

For Immediate Release:



Steve Suggs, inset, provides the Marathon City Council with an update on the Deep Injection Well Project

Engineer provides update on Deep Injection Well project

MARATHON, FL (Aug. 26, 2026) – Steve Suggs, Principal Engineer with Apex Companies, gave an update on the city’s Deep Injection Well Project during August’s City Council meeting.

During his presentation to the council, Suggs provided an overview of the project and the status of each of the six phases.

The costs of phases 1, 2, 3A, and 3B, which are all in progress and under contract, focusing on pipeline construction is \$20 million. Phases 4A, 4B, and 5 deal largely with facility upgrades and pumps necessary for the overall project.



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Suggs reiterated efforts remained underway to secure funding for the project, including state appropriations, long- and short-term financing, and grants, to reduce the amount the city must finance.

“We’ve been pretty successful with grant funding and we anticipate that is going to continue,” Suggs said. “We believe we will be able to get at least 50% of the project funded through grant funding or appropriation.”

Work is currently underway in Phase 1, where directional drilling and pipeline installation along Overseas Highway is being done by DBE Utility Services. To date, approximately 5,500 linear feet of 16-inch transmission main has been installed, according to Suggs.

A construction contract for phases 2 and 3B was awarded in June to Advance Drilling Systems. The contractor is currently coordinating with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to obtain the necessary approvals for temporary traffic control and maintenance of traffic (MOT) plans before beginning construction from the north side of Vaca Cut Bridge in Marathon to Grassy Key.

Phase 3A performed by local contractor Coral Construction Company, which involved installation of more than 5,000 linear feet of pipeline in the Coco Plum area, is awaiting substantial completion and final acceptance, Suggs said.

Suggs explained the need for an amendment to the project’s Facilities Plan during his presentation.

According to Suggs, as plans advance, components of the project need to be refined, including modeling, permitting, and detailed design. The amendment included modifications to facilities in Areas 3, 4, 5, and 7 of the city’s current wastewater disposal system, which are part of Phase 4; the Area 6 facility, which is Phase 4B; and construction of the deep injection well and monitoring well, which is Phase 5.

The project, which is designed to transport treated effluent into a deep injection well, resolves litigation challenging the city’s use of shallow wells to dispose of wastewater. It



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is scheduled for completion by Dec. 31, 2028.

The full PowerPoint presentation is available on the city's website at [Deep Injection Well Project](#).

Media contact: Chris Seymour, City of Marathon Public Information Officer
Email: pio@ci.marathon.fl.us Cell: 645-206-4368

For inquiries, contact City of Marathon, 305-743-0033