



## Memorandum

**Memorandum No: 25-179**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Rickelle Williams, City Manager *RW*

**DATE:** September 23, 2025

**SUBJECT: Appointment of Utility Services Department Director**

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I am pleased to announce the appointment of Albert J. Carbon III, P.E., as the City of Fort Lauderdale's new Director of Utility Services, effective Monday, October 20, 2025.

As part of the approved Fiscal Year 2026 Budget, the utility functions and associated personnel that historically reported to the Public Works Department are being reorganized into a new stand-alone department (Utility Services). As of October 1, 2025, the Utility Services Department will include over 300 employees responsible for the distribution, collection, and treatment of the City's water and wastewater systems. As part of the transition, the Utility Services Department will report to Brad Kaine, Public Works Director, until Mr. Carbon joins the City on October 20, 2025.

Mr. Carbon previously served as the City of Fort Lauderdale's Public Works Director from 2004 to 2013 and is returning to the City with over forty (40) years of experience in utility systems, public works, and civil engineering. Most recently, Mr. Carbon served as the Public Works Director for the City of Oakland Park since 2015. In that capacity, Mr. Carbon managed over 100 employees with a portfolio that included water, sewer, stormwater, street services, fleet, solid waste collections, facilities, and park maintenance.

Over his career, Mr. Carbon served in various capacities within the Utility and Public Works sectors in Florida and California. Mr. Carbon's experience includes water treatment plant expansions, major infrastructure upgrades, master planning, capital project programming, sustainability initiatives, disaster preparedness and recovery, public-private partnerships, and water supply/reservoir construction projects. Mr. Carbon has direct experience with the City of Fort Lauderdale's utilities and has remained involved in system planning efforts as a representative of the Central Wastewater Region interlocal agreement.

Mr. Carbon holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and is a licensed Professional Engineer in Florida and California. He serves

on the Broward County Water Advisory Board Technical Advisory Committee and the Broward County Climate Change Task Force. In addition, Mr. Carbon is involved with various industry organizations including the American Public Works Association (APWA), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), American Water Works Association (AWWA). Mr. Carbon is also a Fort Lauderdale resident. His direct knowledge of and experience with the City of Fort Lauderdale's utilities systems combined with his education and experience make him a great fit for the role.

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming Mr. Carbon back to the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Attachment:

1. Albert Carbon III, P.E., Resume

c: D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney  
David R. Soloman, City Clerk  
Patrick Reilly, City Auditor  
City Manager's Office  
Department Directors

# Albert J. Carbon III, P.E.

## Qualifications

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A seasoned utility and public works executive, as well as a licensed professional engineer, boasting over 30 years of advancing expertise in Utilities, Public Works, Municipal Management, Budgeting, Water and Wastewater Facility Planning, Engineering and Construction, Solid Waste Management, and Environmental Engineering.

## Key Competencies

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- Accomplished municipal professional adept at devising solutions for daily operational challenges and addressing multifaceted public issues encountered by governmental entities
- Proficient in Climate Change and Sea Level rise planning, mitigation, and project implementation, particularly within the framework of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Compact and as a member of the Broward County Florida Climate Change Task Force.
- A collaborative leader who sets an example while navigating through the complexities of major projects within departments and agencies.
- Well-versed in providing regional leadership for innovative, multi-jurisdictional water supply, and sustainable development programs.
- Public works leader with extensive expertise in water and sewer systems, capital improvement planning, budgeting, and implementation.

## Major Achievements

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Updating the City of Oakland Park, Florida's Public Works Department to meet the challenges of City Management and City Commission. Oakland Park's "a City on the Move" and "Proud to Be Oakland Park" (POP) set high goals for the City and challenged the City's Public Works Department. Through significant infrastructure improvement in the water, sewer, and stormwater systems over the past 10+years, the City is poised for making aboveground investments that will increase its residents and businesses quality of life for the next generation. The infrastructure investment has met the challenges of climate change and current sea level rise by minimizing flooding occurrence throughout the City.

Delivered Fort Lauderdale's award-winning Waterworks 2011 Program, a \$700 million water and sewer improvement program, on time and under budget. The Program included a complex funding matrix and considerable community outreach. Intended to modernize the City's aging infrastructure, the Program included cutting edge technology in water treatment, wastewater management, and trenchless piping rehabilitation. **Developed "Net-Zero" job cost model**, wherein all increases in budget required a commensurate decrease in a different component of the Program, typically through value engineering and innovation. In difficult economic times, a hallmark of the Program success was widespread community acceptance and support.

Initiated and **led a unique Public-Private-Partnership (P3)** project designed to resolve long standing regional water supply challenges, known as the C-51 Reservoir. Faced with long term regional water supply shortages, previously identified solutions (typically Reverse Osmosis of brackish waters) were costly and came with significant greenhouse gas implications. An alternative involving harvesting stormwaters lost to tide was developed. This solution required regional cooperation, but promised lower costs, significant environmental benefit, and a more attractive sustainability profile. Formed and led a coalition of 7 utilities, prepared feasibility analyses, identified benefits and beneficiaries, developed economic cost sharing strategies, collaborated with the private sector and regulatory agencies (local, state and federal), and interfaced with elected officials of multiple jurisdictions. As this project was not developed through traditional state planning structures, it naturally faced an initial lack of enthusiasm from

regulatory agency officials. With perseverance, however, the project was ultimately adopted as a key regional solution by the Water Task Forces of both Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Eventually, over 40 south Florida utilities may benefit.

## Highlighted Experience

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### **Public Works Director – City of Oakland Park, Florida**

December 2015 to Present

- Director of a Public Works Department with 100 employees for water, sewer, stormwater, streets, fleet, solid waste collection, Fleet, Facilities and Park Maintenance
- Developed the City's first Climate Action Plan (CAP). This CAP is unique in that is for two City's, Oakland Park and Wilton Manors.
- Updated the Department to meet the Mission, Goals and Objectives of the City Commission and City Manager to be "A City on the Move" and "Proud to Be Oakland Park" (POP)

### **Engineer – Palm Beach Aggregates, LLC**

June 2013 to December 2015

Project Engineer/Manager for the C-51 Reservoir Project. Leading a team of engineers, contractors and managers on an innovated alternative water project from planning through construction. This alternative water supply solution has required regional cooperation, lower costs, significant environmental benefit and a more attractive sustainability profile. The project is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) of Palm Beach Aggregates, LLC and South Florida Utilities in conjunction with South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).

This regional water supply and resources project consists of a two phased water storage reservoir with Phase 1 being 14,000 acre-ft of water storage and phase 2 being 45,000 acre-ft.

The project design of Phase 1 is complete with Environmental Resources Permit (ERP) issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and has a pending Consumptive Use Permit (CUP) from SFWMD. Construction is anticipated to begin in January 2016.

### **Project Manager – Town of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea**

April 2013 to December 2013

- Hired as a part time Town employee to deliver 2 drainage and streetscape projects.
- Completed both the East and West Commercial Blvd projects on time and with the budget established by the Town Commission
- Projects were delivered through Construction Management at Risk contracting for a combined Guaranteed Maximum price of around \$5 million.

### **Public Works Director/City Engineer – City of Fort Lauderdale, FL**

November 2004 to March 2013

- Overhauled the City Fire Station construction program, modifying project delivery methods to ensure cost control. Delivered seven stations under budget.
- Led WaterWorks 2011.
- Led the City's re-negotiations for solid waste disposal with Wheelabrator and the County Resource Recovery Board.
- Led the City's clean up and recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma. The Public Works Department moved over 1.4 million yards of debris, cleaned the City's beaches before any other South Florida community and restored regional water and sewer service within 48 hours.
- Led the City's efforts in beach sand re-nourishment; coordinating with Broward County, Corp of Engineers and Florida's Department of Environmental Protection.

- Led the City's sustainability efforts from inception to implementation of the City's Sustainability Action Plan, which included a citywide greenhouse gas (GHG) emission evaluation. South Florida is on the forefront of sea level rise implications, and under my leadership Fort Lauderdale is becoming the leader in developing adaptation and implementation strategies to place the City in position to be resilient to climate change.
- Developed and integrated three Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) into a comprehensive Five Year CIP Program.
- Managed and directed the City's Public Works Department that represented more than 20% of the City's total annual budget of \$600 million.
- Initiated and led a monthly utility coordination meeting with utilities including FPL, ATT, Comcast, TECO (gas) and city water, sewer and stormwater utilities to discuss and coordinate utility maintenance, improvement and expansions within the City boundaries.

#### **Public Works Director/City Engineer - City of South Pasadena, California**

September 2003 to October 2004

- Developed a 15-year Capital Improvement Program for the City's antiquated water system valued at \$34 million.
- Increased water and sewer rates for the first time in 15 years to create a fiscally sustainable system able to cover the operations, maintenance and capital improvement costs.

#### **Principal Design Engineer - City of Ventura, California**

January 1990 to August 2003

- Reviewed and professionally stamped all city capital projects to ensure compliance with City, State, and Federal laws and requirements and general engineering practices
- Assigned and prioritized work for the section; supervised and conducted annual performance evaluations for the seven full time engineers; set individual and section goals and objectives; mentored less experienced engineers; and performed disciplinary actions as required.
- Developed annually the City's Capital Improvement Plan which entailed working intensively with the Budget Division. Reviewed all projects descriptions and budget estimates and identified possible conflicts with projects.

#### **Managing Engineer - City of Ventura, California**

February 1999 to April 2000

- Served in the City Manager's Office as the Managing Engineer; working directly with the City Manager, Deputy City Manager and City Council on overall management of the City.
- Completed a public meeting handbook for City's Commissions, Committees and Boards that was an instruction manual on how these groups would conduct business.

#### **Project Engineer/Manager - City of Ventura, California**

January 1990 to August 2001

- Engineer and managed major improvements and expansion of the City's Water and Wastewater Division. Projects included 2 water treatment plant expansions, 2 water storage tanks and a major upgrades the City's wastewater treatment facility.
- Conducted water studies that identified and recommended more than \$100 million in improvements over 10 years to keep the City's water systems functioning and sufficient to meet the needs of the population served.

#### **Engineer III - Ventura Regional Sanitation District (VRSD), Ventura, California**

July 1987 to December 1989

- Served as the construction engineer for landfill capital improvement projects which involved budget preparation, consultant contract management, construction management, and material purchasing.
- Acted as the Landfill Operations Engineer; assisted site superintendent and supervisors on maintaining landfill operations as required by regulatory permits.
- Assisted as the engineer in the permitting of landfill and solid waste environmental control facilities in accordance with state and federal regulations.

- Managed the closure of a municipal landfill under State of California environmental regulations.
- Coordinated communication between State, County and City regulatory agencies, including the California Waste Management Board, California Regional Water Quality Control Board and the County of Ventura.

**Consulting Engineer - Owen Engineering Management and Consultants, Inc. (OEMC),  
Cameron Park, CA**

April 1985 to July 1987

- Managed construction and inspection for El Dorado Irrigation District's Deer Creek Sewage Treatment Plant Expansion, Cameron Park, CA.
- Inspected the construction of the wastewater treatment plant expansion in Pueblo, CO.
- Assisted the Engineer of Record in the initial operations plan for Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District, Kirkwood, CA.
- Conducted field design and engineering for a sludge containment facility for Upper Eagle Valley Sanitation District, Vail, CO.
- Prepared the final construction management reports for the expansion of the Littleton/Englewood Wastewater Treatment Plant and Administration Building, Denver, CO.

## **Education**

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B. S. - Civil Engineering, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN

## **Affiliations**

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American Public Works Association (APWA)  
American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)  
American Water Works Association (AWWA)  
Member – Broward County Water Advisory Board (WAB) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
Member – Broward County Climate Change Task Force  
Former Chair and Board Member of the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Hearing Board

## **Registration**

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Professional Engineer (Civil) – California, Florida