

**Agenda Item:** 2.c

**Meeting Date:** September 2, 2025

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** City Commission

**Through:** Jennifer K. Bramley, City Manager

**From:** Clay Watkins

**Date:** 2025-08-26

**Subject:** Introduction to the Wastewater Divisions proposed Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Program.

**Presenter(s):** Clayton "Clay" Watkins, P.E., Director of Utilities & Engineering; Janice "Nan" Bennett, P.E., Utilities Operations Manager; Alex Winterstein, Environmental Specialist II; and Rodney Rainey, Wastewater Collections Manager

**Staff Recommendation:** Commission introduction and discussion of the Wastewater Division's proposed Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Program; providing Consensus Direction and Concurrence with staff's proposed implementation.

**Strategic Themes:** Environmental Resiliency & Sustainability and City Services

**Boards & Committees:** N / A

**Budget Impact:** N / A

**Past Action:** Environmental Specialist position was approved in the FY25 budget.

**Next Action:** Presentation to the Committee on Environmental Quality and Sustainability, and the Chambers of Commerce. Coordinate with the City Attorney to develop a FOG Ordinance, and present the Ordinance for Commission consideration of approval.

**Attachments:** [A. Fats, Oils, & Grease Presentation \(09-02-25\).pdf](#)

**Background:** The City's Utilities Wastewater Division is proposing development of a program to address Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG), and a subsequent ordinance. The adopted FY25 budget included an "Environmental Specialist II" position, which has since been filled and will ultimately assist the Utilities Department with the creation and administration of the FOG program, and corresponding Ordinance. The proposed program will provide education

regarding the affects of FOG on our Wastewater Collection System, and enforcement of the future Fats, Oils, and Grease Ordinance, if so adopted by the Commission.

Fats, oils and grease affect every one. The buildup of FOG can cause sewer overflows, sewer pipe corrosion and odor issues. FOG can also accumulate in other parts of a wastewater system, such as lift stations. When untreated, FOG gets into the wastewater treatment systems, or directly into water bodies it can devastate an ecosystem. Food Service Establishments (FSE) make up the majority of FOG accumulation into the City's Wastewater Collection System.

The proposed program will establish a registration for food service establishments and grease haulers, provide education for food service establishments and residence of the affects of FOG, require a schedule for grease removal and inspections of grease handling devices, establish yearly fees and fines for food service establishments to ensure adherence to the Ordinance, establish fees for grease haulers for elicited discharge, and provided the ability to remove a hauler from the City's list of haulers for not complying with the City's Ordinance.

Staff encourages Commission discussion regarding the Wastewater Division's proposed Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Program; and hereby seeks consensus direction and concurrence with staff's proposed next steps toward implementation of said program.