



# **Manasota League of Cities Tour of North Port**

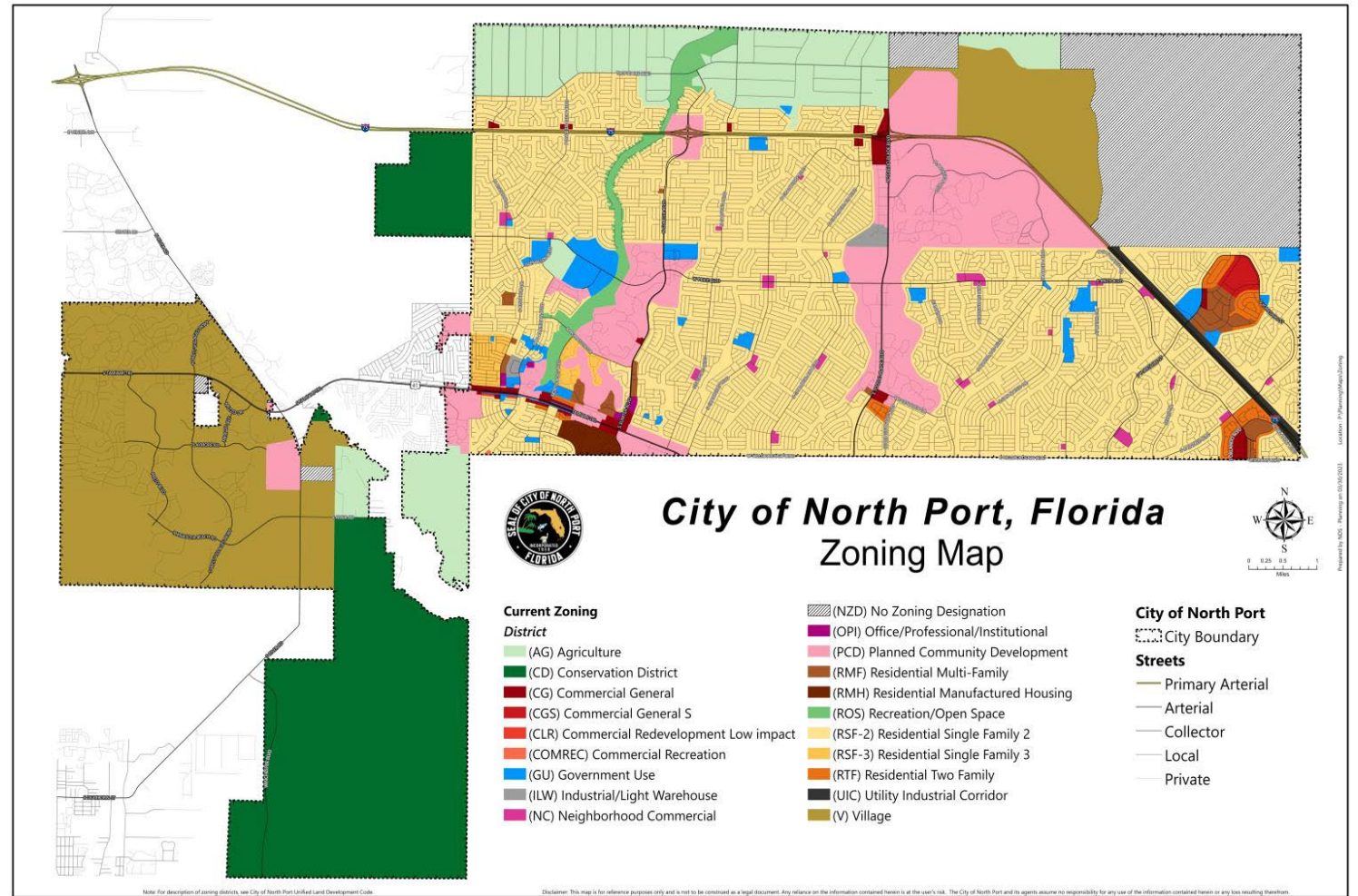
April 28, 2023

After action report prepared by Commissioner Debbie McDowell

# North Port Vital Statistics:

- Population:** 81,800 (2022 BEBR)
- Size:** 104 square miles
- City Incorporation:** 1959
- Average Age:** 49
- Median income:** \$64,500
- Student enrollment:** 8,975
- Total FY 2022/23 budget:** \$212.3M
- Assessed Property Valuation:** \$7.2B
- Total Employees:** 817
- General Development pre-platted community

Source – 2022/23 adopted budget



# Itinerary and Attendees:

## **Itinerary:**

9am – Check in at North Port City Hall

9:35am – Aquatic Center

10am – Fire Training Tower

10:30am – STC Campus, North Port Industrial Park

11am – Yorkshire area and I-75 interchanges

Serious accident on US 41 detoured our afternoon schedule

12:30pm – lunch at Fire Station 86

1:30pm – Tour Downtown Wellen Park

2pm – Atlanta Braves Stadium

~~2:30pm – Legacy Trail North Port Connector~~

3pm – Return to City Hall

## **Attending Members:**

Jen Ahern-Koch – Commissioner, City of Sarasota

Jim Boldt – Vice Mayor, City of Venice

Kavita Bhatt – ABM Account Executive

Gary Coffin – Commissioner, Town of Longboat Key

Debbie McDowell – Commissioner, City of North Port

Joe Neunder – Commissioner, Sarasota County

Nick Pachota – Mayor, City of Venice

Nikesh Patel – Engineer, City of Sarasota

# North Port Aquatic Center

Opened: Fall 2019

Cost: \$12M funded through surtax  
and park impact fees

---

2022 Parks and Rec Annual Impact Report  
Stats:

94,017 attendees  
\$1,060,790 revenue  
\$1,521,336 expenses





# North Port Fire Training Tower

Opened: Early 2023

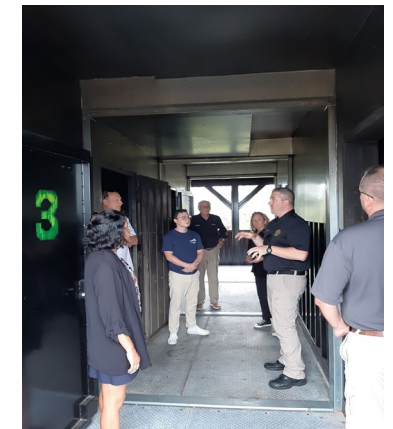
Cost to build: \$2M using surtax and Fire District Funding

---

The fire training tower is a key component of a larger plan for the City's safety training complex. The new tower compliments the existing training track used by North Port Police. Future plans include a shoot house and classrooms.

The training tower is available for regional jurisdictions to use for their training needs.

Fun fact – The Fire Training Tower is the tallest structure in North Port.



# Yorkshire Area

This area is outside the City's urban service boundary and borders Charlotte County to the east and south. Yorkshire Activity Center is a blank canvas ripe for commercial and industrial development.

Future plans include:

- Interchange at I-75 and Raintree
- Interchange at I-75 and Yorkshire
- Solid waste transfer station

North Port Police Department joined the tour to explain the issues in this area with illegal dumping, ATV riders and squatters.

We also showcased the benefits of investing in license plate readers (LPR) throughout the city.





# Lunch at the Public Safety Building

Opened in April 2022

Cost: \$13M via West Villages Improvement District developer's agreement

City owned and operated



Home to:

- North Port Fire Department Station #86
- Sarasota County Fire Department Station #26
- North Port Police Substation

Fun fact: there is a standing joke about whose podium is better NPPD or the NPF!



# Downtown Wellen

Soft opening – Spring 2023

Construction ongoing by the developers

---

Already Downtown Wellen is a flurry of activity for the residents of North Port and the region. Shopping, restaurants, play areas, boutiques, and the banquet hall compliment the diverse housing options within Wellen Park.

The downtown area's focal point is the 83 acre lake. There are activities, for all ages, including regular features such as cornhole, concerts, yoga, Zumba and running. The artwork and murals are quite exquisite.

The developer spent millions of dollars preserving and moving heritage oaks within the development area.





# Spring Training

Opened in Spring 2019

Total Cost: \$75M

---

Cool Today Park (aka Braves stadium) is an economic driver for the entire region.

This project was a partnership with the State of Florida, Sarasota County, the West Villages Improvement District, the developer and the City of North Port. North Port contributed \$4.7M of surtax towards this project. Currently the stadium is owned by Sarasota County and they lease the facility to the Braves.

The Stadium is a replica of Truist Park, in Atlanta. This is a year-round facility. North Port will be hosting our 4th of July festivities, at this location, after a two year hiatus due to COVID.

Fun fact: One of my fondest memories was being a guest speaker at the Governor's Dinner in February 2020.



Thank you to  
the North  
Port staff  
who made  
this event a  
success!

Laura Ansel, Marketing Manager Parks and Rec

Randy Bowling, Neighborhood Development Services

Dominick Caravella, Environmental Conservation Officer North Port Police Dept.

Jean Paul duPre, North Port Police Department

AJ Fisher, North Port Police Department

Becky Frost, City Clerk office

Nick Herlihy, Fire Department

Scott King, Captain North Port Police Department

Vinnie Mascarenhas, Interim Manager of Economic Development

Chris Morales, Deputy Chief North Port Police Department

Devon Poulos, Aquatics Facilities

Jason Yarborough, Assistant City Manager

.... And many others who worked behind the scenes!

Special thanks to our guest speakers!

Rick Severance – Division Presidents at Wellen Park, Mattamy Homes

Mike Dunn and Matt with the Atlanta Braves





Thank you for the opportunity to show you  
the AMAZING city of North Port.