FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Office of the Mayor Town of Eatonville (407) 555-1234 media@townofeatonville.org www.eatonvillewaterprogram.com

March 28, 2025

Town of Eatonville Launches Historic Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Renewal Program

Tagline: Reliable Water. Resilient Future.

Eatonville, FL – March 28, 2025.

The Town of Eatonville, Florida is proud to announce the Water and Sewer Capital Improvements Program to replace the Town's aging water distribution system and wastewater collection system. The project will also include a new water treatment plant and water storage tank.

These improvements will help ensure clean, efficient, and resilient utility services for all of the Town's utility customers. This multi-phase project honors Eatonville's legacy as the first incorporated African American municipality in the United States—established in 1887—while preparing the town for long-term growth and reliability.

Grant funding was awarded by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection with a \$34 Million Dollar investment. Construction is scheduled to begin by the end of 2025.

This program emphasizes Mayor Angie Gardner significance of the effort in her remarks:

"This program is more than pipes and pumps—it's a promise. A promise to deliver clean water to every home, protect our environment, and lay the groundwork for economic opportunity in Eatonville. We're building for the future while honoring our past." Comments from the Public Works Director:

"This is the biggest infrastructure project in our history" says Valerie Mundy, the Town's Public Works Director, who will be spearheading the program. "We have been struggling for decades with the maintenance of our aging water and sewer infrastructure. We will be implementing innovative approaches to put our utility ahead of the curve. "

Key Highlights of the Infrastructure Renewal Project:

- \$34.4 million investment funded through the Florida State Revolving Fund and federal grants

- The Town will also receive \$5.9 million in additional CDBG mitigation funding.
- Upgraded drinking water lines and wastewater systems across the town
- Improved service reliability, pressure, and system performance
- Advanced technology for leak detection and monitoring
- Reduced disruptions and enhanced emergency preparedness
- Local hiring opportunities and support for small, minority-owned businesses

How the Community Can Stay Informed:

Residents are encouraged to visit the official project website at www.eatonvillewaterprogram.com, where they can:

- View the project timeline and updates
- Sign up for SMS/email alerts
- Read FAQs and access planning documents
- Submit questions or provide feedback

A Legacy of Progress Since 1887

With deep respect for Eatonville's rich history, this project represents a crucial step in securing the future. As the town continues to grow, its infrastructure must evolve—serving families, businesses, and future generations with safe and dependable water services.

For more information, interviews, or speaking opportunities with Mayor Angie Gardner, please contact the Office of the Mayor.

Visit www.eatonvillewaterprogram.com for full project details.