



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 18-2072, **Version:** 1

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**ITEM: RESOLUTION NO. R2018-20 (WATER AND WASTEWATER MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH FLORIDA'S WATER/WASTEWATER AGENCY RESPONSE NETWORK)**

**A RESOLUTION OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A WATER AND WASTEWATER MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH FLORIDA'S WATER/WASTEWATER AGENCY RESPONSE NETWORK AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**REQUEST:** Approval of a Water and Wastewater Mutual Aid Agreement with Florida's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network.

**EXPLANATION:** Florida's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (FlaWARN) is the formalized system of "utilities helping utilities" to address mutual aid during emergency situations. The program consists of a secure web-based databank of available resources designed to reduce red tape in times of emergency. The goal of FlaWARN is to provide immediate relief for member utilities during times of emergencies. The purpose is to get qualified personnel with the necessary tools and equipment that can both assess and assist the impacted water and wastewater system as quickly as possible by whatever means necessary to protect public health and safety. FlaWARN collaboratively assists in all aspects of utility emergencies both natural and manmade. During the hurricanes of 2004, utilities throughout the state found it difficult to get the needed assistance without a formalized agreement for the responding utility to get reimbursed for their efforts. FlaWARN resolved this issue by offering member utilities a standardized mutual aid agreement outlining terms and conditions of reimbursement prior to requesting or receiving assistance. Approximately, 134 Florida based water and wastewater utilities are enrolled in the program, seven (7) of which are located in Palm Beach County including: Palm Beach County Water Utilities, Town of Jupiter, City of Boynton Beach, City of West Palm Beach, Riviera Beach Utility District, Loxahatchee River District and Seacoast Utilities. The FlaWARN program provided significant resources to the Florida Key Aqueduct Authority immediately following Hurricane Irma in 2017. The program is totally voluntary and member utilities are under no obligation to assist.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUIRED:** NO

**PUBLIC HEARING:** NO                      **QUASI-JUDICIAL:**

**FIRST READING:**                      **SECOND READING:**

**LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:** YES

**FISCAL IMPACT:** N/A

**WELLINGTON FUNDAMENTAL:** Protecting our Investment

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approval of a Water and Wastewater Mutual Aid Agreement with Florida's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network.