



CITY OF NORTH PORT STRATEGIC PLAN



FISCAL YEAR 2022-2025



Table of Contents

- 2 Letter from the Mayor
- 3 Elected Officials
- 4 Letter from the City Manager
- 5 Mission, Vision, Core Values
- 6 Strategic Priority Areas
- 7 City of North Port Historical Timeline

Strategic Goals & Objectives Fiscal Years 2022-2025

- 8 Health & Public Safety
- 9 Historical, Cultural, and Environmental Preservation
- 10 Parks & Recreation
- 11 Affordability, Growth & Development
- 12 Infrastructure
- 14 Neighborhood Enhancement
- 15 Economic Development & Job Creation
- 16 Efficient & Effective Government
- 17 Strategic Plan Overview

City of North Port
Mayor
District 3

We already know North Port is a great place to live, work and play. The City has experienced exciting growth this past year. We have seen an increase in our population, hundreds of single family homes built, as well as unprecedented commercial development. The City has completed many projects too. Those projects will benefit our entire city for decades.

The City's primary goal is to provide for the safety and welfare for our citizens and visitors. To attain this goal requires resources and careful planning. The Commission's strategic goals were carefully considered to fulfill the diverse needs for all our citizens, for years to come. We are confident this strategic plan will continue to enhance the reasons residents call North Port home and fulfill the City's motto, Achieve Anything.

Debbie McDowell

Debbie McDowell
Mayor for the City of North Port



Debbie McDowell
dmcdowell@cityofnorthport.com
941-628-0486

City of North Port
City Officials



Vanessa Carusone
Commissioner
District 1
vcarusone@cityofnorthport.com
Cell phone: 941-628-2916



Christopher Hanks
Commissioner
District 2
chanks@cityofnorthport.com Cell
phone: 941-628-2919



Pete Emrich
Commissioner
District 4
pemrich@cityofnorthport.com
Cell phone: 941-628-0757



Jill Luke
Vice-Mayor
District 5
jluke@cityofnorthport.com
Cell phone: 941-286-0249



City of North Port

City Manager

I am pleased to present the City of North Port's Strategic Plan. The City continues to grow at a rapid and exciting pace. We continue to manage the challenges that come our way due to this growth, and work to better our processes and procedures to make for a more efficient future. With the opening of the Atlanta Braves Spring Training Facility and North Port Aquatic Center, interest in moving to and setting up shop in our City is growing. The City is nationally recognized as "Playful City USA," as such, we continue to focus on balancing the enhancement of quality of life for our residents while at the same time promoting sustainable growth and economic development. Focusing on our strategic vision helps to prioritize our needs and stay on track for what's needed in our community.

The strategic planning process was driven by the City Commission with the resulting plan developed in collaboration with the City's administration. The framework of the plan is structured around eight priority areas: Health & Public Safety; Historical, Cultural, & Environmental Preservation; Parks & Recreation; Affordability, Growth & Development; Infrastructure; Neighborhood Enhancement; Economic Development & Job Creation; and Efficient & Effective Government.

Our staff is committed to working in partnership with the City Commission, community partners, and our citizens to successfully implement the City's Strategic Plan. In our dynamic and changing environment, plans must be flexible and adaptive. Each year the City's Strategic Plan will be updated to reflect accomplishments and changing priorities.

The City's vision of the future belongs to us all. Together we can achieve a vibrant, desirable, and sustainable city where people are proud to live, work, and play. On behalf of the City Commission and Administration, we look forward to continuing the work that is underway and pursuing new strategic objectives in our mission to provide exceptional service to our entire community for the continuous enrichment of quality of life.



Peter D. Lear, CPA, CGMA
North Port City Manager



Peter D. Lear
(941) 429-7076



Vision

A vibrant, desirable, and sustainable city where people are proud to live, work, and play.

Mission

To provide exceptional service to our entire community for the continuous enrichment of quality of life.

Values

- **Accountability**
We are dedicated to the highest ethical standards and accept personal responsibility for our conduct and obligations.
- **Integrity**
We maintain the public's trust through honest, transparent, respectful, and equitable behavior.
- **Teamwork**
We promote collaboration that fosters excellence and innovation.
- **Customer Service**
We work with compassion, professionalism, and purpose. We make a positive difference in the lives of the residents we serve.



Strategic Priority Areas

Health & Public Safety

Create and sustain a safe and healthy environment for residents and visitors of North Port

Historical, Cultural, and Environmental Preservation

Protect and promote our natural, cultural, and historical heritage that help define the City's identity, contribute to the economy, maintain balance, and improve quality of life

Parks & Recreation

Expand access to community recreation, green space and blueways for public enjoyment

Affordability, Growth & Development

Promote sustainable growth and development, while maintaining or enhancing quality of life in our City

Infrastructure

Develop and maintain the City's roads, bridges, water control structures, stormwater drainage, waterways, potable water, and wastewater treatment and collection systems with creative infrastructure funding mechanisms and targeted investments; promote multimodal transportation opportunities throughout the City

Neighborhood Enhancement

Support the beautification and revitalization of our neighborhoods

Economic Development & Job Creation

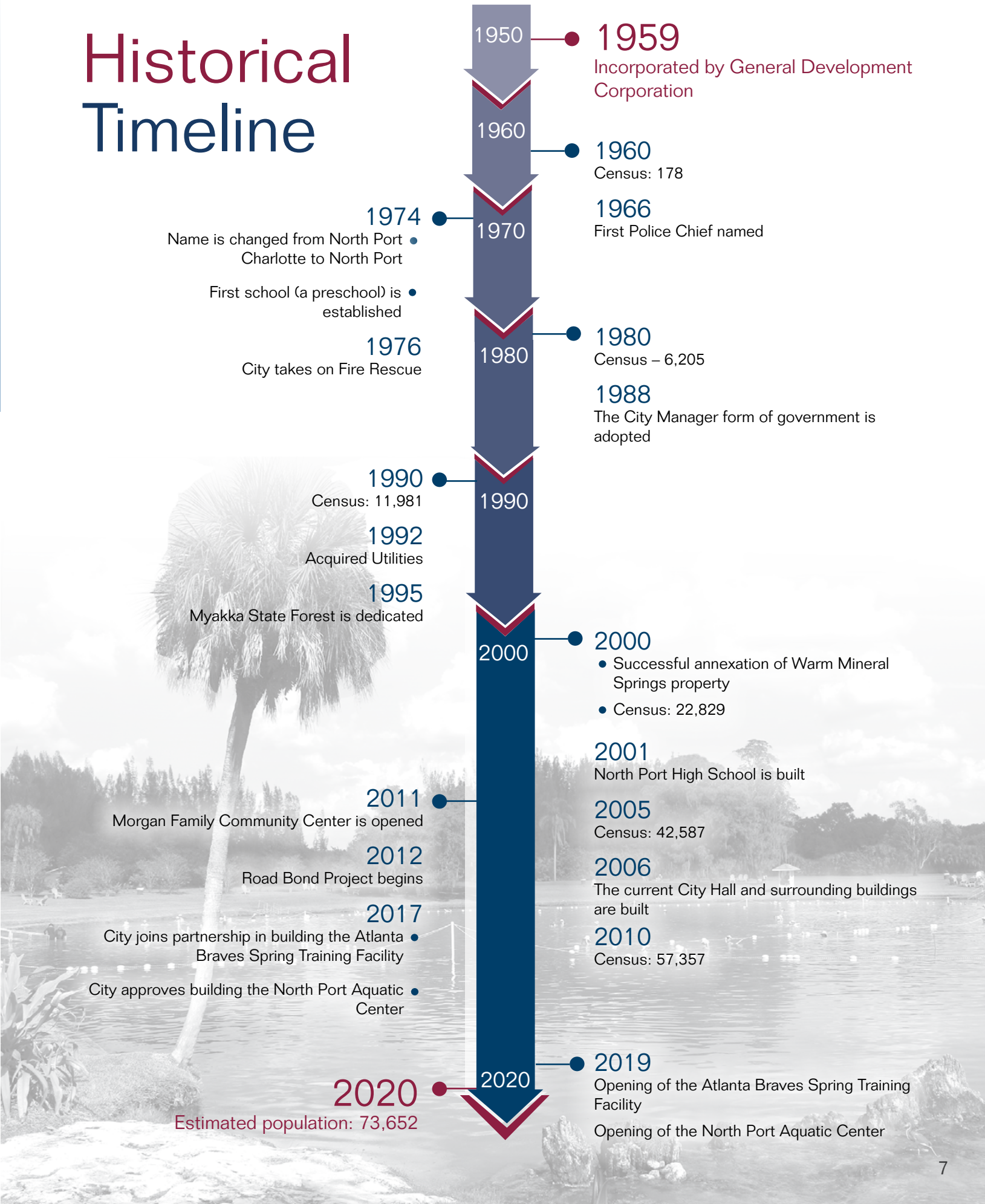
Support a vibrant and diversified economy to create local jobs and attract private investments

Efficient & Effective Government

Develop and promote City governance that fosters trust and utilizes departmental strengths and innovative philosophies to facilitate effective and efficient provision of all City services



Historical Timeline



Strategic Priority

Health & Public Safety

Create and sustain a safe and healthy environment for residents and visitors of North Port



Health and public safety is always a high priority for the City of North Port. The Police Department maintains Excelsior Status, while the Fire Rescue Department consistently achieves an ISO-1 rating. It's important to the City to continue this trend of top-notch service. To maintain the highest quality of service, police officers, firefighter-paramedics, and various other public health and safety employees must be highly trained. As a growing city, North Port will continue to actively support bringing a hospital to the community.



Strategic Objectives

- Determine needs for support of current and expanded services of fire and police based on current data, projected trends, and needs set forth in their individual Strategic Plans (NPFR Fitch Strategic Plan 2018-2023, and NPPD Strategic Plan of Action 2020-2025)
- Advocate for a local community hospital and actively encourage the offering of new and expanded medical services in the City
- Build cohesive public/private partnerships that leverage resources to address critical social service concerns
- Complete a long-range plan and identify funding sources for expansion of potable water distribution and waste water collection systems in platted lot areas city-wide assimilating local and state data and studies

Strategic Priority

Historical, Cultural, and Environmental Preservation

Protect and promote our natural, cultural, and historical heritage that help define the City's identity, contribute to the economy, maintain balance, and improve quality of life



The City of North Port proudly recognizes several sites of historical significance. From Warm Mineral Springs to Little Salt Spring, the City is the steward of artifacts and evidence of life dating back tens of thousands of years. The City is committed to preserving what's been left here and finding new ways to maintain the unique natural, cultural, and historical heritage of the area.

Strategic Objectives

- Develop strategic partnerships to recognize historical buildings, archives, and timelines
- Establish City connection to the Legacy Trail and to Warm Mineral Springs
- Protect, conserve, and preserve environmentally sensitive lands and resources, including prudent acquisition
- Support the preservation of our watershed at Orange Hammock Ranch

Strategic Priority Parks & Recreation

Expand access to community recreation, green space and blueways for public enjoyment



With 26 parks in the City, greenspaces are a citywide priority. The City continues to make improvements and additions to area parks and facilities. With over 10,000 school-aged children in the City-wide, it's important to continue to have a variety of programs and destinations for kids and families to experience.

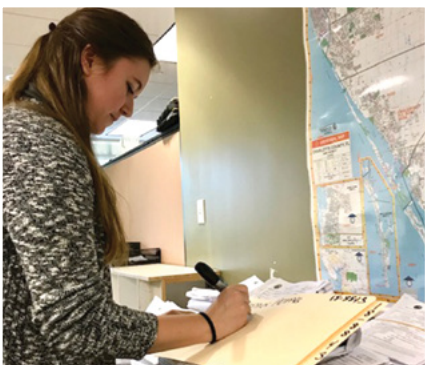
Strategic Objectives

- Expand and improve accessibility to greenways and blueways connections
- Complete Phase II of Warm Mineral Springs Park Master Plan
- Relocate and expand Veteran's Park
- Allocate resources to expand parks and recreation in the east end and west end



Strategic Priority Affordability, Growth & Development

Promote sustainable growth and development, while maintaining or enhancing quality of life in our City



The City of North Port was incorporated in 1959 and covers a land area of 104.1 square miles. The City is continually growing and developing. The City is proud of recent new developments including Atlanta Braves Spring Training facility, an aquatic center, and other new additions are on the horizon. The current Commission has made affordable housing a priority in response to new jobs coming to the City.

Strategic Objectives

- Promote a range of housing options and affordability for current and future residents
- Continue to develop a land bank for the future that reflects the community's priorities when prudent

Strategic Priority

Infrastructure

Develop and maintain the City’s roads, bridges, water control structures, stormwater drainage, waterways, potable water, and wastewater treatment and collection systems with creative infrastructure funding mechanisms and targeted investments; promote multimodal transportation opportunities throughout the City



One of the most important responsibilities of any local government is maintaining and improving infrastructure. From mobility options to city streets, highways, bridges, and utility lines, infrastructure is a critical investment in the quality of life and growth of the City. Infrastructure directly impacts residents, visitors, and businesses every day. Quality infrastructure and ease of transportation are essential to being a sustainable and desirable community.



Strategic Objectives

- Make targeted infrastructure investments including establish water and sewer to I-75; to all four quadrants, and plan for water and sewer at new interchange
- Identify funding sources to replace all water control structures and develop long-range replacement plan and funding sources for bridges
- Coordinate with Florida Department of Transportation to complete safety improvements at the interchanges of I-75 and Sumter and Toledo Blade Boulevard
- Coordinate with utility companies to establish a plan to facilitate the installation of internet service infrastructure in conjunction with other infrastructure projects
- Enhance connectability through adoption of a long-range plan including identification of funding sources for construction of new bridges
- Complete phasing plan for widening Price Boulevard west of Sumter Boulevard and east of Toledo Blade Boulevard, including identification of funding sources
- Continue to partner with Florida Department of Transportation and Charlotte County to enhance connectivity and establish a new interchange at Rain Tree Boulevard and Yorkshire Street
- Collaborate and partner with bordering counties on shared transportation needs
- Collaborate with Charlotte County on Hillsborough Boulevard
- Continue implementation of the long-range plan to complete looping projects for residential areas

Strategic Priority

Neighborhood Enhancement

Support the beautification and revitalization of our neighborhoods



The City works to maintain a welcoming sense of place, despite its large geographic size. The City is committed to maintaining a high aesthetic standard in neighborhoods. Neighborhoods form the foundation of the community and reflect the character and diversity of North Port. Enhancing neighborhoods strengthens community and builds hometown pride.

Strategic Objectives

- Support efforts to partner with residents and community agencies to revitalize and beautify neighborhoods
- Make targeted investments and adopt policies to address blight in neighborhoods
- Improve City gateway entry features



Strategic Priority

Economic Development & Job Creation

Support a vibrant and diversified economy to create local jobs and attract private investments



The City is committed to maintaining or enhancing quality of life for residents of North Port with policies that support diverse, innovative, entrepreneurial, and a sustainable local economy. Economic prosperity involves establishing and implementing policies that support existing and new businesses with the rapid build-out of homes; therefore, economic development must be part of the equation.

Strategic Objectives

- Encourage the development of a central hub within activity centers through regulatory review and developing various incentive strategies
- Establish and execute the master plan development for the Shire
- Establish improved neighborhood commercial centers
- Conduct a North Port economic feasibility study and implement its findings
- Maintain a business retention, expansion, and attraction program
- Support workforce development programs in partnership with federal, state, and not-for-profit organizations

Strategic Priority

Efficient & Effective Government

Develop and promote City governance that fosters trust and utilizes departmental strengths and innovative philosophies to facilitate effective and efficient provision of all City services



City employees and elected officials are dedicated to effectively serving and supporting area residents and businesses. Providing the highest quality public service is a collective effort and City officials are committed to promoting a customer-focused culture that ensures accessible, consistent, and predictable service delivery.

Strategic Objectives

- Continue to enhance citizen education and engagement in government
- Improve communication and processes for quality decision-making for elected and appointed officials
- Provide convenient, customer-focused, modern, and technologically advanced services, resources, and website
- Complete a streamlined permitting process to stimulate economic development and enhance customer service

City of North Port Strategic Plan Overview

Goals and Objectives	
<p>Health & Public Safety</p> <p>Create and sustain a safe and healthy environment for residents and visitors of North Port</p> <p>Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine needs for support of current and expanded services of fire and police based on current data, projected trends, and needs set forth in their individual Strategic Plans (NPFR Fitch Strategic Plan 2018-2023, and NPPD Strategic Plan of Action 2020-2025)• Advocate for a local community hospital and actively encourage the offering of new and expanded medical services in the City• Build cohesive public/private partnerships that leverage resources to address critical social service concerns• Complete a long-range plan and identify funding sources for expansion of potable water distribution and waste water collection systems in platted lot areas city-wide assimilating local and state data and studies	<p>Historical, Cultural, and Environmental Preservation</p> <p>Protect and promote our natural, cultural, and historical heritage that help define the City's identity, contribute to the economy, maintain balance, and improve quality of life</p> <p>Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop strategic partnerships to recognize historical buildings, archives, and timelines• Establish City connection to the Legacy Trail and to Warm Mineral Springs• Protect, conserve, and preserve environmentally sensitive lands and resources, including prudent acquisition• Support the preservation of our watershed at Orange Hammock Ranch
<p>Parks & Recreation</p> <p>Expand access to community recreation, green space and blueways for public enjoyment</p> <p>Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expand and improve accessibility to greenways and blueways connections• Complete Phase II of Warm Mineral Springs Park Master Plan• Relocate and expand Veteran's Park• Allocate resources to expand parks and recreation in the east end and west end	<p>Affordability, Growth & Development</p> <p>Promote sustainable growth and development, while maintaining or enhancing quality of life in our City</p> <p>Strategic Objective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote a range of housing options and affordability for current and future residents• Continue to develop a land bank for the future that reflects the community's priorities when prudent
<p>Infrastructure</p> <p>Develop and maintain the City's roads, bridges, water control structures, stormwater drainage, waterways, potable water, and wastewater treatment and collection systems with creative infrastructure funding mechanisms and targeted investments; promote multimodal transportation opportunities throughout the City</p> <p>Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make targeted infrastructure investments including establish water and sewer to I-75; to all four quadrants, and plan for water and sewer at new interchange• Identify funding sources to replace all water control structures and develop long-range replacement plan and funding sources for bridges• Coordinate with Florida Department of Transportation to complete safety improvements at the interchanges of I-75 and Sumter and Toledo Blade Boulevard• Coordinate with utility companies to establish a plan to facilitate the installation of internet service infrastructure in conjunction with other infrastructure projects• Enhance connectability through adoption of a long-range plan including identification of funding sources for construction of new bridges• Complete phasing plan for widening Price Boulevard west of Sumter Boulevard and east of Toledo Blade Boulevard, including identification of funding sources• Continue to partner with Florida Department of Transportation and Charlotte County to enhance connectivity and establish a new interchange at Rain Tree Boulevard and Yorkshire Street• Collaborate and partner with bordering counties on shared transportation needs• Collaborate with Charlotte County on Hillsborough Boulevard• Continue implementation of the long-range plan to complete looping projects for residential areas	<p>Neighborhood Enhancement</p> <p>Support the beautification and revitalization of our neighborhoods</p> <p>Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support efforts to partner with residents and community agencies to revitalize and beautify neighborhoods• Make targeted investments and adopt policies to address blight in neighborhoods• Improve City gateway entry features
	<p>Economic Development & Job Creation</p> <p>Support a vibrant and diversified economy to create local jobs and attract private investments</p> <p>Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage the development of a central hub within activity centers through regulatory review and developing various incentive strategies• Establish and execute the master plan development for the Shire• Establish improved neighborhood commercial centers• Conduct a North Port economic feasibility study and implement its findings• Maintain a business retention, expansion, and attraction program• Support workforce development programs in partnership with federal, state, and not-for-profit organizations
	<p>Efficient & Effective Government</p> <p>Develop and promote City governance that fosters trust and utilizes departmental strengths and innovative philosophies to facilitate effective and efficient provision of all City services</p> <p>Strategic Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to enhance citizen education and engagement in government• Improve communication and processes for quality decision-making for elected and appointed officials• Provide convenient, customer-focused, modern, and technologically advanced services, resources, and website• Complete a streamlined permitting process to stimulate economic development and enhance customer service



City Hall 4970 City Hall Boulevard,
North Port, FL 34286



(941) 429-7000



www.cityofnorthport.com