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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Skip the trip to City Hall: Building Department announces new online permitting options

PORT ST. LUCIE – In a continuous effort to improve customer convenience and internal efficiency, the City’s Building Department recently unveiled key improvements for two widely used permitting processes.

Contractors in the City of Port St. Lucie who need permits to change residential air-conditioning units and residential water heaters can now complete the entire permitting process online for a reduced fee. Additionally, a new “Express Permits” process is now in place for builders of multiple single-family homes. Both changes are part of the Building Department’s efforts to enhance online permitting options, and more improvements are planned before the end of the year.

The Building Department issues more than 800 permits for residential water heaters and air- conditioning units each month. The new process will make obtaining these permits more convenient than ever before -- eliminating any trips to City Hall.

“These contractors can apply for permits, sign the application, pay the required reduced fee, and issue the permit to themselves all online – without having to visit the Building Department,” said Joel Dramis, Port St. Lucie’s Building Code Administrator.

The new process went into effect July 13 and is available to contractors 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the website: <https://pandapublicweb.cityofpsl.com/>. Additionally, these contractors can schedule the required inspections online. At the time of inspection scheduling, the contractor also can leave a special inspection note for the inspector.

In a separate effort to increase online permitting activity, the Building Department recently created an entirely paperless permitting process, called “Express Permits,” for builders of repetitive single-family homes. These Express Permits are the result of the cooperative efforts of the Building Department, Public Works Department and the Utility Systems Department that will result in permits for single-family homes being issued faster than ever before.

The Building Department’s current service goal for single-family home building permit processing is a record-breaking five days. The service goal for Express Permits is 24 hours, once all required documentation is electronically sent to the Building Department.

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The City of Port St. Lucie is proud to be a hometown where people live, learn, work and play, and celebrate all of life’s opportunities. With over 185,000 residents, Port St. Lucie is Florida’s eighth largest city by population (South Florida’s 3rd largest city). The City occupies an area of 120 square miles in St. Lucie County on Florida’s east coast, about 50 miles north of West Palm Beach, half way between Miami and Orlando. The City provides most traditional municipal services including law enforcement, water and sewer, and public works. For more information, please visit: www.cityofpsl.com

