



Challenges and Opportunities Summary

Resilient Infrastructure and Environment

- **Hurricane-related challenges:**
 - Damage to infrastructure (e.g., parks, animal shelters, Lake Seminole Weir, Gulf Beach Booster station, lift stations, and stormwater systems).
 - Need for resilient facilities (e.g., emergency operations centers for utilities, public works campus flooding).
 - Damage to parks, facilities, and trees (e.g., fallen trees, saltwater intrusion).
 - Debris management challenges and the need for better plans and sites.
- **Non-hurricane-related challenges:**
 - Aging infrastructure, deferred maintenance and inflation affecting repair and maintenance with limited funds and budgets.
 - New regulatory challenges (e.g., PFAS/PFOS, EPA Solid Waste, and Lead and Copper Rule).
 - System expansions with new challenges from acquired private utilities.
 - Ongoing backlogs and delays in standard services due to staffing shortages as well as limited funding and contract services, in some departments.

Healthy and Safe Communities

- **Hurricane-related challenges:**
 - Long-term service delivery impacts from the storm's effects on housing, health services, and necessities.
 - Infrastructure disruptions and loss of water for potable and fire-fighting purposes.
 - Increased demand for behavioral health support and housing case management.
 - Vulnerability to fraud, scams, and exploitation of storm victims.
- **Non-hurricane-related challenges:**
 - Behavioral health and substance use challenges, including an increase in suicides.
 - Expanding programs for pet overpopulation and public health concerns (e.g., TNVR and Voucher programs).
 - Service capacity stretched by lack of funding and rising operational costs.

Prosperity and Opportunity

- **Hurricane-related challenges:**
 - Economic downturn impacts, including property tax revenue loss, Tourist Development Tax (TDT) decline, and decreased passenger traffic at PIE airport.
 - Increased demand for business support services and grants.
 - Delayed response to business recovery needs due to staffing shortages.
- **Non-hurricane-related challenges:**
 - Reduction in access to capital for small businesses.
 - Ongoing concerns over the lack of affordable housing.
 - Need for operational efficiencies to reduce costs without compromising resident experiences.

Smart Service Delivery

- **Hurricane-related challenges:**
 - Fuel shortages and workforce shortages impacting staffing during recovery.
 - Delays and backlogs in services and projects due to storm response activities.
 - Mental health concerns due to staff fatigue and stress from back-to-back storms.
 - Challenges in coordinating staffing, equipment, and communications for disaster recovery.
- **Non-hurricane-related challenges:**
 - New policies (e.g., encumbrance policies) increasing administrative workload.
 - Employee burnout and retention challenges; focus on mental health and workplace culture.
 - Technology upgrades needed to improve efficiency and customer service (e.g., new platforms for industrial programs).
 - Rising costs (e.g., utilities, healthcare, wages) outpacing budget adjustments, affecting operations.