



**TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY
PRESS RELEASE**

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- The Town continues sampling and testing of Sarasota Bay waters in accordance with protocols established with its independent contractor, Environmental Science Associates (“ESA”).
- The forcemain leak occurred on undeveloped lands approximately 350 feet inland from the edge of Sarasota Bay waters. The leaked material was diffused within a large mangrove-populated land area, and a significant portion of the leaked material remains and is attenuated within this natural mangrove area. This mangrove system has provided natural treatment and attenuation of the material. ESA has indicated that no actions are recommended to the land area at this time.
- Initial test results are not indicating any significant water quality concerns associated with the leak within Sarasota Bay. It is unknown at this time how much of the leaked material may have migrated to Sarasota Bay. But, there is also no observed discharge plume from the land-to-Bay edge nor extending waterward at this time.
- It is unknown at this time how much material leaked from the pipe, but we believe it may be considerably less than preliminary estimates. These estimates will be further refined to a more accurate and reasonable number based on third party forensic investigation into the pipe leak point, system flows, and hydraulic analysis. This information will also assist the Town in evaluating the cause of the leak.
- Testing will continue as described above in coordination with FDEP and ESA.
