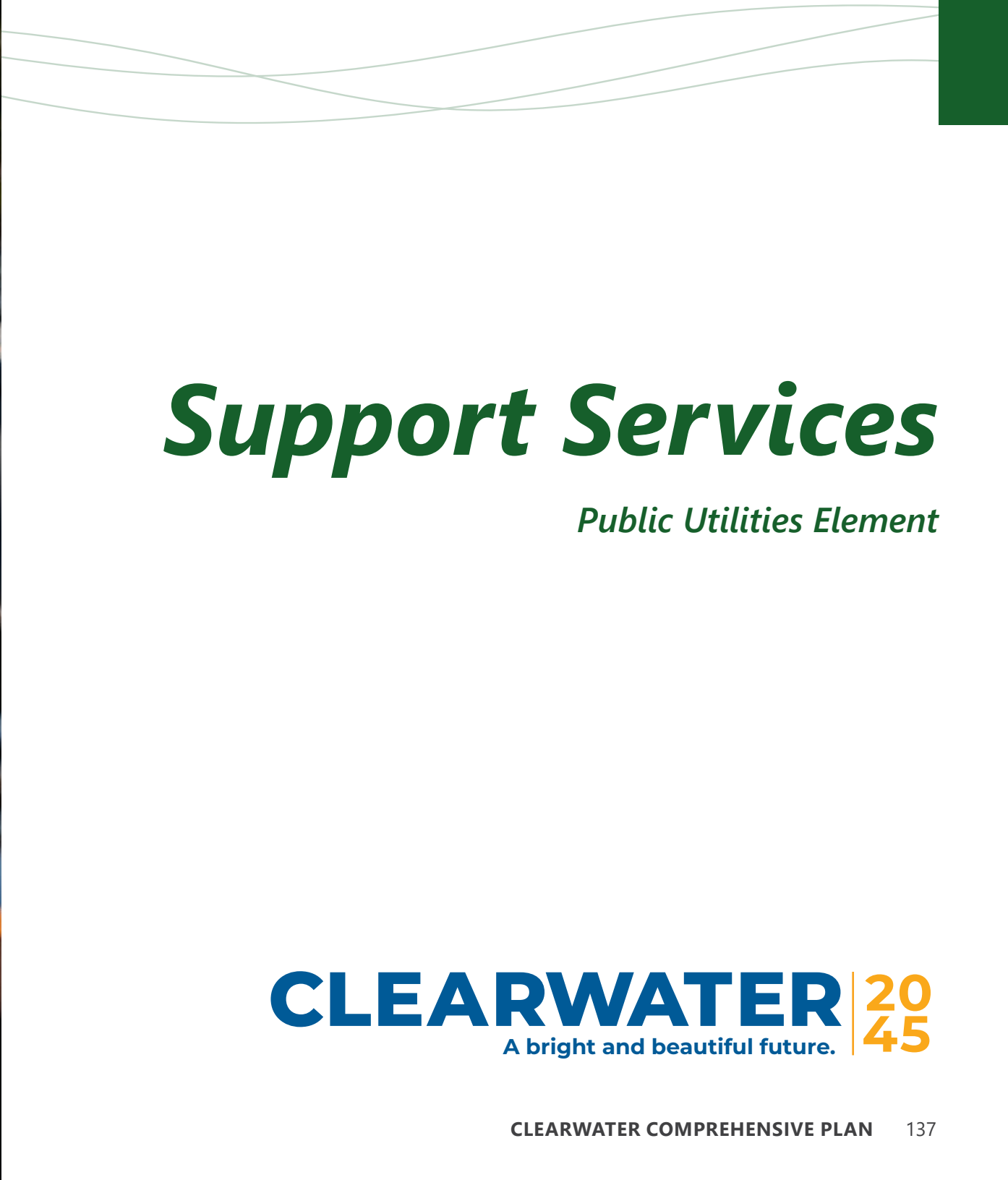




 CLEARWATER
PUBLIC UTILITIES

590
Super N



Support Services

Public Utilities Element

CLEARWATER | 20
A bright and beautiful future. 45



Introduction

The Support Services Chapter provides guidance for the provision and maintenance of the city's operational functions including public utilities, solid waste and recycling, stormwater management, Clearwater Gas System, police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS), emergency management, library services, and other general support services.

This chapter addresses conventional public utilities including potable water, sanitary sewer, reclaimed water, stormwater, and solid waste and recycling. Additionally, gas, police, fire and EMS, library, and general support services are also addressed because the *Plan* should be all inclusive of services that impact future growth and capital investment decisions.

Chapter policies focus on:

- Ensuring public utilities and solid waste and recycling services are provided to all properties within the city at acceptable levels of service;
- Reducing and improving stormwater runoff;
- Exploring with Clearwater Gas the expansion into the renewable energies market;
- Updating emergency management and hazard mitigation plans regularly; and
- Providing public services to meet the needs of the residents, visitors, and businesses of Clearwater.

Planning Context

Potable Water & Sanitary Sewer

The city maintains potable water and sanitary sewer (wastewater) systems with over 580 miles of water pipes and over 410 miles of sewer pipes. The potable water system is governed by a master plan and must be consistent with Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) plans. Likewise, the sanitary sewer system is governed by a master plan that must be consistent with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) plans.

As with most cities that were incorporated in the early 1900's, the city's potable water and sanitary sewer pipes are nearing the end of their useful lifespans. The city is focused on repair and replacement of potable water and sanitary sewer systems rather than expansion to areas without sanitary sewer service to ensure that existing services are not interrupted.

Reclaimed Water

Reclaimed water, commonly referred to as "purple pipes", is available in Island Estates, Skycrest, Del Oro Groves, Morningside, and Harbor Oaks and on Clearwater Beach. There are also areas of Lake Belleview, North Greenwood, and neighborhoods near Baycare Ballpark, Lake Chautauqua, and Glen Oaks Park where reclaimed is available. The city has over 140 miles of reclaimed water pipes that are primarily used for irrigation to conserve potable water use.

Stormwater

The city maintains numerous stormwater systems including ponds, lakes, ditches, pipes, or other stormwater structures typically located in a city road right-of-way or within an easement. The city has over 150 miles of stormwater pipes and over 115 miles of stormwater underdrains, which are perforated pipes in a gravel bed used in soils with poor filtration rates to allow stormwater to percolate through and move downstream.

Any new development or redevelopment is required to account for their potential stormwater runoff and meet the guidelines outlined in the stormwater manual. City stormwater plans are determined by the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) program and provisions of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

Solid Waste

The city handles solid waste and recycling collection for over 27,000 customers, including approximately 3,600 commercial dumpsters, 28,000 black and blue barrels for solid waste and recycling, 400 multifamily recycling carts, 210 roll-off containers, and 90 compactors. The current city solid waste and recycling facility was built in 1994, is not storm resistant, and no longer meets the demands for storage of recyclable materials. In 2020, a new transfer station was opened which can handle approximately 650 tons of solid waste and has built-in excess capacity for up to three days of waste. Additionally, the department has recently converted all 71 of their heavy vehicles to use compressed natural gas (CNG) rather than diesel. CNG burns cleaner and emits cleaner emissions into the atmosphere.

Clearwater Gas

Clearwater Gas System is a unique utility in that it provides natural gas for city residents and businesses, as well as to customers throughout northern Pinellas County into

Pasco County and to numerous beach communities south to Redington Beach. Clearwater Gas has replaced 72 miles of pipelines over the past 15 years, 52 miles of bare steel and 20 miles of cast iron. These types of pipes have not been utilized in gas construction since 1971, and the removal of this pipe has resulted in lower gas and methane leaks in the system, which create a more reliable and safe distribution system for nearly 32,000 customers.

Police

Police personnel serve the city through three districts with nearly 400 employees and over 350 vehicles. The department also maintains three substations located in the North Greenwood, Lake Belleview, and Wood Valley neighborhoods. In North Greenwood, the department partners with United Way and provides youth and adult vocational assistance as well as other social services, and police staff using the Lake Belleview building share it with a dental clinic.

Fire & Rescue

Fire and rescue personnel serve in an all-hazards fire department that is the second largest in Pinellas County. The term "all-hazards" simply means the department responds to any type of disaster including fires, crashes, or building collapses. The department has 195 certified firefighters, along with approximately 27 civilian staff which includes the city's lifeguards. Services are provided through eight stations

throughout the city and eight lifeguard towers located on Clearwater Beach. **Map SS 1. Public Services Facilities** shows the locations of the police and fire stations and the city's libraries.

Emergency Management

Emergency management personnel oversee preparation of city departments, staff, and residents for disasters that could occur, namely tropical storms and hurricanes. Staff is working to gather relevant information from all city departments and reviewing it against the *Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)* to determine where deficiencies exist. Emergency management personnel will perform voluntary vulnerability assessments upon request for businesses to assist them in preparation for and protection against future disasters.

Library

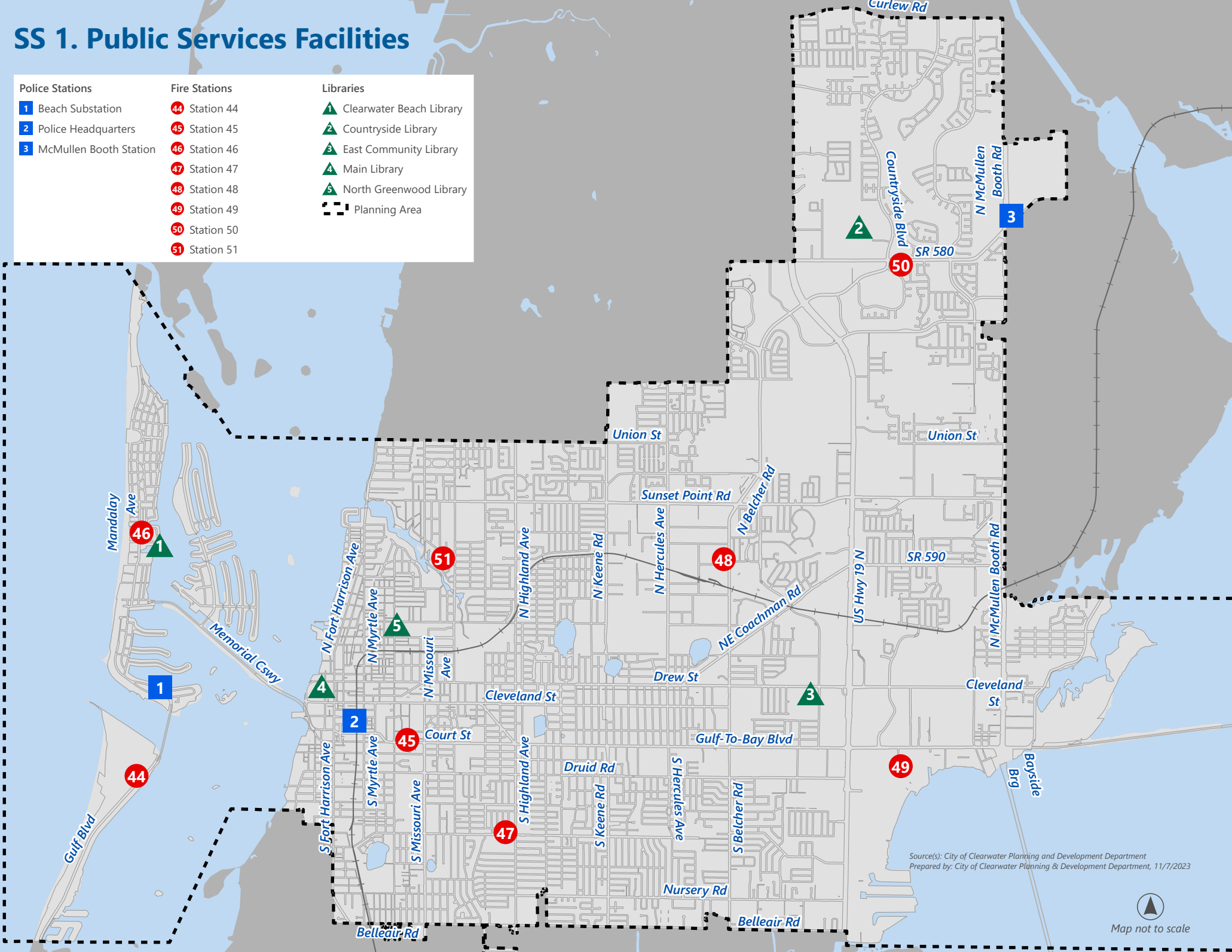
The city's libraries provide numerous programs and have over 531,000 items in circulation for residents of all ages through use of the five library branches. The items in circulation include books, DVDs, computer stations, video games, and boardgames. Some of the programs offered through the library are continuing education, tutoring, small business assistance, and tax preparation assistance. There are 99 employees within the library system, of which 40 are librarians.

General Support

The general support personnel are responsible for and oversee the care of 180 city-owned or leased buildings which total

SS 1. Public Services Facilities

Police Stations	Fire Stations	Libraries
1 Beach Substation	44 Station 44	▲ Clearwater Beach Library
2 Police Headquarters	45 Station 45	▲ Countryside Library
3 McMullen Booth Station	46 Station 46	▲ East Community Library
	47 Station 47	▲ Main Library
	48 Station 48	▲ North Greenwood Library
	49 Station 49	▭ Planning Area
	50 Station 50	
	51 Station 51	



Source(s): City of Clearwater Planning and Development Department
 Prepared by: City of Clearwater Planning & Development Department, 11/7/2023



just over 1.8 million square feet. They are also responsible for and oversee the care of 6,000 tons of mechanical equipment, which includes fleet vehicles, HVAC systems, and others.

Into the Future

As the city moves into the future, the focus should continue to be providing public utilities and services in a safe, efficient, and cost-effective manner while maintaining adequate capacity and levels of service to accommodate the existing population.

Potable Water & Sanitary Sewer

Future projects related to the potable and reclaimed water and sanitary sewer systems will be based on findings from updated master plans, *Supervisory Control & Automated Data (SCADA) Master Plans*, and other regulatory initiatives. The city will be consolidating the three wastewater reclamation facilities (WRFs) into one combined facility, so future sanitary sewer projects will work to achieve that direction.

Reclaimed Water

A reclaimed water master plan is currently being developed and is anticipated to include areas for expansion and means to address recent legislation calling for increased reclaimed water availability. The

city is currently working to expand reclaimed water service to additional areas of the city, and coordinating those expansions as other utility or infrastructure work is being done to keep construction-related disturbances to a minimum.

Stormwater

Future stormwater projects will be based on updated operating permits or SWIM plans. Large-scale stormwater projects will be dependent upon property acquisition to enable restoration of natural floodplains. The city will need to continue to evaluate its stormwater and watershed plans to provide up-to-date best management practices and to maximize the efficiency of systems.

Solid Waste

The city will continue to evaluate options to convert vehicles over to CNG or electric to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, the city has begun discussions on reconstruction of the solid waste and recycling facility to provide more space for recycling as well as create a more storm-resistant structure. Educating residents about contamination and its impact on recycling and working with other jurisdictions on a consistent recycling message will improve the success of the city's recycling program.



Reverse Osmosis Plant #2

Clearwater Gas

While the Gas System currently offers retail sales and repairs of appliances, that portion of their operation is not as widely known as it could be. Future efforts will include opportunities to better market not only the Gas System as a whole, but with specific campaigns to highlight the underutilized retail sales and appliance repair. Additionally, Clearwater Gas is exploring selling off their propane operations and expanding into the renewable energies market. Propane accounts for nearly 430,000 gallons per year in sales, and propane (i.e. liquified petroleum) is a heavier hydrocarbon compared to natural gas (methane), and does not burn as clean as natural gas.

Police

Additional staff, including police officers, detectives, or others, will likely be needed to continue to provide progressive and effective crime prevention. The city will need to continue to evaluate law enforcement buildings and vehicles to determine if additional resources are needed.

Fire & Rescue

Clearwater 2045 calls for continued growth within the city's activity centers, which will likely take the form of multifamily development and mixed-use buildings, and result in increased traffic until the county's transit system is more robust. In Downtown and the city's older neighborhoods, rights-of-way widths are sometimes limited. Fire and rescue personnel must continue to follow best practices for serving the community as its population grows and forms of development continues to evolve. Other types of apparatus may be needed to serve these areas, and staffing levels will need to be evaluated to ensure that the baseline response time of 7½ minutes continues to be met.

Emergency Management

For the city to be best prepared before, during, and after storm events or other disasters, emergency management personnel are looking to build a central location that will store all necessary emergency equipment, such as generators or vehicles. A Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is being considered which would also allow for better and quicker responses after disasters.

Library

As the needs of residents evolve over the coming years, the Library System will be looking to increase space for community meetings, group collaboration, and individual and group study. Library personnel will be looking to facilitate the discovery and exploration of specialized interests such as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) by adding new technology and equipment throughout the libraries.

General Support

The building and maintenance personnel are committed to providing quality planning, design, and management of all city-owned and leased buildings and equipment.

Chapter Goals

This chapter contains 11 goals:

Goal SS 1. Potable Water

Continue to provide and maintain a permanent potable water supply system to meet anticipated demand while providing maximum practical protection to the environment at a cost consistent with the public's ability and willingness to pay.

Goal SS 2. Sanitary Sewer

Continue to provide high quality, reliable, and efficient sanitary sewer service in an environmentally sound manner to protect public health and safety.

Goal SS 3. Reclaimed Water

Continue to provide, develop, and maintain a permanent reclaimed water supply system at a cost consistent with the public's ability and willingness to pay.

Goal SS 4. Stormwater

Continue to provide the most cost effective and efficient provision of stormwater management and discharge and provide maximum practical protection to persons, property, and the natural environment.

Goal SS 5. Solid Waste

Continue to provide solid waste collection and disposal services that balance reliability, environmental impacts, costs, and safety.

Goal SS 6. Clearwater Gas

Continue to provide and expand cost effective gas energy solutions and related products to customers in Pinellas and Pasco Counties.

Goal SS 7. Police

Continue to provide effective, professional, and dependable law enforcement services to every resident, visitor, and business.

Goal SS 8. Fire & Rescue

Continue to provide emergency services with a focus on quality, cost effectiveness, and all-hazard mitigation for all residents, visitors, and businesses.

Goal SS 9. Emergency Management

Support emergency management initiatives to increase hazard mitigation and preparation to protect the city's residents, visitors, businesses, and structures.

Goal SS 10. Library System

Continue to provide quality information, continuous learning, and innovative services at city libraries that anticipate and support the needs of residents, visitors, and businesses.

Goal SS 11. General Support Services

Continue to provide building and maintenance services that produce timely, quality, and cost-effective solutions.



Inside of the Countryside Library

SUPPORT SERVICES

Goal SS 1

Continue to provide and maintain a permanent potable water supply system to meet anticipated demand while providing maximum practical protection to the environment at a cost consistent with the public's ability and willingness to pay.

Objective SS 1.1

Continue to maintain an adequate level of service (LOS) for existing and future populations.

Policy

SS 1.1.1

Continue to use 100 gallons per capita per day (GPCD) at a minimum pressure of 40-45 pounds per square inch as the potable water LOS and to determine the availability for development or redevelopment.

Objective SS 1.2

Continue to provide sound fiscal management for the operation and maintenance of potable water service in the city's service area.

Policies

SS 1.2.1

Continue utilizing fees charged to users of water service to cover system operating costs, repayments of capital costs, and allow for repair and replacement of existing facilities.

SS 1.2.2

Evaluate new rate structures as necessary.

SS 1.2.3

Continue to refine the water conservation rate structure for residential water meters, lawn meters, and all other water meters permitted by the city.

SS 1.2.4

Prioritize and schedule major improvements associated with the water system as a component of the Capital Improvement Program.

SS 1.2.5

Continue to seek financial support for the water system through grant programs administered by appropriate state and federal agencies.

Objective SS 1.3

Continue to maintain the water system in a safe, sound, and efficient manner.

Policies

SS 1.3.1

Update the *Water Supply Facilities Work Plan* within 18 months after SWFWMD updates their *Regional Water Supply Plan*.

SS 1.3.2

Monitor the operation of the water distribution system with the intent of proactively repairing and replacing deficient portions of the system.

SS 1.3.3

Require, at the time of application for connection to the potable water system, that minimum fire flows and hydrant spacing be consistent with fire district standards and that proper sized water pipes are installed to provide desired fire flow rates based on the most recent *Insurance Service Office (ISO) Report*.

SS 1.3.4

Require private fire hydrants to be owned and maintained by the property owner(s) pursuant to city regulations.

Objective SS 1.4

Provide adequate quantity and quality of potable water service to all customers of the Clearwater service area.

Policies

SS 1.4.1

Continue to construct potable water system improvements which will provide adequate quantity, pressure, and duration of fire flows.

SS 1.4.2

Continue to identify, acquire, and develop sources of potable water supply and methods of potable water treatment to meet existing and future demand through techniques such as well rehabilitation or exploration of drilling new wells in accordance with the most recent version of the adopted *Water Supply Facilities Work Plan*.

SS 1.4.3

Continue to provide water service to properties within unincorporated Pinellas County that reside in the city's service area where sufficient capacity and quality of water exists.

SS 1.4.4

Analyze the condition and adequacy of any potable water distribution system that the city may inherit through annexation and require the property owner or developer to prepare cost estimates for upgrading those systems to meet city requirements. Costs for such improvements shall be the responsibility of the property owner or developer.

SS 1.4.5

Prior to issuance of a building permit, a design for potable water distribution system improvements shall be prepared by the developer and approved by the city. The developer shall pay the costs of any necessary improvements to the existing potable water distribution system to accommodate the new development.

SS 1.4.6

Continue to extend water services to jurisdictions outside the city's service area through interlocal or other agreement.

Objective SS 1.5

Continue to develop a potable water system that is compatible with the environment and seeks to conserve and protect sensitive natural resources.

Policies

SS 1.5.1

Continue implementation of the most current Water Restriction Ordinance.

SS 1.5.2

Continue providing educational awareness and materials to inform citizens of the need and opportunities for conserving potable water.

SS 1.5.3

Continue to develop strategies aimed at reducing potable water consumption.

SS 1.5.4

Research and evaluate potable water re-use alternatives.

SUPPORT SERVICES

SS 1.5.5

Ensure that potable water management projects are designed and operated to maintain and enhance natural systems, as well as man-made systems, by working closely with SWFWMD when proposing new projects and potable water management programs.

Objective SS 1.6

Continue to protect all natural recharge areas having functional hydrological characteristics.

Policies

SS 1.6.1

Continue to protect groundwater quality by enforcing the Wellhead Protection Ordinance within the areas identified on **Map SS 2. Potable Water Wells.**

SS 1.6.2

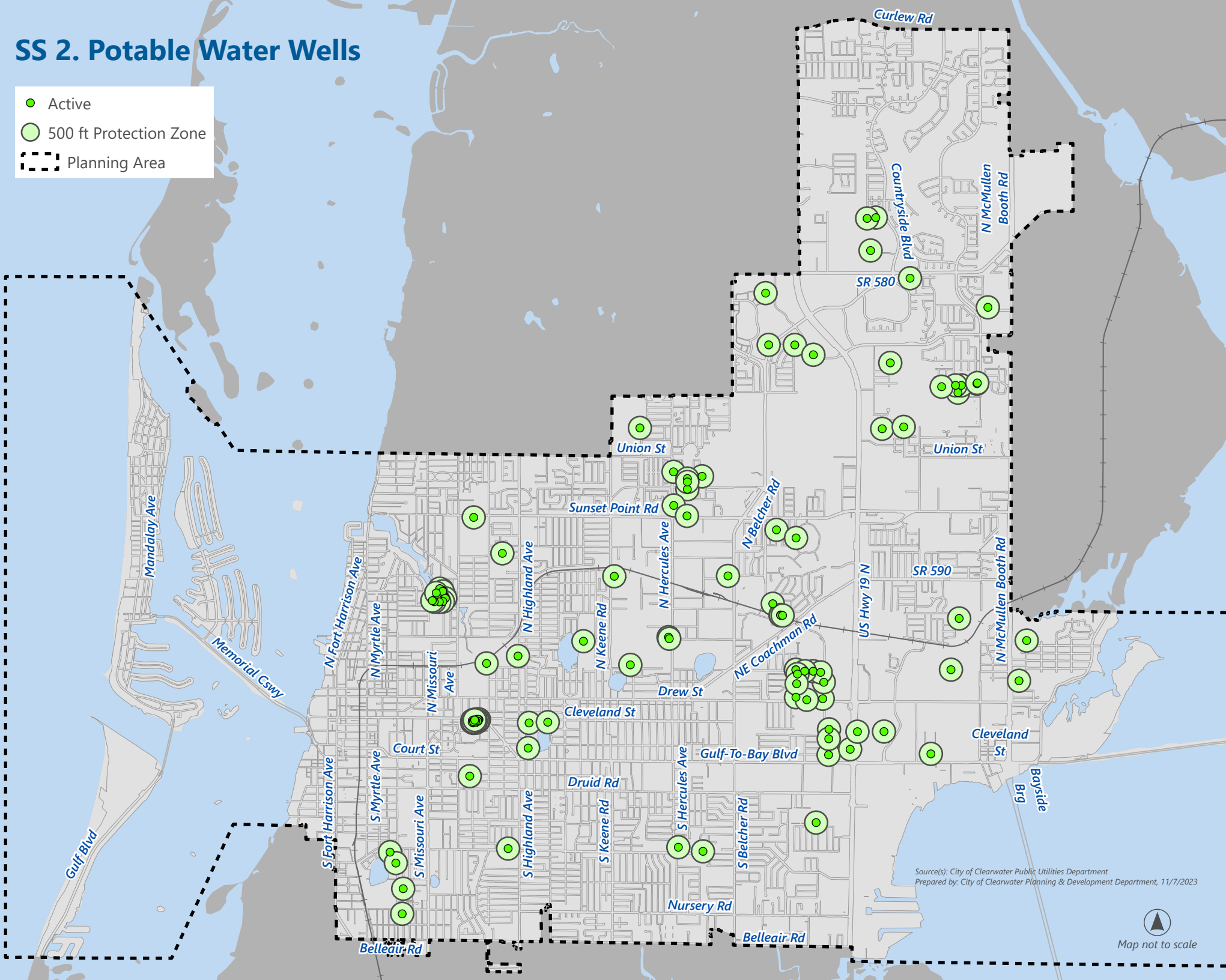
Recognize the importance of groundwater aquifer recharge in the hydrological process and the need for natural groundwater recharge as an integral component of the city's urban environment.



Potable water plant

SS 2. Potable Water Wells

- Active
- 500 ft Protection Zone
- ⋯ Planning Area



Source(s): City of Clearwater Public Utilities Department
Prepared by: City of Clearwater Planning & Development Department, 11/7/2023

Goal SS 2

Continue to provide high quality, reliable, and efficient sanitary sewer service in an environmentally sound manner to protect public health and safety.

Objective SS 2.1

Continue to maintain an adequate LOS for existing and future populations.

Policy

SS 2.1.1

Continue to use an average of 100 GPCD as the sanitary sewer LOS and to determine the availability for development or redevelopment.

Objective SS 2.2

Continue to provide sound fiscal management for the operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system in the city's service area.

Policies

SS 2.2.1

Continue utilizing fees charged to users of wastewater collection and treatment service to fund all system operations and maintenance costs.

SS 2.2.2

Ensure sanitary sewer charges reflect all operational costs consistent with the amount of wastewater generated by each user.

SS 2.2.3

Periodically evaluate new rate structures as necessary per requirements of FDEP and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

SS 2.2.4

Continue to require the wastewater collection and treatment systems to be a self-sustaining utility enterprise with rates based on sound engineering and economic principles.

SS 2.2.5

Ensure that sanitary sewer revenues are sufficient to fund repair and replacement projects on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Objective SS 2.3

Continue maintaining the sanitary sewer service system in a safe, sound, and efficient manner.

Policies

SS 2.3.1

Continue to maintain the wastewater collection system to serve existing development.

SS 2.3.2

Require properties with failing septic tanks and package treatment plants, as determined by the Pinellas County Health Department or the FDEP to have an adverse impact on the environment, to connect to the city's sewer system. When such connections can be made, the system must be upgraded to city standards.

SS 2.3.3

Encourage annexation of developments which have deficient sewer systems. Prior to annexation, a design for sewer system improvements shall be prepared by the property owner or developer and approved by the city, and the costs for such improvements shall be the responsibility of the property owner or developer.

SS 2.3.4

Continue to allow the extension of sanitary sewer services to properties outside the corporate limits of the city through the agreement to annex or annexation process including review to ensure sufficient capacity exists to serve the areas committed to city service, as well as those proposed for service.

SS 2.3.5

Prior to issuance of a building permit, a design for sewer system improvements if required shall be prepared by the developer and approved by the city. The developer shall pay the costs of any necessary improvements to the existing wastewater collection system to accommodate the new development.

SS 2.3.6

Fully implement improvements to comply with Senate Bill 64 (2021), plans to eliminate nonbeneficial surface water discharges, by January 1, 2032 or as amended.

Objective SS 2.4

Continue to produce advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) effluent at all water reclamation facilities (WRFs) in accordance with FDEP and U.S. EPA requirements.

Policies

SS 2.4.1

Continue to improve/expand the wastewater systems to accommodate future development, recognizing that certain developments may be required to fund such improvements.

SS 2.4.2

Continue to pursue project improvements to WRFs which will minimize energy, water, and other resource needs in order to preserve these valuable resources.

SS 2.4.3

Continue to implement projects that support the city's decision to consolidate the WRFs.

SS 2.4.4

Include measures to address odors emitted from WRFs in capital projects, where appropriate.



Marshall Street WRF

Goal SS 3

Continue to provide, develop, and maintain a permanent reclaimed water supply system at a cost consistent with the public's ability and willingness to pay.

Objective SS 3.1

Continue to maintain the reclaimed water system in a safe, sound, and efficient manner.

Policies

SS 3.1.1

Monitor water quality and the operation of the reclaimed water distribution system with the intent of repairing and replacing deficient portions of the system as a component of the Capital Improvement Program.

SS 3.1.2

Continue to develop the use of reclaimed water for irrigation of city parks, golf courses, ball fields, soccer fields, and other appropriate land uses in an effort to conserve potable water.

SS 3.1.3

Continue to encourage long-term agreements with golf course operators and other individuals or groups to use reclaimed water for irrigation.

Objective SS 3.2

Continue to provide sound fiscal management for the operation and maintenance of reclaimed water service in the city's service area.

Policies

SS 3.2.1

Continue utilizing fees charged to users of reclaimed water service to cover system operating costs, repayments of capital costs, and allow for repair and replacement of existing facilities.

SS 3.2.2

Continue to evaluate reclaimed water rates with goals of user acceptance and cost recovery.

SS 3.2.3

Prioritize and schedule major improvements associated with the reclaimed water system as a component of the Capital Improvement Program.

Objective SS 3.3

Continue to develop a reclaimed water system that is compatible with the environment and seeks to conserve and protect sensitive natural resources.

Policy

SS 3.3.1

Expand the reclaimed water system in accordance with the *Reclaimed Water Master Plan*, after final approval, in an effort to optimize potable water conservation efforts.

Goal SS 4

Continue to provide the most cost effective and efficient provision of stormwater management and discharge and provide maximum practical protection to persons, property, and the natural environment.

Objective SS 4.1

Continue to maintain an adequate LOS for existing and future populations.

Policy

SS 4.1.1

Continue to use the following LOS standards for stormwater design:

- For all new street development, use the 10-year storm frequency using the rational design method.
- Use the 25-year storm frequency with positive outfall for major storm systems with basin time of intensities controlling the duration*.
- For development or redevelopment with no outfall and discharge to street right-of-way, use the 50-year storm frequency.
- For development or redevelopment with no outfall and discharge across private property, use the 100-year storm frequency.

* Design standards for stormwater quality treatment/storage quantity shall conform to the current SWFWMD requirement [Presently being the SCS Unit Hydrograph design method, using the design storm frequency and a twenty-four hour duration for sites ten acres or more, and the rational design method for sites under ten acres.].

Objective SS 4.2

Continue to provide sound fiscal management of the stormwater management systems in accordance with the watershed management plans and concurrent with their implementation.

Policies

SS 4.2.1

Continue to finance the operation and maintenance of the stormwater management systems through revenues from the city's stormwater utility fee.

SS 4.2.2

Evaluate new rate structures as necessary.

SS 4.2.3

Continue to utilize stormwater fees to fund public improvements.

SS 4.2.4

Continue to provide and maintain stormwater management systems throughout the city that will afford the most economically feasible protection to residents and property.

SS 4.2.5

Continue to upgrade or improve all stormwater management systems where deficiencies exist.

Objective SS 4.3

Seek unique funding opportunities to improve stormwater systems throughout the city and the region.

Policies

SS 4.3.1

Continue to seek and be on notice of financial support for system improvements through grant programs administered by state and federal agencies.

SS 4.3.2

Evaluate methods of financing stormwater management system improvements and new stormwater infrastructure construction to determine the most feasible and equitable arrangement, both citywide and in local problem areas.

SS 4.3.3

Pursue a system of regional stormwater management which is both economically and environmentally sound.

Objective SS 4.4

Ensure development and redevelopment meet applicable stormwater management standards and utilize design techniques and strategies that maximize efficiency of stormwater systems.

Policies

SS 4.4.1

Periodically review and amend the stormwater manual to include updated best practices or other design standards.

SS 4.4.2

Require development and redevelopment activities to comply with all stormwater management design standards and criteria.

SS 4.4.3

Prohibit structural development where it is determined that such development will have an adverse impact on stormwater storage areas, increase flood prone areas, significantly increase rates of runoff, or cause other unfavorable drainage conditions.

SS 4.4.4

Limit development that will result in buildings constructed within or over stormwater retention ponds, streams, or channels.

SS 4.4.5

Ensure proper access to stormwater systems for effective operation and maintenance.

SS 4.4.6

Continue to provide a program of regular maintenance to the stormwater management system to ensure maximum efficiency and performance.

SS 4.4.7

Utilize natural and man-made wetlands as a means to provide stormwater management wherever possible.

SS 4.4.8

Continue to utilize multiple use facilities, such as recreational open space uses, as stormwater management systems, where appropriate.

SS 4.4.9

Continue to designate wetlands as Preservation (P) on the Future Land Use Map.

Objective SS 4.5

Protect and enhance the quality of receiving waterbodies through the use of best management practices in accordance with adopted watershed management plans.

Policies

SS 4.5.1

Continue to comply with applicable SWFWMD, state, and federal requirements, including SWIM plans.

SS 4.5.2

Continue to require the use of best management practices before, during, and after construction activities to prevent water pollution resulting from erosion and siltation.

SS 4.5.3

Continue to require vegetated swales, sodding, and appropriate landscaping as components of the drainage system for natural filtration before final discharge into receiving waterbodies.

SS 4.5.4

Maximize water recharge potential in designing stormwater management improvements by utilizing natural wetland areas for stormwater storage.

SS 4.5.5

Continue to identify impaired waterbodies and prioritize them for improvement and enhancement.

SS 4.5.6

Monitor major stormwater management outfalls and receiving waterbodies to identify the quality of stormwater runoff and the impact on receiving waterbodies.

SS 4.5.7

Continue to upgrade and retrofit city-owned drainage system facilities and include stormwater treatment for water quality in accordance with the stormwater management plans.

SS 4.5.8

Continue utilizing the street sweeping schedule to aid in reduction of pollution into stormwater systems and add appropriate sized street sweeping vehicles to be used on trails, complete streets, or similar applications.



Stormwater pond with an egret

SUPPORT SERVICES

Goal SS 5

Continue to provide solid waste collection and disposal services that balance reliability, environmental impacts, costs, and safety.

Objective SS 5.1

Continue to maintain an adequate LOS for existing and future populations.

Policy

SS 5.1.1

Continue to use 1.3 tons per person per year (7.12 pounds per person per day) as the solid waste LOS and to determine the availability for development or redevelopment.

Objective SS 5.2

Continue to provide sound fiscal management for solid waste collection, transport, disposal, and recycling.

Policies

SS 5.2.1

Ensure solid waste and recycling fees charged to users of solid waste services cover system operating costs, repayments of capital costs, and allow for repair and replacement of existing facilities.

SS 5.2.2

Ensure solid waste resources are sufficient to withstand instability, such as labor shortages and equipment failures, within reason.

SS 5.2.3

Maintain a master plan for solid waste facilities that ensures facility upgrades necessary to meet standards of efficiency are planned appropriately.

Objective SS 5.3

Continue to provide solid waste collection service to residents and businesses within the city.

Policies

SS 5.3.1

Prohibit collection of solid waste to properties outside the city limits unless sufficient capacity exists to serve the areas committed to city services as well as the properties proposed for service.

SS 5.3.2

Require interlocal or other agreements to provide solid waste service to properties or areas outside of the city limits.

Objective SS 5.4

Support the countywide goal of zero waste to the county landfill.

Policies

SS 5.4.1

Develop a solid waste collection and recycling disposal and recovery system that will, to the greatest degree possible, reduce the waste stream, conserve energy, and minimize impact on natural resources.

SS 5.4.2

Continue to reduce the solid waste stream, when economically feasible, through the recycling of aluminum, mixed paper, newspaper, plastic, steel, cardboard, office paper, other metals, and yard waste.



Yard waste being collected by a solid waste worker

SS 5.4.3

Create an educational campaign to inform residents about impacts caused by contaminated recycling.

SS 5.4.4

Create strategies to reduce residents' usage of single-use items and products.

Objective SS 5.5

Focus on data collection and active route management as a tool to achieve efficiency.

Policies

SS 5.5.1

Seasonally review local traffic patterns to help determine route length and timing of pick up in an effort to reduce vehicle idle time and limit impact of solid waste vehicles on local traffic.

SS 5.5.2

Utilize weight data, distance to the transfer station, and optimal vehicle operating loads to determine optimal times when to dump waste loads in an effort to minimize vehicle costs and emissions, while ensuring vehicle idle time at the transfer station is minimized.

SS 5.5.3

Evaluate opportunities to shift from active waste collection (solid waste sending vehicles out to collect certain waste types) to passive waste collection (residents bringing certain waste items to a central location) for disposal.

Objective SS 5.6

Mitigate the impact of solid waste collection and disposal to natural resources.

Policies

SS 5.6.1

Continue to work to limit carbon emissions of fleet vehicles through the use of emerging technologies.

SS 5.6.2

Identify and implement opportunities for carbon sequestration or other methods of carbon emission offset.

SS 5.6.3

Continue to utilize voluntary residential curbside source separation for both single-family and multifamily units for the Clearwater recycling effort.

SS 5.6.4

Continue commercial source separation on an open competitive basis with registered private recycling companies.

SS 5.6.5

Direct residents to authorized sites for disposal and transfer or to temporary storage facilities located in Pinellas County for hazardous household waste.

SS 5.6.6

Support and encourage the Household Chemical Collection Program provided by Pinellas County by assisting in notifying citizens of drop-off sites through the utility billing process.

Goal SS 6

Continue to provide and expand cost effective natural gas energy solutions and related products to customers in Pinellas and Pasco Counties.

Objective SS 6.1

Update the *Clearwater Gas System Strategic Action Plan*.

Policy

SS 6.1.1

Revise the department's mission, vision, & core value statements.

Objective SS 6.2

Identify opportunities to repair, rehabilitate, or replace natural gas distribution pipelines and improve safety of the system.

Policies

SS 6.2.1

Apply for a grant from the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) for funding.

SS 6.2.2

Upgrade above ground infrastructure that will help reduce methane gas released into the atmosphere.

SS 6.2.3

Continue to increase safety and reliability of gas distribution system through repairs and replacements as needed.

Objective SS 6.3

Revise and implement a new sales and marketing plan for Clearwater Gas System.

Policies

SS 6.3.1

Execute a messaging plan that advertises all Clearwater Gas System services to customers.

SS 6.3.2

Increase marketing efforts to potential infill customers where gas infrastructure is already installed and ready to serve.

SS 6.3.3

Include information that details incentives for converting to or installing natural gas appliances within residences and businesses.

SS 6.3.4

Educate customers and residents on the ability of Clearwater Gas to install customer-owned gas piping and appliances, both inside and outside of a home or business.

SS 6.3.5

Ensure that customers and residents are aware that Clearwater Gas offers repair services for gas appliances.

Objective SS 6.4

Research the feasibility of entering renewable energy markets.

Policies

SS 6.4.1

Determine if providing renewable energy products and services would be profitable as a stand-alone business unit for Clearwater Gas System to operate on behalf of the city.

SS 6.4.2

Consider implementing a pilot project for renewable energy products and services to test the market.



Gas torchiers at Coachman Park

Goal SS 7

Continue to provide effective, professional, and dependable law enforcement services to every resident, visitor, and business.

Objective SS 7.1

Continue to maintain and replace law enforcement building infrastructure and vehicles as needed.

Policies

SS 7.1.1

Continue to anticipate and schedule maintenance for District Stations II and III, including significant structural components such as new roofs or other mechanical components such as HVAC systems.

SS 7.1.2

Determine if District Station I should be rebuilt or refurbished.

SS 7.1.3

Continue to evaluate the best uses and partnerships for the substations located in the North Greenwood, Lake Belleview, and Wood Valley neighborhoods.

SS 7.1.4

Monitor the demand and evaluate the necessity for neighborhood policing substations in the North Greenwood, Lake Belleview, Wood Valley, and other neighborhoods.

SS 7.1.5

Determine appropriate locations for and construct a K9 kennel and storage facility for large vehicles.

SS 7.1.6

Continue to ensure that appropriate number of law enforcement vehicles, generally 10% above daily needs, are available to account for law enforcement vehicles that are crashed, damaged, or undergoing maintenance.

SS 7.1.7

Continue to work towards upgrading to hybrid law enforcement vehicles and consider upgrading certain vehicles to electric vehicles when electric vehicle charging stations become available and as electric vehicles evolve to safe and efficient rapid charging.

Objective SS 7.2

Continue to monitor crime and activity metrics and compare against other local agencies through Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR).

Policies

SS 7.2.1

Upgrade monitoring systems to state and national incident-based reporting system to continue to actively monitor crime and activity metrics.

SS 7.2.2

Procure, configure, implement, and provide governance for a regional Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) that promotes the efficient sharing of resources and information.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Objective SS 7.3

Continue to build expertise, staffing, and capacity to adequately address cybercrime, synthetic drugs, process digital evidence, and other quality of life issues.

Policies

SS 7.3.1

Identify and implement progressive staffing models that are cost effective and advance the efficient and effective prevention, detection, and prosecution of crime.

SS 7.3.2

Seek opportunities for the deployment of bicycle teams, liaisons, and specialty teams to address crime and quality of life issues.



City of Clearwater Police Officers at Coachman Park

Goal SS 8

Continue to provide emergency services with a focus on quality, cost effectiveness, and all-hazard mitigation for all residents, visitors, and businesses.

Objective SS 8.1

Continue to ensure adequate staffing levels, equipment, and apparatus are maintained.

Policies

SS 8.1.1

Continue to achieve the baseline response time of 7½ minutes for first unit arrival to a response call.

SS 8.1.2

Evaluate the purchase of vehicles that better serve and support compact urban development.

SS 8.1.3

Continue the testing process for future employee advancement.

SS 8.1.4

Research methods to account for low employment pools while maintaining appropriate staffing levels.

Objective SS 8.2

Maintain and replace infrastructure, equipment, and apparatus on a regular schedule.

Policies

SS 8.2.1

Complete the Fire Station 46 reconstruction project by the end of 2023.

SS 8.2.2

Finalize design plans for Fire Station 47 by the end of 2023 and complete construction by the end of 2025.

SS 8.2.3

Continue the process of replacing the training tower and lifeguard towers.

SS 8.2.4

Continue replacement of rescues, engines, and ladders after scheduled frontline and reserve service times.

Objective SS 8.3

Research methods and best practices to account for increases in future demand, construction, population, and tourism.

Policies

SS 8.3.1

Research and determine means to maintain service times through increases in traffic.

SS 8.3.2

Determine strategies to account for increases in high-rise and multifamily developments.

SS 8.3.3

Research strategies to fund the construction of station repairs or replacements as well as maintenance and replacement of equipment and apparatus.

SUPPORT SERVICES



City of Clearwater Fire and Rescue staff on a fire engine

Goal SS 9

Support emergency management initiatives to increase hazard mitigation and preparation to protect the city's residents, visitors, businesses, and structures.

Objective SS 9.1

Continually review and update plans, programs, and contracts.

Policies

SS 9.1.1

Update the *Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)* and *Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)* by 2025.

SS 9.1.2

Provide annual annex updates to the *COOP* and *CEMP*.

SS 9.1.3

Continue to achieve annual recertification in the Florida Recovery Obligation Calculation (FROC) program.

SS 9.1.4

Update the *Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP)* by 2027.

SS 9.1.5

Renegotiate the Debris Management and Program Delivery Manager contracts by 2027.

SS 9.1.6

Receive accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program, based on the Emergency Management Standard of 16 elements, by 2029.

Objective SS 9.2

Provide adequate and appropriate educational or training opportunities for both city staff and residents.

Policies

SS 9.2.1

Increase emergency management training opportunities for city staff and residents by 2025.

SS 9.2.2

Continue outreach efforts to support a culture of preparedness.

Objective SS 9.3

Work to consolidate storage of emergency management equipment and related supplies to one centralized location.

Policy

SS 9.3.1

Construct a stormproof central disaster warehouse to store necessary supplies and equipment by 2029.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Objective SS 9.4

Research and implement strategies or methods to increase emergency awareness and responses throughout the city.

Policies

SS 9.4.1

Create a City of Clearwater Emergency Alert System to alert residents and visitors of impending storms or other emergencies by 2025.

SS 9.4.2

Implement a City of Clearwater Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) by 2025.

SS 9.4.3

Increase staffing levels to include review of vulnerabilities for certain uses during site plan review or through individual requests by 2027.



Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Goal SS 10

Continue to provide quality information, continuous learning, and innovative services at city libraries that anticipate and support the needs of residents, visitors, and businesses.

Objective SS 10.1

Continue to provide sound fiscal management for the operation of facilities and library services.

Policy

SS 10.1.1

Ensure library funding is expended on materials collection and programming that are relevant, appropriate, and meet the needs of the community.

Objective SS 10.2

Continue to maintain and replace library building infrastructure as needed.

Policies

SS 10.2.1

Continue to schedule maintenance, repairs, and upgrades for all five library locations.

SS 10.2.2

Continue to replenish furniture, fixtures, and equipment as needed.

SS 10.2.3

Determine if the North Greenwood Branch Library should be renovated or refurbished.

SS 10.2.4

Continue the planning process for renovating the Main Library.

Objective SS 10.3

Ensure libraries evolve to meet the changing needs of library users.

Policies

SS 10.3.1

Study the feasibility of increasing meeting space in libraries to allow for more community meetings, group collaborations, or individual or group studies.

SS 10.3.2

Evaluate equipment and technological needs to allow users to discover and explore a number of interests such as music or video production, coding or web design, or photography.

SS 10.3.3

Continue to provide numerous programs and services for users of all ages.

SS 10.3.4

Continue to review hours of operation to ensure community needs are evaluated and met.

SS 10.3.5

Develop strategies to educate the public of the many programs offered through the Library System.

Goal SS 11

Continue to provide building and maintenance services that produce timely, quality, and cost-effective solutions.

Objective SS 11.1

Continue providing radio solutions that are technologically advanced, reliable, and capable of operating through disasters.

Policies

SS 11.1.1

Ensure that all departments are equipped with appropriate types and amounts of communications equipment.

SS 11.1.2

Maintain adequate supplies of backup communications equipment for use during emergencies.

Objective SS 11.2

Ensure city facilities and their related building systems are maintained at desired levels of reliability, availability, cleanliness, and occupant safety.

Policies

SS 11.2.1

Continue providing maintenance, project, and capital improvement services for all city-owned and leased properties.

SS 11.2.2

Promote the use of equipment that is cost effective, is maintenance friendly, and retains its value over time.

SS 11.2.3

Maintain a regular schedule of inspection, maintenance, and replacement of equipment, software, hardware, and infrastructure.



CLEARWATER COUNTRYSIDE LIBRARY

2642

Clearwater
Countryside Library
Hours of Operation
Monday - Friday 10:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 4:00pm
Sunday 12:00pm - 4:00pm