

WINTER HAVEN

The Chain of Lakes City

City of Winter Haven Public Works Department Overview February 2018

The Public Works Department was established in 2016 in an effort to better align service and maintenance related elements within the City. This Department is comprised of four Divisions consisting of Streets and Drainage, Solid Waste, Natural Resources, and Fleet Maintenance. In total there are 60 positions including management, administrative, and frontline staff positions within this Department. A breakdown of Public Works and description of services provided is detailed below.

The Streets and Drainage Division is funded at roughly a 60/40 split between the City's General Fund (\$1.5M) and the proprietary Stormwater Fee (\$1M) with an annual operating budget of \$2.5M. This Division is comprised of three Units of multi-talented construction and maintenance personnel responsible for maintaining the City's rights-of-way including sidewalks, roadways, signage, traffic signalization and drainage systems. A description of responsibilities of each of these Units is as follows:

- Streets Unit - responsible for maintaining 145 miles of paved City streets and 40 miles of sidewalk. Activities include roadway pothole repairs and utility patching as well as sidewalk repairs and construction.
- Drainage Unit - maintenance of the City's stormwater conveyance system including 1,780 stormwater inlets, 100 miles of roadside curbing, and 92 miles of subsurface stormwater drainage pipe.
- Traffic Operations Unit - responsible for the maintenance of 49 signalized intersections, 2,000 roadway signs, and over 1,000 roadway lighting assemblies.

Additionally, this Division assists in the implementation of all roadway Capital Improvement Projects as well as the annual Transportation Improvement Program designated for roadway improvements within the City.

The Solid Waste Division is funded through a self-sustaining Solid Waste Enterprise Fund generating revenues of \$7.0M with an annual operating budget of \$6.5M. Solid Waste is comprised of three Units consisting of Commercial, Residential, and Recycling services. A description of responsibilities of each of these Units is as follows:

- Commercial Unit - consists of four front loader vehicles, responsible for running four routes, that provide refuse service for 1900 commercial customers within the City on a 6-day a week cycle.
- Residential Unit - consists of five side loaders and seven trashmasters running five routes within the City. The side loaders are responsible for providing curbside refuse collection while the trashmasters pick up junk/yard debris for approximately 15,000 residential customers on a 4 and 5 day a week collection cycle respectively.
- Recycling Unit - consists of one roll-off truck responsible for servicing City owned construction waste containers and privately held compactors.

Solid Waste is the most dynamic Division within Public Works as it frequently requires adjustments to account for annexations of residential and commercial properties. This Division is also the only enterprise fund within the Department.

The Natural Resources Division is funded through a self-sustaining proprietary Stormwater Fee that generates \$1.8M in revenues with an annual operating cost of \$1.8M, which is split between the Streets and Drainage (\$1M) and Natural Resources Divisions (\$.8M). Natural Resources is comprised of a small team of Environmental Scientists that maintain the City's natural resources through management practices based on a sound understanding of ecological systems. This includes monitoring conditions that driving management of the interconnected and expansive Chain of Lakes system as well as numerous pothole lakes and City owned natural areas. These management activities take into consideration the fiscal and social benefits these systems have on the local economy as well as user groups. This group also ensures compliance with state and federal water quality standards including the City's MS4 Permit. Additionally, this team drives grant funding utilized for multiple small to large scale projects designed at improving water quality and quantity within not only the City, but the region. This Division is also a contributory to multiple local, state, and federal regulatory agencies that are instrumental in directing environmental policy effecting central Florida and the state.

The Fleet Maintenance Division is funded through an Internal Service Fund with an annual operating budget of \$2.4M. Fleets responsibilities include the maintenance and repair of all the City's over 400 mobile assets and equipment. This Divisions biggest internal customers are Solid Waste, Police Department and Fire Department. Additionally, this Division orders all of the new vehicles and equipment for the City as well as provides and maintains a fueling island located on the Public Works campus.

The personnel in Public Works are responsible for the day to day rigors of maintaining the City's infrastructure and assets while ensuring that quality services are provided to residents as well as internal customers. All four Divisions in Public works have senior managers that oversee the daily operations of their respective areas. This management team reports to the Public Works Director and provides support and direction for the Department.

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