WATER NATURAL GAS ELECTRIC WASTEWATER INTERNET

FPUA Customer Connections

January 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024

This New Year, we start the year together, celebrating our community and recognizing special holidays in January.

We look forward to serving you in 2024.

New Year's Day

New Year's 2024 Update

Javier Cisneros, P.E.
Director of Utilities/
Chief Executive Officer

This New Year's Day, I hope you are surrounded by friends, family, and community to ring in 2024 with joyful memories and plans for the coming year. I'd also like to share some upcoming milestone projects at FPUA.

FPUA's biggest project of the new year is the next construction phase of the new Mainland Water Reclamation Facility (MWRF). This project has been a long time coming, and is receiving a lot of support from state agencies and representatives.

We're also investing to storm-harden and modernize our electric grid, ensuring economical and reliable energy into the future. Additionally, our solar power investments will begin delivering more clean and renewable energy right here in Fort Pierce.

All of this with you, our customers and neighbors, in mind. We are bringing fast fiber internet (and Free Public WiFi) throughout Fort Pierce, and are also working hard to improve our customer support.

On behalf of your hometown utility service provider, we wish you and your family a Happy New Year, and thank you as always for allowing FPUA to provide your hometown utility service.

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 15, 2024

FPUA joins our community this year and every year in celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a federal holiday marking the birthday of the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It is observed on the third Monday of January each year, though Dr. King was actually born in 1929 on January 15th.

The holiday commemorates the life and achievements of Dr. King, who was a Baptist minister and prominent leader in the American civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s.

MLK Day is celebrated nationwide with parades and group service activities. In fact, MLK Day is the only federal holiday that is also designated as a National Day of Service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities.

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend." -MLK

As FPUA looks forward to 2024, staff are excited about the opportunities we are bringing to Fort Pierce as your locally-owned public utility.

Here are just a few things we have in store for 2024.

Wastewater

- The new Mainland Water Reclamation Facility (MWRF) will start taking shape with construction of the maintenance building, concrete tank structures, basins, disc filters, and the reuse storage tank.
- Construction of the new conveyance system will begin, establishing sewage flow to the MWRF, and away from the Indian River Lagoon.
- Septic-to-Sewer program will continue offering conversions for only $110 (while funds last).
- Improving infrastructure resiliency with Cured-in-Place-Piping to eliminate stormwater infiltration from clay sewer pipes.

Water

- The water resources team will be expanding to bring drinking water service into new neighborhoods, and organizing to meet the new Lead and Copper Rules released by USEPA.

Natural Gas

- The largest natural gas expansion initiative since 1987 will make natural gas available to more than 4,000 residential and business customers in Lakewood Park and northern Fort Pierce.
- Adding 29 miles of new service territory and 60 miles of new gas mains throughout Fort Pierce.
- Installing Advanced Metering Infrastructure.

Manatee Center

- Expanding educational student programming about Treasure Coast marine ecology, including partnerships with Fort Pierce public schools.

Electric

- By end of 2024, FPUA will be positioned to deliver 25% of Fort Pierce's energy from solar and zero carbon nuclear generation by 2027.
- Begin installing 400 TripSavers and replacing four circuit breakers for electric grid reliability.
- Enhancing grid resiliency by storm-hardening and undergrounding overhead electric services.
- Upgrading nearly 150 power poles and ten transmission poles with more durable material to enhance grid resilience and mitigate service interruptions.
- Adding over 50 street lights to Ohio Avenue.

FPUAnet

- Fiber internet will be installed at St. Lucie County Airport and Industrial Park.
- Continued expansion into residential and business communities throughout Fort Pierce, including completion of fiber internet builds in Downtown Fort Pierce.
- Free WiFi delivered in seven locations across Fort Pierce and will continue adding features.

Customer Service

- Adding a new customer service drive thru lane for expanded customer support.
- Expanding weatherization program to provide ceiling insulation for qualifying homes.
- Enhancing FPUA's customer communications and updating customer contact information.
- Acting on targeted feedback from the citizen-led Utility Advisory Committee.

FPUA
COMMUNITY PROUD

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