

MAYOR
JIM O'BRIEN

THE TOWN OF
Windermere



TOWN MANAGER
ROBERT SMITH

CLERK
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Dear Windermere Residents,

The Town of Windermere recently submitted Appropriation Requests to the State of Florida/DEP to implement the three phases of the Town of Windermere's adopted Water Master Plan. Currently, Orange County Utilities (OCU) provides potable water to 41% of the parcels within the Town of Windermere. The remaining parcels are on individual private water wells. This master plan evaluates extending the system that OCU owns and operates to provide water to all parcels. The construction of these potable water lines will accomplish these goals. The drivers for this project are: safety, environmental protection, and reliability.

Safety:

This project will improve safety by providing a monitored, safe drinking water supply, while also improving fire protection capabilities.

Environmental Protection:

By reducing the number of wells around the Town's Outstanding Florida Waterbodies, this project will ensure the environment is also protected.

Reliability:

Additionally, this project will improve reliability by providing a pressurized system that does not require electricity to operate, as is the case for residential well pumps.

While some areas of the Town are already equipped with fire hydrants, a large portion of the Town does not have fire hydrants. In addition, some of the existing hydrants do not have the available fire flow for some of the larger homes located within the Town. As part of this master plan, it is proposed that a few specific water mains be replaced with larger diameter pipes to

provide increased available fire flow where it is needed. The water main extension proposed in this master plan includes locations for additional fire hydrants to serve every parcel.

Representative Geraldine Thompson Sponsored Bills, Co-Sponsored by Senator Vic Torres:

- **HB 2693** *Windermere Water South* \$3,206,000
<https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=71084&SessionId=90>
- **HB 2691** *Windermere Water Central* \$3,081,000
<https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=71083&SessionId=90>
- **HB 2695** *Windermere Water North* \$3,994,000
<https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=71085&SessionId=90>

Representative Thompson has asked for the following to assist our endeavor:

- Write letters, send emails, call, and/or meet with other elected officials and their staff to explain the need for the bill.
- Inform other officials of how the bill will impact the community. Request that the official become an advocate for the bill.
- Contact the news media, schedule press conferences or media releases, and prepare news articles to inform the community about the bill.
- Request widespread community assistance in calling, writing, and meeting with legislators remotely or in person to garner support for the bill.
- Circulate a letter and ask others to sign on to inform representatives and senators about the bill and ask them to support and co-sponsor it.
- Issue action alerts to community supporters asking them to contact their senators and representatives to sign a “Dear Colleague” letter which I will write asking my fellow legislators to co-sign.
- Testify during committee meetings remotely or in person regarding the issue addressed in the bill.
- Direct written testimonies, press statements, or other materials to committee chairs, members, and staffs to be heard in committee meetings and included in official records.

You can track the bills and contact your State Representatives here:

House: <https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/>

Senate: <https://www.flsenate.gov/>

Any assistance from the public is welcomed and appreciated.

Thank You.



Robert Smith
Town Manager, Town of Windermere