Heart of the Treasure Coast | 10/02/26 | Volume 10 Issue 10

PSL ON THE PULSE



Helping Whispering Pines shine

Love Your Block volunteers come together to build community and neighborhood pride.

PORT ST. LUCIE
HEART OF THE TREASURE COAST

City Officials



Shannon M. Martin
MAYOR



Jolien Caraballo
VICE MAYOR
District 4



Stephanie Morgan
District 1



David Pickett
District 2



Anthony Bonna, Sr.
District 3



Jesus Merejo
City Manager

The City is led by a five-member elected Council, which sets policy and determines the long-term vision for the City. The Council appoints a City Manager to handle the daily business affairs, and a City Attorney to provide legal advice.

This system is called a Council-Manager form of local government. Each Council member has one vote, including the Mayor, so legislative authority is equally spread among all five members.



Mission

To provide exceptional services that enhance our community's safety, beauty and quality of life through innovation, engagement and fiscal responsibility.

Vision

To be a leader in finding innovative solutions that put residents first and support opportunities for all people to thrive.

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Cover

Volunteers came together Sept. 29 to bring color and creativity that highlights the natural beauty of the Whispering Pines neighborhood. They also turned the outing into a block party-style event that brought a sense of connection to everyone who participated. This resident-led initiative from Love Your Block was funded by the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University.



Subscribe

Receive regular updates of PSL on the Pulse, a digital magazine released monthly highlighting the City of Port St. Lucie's latest news, events and projects.

CityofPSL.com/Pulse

Questions

Email the Communications Department with questions or comments about PSL on the Pulse at pslcommunications@cityofpsl.com.

Strategic Goals

- SAFE, CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL
- STRATEGIC GROWTH FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE
- ENGAGED AND CONNECTED CITY
- DIVERSE ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- HIGH-QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES
- CULTURE, NATURE & RECREATION
- HIGH-PERFORMING GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

The City's Strategic Plan is the guiding document that City Council and staff use to fulfill a strategic vision to be a safe, beautiful and prosperous City for all people. The entire organization's focus is to carry out the Strategic Plan, which is updated every year based on citizen input through the annual Citizen Survey and Citizen Summit. The Strategic Plan was recently updated and adopted at the City Council Summer Workshop on July 24.

An essential part of bringing the plan to life is measuring performance through objective indicators and reporting those results back to citizens.

In PSL on the Pulse, we highlight projects specifically prioritized in the Strategic Plan that have achieved milestones, or where changes have occured, in our effort to remain transparent and proactive. In addition, Strategic Plan "badges" indicate the strategic goal that each project, program or event advances, as everything we do at the City of Port St. Lucie aligns with our Strategic Plan.

PORT ST. LUCIE
HEART OF THE TREASURE COAST

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 2-Nov. 4



Click here to view full calendar.



Click here to view full calendar.

VISIT St. Lucie
VISIT ST. LUCIE EVENTS

Click here to view full calendar.



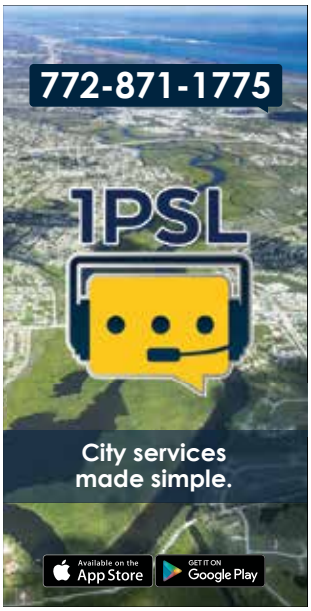
Click here to view full calendar.

Oct. 2	**6 p.m.:** Halloween Movie Night (Community Center)
Oct. 3	**10 a.m.:** Storytime in the Gardens (Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens) **5-9 p.m.:** Oktoberfest (MIDFLORIDA Event Center)
Oct. 5	**12 p.m.:** Utility Systems Lunch & Learn (Community Center)
Oct. 6	**5:30-8:30 p.m.:** National Night Out (Police Department) **6 p.m.:** Community Conversations (Indian River State College Pruitt Campus) **6 p.m.:** Planning & Zoning Meeting
Oct. 7	**9 a.m.:** Special Magistrate Hearing **9-11 a.m.:** Partners in Progress Vendor Expo (Community Center) **6-9 p.m.:** Business Accelerator Program (Indian River State College Pruitt Campus)
Oct. 8	**2 p.m.:** Affordable Housing Advisory Committee **5:30-8:30 p.m.:** River Nights (The Event Lawn at The Port)
Oct. 10	**8 a.m. to noon:** Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day (Public Works facility) **9 a.m. to 4 p.m.:** Botanical Bazaar & Artisan Market (Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens)
Oct. 12	**1 p.m.:** Regular City Council Meeting
Oct. 13	**6 p.m.:** Community Conversations (MIDFLORIDA Event Center)
Oct. 14	**9 a.m.:** Special Magistrate Hearing **1:30 p.m.:** Site Plan Review Committee **5:30 p.m.:** Ghost Walk Tour (Port St. Lucie Historical Society) **6 p.m.:** Business Accelerator Program (Indian River State College Pruitt Campus)
Oct. 15	**5:30 p.m.:** Youth Council Meeting
Oct. 19	**9 a.m.:** City Council Workshop **6 p.m.:** Public Art Advisory Board
Oct. 20	**9 a.m.:** Coffee with the Council (Community Center)
Oct. 21	**9 a.m.:** Special Magistrate Hearing **1:30 p.m.:** Citizens Advisory Committee **6 p.m.:** Business Accelerator Program (Indian River State College Pruitt Campus)
Oct. 22	**6-8 p.m.:** Special Populations Dance (MIDFLORIDA Event Center)
Oct. 23	**3 p.m.:** Infrastructure Surtax Citizens Oversight Committee
Oct. 24	**8-10 a.m.:** Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful Pop-Up Cleanup (McChesney Park)
Oct. 25	**5-6 p.m.:** Dance for All Abilities (Community Center)
Oct. 26	**5:30 p.m.:** Government Finance Corporation **6 p.m.:** Regular City Council Meeting
Oct. 27	**6 p.m.:** Community Conversations (City Hall Council Chambers)
Oct. 28	**9 a.m.:** Special Magistrate Hearing **9:30-11:30 a.m.:** Before You Sign the Lease Workshop (St. Lucie County Administration Building) **1:30 p.m.:** Site Plan Review Committee **6 p.m.:** Business Accelerator Program (Indian River State College Pruitt Campus)
Oct. 30	**8 a.m.:** City Golf Championship (The Saints Golf Course) **5-10 p.m.:** Fall Fun Fest (MIDFLORIDA Event Center)
Oct. 31	**8:30 a.m.:** City Golf Championship (The Saints Golf Course) **Noon to 10 p.m.:** Fall Fun Fest (MIDFLORIDA Event Center) **6 p.m.:** Street of Treats (MIDFLORIDA Event Center)
Nov. 1	**1-6 p.m.:** Fall Fun Fest (carnival only) **5-6 p.m.:** Dance for All Abilities (Community Center)
Nov. 2	**6 p.m.:** Planning & Zoning Board Meeting
Nov. 4	**9 a.m.:** Special Magistrate Hearing **6 p.m.:** Business Accelerator Program (Indian River State College Pruitt Campus)

CityofPSL.com/Calendar

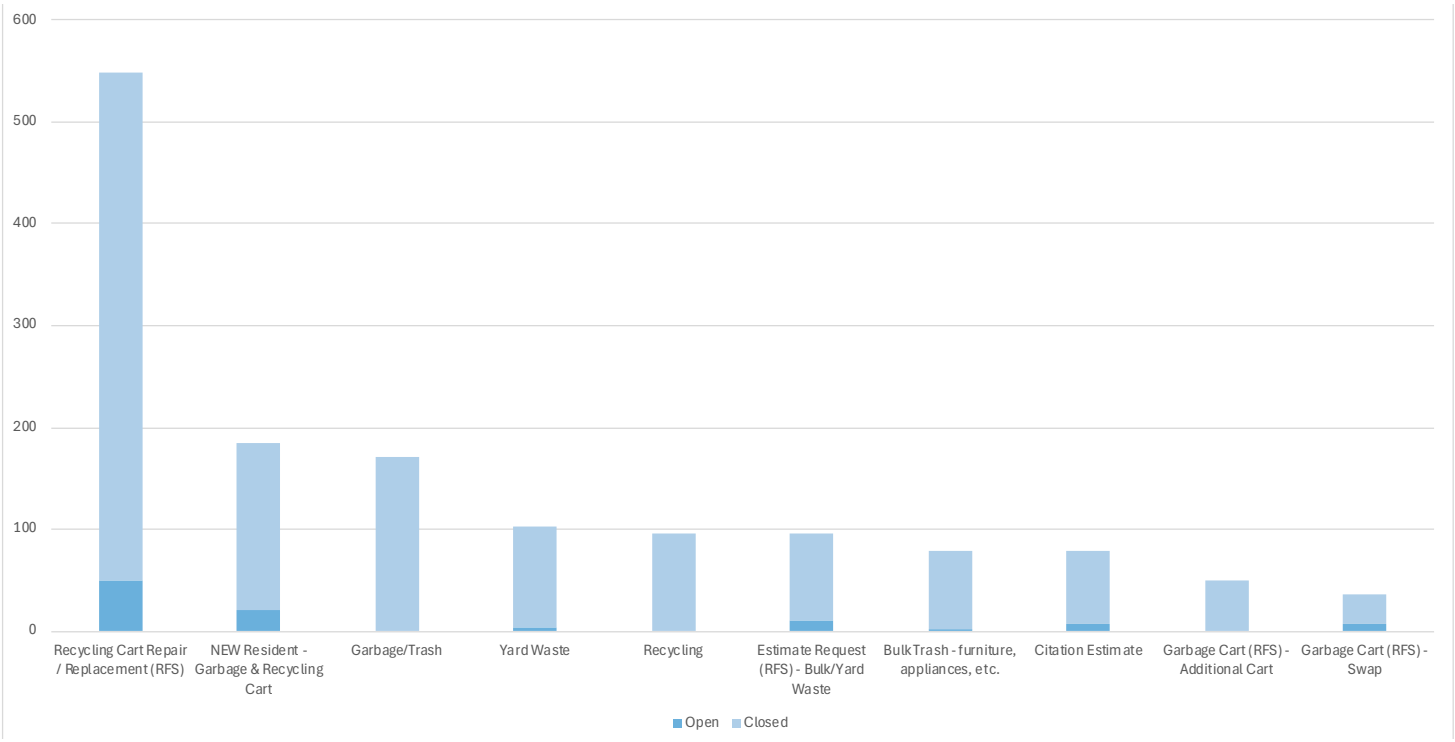
1PSL

1PSL allows residents to connect with the City via mobile app, phone or web portal. Residents can use 1PSL to request services, ask questions, access utility payment portal, learn about City news and upcoming events, pinpoint an issue location with GPS, attach a photo with your comments, and receive status updates and resolution notifications.

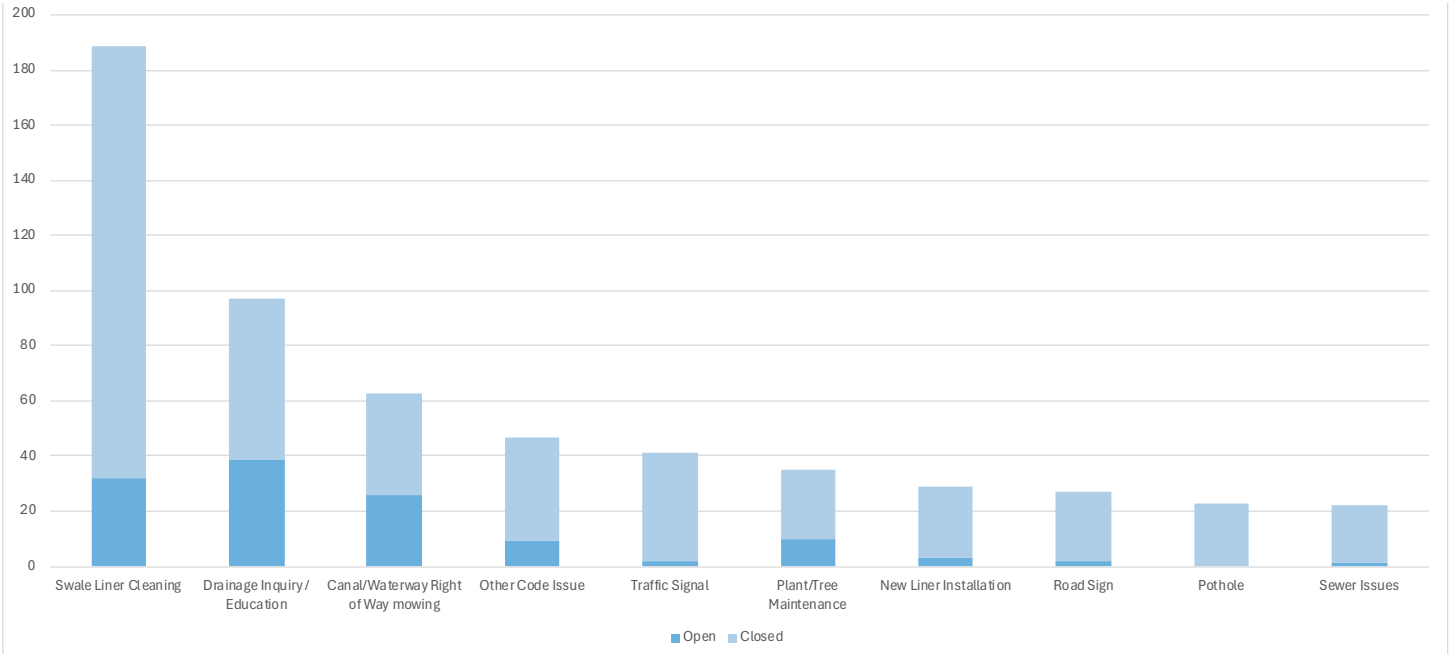


Residents can use 1PSL without downloading the mobile app by visiting CityofPSL.com/1PSL.

Top 10 Solid Waste Requests
September 2026



Top 10 1PSL Requests
September 2026



Show your Halloween spirit in the fourth annual Spooktacular Contest

Calling all crafty ghouls and decorating goblins! Help the City of Port St. Lucie make this Halloween un-BOO-lievable by entering your home into the fourth annual Spooktacular House & Yard Decorating Contest!

From bone-chilling haunted displays to family-friendly scenes, bring your décor A-game and carve out your place in PSL's Halloween history!

How to enter: Submissions for the Spooktacular House & Yard Decorating Contest begin Thursday, Oct. 1 at 9 a.m. and end Thursday, Oct. 29 at midnight. To earn bragging rights for the best Halloween-themed designs, PSL residents must visit here and click on the "How to enter" section to complete the entry form.

Decorations should be kept to a PG-13 rating and must not cover or interfere with roadways or sidewalks. Decorations should be exterior only and must be visible from the curb. Participants must agree to have photos taken of their displays and their addresses posted online. It's free to enter the contest.

Residents could be honored with a custom award!

Prizes will be awarded in four categories:

- Classic Halloween;
- Cute n' Creepy (kid-friendly decorations);
- Spine Chilling; and
- Haunting Light Show, a category for homes with decorations such as drones, pixels, projection screens, matrices and more.



The public will choose the winners by voting on our website from Friday, Oct. 30 to Tuesday, Nov. 3. The house with the most votes per category will win a custom award. All winners will be announced publicly on the City of Port St. Lucie's website and social media accounts Thursday, Nov. 5. Additionally, winners will be congratulated and acknowledged at a future City Council meeting.

Here's how you can participate:

Decorate your home and enter the contest.
Registration is open Oct. 1-29.
See official rules at www.CityofPSL.com/SpookyPSL.

Take a tour: When contestants register their homes, the City adds the homes to the Spooktacular Halloween Tour Map. This searchable database will have photos and addresses so residents can visit the spooky displays. When driving by the homes, be courteous. Remember the residential speed limit in Port St. Lucie neighborhoods is 25 mph.

Cast your vote for the best display. Voting will open to the public during the judging window (Oct. 30-Nov. 3).

For more information, visit www.CityofPSL.com/SpookyPSL.

HALF-CENT SALES TAX

Floresta Drive Improvements: Floresta Drive Phase 3

Construction for Floresta Drive Phase 3 is in progress. Multiple crews are on site, working on essential underground drainage, watermain activities and roadway. Additionally, efforts are underway to construct the stormwater retention pond at Harborview Drive, enhance drainage for the D-11 canal and install a baffle box for the D-8 canal. Work on Prima Vista Boulevard is anticipated to start later this year.

Lane and road closures are in place. Detours notify motorists ahead of the closure on Crosstown Parkway and Prima Vista Boulevard. Additionally, several local streets remain accessible for traffic. Floresta is closed from SE Calmoso Drive to NE Prima Vista Boulevard and from SW Greenway Terrace to SE Calmoso Drive to install drainage structures and drainage pipes and includes roadway activities.

These closures are essential because of space limitations, safety concerns and to ensure the integrity of the installation. They also will help maintain the project schedule and project costs. Advance warnings and detour signage will be prominently displayed. Schedule can be impacted by weather conditions.







Improvements to the corridor will accommodate future traffic volumes and uphold the integrity of the neighborhood. This project aims to enhance safety, improve pedestrian and bicycle movements, reduce congestion and facilitate more efficient traffic flow. Key enhancements in Floresta Drive Phase 3 include:

- New roundabouts
- Dedicated bicycle lanes
- Sidewalks
- Intersection improvements at Prima Vista and Floresta
- Stormwater treatment pond site
- Integration with the Crosstown Parkway intersection
- Installation of baffle boxes
- Improvements to the D-11 Canal

Motorists are advised to exercise caution and reduce speed while traveling through the work zone. The speed limit has been lowered to 25 mph in this area to ensure the safety of residents, motorists and workers. For your safety, avoid entering the construction area that has been closed off.

Sales Tax Roadway Resurfacing

www.cityofpsl.com/repaving

The Sales Tax resurfacing goal for FY 2026-27 is 8.96 miles. Residents are notified in advance of resurfacing.

SW Gatlin Boulevard:
Under construction
Sandhill Crossing (Tiffany):
To be scheduled
St. Lucie North:
To be scheduled
St. Lucie West (California, Cashmere and Peacock boulevards):
To be scheduled
St. Lucie West Torino (Commerce Centre Drive):
To be scheduled
Crane Landing Tulip Park (Paar): To be scheduled
Tulip Park Whispering Pines (Tulip):
To be scheduled
Sandhill Crossing (Hillmoor):
To be scheduled



BUILDING

Building Activities: Certificates of Occupancy

- Estampa Gaucha, commercial alteration: 918 SW Gatlin Blvd
- Set 'Em Up!, commercial alteration: 10097 S. U.S. 1
- Old Sonny's BBQ, demolition building: 10180 S. U.S. 1
- Murphy USA, gas station convenience store: 10575 S. U.S. 1
- We Rock the Spectrum Kids Gym, gymnasium buildout: 9197 S. U.S. 1
- Strive Health & Wellness, medical office buildout: 1898 SE Port St. Lucie Blvd.
- Armando's Brick Oven Pizza, commercial alteration: 2987 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd.

Commercial Permits

- Cone and Graham Inc., new building: 2100 NW Settle Ave.
- Planet Fitness, commercial alteration: 10440 SW Discovery Way
- Pollo Tropical, commercial alteration: 1365 NW St. Lucie West Blvd.
- City of Port St. Lucie Building Department, business buildout: 300 NW Peacock Blvd.
- Four Port St. Lucie, new building: 1018 SW Destination Way
- Solara Dental, dental office buildout: 723 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd., Suite 102
- Dare Goes Da Pasta, restaurant buildout: 721 SW Port St Lucie Blvd., Suite 102

Sept. 1-25		2026 YTD	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Permits Issued	3,106	31,901	43,346	46,005	,54,440	60,774	68,261	52,355
Single-Family Permits Issued	233	2,122	2,899	3,525	4,069	3,882	5,273	3,824
Certificates of Occupancy Single-family	189	1,762	2,944	3,839	3,835	4,658	3,911	2,893
Inspections Completed	10,388	117,641	163,969	192,002	210,048	248,274	208,545	155,421
Plans Reviewed	2,357	25,038	35,534	37,218	21,211	24,103	24,820	19,150
Online Permits Applied	2,974	29,276	40,571	42,327	50,658	50,937	48,166	26,855



Mets Clubhouse

Testimonials

"The entire Building Department team, from the back office staff to the field inspectors, provided exceptional service throughout my group home dwelling permit process. Communication was clear, timely and professional."

"The overall process, communication and assistance that we received from the team made it very easy for us as a new business in the PSL community. All team members were very knowledgeable and helped answer our questions along the way. Thank you!"

"I think you have the best staff out of the tri-county area. Everyone in the office, Plan Review, especially. Your inspectors have all been very helpful whenever I had a question or concern; they've always gotten right back to me. I can't think of anyone in particular; all the inspectors have been wonderful."

COMMUNICATIONS



Love Your Block project brings art to public space

The Whispering Pines green space just got a burst of bright, nature-inspired art! Volunteers were invited to grab a roller and add bright, nature-inspired colors to the fence panels with stencils.

Fourty volunteers from Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful, Naturally PSL, the Youth Council and the Treasure Coast High School Key Club came together to make it happen. Their creativity and teamwork helped to boost neighborhood pride and strengthen community connection, highlight the natural beauty of Whispering Pines and support the Naturally PSL mission to beautify and activate our green spaces.

We're proud to see Whispering Pines shining even brighter.

And with pizza and cupcakes, kids biking around and families walking over to join the fun, it truly felt like a neighborhood block party, the kind that brings people together and makes a community feel even more like home. This resident-led initiative from Love Your Block was funded by the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University.

Check out more photos from the event:
https://cityofpsl.canto.com
Learn more about upcoming projects:
www.cityofpsl.com/loveyourblock





City receives national recognition for engaging with residents

The City of Port St. Lucie was recently awarded the 3CMA Award of Excellence for Resident Participation, which recognizes local governments that create meaningful opportunities for residents to actively engage in shaping their communities. The City was honored for the Naturally PSL initiative.

The award honors innovative approaches that encourage participation, strengthen connections between residents and local government and ensure community voices help inform decisions. It celebrates programs that demonstrate how effective resident engagement can build stronger, more connected communities.

Community Conversations provide public with information on City budget, ballot initiatives

City staff has been out in the community since Sept. 1, meeting residents where they are and answering questions about the City's budget as well as major issues appearing on the November ballot. As of the send of September, more than 300 residents had attended these informational sessions.

At each Community Conversations stop, residents have been able to hear directly from subject-matter experts from the Office of Management and Budget, Public Works, Office of Solid Waste and Communications staff. That includes learning about the City's Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget, how it's built, where revenue comes from and how those dollars shape everyday services.

These sessions also unpack the proposed Amendment 3 and what changes to homestead exemptions and property tax caps could mean for local services. Representatives from St. Lucie County have joined as well, helping residents understand the Half-Cent Sales Tax renewal proposal and the critical road, drainage, water-quality and sidewalk projects it funds. The final topic is the non-binding straw poll ballot that will provide insight into whether residents would prefer to have twice a week garbage pickup.







With events continuing through the end of October, Community Conversations is giving voters clear, accessible information so they can feel confident and informed heading into Election Day.

Visit http://link.cityofpsl.com/communityconversations for a full list of scheduled meetings.



Youth Council launches its 2026-27 term

The Port St. Lucie Youth Council kicked off its new term Sept. 12, with its annual Youth Council Leadership Summit.

The event brought together 41 students and 30 parents for a day of leadership, teamwork and connection. Mayor Shannon Martrin attended the summit and welcomed students and families with opening remarks.

This year's summit was designed by four Youth Council members with support from City staff, following the theme: Youth Designed. Youth Led. Youth Attended.

Students learned about their responsibilities for the year, practiced running effective meetings, participated in team-building activities and competed in a fun scavenger hunt for prizes donated by local businesses, including movie tickets, Starbucks, golf lessons, First Watch gifts and City swag. Marco's Pizza also generously provided lunch.

On Sept. 17, the Youth Council held its first meeting of the new term, welcoming 42 members in attendance. The opening session set a strong tone for the year as participants demonstrated leadership, teamwork and civic enthusiasm.

During the meeting, several members delivered campaign speeches for six Youth Council board positions, showcasing their commitment to public service and their vision for the Council's continued growth. Members also received an overview of upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Voting for this year's election was completed through Engage PSL, the new communication tool for the Youth Council which ensures a streamlined and accessible experience for all members.

A total of 37 members participated in this year's election, selecting the following students to serve on the 2026–27 Youth Council Board:

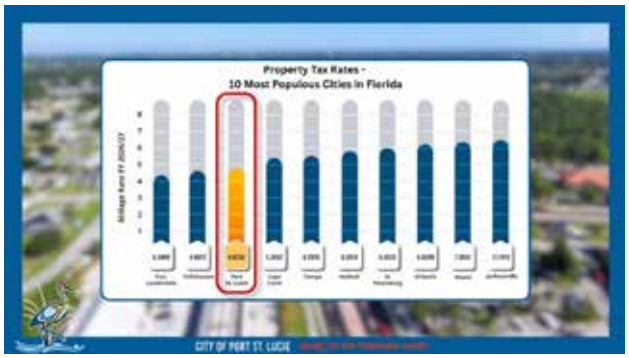
Chairperson: Andrew Witz-Schaffer
Vice Chair: Joshua Santel
Chair Pro Tem: Ivy Golden
Secretary: Aaron Garcia
Legislative Subcommittee Chair: Gerbens Landeau
Youth Recreation Subcommittee Co-Chairs: Anaika Michel and Jasmine Ferre resulted in a tie. Both will serve collaboratively, alternating leadership on youth and City event initiatives throughout the term.

The City congratulates all newly elected board members and extends appreciation to every Youth Council participant for contributing to a successful launch of the term.

Learn about major City projects through new video spotlights

The City of Port St. Lucie Communications Department has rolled out a series of new explainer videos designed to give residents a clear, visual look at some of the City's most important initiatives.

These short features break down complex topics into friendly, easy-to-understand updates, perfect for staying informed about things that affect our residents.



FY 2026–27 Budget Overview
Learn how the City builds its budget, where revenue comes from and how dollars support key services.
Watch: http://link.cityofpsl.com/2627budgetvideo



Mobility Plan & Fees Explained
See how long-range mobility planning works and how mobility fees help fund roads, sidewalks, multimodal paths and more.
Watch: http://link.cityofpsl.com/mobilityplan26



Half-Cent Sales Tax Project Review
Explore completed, ongoing and planned infrastructure projects funded by the Half-Cent Sales Tax.
Watch: http://www.link.cityofpsl.com/hcst26



Walton & One Update
Get the latest on the exciting progress at Walton & One, including stadium plans, development interest and upcoming milestones.
Watch: http://www.link.cityofpsl.com/waoupdate

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Restaurant construction commences in The Port District

Do you remember...the second week of September? Well, if not, we are pleased to share that construction crews began preparing the building pad for the riverfront restaurant at The Port District!

The Grove will feature multiple dining venues and bars overlooking the North Fork of the St. Lucie River. Construction is anticipated to be completed by fall 2027, with the restaurants expected to begin serving guests later the same year.

Major infrastructure work is complete in Southern Grove

With the completion of Tom Mackie Boulevard (Phase 4), the 3.5-mile Southern Grove Jobs Corridor infrastructure now has been fully delivered.

Developed across multiple phases, this roadway network has increased access to more than 1,200 acres, attracting targeted industries and supporting diverse employment opportunities in one of Florida's fastest growing cities. Since acquiring the land in 2018, the City has constructed multiple roadways, utilities and stormwater systems that transformed previously inaccessible areas into "investment ready" sites for major companies.

Supported by grants, ARPA funding and strategic land sales, this innovative infrastructure program has established Southern Grove as the region's leading economic hub.

All things CRA!

The Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) continues to be an active participant in City of Port St. Lucie's City University program, this year speaking at Class No. 16 in late September.

CRA staff presented to upwards of 100 attendees on how CRAs work, current budgetary information and details on the latest development activity in each of the City's unique redevelopment areas. Several students also opted in on a walking tour of The Port District as part of their curriculum.

City University is an opportunity for residents to learn about the City's services and operations. Over a series of weekly sessions, residents are able to learn and interact with every City department, and get an opportunity to meet City Council members. This interactive learning experience includes lectures, case studies, site tours, group discussions and hands-on experiences. Upon graduation, participants are considered City Ambassadors through their greater understanding of municipal operations.

For more information, visit www.cityofpsl.com/cityu.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Office of Emergency Management strengthens hurricane readiness through tabletop exercise

The City of Port St. Lucie Office of Emergency Management recently conducted a hurricane tabletop exercise for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation staff, reinforcing the City's ongoing commitment to preparedness and resilience. It brought together key City departments and response partners to discuss what actions may be required, while focusing on coordination, communication and decision making during a hurricane event.

The tabletop exercise was designed to mirror real-world conditions and allows EOC staff to discuss their roles and responsibilities, test procedures and identify opportunities for improvement before an actual emergency occurs. Participants discussed operational priorities such as situational awareness, resource management, public information and supporting field operations, ensuring the City is ready to respond efficiently and effectively.

By routinely training and exercising, the City continues to strengthen its ability to protect residents before, during and after a storm. If you would like to review more emergency preparedness guidance, visit www.cityofpsl.com/em.





October Is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Each October, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) leads National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, a nationwide effort to help individuals, businesses and local governments stay safe online.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month serves as a reminder that everyone has a role in protecting digital information and critical services. This year's campaign emphasizes simple, effective actions that can significantly reduce cyber risk.

According to CISA, everyone is encouraged to focus on four core cybersecurity practices:

- Use strong and unique passwords
- Enable multi-factor authentication
- Keep software up to date
- Learn how to recognize and report phishing attempts

These everyday steps can help protect personal data, financial information and online accounts.

CISA also highlights the importance of cybersecurity for local governments and community organizations. Cities and public agencies strengthen their defenses by backing up critical data, encrypting sensitive information, maintaining incident response plans and preparing for potential system disruptions. These measures help ensure continuity of operations and protect the essential services residents rely on.

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month provides an opportunity for communities to increase their understanding of digital risks and develop safer online practices. By taking proactive measures and staying informed, residents and organizations can contribute to a more secure community today and in the future. For more tips and resources, visit www.cisa.gov/cybersecurity-awareness-month.



FINANCE

Retirement Statistics - Attendees

Sept. 1-30		Year to Date
Retirement Orientation Attendees	5	89
MissionSquare One-on-One Appointments	18	182
New 457(b) Enrollments	0	38
New Roth IRA Enrollments	0	26
New Police Officer Retirement Orientation Attendees	0	22



HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources welcomes the following employees who recently joined the City of Port St. Lucie family!

NEW HIRES



Donald Cowan,
BMX Program Support Technician,
Parks and Recreation Department



Yojaira Cuevas,
Business Tax Lien Service Specialist II,
Finance Department



Nicholas Hodgson,
Field Technician Trainee,
Utility Systems Department



Megan Jimenez,
Utility Billing Clerk,
Utility Systems Department



Darren Read,
Field Technician Trainee, Utility Systems Department



Heymi Varela,
Accounts Payable Supervisor,
Finance Department



Samuel Watts,
Customer Service Specialist Recreation,
Parks and Recreation Department

PROMOTIONS

Zachery Branscome, Field Technician Trainee, Utility Systems Department
Brittney Duron, Administrative Assistant, Public Works Department
Catherine Marson, Community Outreach Coordinator, Animal Control Department
Zakariya Sherman, Facilities Maintenance Director, Facilities Maintenance Department

HR Statistics

Aug. 19-Sept.16		YTD
New Hires	7	166
Total Applications Rec'd	738	7162
Job Requisitions Received	16	171
Jobs posted	41	342
Internal Promotions	4	68
Reclassifications	11	72
Personnel Change Forms Processed	273	3,084
In Person New Hire Orientation	0	89
Life Scan Participation	26	220
Total Training Sessions	5	102
Total Training Attendees	108	1,822
Water Cooler Site Visits	16,367	65,491
Employee Benefits Site Visits	2,040	10,336
PSL Forward Training Site Visits	668	24,857

Upcoming Trainings

Oct. 7:
Foundations of Effective Project Management
Oct. 8:
Public Records Requests & Sunshine Law
Oct. 13:
Capital Assets 101
Oct. 20:
Effective Communication Strategies for Conflict Resolution
Oct. 21:
Project Management for Non-Project Managers
Oct. 27:
Munis: Vendor Processing

www.CityofPSL.com/Careers

Training & Development

Public Records Requests and Sunshine Law
Sept. 30, 2:30 p.m. and Oct. 8, 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

This mandatory City-wide training offered virtually and in-person simultaneously in the Council Chambers, shines light on this important process regarding the statutory and constitutional right to access municipal records, as well as the right to open access of municipal meetings at the state and local levels. This training brings awareness to our City staff, so we can better uphold our values of ethics, accountability and stewardship to further our advancement toward our strategic plan goal of a high-performing government organization.

Community Job Fair recap

The City of Port St. Lucie recently hosted its fifth annual Community Job Fair, bringing together job seekers, employers and community organizations for an afternoon focused on employment opportunities and career resources.

This year's event welcomed 1,052 job seekers, 55 employers and 14 community partners.

For the first time, the City opened its Dress for Success Studio at 9 a.m., giving job seekers several hours to find professional clothing and prepare for the afternoon job fair. The studio remained open throughout the event to provide additional support, including help with last-minute wardrobe needs.

The Dress for Success Studio welcomed more than 400 visits and offered more than 800 pieces of clothing, including professional outfits, shoes, belts, ties, jewelry and other accessories. The clothing was generously donated by City of Port St. Lucie employees. Following the Job Fair, all remaining clothing was donated to Safe Space, Inc., which supports victims and families affected by domestic violence.

The City thanks all the employers, community partners, volunteers and City employees who helped make this event possible. A special thank you goes to Lowe's for generously providing water to keep attendees refreshed throughout the event. The strong community participation helped make this year's job fair a valuable resource for residents seeking employment and local employers looking for talented candidates.









KEEP PORT ST. LUCIE BEAUTIFUL



Upcoming events: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day and Pop-Up Cleanup!

Now's the time to clean out that garage or shed! Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful's next Hazardous Waste Collection Day is 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 10 at the Public Works facility, 450 SW Thornhill Drive.

KPSLB hosts two Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days each year in partnership with the St. Lucie County Solid Waste Division. (Latex paint is not accepted at these events.)

Also, join us Oct. 24 for our next Pop-Up Cleanup at McChesney Park!

For more information, call 772-871-1775 and press 5.



Adopt-A-Street spotlight

KPSLB wants to recognize one of our St. Lucie West Adopt-A-Street groups, the Port St. Lucie Business Club!

This group joined the program in early 2025 and was back in action last weekend. Keep up the great work everyone!

Keep America Beautiful grant helps local businesses make big impact on cigarette litter

KPSLB continues the fight against cigarette litter with a little help from our long-time Cigarette Litter Prevention Program ambassador, Wayne Landry!

Wayne has been volunteering with the KPSLB program and the Adopt-A-Street program since 2019 and has helped install free cigarette receptacles at businesses and plazas all around the City. Last week, Wayne stopped by My Brother's BBQ on Port St. Lucie Boulevard to deliver a receptacle and take a quick photo with our newest CLPP partner!

Since April, KPSLB has distributed 29 ashtrays to local businesses throughout the City and we hope to double that number by December! The Keep America Beautiful Cigarette Litter Prevention and Recycling grant provides funding for this project. This year, KPSLB qualified for a $10,000 grant to support our litter prevention efforts with our local business partners.

Our recent CLPP partners:

- Fox & Crown Brewery
- Uppercuts Barbershop
- Classic Cuts and Styles
- Kava Kat
- Berry Forkin' Good
- Steve & Anne's Haircuts
- St Lucie Jewelry and Coins
- J'S Foot Spa
- D's Ace Hardware
- K.G. Concrete & Development LLC
- Tradewinds Enrichment Solutions, Inc
- Discount Automotive LLC
- Castaway Bait & Tackle
- My Brother's BBQ

To request an ash receptacle, visit https://link.cityofpsl.com/cigarettebuttreceptacle

For information on how to quit smoking or vaping, visit: https://tobaccofreeflorida.com or https://smokefree.gov











MIDFLORIDA CREDIT UNION EVENT CENTER

PORT ST. LUCIE FLORIDA

Upcoming Events

SLC Rock & Gem presents Handcrafted Jewelry Expo, Oct. 17-18

Returning to MIDFLORIDA for another year, guests can enjoy the festivities and the shopping at the 48th annual Jewelry, Rock and Gem Show from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17 and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18. Admission is $6 and children with an adult are free. The expo will feature:

- Artisans and vendors selling their wares, including handcrafted jewelry created from beads, rocks, silver, copper and more; slabs and cabochons of exotic rocks; and faceted gemstones from around the globe
- Club members demonstrating various techniques with bead weaving, faceting, cabochons, wire wrapping and weaving and chainmail
- Raffles for jewelry custom made by club artisans and hourly raffles for items contributed by vendors
- A treasure outlet with several unique items, including jewelry, beads, stones, books or equipment
- Kids Corner, a special area where children can learn about gemstone identification and make their own jewelry
- Gold and silver valuations on site

For more information, visit www.slcrockandgem.org/show.



Oct. 3: Newbreed Challenge

Oct. 3: Oktoberfest

Oct. 3-4: PSL Home Show

Oct. 4: MIDFLORIDA Naturals

Oct. 10: Walk For Life Care Net Event

Oct. 11: Live Markets & Events Present Pumpkin Palooza Latin Explosion

Oct. 15: Prima Vista Public Meeting

Oct. 19-31: Early voting

Oct. 24-25: MIDFLORIDA Card Expo

Through Oct. 28: Schoenbaum and Rance Art Exhibit

Oct. 30-Nov. 1: Fall Fun Fest

Event Center Visitors: 157,000
Event Days: 365 (as of Sept. 28)

Caribbean American Cultural Group annual banquet

The Caribbean American Cultural Group Ball was back again Sept. 5 at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center, where members and nonmembers enjoyed cocktails, a formal dinner and entertainment.

The event began with greetings from group president Dawn Bloomfield and was guided by Mistress of Ceremonies Faye Linton. The program included awards for Terissa Aronson, President and CEO of the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce, and community partner awards for John Cesar and Maxine Hinds.

Guests also enjoyed a cultural fashion show featuring attire representing Africa, Haiti, Jamaica and the United States. The annual ball plans to return for its 43rd gala next year.





Annual Bacon, BBQ and Craft Fair

Residents of Port St. Lucie brought their appetites (and shopping bags!) to the Event Center on Sept. 26-27 as the Port St Lucie Bacon and BBQ Festival and the Port St Lucie Fall Craft Fair came back to town.

Inside, shoppers found a grand assortment of artists and crafters from all over the state selling a variety of fall and holiday themed items. Outside, it was a foodie's dream come true with finger-licking barbecue, ribs, chicken, pulled pork and mouth-watering bacon dishes, like bacon ice cream, chocolate-covered bacon, bacon and bourbon brownies, tasty libations and live entertainment. The beautiful weather brought out a large crowd of shoppers and barbecue lovers alike!

The festival will return in September 2027!

For more information about upcoming events, visit www.midfloridaeventcenter.com.



9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

The City of Port St. Lucie welcomed residents to the Event Center on Sept. 11 for its annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, marking the 25th anniversary since the attacks. The ceremony honored and remembered the lives lost on Sept. 11, 2001.

Mayor Shannon M. Martin, 9/11 first responder Port St. Lucie Police Chief Leo Niemczyk and the Port St. Lucie Police Department, the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office and the St. Lucie County Fire District assisted with the ceremonies.

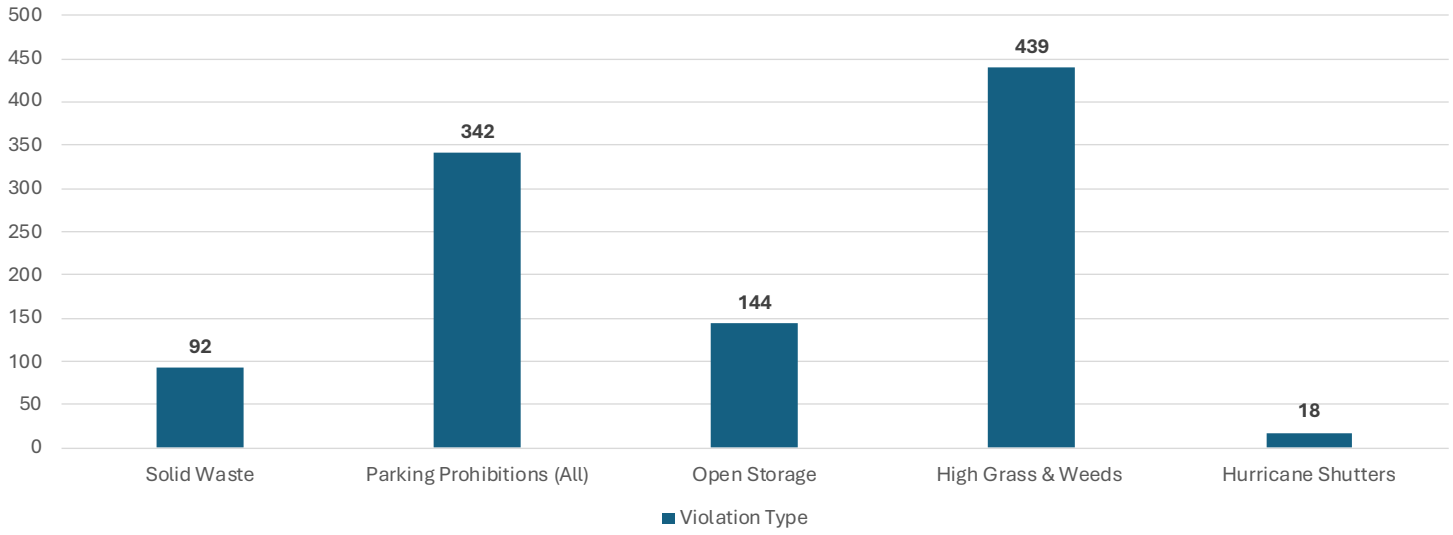






NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

Top 5 Code Compliance Violations | Aug. 23-Sept. 19



NSD Solid Waste Code Case Data | Aug. 23-Sept. 19

All Code Cases Opened	1,326
Solid Waste Cases Opened	92 (6.9% of all code cases opened from 8/23 to 9/19)
Percentage of Solid Waste Cases in Compliance	92.5%
All Active Code Cases	1,935
Active Solid Waste Cases	66 (3.4% of total active cases)

Neighborhood Services director makes appearance at City U

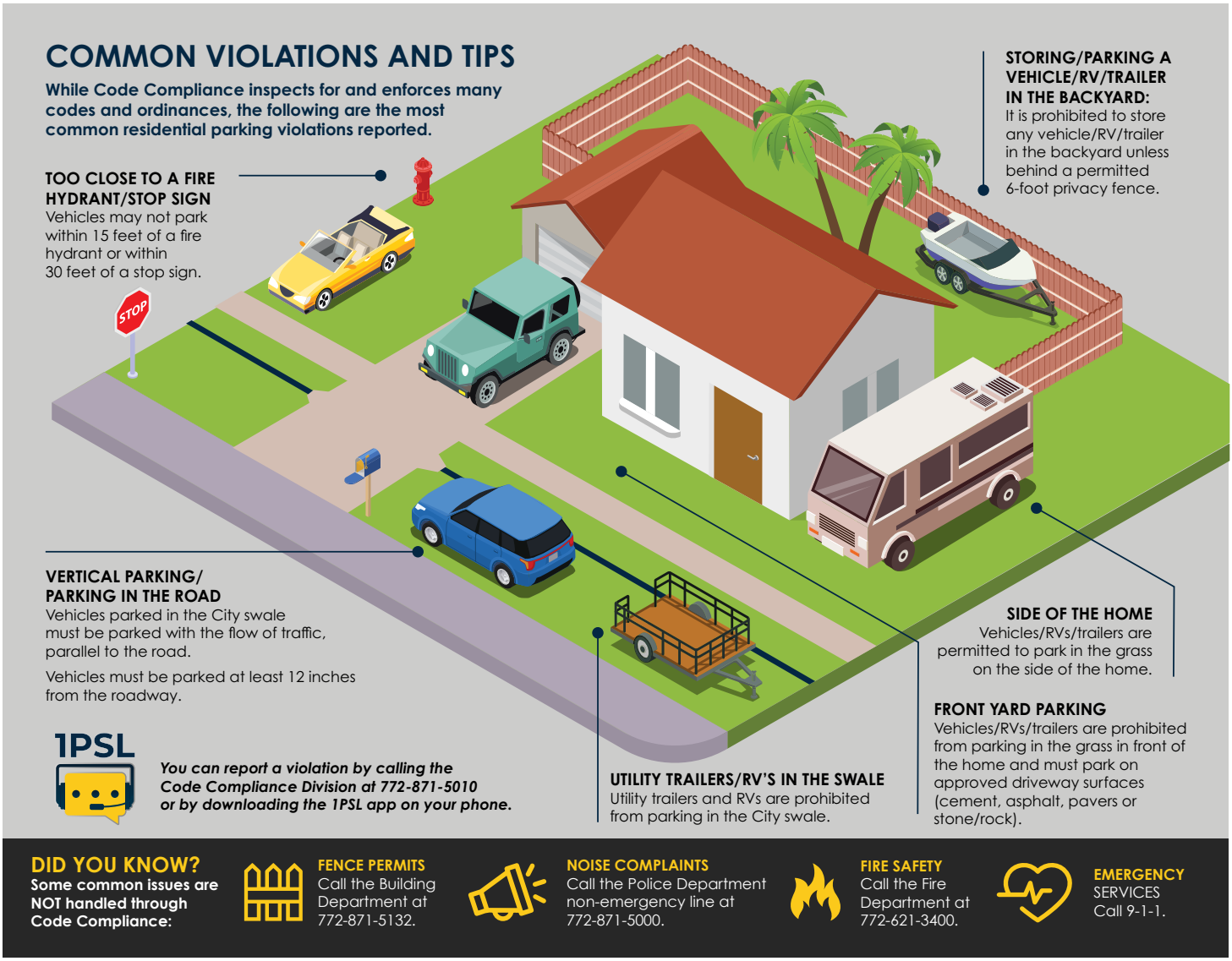
Director Carmen Capezzuto made his annual presentation to a new class of City U participants, who were given an overview of the past, present and future of the Neighborhood Services Department and context to the work we do throughout the City. Several participants had excellent questions about housing programs, Code Compliance and overall quality of life in their neighborhoods.

Carmen received overwhelmingly positive reviews from City U attendees, some calling his presentation "informative, educational and fun."



Code partners with Communications to create new residential parking infographic

The Code Compliance Department worked with the Communications team to develop an infographic that visually shows common parking violations and offers insightful tips.



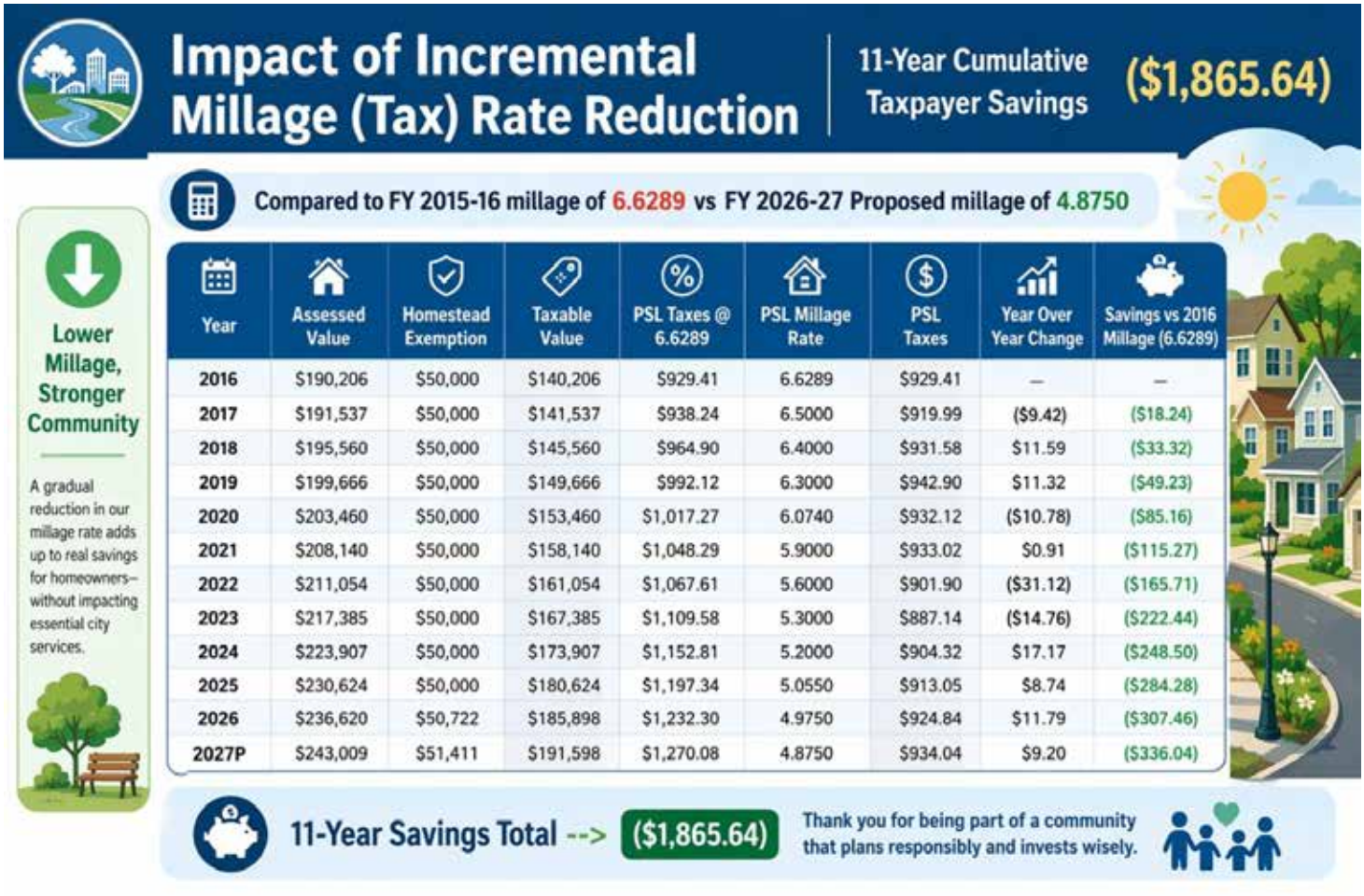
City Council lowers property tax rate for 11th consecutive year

Port St. Lucie residents will see another reduction in the City's property tax rate.

As part of the Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget adopted Sept. 28, City Council unanimously lowered the millage rate from 4.9750 to 4.8750. This marks the City's 11th consecutive year of lowering its property tax rate.

Since 2016, Port St. Lucie has reduced its millage rate by 25%, saving the average homeowner nearly $2,000 over the past decade. The City maintains the third-lowest municipal millage rate among Florida's 20 largest cities. The $971.6 million budget supports continued investment in roads, drainage, utilities, infrastructure and public safety as Port St. Lucie welcomes more than 60,000 new residents since 2020.

Residents can learn more at cityofpsl.com/budget or watch the budget video at http://link.cityofpsl.com/2627budgetvideo.



Year	Assessed Value	Homestead Exemption	Taxable Value	PSL Taxes @ 6.6289	PSL Millage Rate	PSL Taxes	Year Over Year Change	Savings vs 2016 Millage (6.6289)
2016	$190,206	$50,000	$140,206	$929.41	6.6289	$929.41	–	–
2017	$191,537	$50,000	$141,537	$938.24	6.5000	$919.99	($9.42)	($18.24)
2018	$195,560	$50,000	$145,560	$964.90	6.4000	$931.58	$11.59	($33.32)
2019	$199,666	$50,000	$149,666	$992.12	6.3000	$942.90	$11.32	($49.23)
2020	$203,460	$50,000	$153,460	$1,017.27	6.0740	$932.12	($10.78)	($85.16)
2021	$208,140	$50,000	$158,140	$1,048.29	5.9000	$933.02	$0.91	($115.27)
2022	$211,054	$50,000	$161,054	$1,067.61	5.6000	$901.90	($31.12)	($165.71)
2023	$217,385	$50,000	$167,385	$1,109.58	5.3000	$887.14	($14.76)	($222.44)
2024	$223,907	$50,000	$173,907	$1,152.81	5.2000	$904.32	$17.17	($248.50)
2025	$230,624	$50,000	$180,624	$1,197.34	5.0550	$913.05	$8.74	($284.28)
2026	$236,620	$50,722	$185,898	$1,232.30	4.9750	$924.84	$11.79	($307.46)
2027P	$243,009	$51,411	$191,598	$1,270.08	4.8750	$934.04	$9.20	($336.04)



Congratulations, Max Previlon!

Max Previlon continues to demonstrate a commitment to professional excellence by successfully achieving the rigorous, competency-based qualifications set forth by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP). He is now a NIGP-Certified Procurement Professional (NIGP-CPP).

Well done, Max!

Bid Opportunities, Recent Bid Awards

Week ending Sept. 25

Bid #	Description	Status
20260275	Tennis / Pickleball Professional Services at Whispering Pines Park	ActiveBid Opening: 10/26/26
20260293	Construction of Tradition Pkwy and Village Pkwy Intersection Improvements	ActiveBid Opening: 10/09/26
20260259	Parks Entrance Sign Rebranding	ActiveBid Opening: 10/08/26
20260236	Professional Water Management Consulting Engineering Services for Commercial Irrigation Monitoring, Technical Support, and CUP Compliance	ActiveBid Opening: 10/08/26
20260240	Hydrogeologist Consulting Services	ActiveBid Opening: 10/07/26
20260285	Pumps for Step Systems	ActiveBid Opening: 10/05/26
20260255	Dining & Event Catering at the Saints Golf Course (revised)	ActiveBid Opening: 10/01/26
20260198	Northport In-Line Booster Pump Station Improvements	Awarded to: Centroid Diversified, LLC

For more detailed information about active solicitations and awards, please visit the Procurement Division's website: www.cityofpsl.com/procurement The active solicitations listed above fall under the City's Cone of Silence. Per City Code of Ordinances Section 35.13, Cone of Silence means a prohibition of any communication regarding competitive solicitations such as a request for proposal, request for qualification, request for information or request for bid, between any potential or actual proposer, bidder, or any other person or entity with the potential for a financial interest in the award, or their respective agents or representatives (hereinafter collectively referred to as "bidder"), and any member of the city council, city professional staff, or any member of the City's selection, evaluation or negotiation committee. Communication regarding any of the solicitations listed above shall go through the City's Procurement Division.

Formal Procurements sent to Council

Sept. 1-30	Period	Year to Date
Amendments	7	52
Awards	4	39
Co-Ops / Piggybacks	4	35
Sole Sources	3	16
Other: Contract Adjustments	2	15
Other: Ordinance Change	0	0
Other: Resolution	0	0
Surplus	1	6
Total	**21**	**163**

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES & INNOVATION

Welcome Janeen Green to the team!

Originally from North Lauderdale, Florida, Janeen Green enters the City of Port St. Lucie as a Bloomberg Harvard City Hall Fellow from the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative (BHCLI).

For the next two years, Janeen will enhance the 1PSL experience for residents and staff by establishing systems, routines and a toolkit that uses data and automation to improve operational capabilities. Her fellowship group consists of 19 other fellows who also are working to support municipal leadership within city halls across the United States and internationally in developing and deepening capabilities to address various challenges and make a difference for residents.

Janeen graduated from Harvard Divinity School (HDS) in May with a master's degree in theological studies, concentrating in religion, ethics and politics. Before Cambridge, she double-majored in religion and humanities at Florida State University, where she conducted research on Black women's representation in European art and published her senior thesis on how Arab American Muslim in Dearborn, Mich., cultivated a process of discerning the relative priority they give to Islam, feminism and American culture and how they engage in negotiation on these priorities within their families and communities.

Throughout her academic and personal endeavors, storytelling, ethical formation and human flourishing are often recurring themes. At Harvard, she served as a research assistant for the inaugural Black and Jewish Leadership Initiative and launched HDS's first Open Mic Night series. She is motivated by the narratives of resilience and collaboration to adapt fresh insights and perspectives as well as the silent moments of hope that make it possible for anyone to be a changemaker. Janeen is excited to be a part of the Treasure Coast and learn alongside residents and City leaders.



Port St. Lucie is pleased to welcome Janeen and to become one of the few cities to attract a second Bloomberg Harvard City Hall Fellow. She follows Nikki Zheng, whose fellowship period was from 2024-26.

The BHCLI – a program of the Bloomberg Center for Cities at Harvard University – is a collaboration between Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard Business School and Bloomberg Philanthropies to equip mayors and senior city officials to tackle complex challenges in their cities and improve the quality of life of their residents. The Initiative also has advanced research and developed new curriculum and teaching tools to help city leaders solve real-world problems.

For more information, visit the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative or visit on LinkedIn and X.

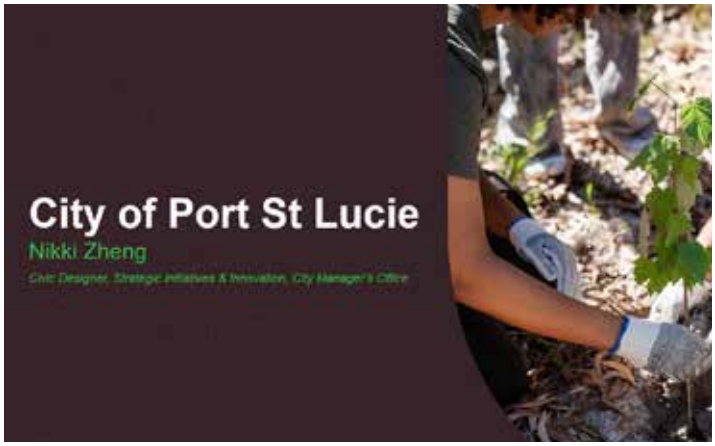


Community of practice: Connecting strangers in public space

Port St. Lucie completed a year-long partnership with the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation (BCPI) at Johns Hopkins University as part of its community of practice on connecting people in public spaces.

The City piloted small, low-cost interventions that encouraged strangers to connect, each designed to be simple for residents and easy for staff to deliver. A key lesson from the 17 participating cities showed that great public spaces alone don't guarantee connection; people also benefit from a clear, authentic invitation to engage. The most effective invitations felt organic to the moment, offered an easy way to join in and included a supportive host.

BCPI will compile lessons from Port St. Lucie and partner cities into a national playbook on how cities can pair strong public spaces with meaningful invitations to foster belonging.



Trust for Public Land Ecosystems for Engagement speaker event

This month, Civic Designer Nikki Zheng presented at the opening session of Ecosystems for Engagement, a community of practice focused on maximizing municipal land as spaces for connection and belonging.

Nikki walked more than 60 public space practitioners through the City's work at the Whispering Pines neighborhood green space, highlighting engagement strategies, collaborations and intentional design elements piloted across six events. By listening to residents and designing with intention, the City brought together more than 200 residents and volunteers to activate and steward a once-overgrown neighborhood lot.

Participants closed with one-word reflections such as connection, intention, ownership and creativity, signaling that PSL's neighborhood-rooted approach resonates with practitioners exploring similar questions in their communities.

Naturally PSL earns 3CMA Savvy Award of Excellence

Naturally PSL: Green Spaces and Places has received an Award of Excellence in the Resident Engagement category of the 3CMA Savvy Awards, the City-County Communications & Marketing Association's national recognition for excellence in government communications.

This accomplishment was made possible by collaboration with eight city departments, alongside more than 1,000 residents as co-designers to protect and expand the City's green spaces. Building on this success, the SII team will continue bringing departments together to innovate and tackle the next challenges our resident raise.



Port St. Lucie staff appointed to Florida League of Cities Legislative Policy committees

The Florida League of Cities, the united voice for Florida's municipal governments, announced that members of Port St. Lucie's staff were recently appointed to serve on the Florida League of Cities 2026-27 Legislative Policy committees.

Congratulations to Mary Savage-Dunham for her role on the Development, Code Compliance and Redevelopment Committee; Stephen Okiye and Caroline Sturgis for their service on the Finance and Taxation Committee; Billy Weinshank for contributing to the Intergovernmental Relations, Mobility and Emergency Management Committee; Kristina Ciuperger and Carmen Capezzuto for their work on the Municipal Operations Committee; and Colt Schwerdt, Diana Spriggs and Donna Rhoden for their dedication to the Utilities, Natural Resources and Public Works Committee.

Their commitment to these committees is truly appreciated and worthy of recognition.

Legislative Policy Committee chairs, vice chairs and members were appointed by Florida League of Cities President Mark Franks, Mayor of Shalimar.

As Legislative Policy Committee members, staff will help develop the League's Legislative Platform, which details priority issues that are most likely to affect daily municipal governance and local decision-making during the upcoming legislative session, as well as help League staff understand the real-world implications of proposed legislation. Committee members are also asked to serve as advocates for local decision-making throughout the legislative process.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Movie Night: 'Monster House'
Get ready for a spooktacular movie night for all ages! Join us for an evening of Halloween fun featuring the animated favorite 'Monster House.' Gather your family and friends, get cozy and enjoy a movie under the spooky spirit of the season!

Come dressed in your favorite Halloween pajamas or costume and bring a blanket or comfy chair. Sit back, relax and enjoy a fun-filled movie night with family and friends!

Grab your spot and get ready for a frightfully fun evening!

When: 6-8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2
Where: Community Center, 2195 SE Airoso Blvd.
Admission: Free (Advance registration is required.)

Visit www.pslparks.com/register and search ticket code HMN2026.



Wicked Girls Night Out: Sold out!
Join us for our first-ever Mommy Daughter Dance, Wicked Girls Night Out! Enjoy music from our DJ, fairy hair, a sweets table, special guests and plenty of sparkle and wicked fun. This event is for moms and their daughters, ages 2-12.

When: 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10
Where: Community Center, 2195 SE Airoso Blvd.



Special Populations Halloween Dance
When: 6-8 p.m.Thursday, Oct. 22
Where: MIDFLORIDA Event Center, 9221 SE Event Center Place
Ages: 15 and older
Cost: $10 per person

Pickleball Skills and Drills Ladder League
When: 6-6:45 p.m. (beginner) and 7-8:45 p.m. (intermediate and advanced) Thursdays, beginning Oct. 15
Where: MIDFLORIDA Event Center, 9221 SE Event Center Place
Ages: Adults
Cost: $90 beginner six-week course; $150 advanced six-week course

Announcements/Administrative



Employee of the Quarter:
Kathy Midock,
Recreation Supervisor



Volunteer of the Quarter:
Kate "Kit Kat" Wessbecher,
Rock Steady Boxing volunteer

Parks and Rec Department recognizes employee, volunteer of the quarter
The Parks and Recreation Employee of the Quarter and the Volunteer of the Quarter were awarded at the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Third Quarter Parks and Recreation Meeting held Aug. 21 at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center.

Parks and Recreation welcomes 11 new team members
On Sept. 10, Parks and Recreation hosted its Quarterly Parks and Recreation New Hire Orientation, led by their manager, Personnel Liaison Tasheeka Ellis, welcoming 11 new employees to the team. The orientation provided an opportunity for new team members to learn more about the department, its operations, expectations and the important role each employee plays in serving our community.

This quarter's new hires represent a diverse range of positions, including Program Support Technicians supporting the BMX Track, Maintenance Workers and Customer Service Specialists.

The orientation also was an opportunity for new employees to connect with department leadership and one another as they begin their journey with Parks and Recreation.

We are excited to have these 11 new team members join the Parks and Recreation family and look forward to the knowledge, skills and energy they will bring to our department and the community we serve!



Celebrating 28 years of dedicated service

On June 17, the Parks and Recreation family gathered to celebrate the retirement of Senior Sgt. Colin Duncombe, a dedicated Park Officer whose career reflected an exceptional commitment to service and community.

Senior Sgt. Duncombe proudly served the City for 28 years, including assignments with the Neighborhood Policing Bureau, Special Events, Parks and Project Lifesaver. Throughout his career, he played an important role in supporting the safety, security and well-being of the community and those who enjoy our parks and facilities.

His retirement celebration was an opportunity for colleagues, friends and members of the Parks and Recreation family to recognize his many years of service, dedication and contributions to the City.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Senior Sgt. Duncombe for 28 years of dedicated service and wish him all the best as he begins this exciting new chapter of retirement. His commitment to the community will be remembered and appreciated for years to come.



Oak Hammock playground redesign in the works

Great things are happening in parks!

Demolition for the existing Oak Hammock Park playground began Sept. 21 and we're excited to roll out a woodsy, nature-themed playground for ages 2-12. The redesign comes packed with ADA-friendly surfacing, a communication board, slides and tons of playful features for kids of all abilities. And for the parents, there will be seating and shade!



Results from the 2026 Citizens Summit showed residents wanted more inclusive playgrounds and this project was approved in the Capital Improvement Replacement Plan for FY 2025-26. The new playground is expected to be ready by late November. Plus, we're adding a little extra magic: a nature-themed mosaic public art installation on a nearby enclosure, scheduled to be complete by April 2027.



We can't wait for you all to see what's blooming at Oak Hammock Park!

Check out recreation programs for fall

Fall programs are in full swing at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center! Our Recreation team transitioned into a busy fall season filled with programs that give children of all ages opportunities to stay active, learn new skills, socialize and have fun.

The fall welcomed return of Homeschool PE and Rec, Soccer Mini Camp, Toddler Drop-Off and the Great Kids program. Also, cheerleading, and M&M Sweeties continued beyond summer. The continued participation in these programs allows our young participants to keep building their skills, friendships, confidence and connection with recreation staff.

The pickleball schedule is back to its regular hours, with play available Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Kids Day Out is an exciting program Parks and Recreation offers while St. Lucie Public Schools are on break, with the first one of the year taking place Sept. 21.

The fun continued with our Senior Dance on Sept. 19 at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center. This program provides a great opportunity for seniors to enjoy an evening of music, dancing, socializing and spending time with friends in our community.

With returning favorites, continued programs and Kids Day Out kicking off, Recreation at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center is keeping the momentum going and providing fun, engaging recreation opportunities!

Fitness Parks Pass

Starting in October, our Fitness Parks Pass classes will feature a new schedule. The beginner tai chi class will be 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the multipurpose room at the Community Center. The intermediate to advanced tai chi class will be 8:45 a.m. Fridays at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center outdoor area with views of the scenic pond. Participants will meet in the lobby. In case of bad weather, an alternate location will be arranged.



The fitness center is excited to introduce a brand new weekend refresh yoga and sound bath class. This new class is part of our Fitness Parks Pass program, offering a wonderful opportunity to unwind after a hectic week. Weekend Refresh will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 17 in the multipurpose room at the Community Center.

Fitness Parks Passes can be purchased at the Community Center and the MIDFLORIDA Event Center, with options for five classes at $25 or 12 classes at $50. For those interested in trying just one class, a one-time class pass for $10 is now offered.



Power Up class coming to the Community Center

A second Power Up class will begin at 11 a.m. Wednesdays, starting in October, at the Community Center. Ryan, the newest Parks and Recreation fitness instructor, has had a fantastic start and the community is loving her current Tuesday class at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center.

Namaste and Play

Namaste and Play is a new fitness program for children 6 and younger with a grown-up. This class, combining play, story time and yoga, will be held from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays in the Tot Room at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center. Pricing options include a monthly fee of $35, a two-month bundle for October and November at $60 or a one-time class for $10.



New fitness machines available

The fitness center at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center has introduced a new skier machine. Ski machines train the upper body, core and lower body simultaneously, emphasizing lats, shoulders, triceps, abs, glutes and legs while also developing cardiovascular endurance. This machine also is wheelchair-accessible and allows everyone to enjoy an effective workout. Additionally, the wellness center has upgraded a water rower to the Rogue Echo air resistance rowing machine. The new rower is equipped with an LCD console with Bluetooth and ANT+ compatibility, so users are able to program workouts, track their performance and monitor their metrics in real time.





The Saints Golf Course

The Saints Golf Course is very proud to have recently hosted this year's Police Athletic League's golf tournament on Sept. 12. This was a very successful event with 80 players in attendance while raising significant funds for the charity through sponsorships and valued auctioned items. A follow-up lunch was served after the tournament to honor the prize winners. The Saints is proud to support such important organizations as PAL. Come out and enjoy The Saints!





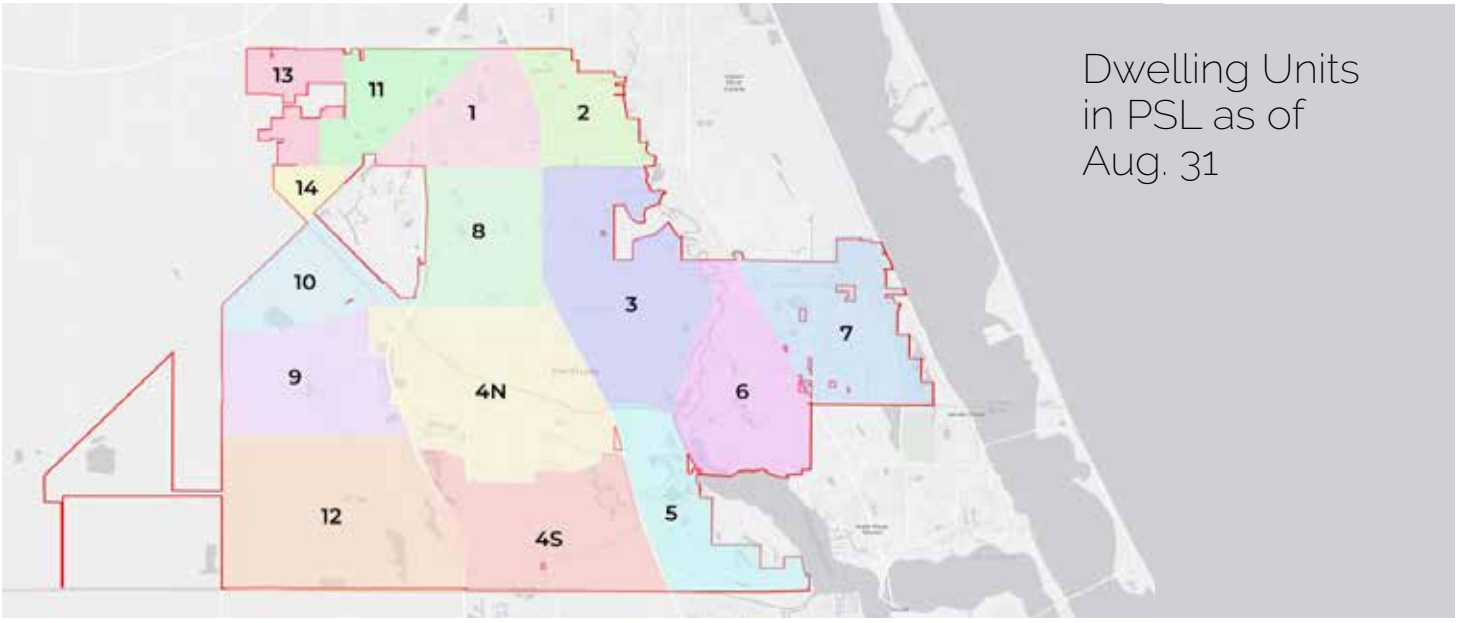








PLANNING AND ZONING



Dwelling Units in PSL as of Aug. 31

PLANNING AREA	BUILT SINGLE FAMILY UNITS	BUILT MULTI-FAMILY UNITS	TOTAL BUILT UNITS	APPROVED UNITS	REMAINING UNITS TO BE BUILT
1	4,121	948	5,069	5,760	691
2	3,119	616	3,735	4,112	377
3	18,463	1	18,464	20,210	1,746
4N	18,833	677	19,510	22,435	2,925
4S	13,306	26	13,332	15,296	1,964
5	3,557	597	4,154	4,797	643
6	4,804	1,346	6,150	6,506	356
7	6,145	2,267	8,412	9,532	1,120
8	5,369	1,661	7,030	7,523	493
9	4,856	3,186	8,042	11,092	3,050
10	3,334	1,042	4,376	7,200	2,824
11	788	80	868	4,000	3,132
12	5,471	880	6,351	22,410	16,059
13	0	0	0	0	-
14	575	0	575	579	4
TOTAL	92,741	13,327	106,068	141,452	35,384

PORT ST. LUCIE POLICE

PSLPD recognizes the people and moments that make a difference











This month brought several meaningful moments for the Port St. Lucie Police Department, highlighting the dedication of our members and the ways PSLPD continues to support and connect with the community.

From recognizing the women who serve in law enforcement to helping a local student and celebrating the expertise of our Crime Scene Investigators to welcoming two new solo officers to the road, the month reflected the many ways our department serves.

In recognition of National Policewoman Day, PSLPD celebrated the women who serve throughout our department and the important roles they play in the law enforcement profession. Their dedication, professionalism and commitment to serving others continue to make a difference within our department and throughout the community.

PSLPD's Police Athletic League (PAL) officers also helped make a difference for a local student who was walking several miles to school each day. After the student's Treasure Coast High School principal reached out to our officers, PAL worked with the department to provide the student with a bicycle, helping make his daily journey a little easier.

During National Forensic Science Week, PSLPD recognized our Crime Scene Investigators and the important work they do behind the scenes. Their knowledge, attention to detail and dedication play an essential role in supporting investigations and helping uncover the evidence needed to move cases forward.

The department also congratulated two officers who successfully completed the Field Training Officer Program. Following months of academy training and additional months of supervised field training, Officers Day and Clemente have officially completed their training and are now working independently on the road.

Each of these moments represents a different part of what it means to serve — from supporting our community and recognizing our members to developing the next generation of officers. Together, they reflect the dedication, teamwork and commitment that define PSLPD and the people who proudly serve Port St. Lucie.

PUBLIC WORKS



Traffic signal timing improvements at Fairgreen and Crosstown

The City improved traffic signal timing at Fairgreen Road and Crosstown Parkway to enhance safety and traffic flow.

Traffic signal timing consultant David Champoux of Mead & Hunt collaborated with Rhythm Engineering, which manages the City's adaptive signal system, to develop a time-of-day plan for the intersection. The plan provides a second green phase each cycle for eastbound through traffic while adjusting timing on the other approaches.

These improvements are designed to support safer travel and more efficient movement through the intersection.





Community Conversations continue

Public Works continues to participate in the citywide Community Conversations, helping residents learn more about projects completed through the Half-Cent Sales Tax program.

Staff also share information about projects that could move forward if voters approve the sales tax. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss the work being done by Public Works, answer questions and hear directly from residents.

Public Works looks forward to continuing these conversations and keeping the community informed.

Flashing lights during storms

Severe weather can cause traffic signals to switch to flashing mode or lose power, so drivers should use extra caution when approaching an intersection.

A flashing red light means drivers must come to a complete stop and proceed only when it is safe, just as they would at a stop sign. A flashing yellow light means drivers should slow down and proceed cautiously, stopping if necessary. If a traffic signal is completely dark, treat the intersection as a four-way stop.

It is important to report downed signals or other immediate intersection hazards by calling 911.

Roadway Resurfacing Projects

www.cityofpsl.com/repaving

The Capital Improvement resurfacing goal for FY 2025-26 is 18.95 miles with 17.25 miles completed to date. The final project to take place is Hidden Oaks, Import Drive and that is scheduled for construction in early October.

The Capital Improvement resurfacing goal for FY 2026-27 is 11.35 miles. Residents will be notified in advance of resurfacing.

Northport Village:
To be scheduled
Riverview:
To be scheduled
Northport Village (Bayshore):
To be scheduled
Oak Hammock (Del Rio):
To be scheduled
Cashmere Cove (Cameo):
To be scheduled





Public Works at City University

Public Works recently connected with the 2026 City University group through an equipment demonstration and presentation about the department's work and current projects.

Jerome Simpson, Drainage Heavy Equipment Operator II, showcased the "Swampmeister," which is used to clear and support canals, while Armando Jaramillo, Traffic Operations Electrician, demonstrated the bucket truck used to maintain traffic signals.

Following the demonstration, Eric Sexauer, CIP and Sales Tax Project Group Manager, and Beth Zsoka, Executive Project Manager of Community Outreach, shared information about Public Works projects, programs and master plans.

Public Works appreciates every opportunity to engage with residents, answer their questions and help them learn more about the services and projects that support the community.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Officers' quick actions saved life of woman

On May 31, officers responded to the 1500 block of Airoso Boulevard for a structure fire. The 911 caller reported her adult daughter was trying to set the house on fire and had attacked her.

Upon arrival, officers found the residence fully engulfed and discovered the daughter had set her mother's room on fire in an apparent attempt to take her mother's life. The victim initially attempted to put the fire out herself with a fire extinguisher but was again attacked by her daughter. The mother then retreated deeper into the residence and locked herself in the bathroom to call 911.

When Master Officer Mitchel Miller, Officer Eric Theriault, Officer Stephen Kraviec and Officer Morgan Green arrived on scene, they found the daughter at the front entry of the residence where smoke was pouring out. Officers attempted to secure the suspect when she actively resisted and flailed about. Once secured in handcuffs, Officers Kraviec and Green attempted restrain her and escort her to a patrol vehicle. The suspect continued to actively resist and fight officers. As the suspect was escorted to the ground, her body weight fell onto Officer Green, causing a significant knee injury to the officer.

While Officers Kraviec and Green were dealing with the suspect, Officer Miller made announcements into the residence to check for any other occupants. Hearing nothing from the interior, Officers Miller and Theriault entered the home to conduct a search for potential victims. Braving the smoke-filled home, noting visibility was drastically reduced to less than 6 feet, the officers canvassed the interior looking for any victims. As they neared the master bedroom (which was fully engulfed in flames), Officer Theriault breached the door and entered the room. Finding the mother located in the bathroom, officers then guided the victim back through the burning house and to the safety of the driveway.



Master Officer
Mitchel Miller



Officer
Eric Theriault



Officer
Stephen Kraviec



Officer
Morgan Green

Officers Miller and Kraviec then returned to the residence, entering to look for any additional subjects inside the burning structure. The additional search did not yield any other subjects inside. The fire department later arrived and extinguished the fire.

Once the scene was secured, Officer Green was transported to the hospital for treatment of her leg injury caused while arresting the arson suspect. Officer Theriault was additionally transported to the hospital as a precautionary measure due to smoke inhalation while rescuing the victim.

Had the officers' quick actions not been taken or were delayed waiting for the fire department, the incident could have resulted in the death of the victim. Their selfless actions resulted in two officers sustaining minor injuries yet saved the life of the victim and secured the arrest of the suspect.

SPECIAL EVENTS

25 years later: Port St. Lucie remembers Sept. 11

On Sept. 11, the City of Port St. Lucie gathered to mark the 25th anniversary of 9/11, with a solemn remembrance ceremony honoring the lives lost, the heroes who responded and the lasting impact of that day on our nation.

The ceremony began at 8:30 a.m. and featured participation from local law enforcement, fire service, elected officials, students, honor guards and community members. The Multi-Agency Honor Guard, representing the Port St. Lucie Police Department, St. Lucie County Fire District and St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office, presented and posted the colors, setting the tone for a morning of reflection and remembrance.

Throughout the ceremony, the community paused to remember each of the four tragic events that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001. Bells were rung at 8:46 a.m. for American Airlines Flight 11, 9:03 a.m. for United Airlines Flight 175, 9:37 a.m. for American Airlines Flight 77 and 10:03 a.m. for United Airlines Flight 93. A final toll at 10:05 a.m. honored the rescue workers and those who later lost their lives to 9/11-related illnesses.

The program included remarks from Mayor Shannon M. Martin, Port St. Lucie Police Chief Leo Niemczyk, St. Lucie County Fire District representatives Capt. Salomon Rincon and Firefighter/Paramedic Allen Civita, as well as guest speaker Rafael Diaz, a retired New York Police Department First Grade Detective. Their participation brought local and firsthand perspectives to a day that continues to hold deep meaning for communities across the country.

Music also played an important role in the ceremony. The Port St. Lucie High School Chamber Choir performed the "Star-Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful," while the St. Lucie County Fire District Pipes and Drums performed "Highland Cathedral" and "Amazing Grace." The ceremony concluded with a rifle salute, "Taps," a benediction and the retiring of the colors.



Following the ceremony, guests were invited to gather inside the MIDFLORIDA Event Center for light refreshments and fellowship. Community members also were given the opportunity to leave a personal message at the Sept. 11 Memorial Fountain, with roses and note cards provided for those wishing to pay tribute in their own way. Flowers for the memorial were generously donated by Flowers by Susan.

Twenty-five years later, the importance of remembering remains. Through ceremony, music, reflection and the shared presence of the community, Port St. Lucie continues to honor those whose lives were forever changed on Sept. 11, 2001, and the courage, compassion and service that emerged in the days that followed.

We will never forget.

Supporting local businesses through City events

Do you have a food truck, local business, handmade products or something unique to share with the community? City of Port St. Lucie events offer opportunities for local businesses and vendors to connect with residents and be part of some of the City's most popular community celebrations.

Throughout the year, City events bring residents together for food, entertainment, shopping and family-friendly activities. Food vendors and marketplace vendors help make those experiences possible while giving businesses an opportunity to introduce their products and services to the community.

Food trucks and other qualified mobile food vendors can participate in select City events throughout the year. Whether you're serving a favorite local dish, sweet treat or something completely unique, food vendors add an important part of the experience for event guests.

Local businesses, makers and entrepreneurs also may have opportunities to participate as marketplace vendors. These spaces are ideal for businesses offering tangible products, handmade items, specialty goods and other merchandise that guests can browse and purchase while enjoying the event.

Vendor opportunities vary by event, and space may be limited.

From Oktoberfest and Fall Fun Fest to Festival of Lights, International Fest and other community celebrations, local vendors are an important part of creating the experiences residents look forward to throughout the year.

Interested in becoming a City event vendor? For more information, contact the City of Port St. Lucie Special Events Department at specialevents@cityofpsl.com.

Prost! Oktoberfest returns to Port St. Lucie



Grab your stein and get ready to celebrate! Oktoberfest returns to Port St. Lucie on Saturday, Oct. 3 at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center.

Whether you're coming for the food, live entertainment or annual traditions, there is something to enjoy throughout the evening. Guests can experience the festive atmosphere while enjoying German-inspired cuisine and beverages, live music from DeLeon Band and activities celebrating the traditions and spirit of Oktoberfest.

One of the evening's most anticipated traditions is back as well, the annual Wiener Dog Race! These speedy dachshunds will take to the course for a little friendly competition and a lot of entertainment. Be sure to grab a spot along the sidelines and cheer on this year's competitors.

And, of course, no Oktoberfest celebration would be complete without a little friendly competition of its own. Guests can take part in the stein-holding contest and enjoy the lively atmosphere that makes this annual celebration a favorite community tradition.

Dust off your lederhosen, practice your best Prost! and join us for an evening of music, food, traditions and fun.

UTILITY SYSTEMS

Ready to assess, ready to respond



The Utility Systems Department Damage Assessment Team participated in a refresher course on completing and routing damage assessments after an emergency event such as a tornado, hurricane or other disaster.

The course was hosted by Billy Weinshank with the Office of Emergency Management alongside Information Technology's Raluca Taylor and Michael Kohler. This refresher course ensures our assessment personnel are provided with the necessary tools to complete post-disaster inspections digitally.



Cease the grease at the next lunch and learn

What happens when fats, rags, oils and grease (F.R.O.G.) go down the drain?

Join the City of Port St. Lucie Utility Systems Department for Cease the Grease, a free lunch and learn session from noon to 1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5 at the Community Center, 2195 SE Airoso Blvd.

Utility staff will explain how FROG affects the water and sewer system, what the department does to manage it and simple steps residents can take to help. Bring your questions and learn directly from the people who work with these systems every day.

Registration is required. Sign up for the Oct. 5 session at www.link.cityofpsl.com/usdll2627.