



2025-2026 State Legislative Priorities

TOPIC: Fiber Optic Expansion

Legislative Action Requested:

Funding Appropriation: \$1,500,000

Match Amount: \$1,685,400, already allocated in Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 from Utilities Enterprise Fund and General Fund

The Information Technology Department is requesting state appropriations or grant support to provide monetary assistance in expanding the City of Palm Bay's fiber infrastructure.

Background:

The fiber infrastructure expansion would separate the City's Utility and Non-Utility network infrastructure and establish a continuous underground fiber optic cabling solution to remote City facilities. Upon completion, most City facilities will connect to a redundant network fiber ring, eliminating outages due to a single point of failure and reducing recurring local internet service provider communication fees, resulting in a more resilient network.

This project directly supports the City's Strategic Plan priorities to develop sustainable and innovative infrastructure to improve city services while providing a rich overall resident experience. The City aims to comply with NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) standards regarding separating the Utility-based network and City IT infrastructure. According to NIST SP 800-82r2, the physical protection of the cyber components and data associated with the ICS must be addressed as part of the overall security of a plant. Funding this project would aid in establishing a dedicated network for SCADA (ICS) industrial control systems between plants.