

**FPUA**  
COMMUNITY PROUD

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# WRF Relocation Update

July 2023 Update



# Today's Agenda

1. WRF Construction Update
2. The World Around Us
3. Inflation and Price
4. Contract and GMP
5. Grants Snapshot
6. Transparency & Communication
7. Timeline Update



# WRF - Construction

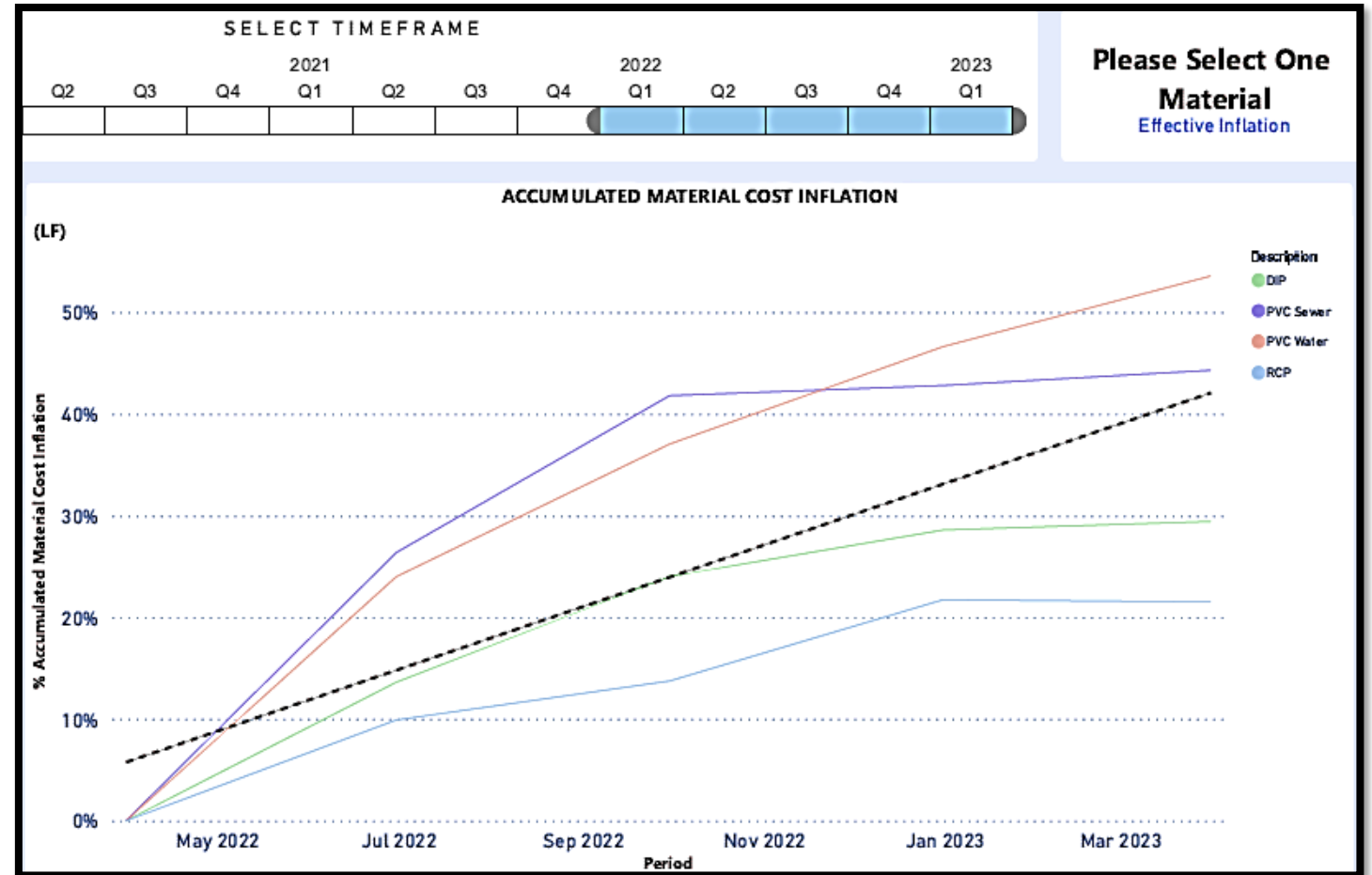
- Land at Energy Lane has been cleared and brought to grade
- Drainage, ponds and temporary construction facilities in place
- City of Fort Pierce building permits are the next critical path
- Final plant construction contract (GMP) scheduled FPUA Board July 11th
- Conveyance system modeling complete, preliminary engineering underway
- Staff structuring and placement is under way
  - Mike Martin officially overseeing Phase I: field progress of WRF construction
  - Lugey Dawson officially overseeing Phase 2: conveyance project development

# WRF - The World Around Us

- Political campaigns are beginning for the 2024 Presidential elections, which includes Governor DeSantis campaign.
- Florida legislature is making big moves:
  - Public utilities were almost regulated under the Public Services Commission – hints that pieces of this will come back next year.
  - Buy America bill was considered in Florida.
  - Heavy increase in annual grant funds to be invested into Indian River Lagoon.
- Federal agencies pushing to get organized with the trillions of dollars of IIJA and Inflation Reduction Act funding starting to come through.
  - Proposal/selection process is only one part.
  - Follow-through and grant compliance will be tremendous effort nationwide.

# WRF – The World Around Us

- We are adapting to a changing market.
- I.E. - Material Inflation Index shows average 35% increase in pipe in the last 12 months.
- Impacts:
  - WRF project
  - Conveyance project
  - WW expansion projects
  - Transformers
  - Electrical cables



# WRF - Contract and GMP

- Sweeping involvement in final WRF construction contract including:
  - Mandatory review of every line and subcontractor under consideration
  - Exploring value engineering alternatives
  - Weekly+ team meetings on this project and budget
- Legal review of contract complete
- GMP to be finalized and submitted for approval this month



# WRF – Our Focused Approach

## Grants and Appropriations

### Awarded

- \$15,000,000 from Florida Department of Environmental Protection Resilient Florida
- \$5,000,000 from Florida Legislature (state appropriations)

### Pending

- \$3,135,000 from South Florida Water Management District (**officially recommended for funding by SFWMD, awaiting FDEP final approval**)
- \$10,000,000 from US Congress (federal appropriations)

### In Development

- Year 2 funding for FDEP (cost increase and conveyance in discussion now)
- State Revolving Fund hurricane fund grant or 1% loan (back up funding)

**\$20M funded in Year 1**



# WRF – Our Focused Approach

## Community Outreach

### Events

- SLC Earth Day (4-22)
- MOEC NatureFest (2-25)
- WRF Groundbreaking (2-3)

### Bill Inserts

- March & April 2023
- September & October 2022

### Public Presentations

- Ocean Village Planning Committee (2-14)
- FWEA Annual Seminar (1-24)
- SLC Legislative Hearing (1-13)
- Utility Advisory Committee (1-11)
- SLC Public Commission Mtg (12-6)
- Coffee w/t FP Mayor (11-18)
- IRLNEP Board of Directors (11-18)
- IRLNEP Management Board (11-15)
- FP Public Works Lunch & Learn (10-22)
- MOEC Lunch & Learn (10-14)
- Town Hall #2 (05-14)
- Town Hall #1 (05-05)

Regular updates online at: [www.SustainableSewer.net](http://www.SustainableSewer.net)

# WRF – Our Focused Approach

## Targeted Fundraising Meetings

### Office of U.S. Representative Brian Mast

Congressman Brian Mast  
Legislative Director Libby Tidwell  
Legislative Assistant John Turanchik, Esq.

### Congressman Bill Posey (FL) office

Chief of Staff Stuart Burns  
Legislative Assistant Corey Noble

### Senator Rick Scott (FL) office

Policy Advisor EJ Valentine

### State of Florida in DC – Resilience Program

Chief Resilience Officer Wesley R. Brooks, PhD

### Senator Marco Rubio (FL) office

Legislative Assistant Connor Tomlinson

### Environmental Protection Agency federal agency

A. Director of **Oceans, Wetlands, Comms Div.** Mindy Eisenberg  
Office of WW Mgmt **State Revolving Fund lead** Alison Souders  
**Watershed Restor. Division** lead Thomas Wall  
**WIFIA Fund Program** A. Director Brian Donovan

### National Fish and Wildlife Foundation federal agency

Program Director of Southern Coastal Programs Suzanne Sessine

### National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration federal agency

Marine Restoration Specialist Howard Schnabolk



# WRF – Our Focused Approach

## Targeted Fundraising Meetings

### Governor's Office

Kim Cramer, Policy Coordinator of the **Florida Governor's Office**  
James Uthmeier, **Governor DeSantis's Chief of Staff**

### FL House of Representatives

**Florida House Representative** Dana Trabulsy  
Tom Hamby, Policy Deputy Chief of Staff in the **House Speaker's Office**  
Dawn Pigott, Budget Chief of the House & **Natural Resources Approps Subcmtee**

### FL Senate

**Florida Senator** Erin Grall  
Jay Ferrin, Senior Policy Advisor for the **Senate President's Office**  
Gino Bettia, Staff Director of the **Senate Approp. Committee on Agriculture, Environment and General Government**  
Tim Sadberry, Staff Director of the **Senate Committee on Appropriations**

### FL DEP

Adam Blalock, Deputy Secretary of the **Florida Department of Environmental Protection**  
Mike Chase, Program Administrator for the **Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program** at FDEP



# Timeline Update

- Finalizing and presenting the WRF construction contract & GMP
- Updated rough planned construction timeline
- Ongoing, will continue exploring additional funding avenues and pursuing follow-up (i.e. year 2+) grants and appropriations



# Questions?

