

Date: March 12, 2025

To: Mayor and Commissioners

From: Kennie Hobbs, Jr., Interim City Manager

Subject: Approval of Purchase Agreement for Property Located at 2001 NW. 49th Ave.

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners,

For several years, we have been exploring the possibility of acquiring the property adjacent to our Water Treatment Plant, located at 2001 NW 49th Avenue. This property has been used with the owner's consent to support water facility services. However, there are several reasons why we believe it is essential to acquire this property.

First and foremost, the current above-ground propane gas storage poses a potential risk to our plant operations in the event of an accident. Florida Public Utilities has informed us that they have secured a replacement property within the city, which means that this property will no longer be needed for their services.

Secondly, the property is located in a strategic location that will allow us to expand our water treatment capacity and meet the growing demand for water in our community. This expansion will help us ensure that our water supply remains reliable and safe for our residents.

We have attached the Purchase Agreement for your review. The Florida Public Utilities Company has agreed to sell the property to the City for \$1,800,000.00. This price is considered reasonable, especially when compared to the potential costs of an eminent domain proceeding.

The proposed Resolution authorizes the City Manager and City Attorney to take all necessary steps to complete the acquisition. Once the Resolution is passed, City staff will proceed with executing the contract and finalizing the acquisition process.

Thank you for your consideration.