SANITARY SEWER ELEMENT

Goal 5.0. The Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department (EPGMD) and Broward County Water and Wastewater Services (WWS) shall identify the needs of and provide the unincorporated areas, large users, and Broward County utility district customers, cost effective, equitable and adequate sanitary sewer facilities meeting applicable federal, state, and local design standards and effluent water quality standards.

Objective 5.1. Broward County Water and Wastewater Services (WWS) shall provide the unincorporated areas, large users and Broward County utility district customers cost effective, equitable and adequate sanitary sewer system facilities meeting all applicable federal, state and local design and effluent water quality standards, and shall identify and, where feasible, correct existing sanitary sewer facilities deficiencies by 2040.

Policy 5.1.1. In the absence of legal constraints on the use of revenues, Broward County WWS should maintain funding for system improvements identified in the Capital Improvements Element to alleviate sanitary sewer systems deficiencies consistent with the Capital Projects Prioritization system established by Broward County WWS on July 3, 2001.

Policy 5.1.2. Broward County shall identify sanitary sewer facilities and collection and disposal infrastructure at risk from sea level rise and other climate change related impacts by 2015, and update this assessment every 5 years.

Policy 5.1.3. Broward County WWS shall endeavor to provide service to unincorporated areas contiguous to the service area when service is not anticipated to be provided by others.

Policy 5.1.4. Consistent with bonding requirements, Broward County will take no action by which the rights and benefits of its customers might be impaired or diminished.

Objective 5.2. Sanitary Sewer facilities shall be provided to meet the County’s short-term and long-term future needs.

Policy 5.2.1. The level of service (LOS) standard for sanitary sewer facilities shall be the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Permitted Capacity of the facility. The LOS standard for wastewater treatment plants shall be measured by average daily flow.

Policy 5.2.2. Broward County Environmental Licensing and Building Permitting Division (ELBPD) shall use the information contained in Chapter 27, Article V, "Water Resource Management", Broward County Code of Ordinances to assess adequacy of service and concurrency for municipal wastewater treatment facilities.
Policy 5.2.3. Broward County WWS shall use the information contained in Chapter 27, Article V, "Water Resource Management," Broward County Code of Ordinances to assess the adequacy of service and concurrency for potential retail customers. For large users of the North Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, Broward County WWS will use the flow information contained in the FDEP permit application to assess the adequacy of service and concurrency.

Policy 5.2.4. The Florida Department of Health in Broward County, shall continue to utilize the development review process of the Land Development Code to require applicants for development permits to utilize existing sanitary sewer facilities if lines are "available" as defined by Chapter E-6, "Standards for Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems", Florida Administrative Code (FAC), pursuant to Section 381.0065, "Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; regulation," Florida Statutes.

Policy 5.2.5. Design for additional capacity shall be in accordance with Section 62-600.405, FAC and consider within the Capacity Analysis Report, the impacts of increased coastal flooding, sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, and other potential future climate change impacts, and plan for infrastructure replacement and relocation as needed.

Policy 5.2.6. An assessment of the impacts from the construction and operation of wastewater treatment plants and associated support services on adjacent natural resources shall be prepared during the site review process when considering the expansion of existing or siting of new wastewater treatment plants and associated facilities.

Policy 5.2.7. In the event of a dispute involving the siting of, the expansion of, or the increase in capacity of, wastewater treatment plants, the affected parties, if all affected parties agree, may opt to use the dispute mediation process of the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC).

Policy 5.2.8. Broward County shall encourage maximizing the use of existing sanitary sewer facilities and reducing redundant facilities.

Policy 5.2.9. Broward County shall maintain an integrated geographic information system to make standardized land use and sanitary sewer facilities information available to local and regional planning agencies.

Policy 5.2.10. Broward County shall update the Retail Service Water and Wastewater Master Plan by 2016.

Objective 5.3. Broward County WWS shall promote the resiliency of existing and
planned sanitary sewer infrastructure or retrofits from the impacts of climate change, while improving energy efficiency and reducing related carbon emissions as outlined in the Climate Change Element.

**Policy 5.3.1.** Broward County shall include an evaluation of sanitary sewer facilities and infrastructure at risk from sea level rise within the County's Water and Wastewater Retail Master Plan by 2016.

**Policy 5.3.2.** Broward County shall implement the retrofit of existing and construction of new sanitary sewer facilities and collection systems in coastal areas that are identified as potentially impacted by sea level rise by 2040.

**Policy 5.3.3.** Broward County shall evaluate methods for reducing sanitary sewer facilities’ “carbon footprint”, including the best management practices and additional means of reducing demand for traditional energy sources.

**Objective 5.4.** Maximize the use of existing sanitary sewer facilities and encourage compact urban growth patterns as outlined in the Future Unincorporated Land Use Element.

**Policy 5.4.1.** Broward County shall continue to utilize the development review process of the Land Development Code to require applicants for development permits within the County's utility districts to enter into an agreement to "tie-in" to existing facilities or construct improvements to the County's sanitary sewer system necessitated by the proposed development when adequate facilities, based on adopted level of service standard, are not available and no fiscally feasible plan to construct or expand said facilities is proposed.

**Policy 5.4.2.** Broward County shall continue to coordinate the provision of sanitary sewer services through agreements with municipalities and other sanitary sewer service providers in Broward County.

**Policy 5.4.3.** The Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division (PRD) shall recommend the denial of future land use map amendments where densities or intensities are increased if:

1. Plans do not demonstrate that adequate sanitary sewer and permitted effluent disposal facilities are available to meet projected growth demands; and
2. Plans to extend and/or develop sanitary sewer and permitted effluent disposal facilities do not include a financially feasible capital improvements program.

**Policy 5.4.4.** As an alternative to new sanitary sewer facility construction, Broward County shall assess and implement, if identified, opportunities to increase the efficiency and capacity of existing sanitary sewer facilities while
promoting water conservation and reuse initiatives included in the County-wide Reuse Master Plan.

**Policy 5.4.5.** Broward County shall evaluate the influences of sea level rise on inflow and infiltration of chlorides in treated wastewater and develop economic, environmental, and technically feasible strategies for current and future reuse options.

**Policy 5.4.6.** Broward County shall pursue the establishment of mandatory reuse zones in order to require the use of reclaimed water for irrigation, when source water is available, with the goal of reducing demands on the Biscayne Aquifer.

**Policy 5.4.7.** Broward County shall encourage the use of coordinated regulatory and programmatic approaches and financial incentives to promote compact, efficient urban growth patterns as outlined in the Land Use Element.

**Policy 5.4.8.** The Broward County PRD shall recommend denial of future land use map amendments to an industrial classification when sanitary sewer facilities for disposal of non-domestic wastewater are not available.

**Objective 5.5.** Sanitary sewer facilities shall be designed, constructed, maintained, and operated in a manner that conserves and protects potable water resources by optimizing the use of reclaimed wastewater, where feasible, thus offsetting demands on the Surficial Aquifer System (SAS).

**Policy 5.5.1.** Broward County shall encourage the use of reclaimed water as an integral part of its wastewater management program, and evaluate the costs and benefits of adaptation alternatives for increased efficiency, and optimization capacity of existing facilities where economically, environmentally, and technically feasible.

**Policy 5.5.2.** Broward County shall encourage increased wastewater reuse capacity and coordination of regional reuse projects applicable from the North Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant (NRWWTP), where feasible.

**Policy 5.5.3.** Broward County shall continue public education, coordination and program support for the expansion of beneficial reuse of reclaimed water, while encouraging regional reuse projects.

**Policy 5.5.4.** Broward County shall coordinate with local municipalities, water and wastewater utilities by 2015, to develop policies and plans that set short-, intermediate-, and long-range goals and establish adaptive management implementation strategies for water and wastewater resources under their jurisdiction to address the potential impacts of climate change, and its operational,
SANITARY SEWER ELEMENT

economic, and environmental effects.

Policy 5.5.5. Broward County shall maintain and update the County-wide Reuse Master Plan and pursue the implementation of reclaimed water strategies that reduce demands on the Biscayne Aquifer.

Objective 5.6. Sanitary sewer facilities shall be designed, constructed, maintained and operated in a manner that protects the functions and quality of ground and surface waters, natural groundwater recharge areas and natural drainage features without impact to existing stormwater and other flood control facilities.

Policy 5.6.1. The Florida Department of Health in Broward County, shall reduce potential groundwater pollution sources and protect groundwater supplies by continuing to implement Broward County Code of Ordinances Chapter 34, Article II, "Water and Sewer Connection Ordinance," and Article II 1/2, "Water, Sanitary Sewer and Septic Tank Ordinance."

Policy 5.6.2. Broward County shall prohibit direct wastewater effluent discharges to surface and ground waters within Zone 1 and Zone 2 of wellfield zones of influence as designated on the Wellfield Protection Maps referenced in Broward County Code of Ordinances Chapter 27, Article XIII, "Wellfield Protection Ordinance."

Policy 5.6.3. Broward County shall reduce potential pollution of surface waters by encouraging all service providers, and municipalities to extend sanitary sewer service to areas accessible by live aboard moored vessels and encourage utilization of the sanitary sewers by vessel occupants.

Policy 5.6.4. Broward County shall continue to protect ground and surface waters from pollution through the licensing of sanitary sewer collection and transmission systems.

Policy 5.6.5. Broward County shall administer and enforce the domestic waste water collection facilities permitting program as delegated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

Post Adoption Revisions

1. This Element was amended pursuant to a Stipulated Settlement Agreement with the Florida Department of Community Affairs through Ordinance Number 2000-07 adopted on February 1, 2000.

2. This Element was amended in Cycle 2001-1 through Ordinance Numbers 2001-25 and
SANITARY SEWER ELEMENT


3. This Element was amended in Cycle 2006-2 through Ordinance No. 2006-65 adopted on December 12, 2006.

4. This Element was amended in Cycle 2008-1 through Ordinance No. 2008-34 adopted on June 24, 2008.

5. This Element was amended in Cycle 2014 through Ordinance No. 2015-02 adopted on January 13, 2015.