

# BAL HARBOUR

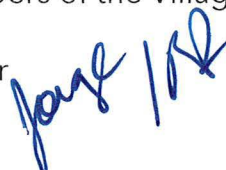
- V I L L A G E -

OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE MANAGER

LETTER TO COUNCIL

NO. 039-2020

TO: Mayor Gabriel Groisman and Members of the Village Council

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, Village Manager 

DATE: March 6, 2020

SUBJECT: **Village Response to the City of Miami Beach Force Main Ruptures**

The purpose of this Letter to Council (LTC) is to provide you with a status update of the Village actions taken in response to the City of Miami Beach Wastewater Force Main Rupture. On March 5, 2020, the Village was advised that due to two separate wastewater force main ruptures within the City of Miami Beach, their ability to receive the wastewater flows from Bal Harbour Village and the Towns of Surfside and Bal Harbor Islands would be greatly impacted for an estimated twenty-four (24) hour period.

As you are aware, the wastewater for our three municipalities, is transmitted south through the Miami Beach wastewater system to the Virginia Key treatment plant. Staff began immediate preparations to reduce the sanitary sewer flow from the Village by maintaining a portion of wastewater flows within the Village system. Early that same afternoon, we were advised that an additional thirty-six (36) inch diameter wastewater force main rupture occurred at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Street surface parking lot in Miami Beach. Due to the two earlier and this latest rupture, the City of Miami Beach requested that the three municipalities take measures to severely limit the waste water flows to Miami Beach while repairs were completed.

The Village, along with the Towns of Surfside and Bay Harbor Islands, contacted our previously retained pump truck contractors to prepare for the transport of the wastewater flows from the sanitary sewer system using tanker trucks to a location offsite for disposal.

At 10:30 pm on the evening of March 5, the Village utility operational staff, in coordination with the Bal Harbour Police Department, began the continuous pumping and transport of the wastewater flows from the center median manhole at the 9800 block of Collins Avenue, to a Miami Dade County Sanitary Sewer Station in the City of Sunny Isles. This emergency transport of the Village wastewater is expected to continue until at least the early morning hours of Saturday March 7. The Bal Harbour Police Department deployed additional

police resources to assist with the transports, as well as mitigate any traffic related issues. We are also in continuous communication and coordination with all affected municipalities and the Miami Dade County Water and Sewer Department during this period.

Additionally, the notice to our residents requesting the voluntary water use reduction is still in effect and will be reiterated via the Village electronic notification system. As this work continues, all normal operations of the Parks and Public Spaces Department, except for the Bal Harbour Park, are suspended while the staff conducts this action.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact myself or Ramiro Inguanzo directly.

JMG/JAO