

The Southern Voice

"To provide exceptional underground water and wastewater infrastructure solutions through technical excellence, unwavering safety standards, and environmental stewardship. A commitment to building and maintaining vital utility systems that support sustainable communities while delivering superior value to our clients, employees, and stakeholders"



Chairman's Monthly Update

Dear Valued Team Members and Stakeholders,

As we close another productive month at Southern Underground, I am pleased to share some key developments and reflections on our continued journey in the public works water and wastewater infrastructure sector. In addition, our private work continues to show significant growth.

Project Highlights

This month marked significant progress on our municipal pump station expansion in Broward and Dade County. Despite challenging weather conditions, our crews have maintained the schedule and even accelerated certain phases of construction. Our work in the public work sector continues to receive positive feedback from clients, with our environmental impact mitigation strategies being particularly commended in a positive note. This project represents our commitment to developing sustainable water solutions for communities facing increasing scarcity challenges.

Expansion News

I am thrilled to announce that our new facility in Pompano will be ready for move-in on September 1st, 2025.

Industry Developments

The recent federal infrastructure funding announcement brings promising opportunities for our sector. With \$3.5 billion allocated specifically for water and wastewater improvements nationwide, as we are well-positioned to support municipalities in upgrading aging systems. Our business development team is already engaging with key stakeholders to ensure we can contribute our expertise where it's most needed.

Team Recognition

I'd like to extend special recognition to our pump station team, who's redesign of the "Station 61" pumping station for the City of Pompano Beach resulting in a superior layout operating system while reducing operational costs. This exemplifies the innovation and practical problem-solving that defines our company culture. Additionally, our safety record continues to excel, with another month of zero reportable incidents across all project sites. This achievement reflects everyone's dedication to our "Safety First" principles.

Looking Ahead

As we move forward, we remain focused on our strategic goals of expanding our design-build capabilities and strengthening our position in the water reuse market. Water infrastructure remains critical to community health and economic development, and I'm proud of the essential role we play in this sector. The challenges of aging infrastructure, climate changes impacts, and increasing regulatory requirements create opportunities for us to demonstrate our expertise and commitment to excellence.

Thank you for your continued dedication and hard work. As always, my door remains open for your insights and suggestions.

Belseri Comerford
Chairman & CEO
Southern Underground Industries & its subsidiaries

JULY FEATURED EMPLOYEES

Cameron Johnson



Cameron is open to learning all aspects of this industry

Role: Paving Road Restoration Foreman

Fun Fact: Cameron enjoys spending time outdoor camping with his wife and kids.

Romeo Lopez



Romeo is a leader; he will fill in for anyone that is out sick or on vacation.

Role: Assistant foreman pipe pressure tester

Fun Fact: Romeo enjoys playing soccer on the weekends with all his friends



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Safety bingo starts in September (see page 4 for details)

August Birthdays:

Giobel Burgos
Dominique Jean Pierre
Anthony Marini
Carlos Molina
Derek Peters
Javier Placencia
William Smith

Work Anniversaries:

Nathaniel Scott - 1 Year
Erisdel Burgos - 2 Year
Romeo Lopez - 3 Year

DIRECT FROM THE SOURCE

We are thrilled to announce our new team member, Ramy Wassef!

Ramy will be joining our Pump Station Division as a Project Manager. We are excited to welcome him aboard and look forward to working with him for many years to come.

Let our fellow workers know how to have their voices heard in the new Company newsletter!

“I want to personally thank everyone for their commitment and effort on all our ongoing projects. Your work does not go unnoticed, and it's because of teamwork we continue to grow stronger as a company. Keep pushing forward, great things are ahead.”
-Nicole Cangelosi

ON GOING JOBS

- City of Hallandale Beach Lift Station #3
- City of Hallandale Beach Lift Station #6
- City of North Miami Beach Bell Gardens
- City of Hallandale Beach 7th & 8th Street Water Main
- City of North Miami Beach Bunche Park
- City of North Miami Beach Washington Park
- City of Dania Beach Lift Station #12
- City of Fort Lauderdale Rehab PS A-20 & B4

Our pump station crews have a saying...

“The Devil is in the Details”

“Be the person you want to work with.”

“How did you feel about the work you got done today? Reflect on your day and see if you were proud of yourself in what you accomplished or felt that with a little more effort my results could have been better. That reflection is important; it will help you make the man that you can be proud of and respect! For without respect for yourself, no others will respect you”

Recent Highlights



City of Hallandale Beach Hallandale Lift Station No. 3

We are currently pending concrete work and slab installation. In addition, we are working on getting the electrical panels installed. Once the panel installation is complete, we will proceed with start-up and final restoration.



City of North Miami Beach Bunche Park

Pending health department clearance to make all final connections

Pending mill and overlay and final restoration

City of Hallandale Lift Station 10, 11 & 15

Sanitary Sewer starts August 4th and ongoing.

Waiting for Permit approval to start pumps and grinder stations.



City of Hallandale Beach 7 & 8 Street

Ongoing connections of the backyard water services

Pending final connections

Pending mill and overlay

City of North Miami Beach Bell Gardens

Pending 400 feet of 14" Directional drill in front of the Hardrock stadiums.

We are still pending to install 2000 feet of pipe and 1000 feet of directional drill inside of the stadium, ongoing coordination with the hard rock stadium



City of North Miami Beach Washington Park Pump Station and Force Main

We are pending Installation of Pumps

Pending Installation of Electrical Components

Pending Installation of Panel

Pending Final Restoration.

SAFETY

Focusing on Employees working alone, working late at night, or working in high-crime areas:

Directly from OSHA: Conflict de-escalation training provides valuable techniques to handle these interactions before they become dangerous.

- Recognizing Signs of Escalation:
- Sudden changes in tone or body language
- Pacing, fidgeting, or shifting posture
- Yelling, bullying, or noncompliance

Key de-escalation techniques:

Stay Calm – Take a breath, lower your voice, and avoid becoming defensive.

Be Aware – Observe the environment, exits, objects, and the presence of others.

Use Non-Threatening Body

Language:

- Avoid pointing, shrugging, or excessive gestures
- Maintain a respectful distance (12 feet or more if possible)
- Make a Personal Connection – Use the person's name and ask open-ended questions.
- Practice Active Listening – Acknowledge feelings without judgment.
- Show Empathy – Even if you don't agree, validate their emotions.
- Encourage Problem-Solving – Ask for their input or ideas for resolution.

Safety Bingo

Employees play using safety bingo cards, aiming to black out five numbers in a row (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal).

A number is drawn daily and posted in a visible area, such as a lunchroom or bulletin board.

The game ends for a team when a workplace injury occurs, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and safe practices. If you receive Bingo 1st then the winner receives a gift card.

Every day that we do not have an injury we will call a number from the bingo ball adding \$2.00 dollars each day until we get Bingo.

Every employee will receive a Bingo card to play and help keep the team safe.

OUR NEXT AREAS OF FOCUS

- Pump Stations A 20 & Pump Station B4
\$ 8,514,415.00
- Emergency Repairs Fort Lauderdale
\$1,500,000.00
- Norwood WTP Improvements
Phase 2 raw water transmission main & wellhead,
\$4,807,016.00
- Bell Gardens FM Replacement
\$3,367,000.00
- Master Pump Station 4 (Myrtle Grove) FM Replacement
\$3,000,018.00
- City of Hallandale Beach LS 10,11,15
\$6,666,449.00
- Lift Station 12
\$3,699,900.00



Wellness Corner:

Summer Watch outs

1. Stay Hydrated:

Drink plenty of fluids, especially water, throughout the day, even if you don't feel thirsty. Dehydration can lead to heat exhaustion and other serious health issues.

2. Protect Your Skin from the Sun:

Wear sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher, reapply every two hours (more often if swimming or sweating), and wear protective clothing like hats and sunglasses.

3. Be Prepared for Emergencies:

Have a plan in place for emergencies like fires, floods, Hurricanes, or power outages.

4. Avoid Heat-Related Illness:

Be aware of the signs of heat exhaustion (thirst, fatigue, leg or abdominal cramps).

5. Protect Against Insects:

Use insect repellent with DEET or other effective ingredients and take precautions to avoid bites.

Have something you'd like to share for next month's issue? Contact: newsletter@southernundergrounder.com