

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Mark Elsner, P.E., Division of Flood Control and Water Supply Planning

DATE: November 13, 2025

SUBJECT: 2025 Central Florida Water Initiative Regional Water Supply Plan

Agenda Item Background:

This presentation will provide an overview of the Draft 2025 Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP). Staff is requesting Governing Board approval of the 2025 CFWI RWSP. Water supply plans are updated every five years and identify sustainable water supplies for all water users while protecting water resources and related natural systems. The goal of the RWSP is to identify programs and projects to ensure that adequate and sustainable water supplies are available to meet current and future water supply needs while protecting the environment and water resources.

The Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) was established by Section 373.0465, Fla. Stat., and is a collaborative planning process involving the South Florida Water Management District (District), the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), regional public water supply utilities, and other stakeholders. The 2025 CFWI RWSP builds upon the previous plans that were approved in 2015 and 2020.

The 2025 CFWI RWSP concludes that current and future water demands can be met through 2045, while sustaining water resources and related natural systems with appropriate management, continued diversification of water supply sources, water conservation, and implementation of identified water supply and water resource development projects. It was concluded that fresh groundwater availability of up to 760 million gallons per day (mgd) as identified in the 2020 CFWI RWSP is still valid based on the water resource evaluations of this 2025 CFWI RWSP. Based on the 2045 groundwater demand projections (856 mgd), the resulting groundwater shortfall is approximately 96 mgd. Therefore, local management strategies will continue to be needed (e.g., wellfield optimization, aquifer recharge, natural system enhancement) to address unacceptable impacts.

Additional Item Background:

The CFWI is overseen by a Steering Committee that includes a public water supply utility representative, a Governing Board member from each of the three water management districts, and representatives from DEP and FDACS. The CFWI RWSP identifies programs, projects, and strategies to ensure that adequate and sustainable water supplies are available to meet current and future water supply needs while protecting the environment and water resources. This CFWI effort is based on a planning horizon extending through 2045 and identifies water conservation measures, water supply development project options, and water resource development project options.

The 2025 CFWI RWSP was developed in an open public forum. The Draft 2025 CFWI RWSP was made available for public comment from March 14, 2025 to May 16, 2025. Comments have been evaluated and incorporated into the final draft where appropriate. In addition, a public workshop was held on the Draft 2025 CFWI RWSP. The Final Draft 2025 CFWI RWSP with the associated appendices were presented to and reviewed by the Steering Committee at its meeting on September 12, 2025. The CFWI Steering Committee endorsed the Final Draft 2025 CFWI RWSP documents and recommended they be presented to the three water management district Governing Boards for action to meet the water supply planning responsibilities under Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. Documents are posted to the CFWI website (cfwiwater.com).

Funding Source:

Implementation of the water resource development projects identified in the District's regional water supply plans are funded through a combination of local, District, and state funds, as appropriate and available.

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

Meeting the current and future demands of water users and the environment is part of the District's core mission. Section 373.709, F.S., requires water management districts to conduct water supply planning in regions where it determines that existing sources of water are not adequate to supply water for all existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses and to sustain the water resources and related natural systems through the 20-year planning period.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-1113](#)