



CITY COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

DATE: August 27, 2024

SUBJECT: Discussion and possible action concerning FPL's Storm Secure Underground Program. – **Public Works**

CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:

The City Manager requests a discussion and possible action regarding FPL's Storm Secure Underground Program.

BACKGROUND OF ITEM:

Florida Power & Light Company operates 75,000 miles of power lines covering more than half the state. Overhead power lines account for about 60 percent of the power lines that distribute power to residential and business customers. The remaining 40 percent of power lines are underground.

Some benefits of underground power lines are:

- During day-to-day operations, underground power lines perform 50 percent better than overhead power lines.
- During Hurricane Irma, underground power lines performed 85 percent better than overhead power lines because they were not affected by wind-blown debris, lightning, and other elements.

While underground power lines perform better in a storm involving wind, they are still susceptible to outages, primarily due to flooding.

- Water and electricity don't mix, so crews need to wait until the water recedes and it is safe to restore power.
- In some cases, repairs to underground power lines may take longer than overhead power lines because of the length of time to diagnose and repair the problem.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Underground Easement – 9070 SW 51st Street
2. Underground Easement – SW 51st Street