



## SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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# STATEMENT

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**Re: USACE Levee Inspection Reports for South Florida**

“The District has not yet received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers its final inspection reports on the levees in South Florida.

“For more than 60 years, the District has actively maintained South Florida’s earthen levees. Together with canals, pump stations and other structures, they comprise one of the most extensive water management networks in the nation, successfully serving the region’s critical flood control and water supply needs. Historical performance of the levees has repeatedly proven that these durable structures perform well during storms and major rain events.

“Prior visual inspections by the Corps on the levees’ general condition has consistently indicated that the system is performing as intended. As with the nation’s other infrastructure, we fully expect the levees to require continued refurbishment and maintenance to address daily wear and tear. This year alone, the District will invest more than \$180 million in flood control operations and maintenance, including \$50 million toward its comprehensive capital improvement plan. On top of the \$3.8 million invested over the last three years in the East Coast Protective Levee, the District has set aside another \$4.7 million for this year, representing a significant investment in the routine maintenance of the 105-mile levee.

“The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is a valuable partner in helping the District identify potential improvements in the system. Once the Corps’ latest inspection results and recommendations are received, we anticipate integrating them into our ongoing capital improvement program to ensure continued upkeep of South Florida’s flood control system.”

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**About the South Florida Water Management District**

*The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is*

*the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.*