



City of North Port  
2019 Legislative Priorities

**Home Rule**

- Strengthen and protect the fundamental concept of local self-government
- Oppose any legislative effort to impede the Municipal Home Rule Act
- Oppose any State intrusion into local finances
- Support revisions to the Communications Services Tax (CST) that are revenue neutral & allow for growth
- Support local regulation of Sober Homes and Short-Term Rentals
- Support legislation to return control over municipal right of way to municipalities
- Support legislation to restore and preserve local zoning authority

**Infrastructure**

- Supports any State funding for the widening of the Englewood Interchange Connector (River Road)
  - This is an evacuation route for 3 Counties, Sarasota, Charlotte and Lee
- Supports any State funding of other arterial roads and storm water projects
- Supports new infrastructure projects to improve North Port quality of life, such as widening of Price Boulevard and expanding Legacy Trail.
- Oppose any legislation mandating local governments to pay for private utility equipment relocation

**Environmental**

- Supports securing direct funding for aquifer storage and recovery systems
- Supports funding for storm water mitigation programs
- Supports enhancing the Myakkahatchee Creek area, including the environmental park and greenway
- Supports financial assistance related to the protection, enhancement, and preservation of Warm Mineral Springs and its historic significance

**Public Safety and Wellness**

- Supports the elimination of the Certificate of Need process
  - North Port is the largest city without a hospital
- Supports prohibiting a person from recreationally discharging a firearm outdoors in a primarily residential area less than 4 acres
- Supports legislation to hold Community Development Districts and other government entities accountable for meeting property standard codes as set forth by municipalities

- Supports efforts to increase funding and programs for Suicide prevention and mental health programs
- Supports State analysis of Department of Children and Families and reorganization
- Supports research into ways to prevent Red Tide and Blue Green Algae
- Supports funding and improved options to address flooding issues in North Port that is impacted by surrounding counties and municipalities
- Moreover, the City of North Port supports the Florida League of Cities Legislative Program, the legislative priorities of the other municipalities within the County and the legislative priorities of Sarasota County and Charlotte County unless specific issues conflict with the North Port Commission positions.