



TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH

FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

3612 S. OCEAN BLVD. • HIGHLAND BEACH, FLORIDA 33404
(561) 237-5575 (561) 265-3582

September 26, 2025

Hello Ingrid,

I am providing this letter in support of the requested variance for the Seagate Fire Pump(s) Housing location and the underground water supply pipping installation. The Seagate Condominiums must replace all four of their fire pumps, as all of the exiting pumps no longer operate. Additionally, they must replace all the underground fire main pipping due to degradation and corrosion. Another issue is that the original pumps were undersized, and they were not code compliant. Unfortunately, the larger fire pumps along with the pump controllers will not fit into the rooms where the existing pumps were located.

Based on these conditions, I suggested the pumps be relocated to the southeast corner of the parking area. The installation will require two new taps and backflow preventors be installed onto the Town 14" water main along A1A. After discussion with Utility Services, the best option would be to install a single pumphouse that would accommodate both new pumps. Additionally, these pumps will run on natural gas, with connections to the gas main also running adjacent to A1A, thereby eliminating the need for an alternate power source. The closer proximity of the pumphouse to A1A will make this installation much more efficient and reduce the potential for damage to pipping required for a longer run from A1A. Finally, this location satisfies both Utility Services guidelines and NFPA 24 proximity requirements for backflow preventor and isolation valve installations.

Thank you for your consideration. I plan on making myself available to the members of the Board of Adjustment and Appeals should anyone have any questions. Thx

Matt Welhaf
Assistant Chief/ Fire Marshal
Highland Beach Fire Rescue