



## MEMORANDUM Utilities Department

**TO:** The Honorable Mayor and City Commission  
**THROUGH:** A. Jerome Fletcher II, ICMA-CM, MPA, City Manager  
**THROUGH:** Jason Yarborough, ICMA-CM, Deputy City Manager  
**FROM:** Tricia Wisner, Utilities Director  
**SUBJECT:** Mandatory Connection Letter to Residents  
**DATE:** March 17, 2026

Through previous Capital Improvement Projects the Utilities Department has completed the installation of potable water supply lines in multiple locations to improve system water quality and reduce water loss associated with maintenance flushing of dead-end water mains by providing looped connections. The installation of these distribution lines provide an opportunity for the Utilities Department to serve additional properties along the improved areas.

The Code of the City of North Port provides direction on requiring connection to available water services within Article III. – Connection Requirements, Section 78-60 – General terms and conditions regarding water and sewer utility service, item (a) which states:

*“The owner of every lot or parcel of land within the city shall connect or cause the plumbing for the water supply and sewerage of any building or facilities thereon to be connected with the utility within 365 days of notice that service is available. The city commission may, for good cause, extend the 365-day requirement for a particular lot or parcel.”*

Connecting to public water service provides many benefits to residents, including access to a reliable, safe, and consistent water supply that is regularly tested to meet state and federal standards, as well as reduced maintenance and replacement responsibilities associated with private well pumps and filtration systems. However, residents are responsible for the costs associated with connecting to public water service. Currently, the cost to connect a single-family home to the potable water system is \$12,009.06, which includes a capacity fee of \$2,319.00, a water line extension fee of \$7,835.06, and a meter installation fee of \$1,855.00.

In addition, homeowners are responsible for the installation of the water service line between the meter and the residence. This work must be completed by a licensed plumber, and a certified backflow installer is required to install and test the backflow preventer.

To assist the resident with these connection costs, the Code of the City of North Port allows the City to authorize a customer to elect installment payments to distribute the line extension charge and the capacity fee over a period not exceeding 30 years, as set forth in a written connection payment

agreement between city and customer. The terms of this agreement are outlined in the attached letter that will be sent to residents in areas where connection will be required.

There are approximately 500 parcels that will be able to connect to water through this process. Utilities Department staff have coordinated with the Communications Division for the development of a letter to residents (attached) and updates to webpages to help provide information and guidance through this process. Additionally, the Utilities Cashiering team is prepared to assist residents through this process and Field Operations will connect service following the completion of payment or the execution of a payment agreement.

At this time, the connection is for potable water only and expansion of sewer services will continue as funding is available within approved capital improvement projects, currently including U19NEP and U26NEP. The attached connection map identifies the areas that now have access to potable water service and residents that will be receiving connection notices and an interactive map to view addresses and more is available here: [NorthPortFL.gov/WaterConnectionMap](http://NorthPortFL.gov/WaterConnectionMap). Parcels that are not developed will not be required to connect until building on the parcel occurs.

#### Attachments

Letter to Residents  
Connection Map



3/27/2026

## Re: Mandatory Connection to City of North Port Potable Water System

Dear Resident,

The City of North Port has verified that your property is located in an area where potable water service is available. Pursuant to Chapter 78-60(a) North Port City Code, all properties with access to central potable water service are required to connect to the water system within 365 days of receiving this notice.

For more details on the City's potable water connection code requirements, please visit [https://library.municode.com/fl/north\\_port](https://library.municode.com/fl/north_port) and view Article V, Section 78.

### What are the benefits of connecting to public water service?

#### *Reliable, safe and convenient*

- Consistent quality: City water is tested regularly to meet strict state and federal standards for safety and taste.
- Reliable supply: Professionally maintained systems ensure residents are not dependent on well depth, pump condition or weather.
- No well maintenance costs: Residents do not need to maintain, repair, or replace pumps, pressure tanks or treatment systems.
- Stable pressure: North Port Utilities manages and monitors water pressure to ensure a steady flow.
- Health protection: City water is treated for bacteria, metals and chemicals, unlike many private wells.

#### *Financial and property value advantages*

- Increased property value: Homes connected to municipal water often sell faster and at higher prices.
- Predictable monthly costs: One utility bill replaces unpredictable repair expenses.
- Lower insurance risk: Proximity to fire hydrants and a dependable water supply can improve insurance ratings.

#### *Community and safety benefits*

- Improved fire protection: Hydrants supplied by the city system provide immediate, high-volume water for emergency response.
- Public health safeguards: Connecting to public water reduces groundwater contamination risks and protects the community's shared aquifer.
- Coordinated emergency response: Utilities can issue boil-water notices or perform citywide repairs, in which cannot be done for private wells.
- Resilient infrastructure: Public systems are built to support future growth and withstand droughts and storm recovery.

*Continued on back side*

## Connection requirements and cost

Currently, the cost to connect a single-family home to the potable water system is \$12,009.06. This includes capacity fee: \$2,319.00; water line extension fee: \$7,835.06; meter installation fee: \$1,855.00.

Homeowners will also be responsible for installation of the water service between the meter and the residence. The homeowner must hire a licensed plumber to make the connection to the meter, and a certified backflow installer must install and test the backflow preventer.

## Financing options

We understand these costs can have a financial impact on you and your household. That's why the City offers a 360-month (30-year), 0% interest financing program for the capacity and water line extension fees, along with a \$10 monthly administration fee. Under this plan the amount financed will be added to the monthly water bill.

- The amount eligible for financing over the 30-year program is \$10,154.06 (Capacity Fee: \$2,319.00 + Water Line Extension Fee: \$7,835.06).
- Monthly service bills will include a set repayment amount plus a \$10 administrative fee, resulting in a total monthly payment for this connection of \$38.21.

The City also offers a program that allows homeowners to spread a portion of the meter installation fee over 12 months. To participate, the homeowner pays \$1,355 at the time of installation, followed by monthly payments of \$41.67 for 12 months to cover the remaining \$500 balance.

## What's Next

- Scan the QR code below with your smartphone, email [NPWater@NorthPortFL.gov](mailto:NPWater@NorthPortFL.gov) or visit [NorthPortFL.gov/UtilitiesConnection](http://NorthPortFL.gov/UtilitiesConnection) to confirm your potable water system status.
- If service is required, we will email you a New Customer Packet and assist with the connection process.
- Have questions or need help? Please contact the City of North Port Utilities Department at **941-240-8000**.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



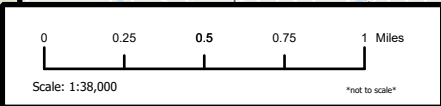
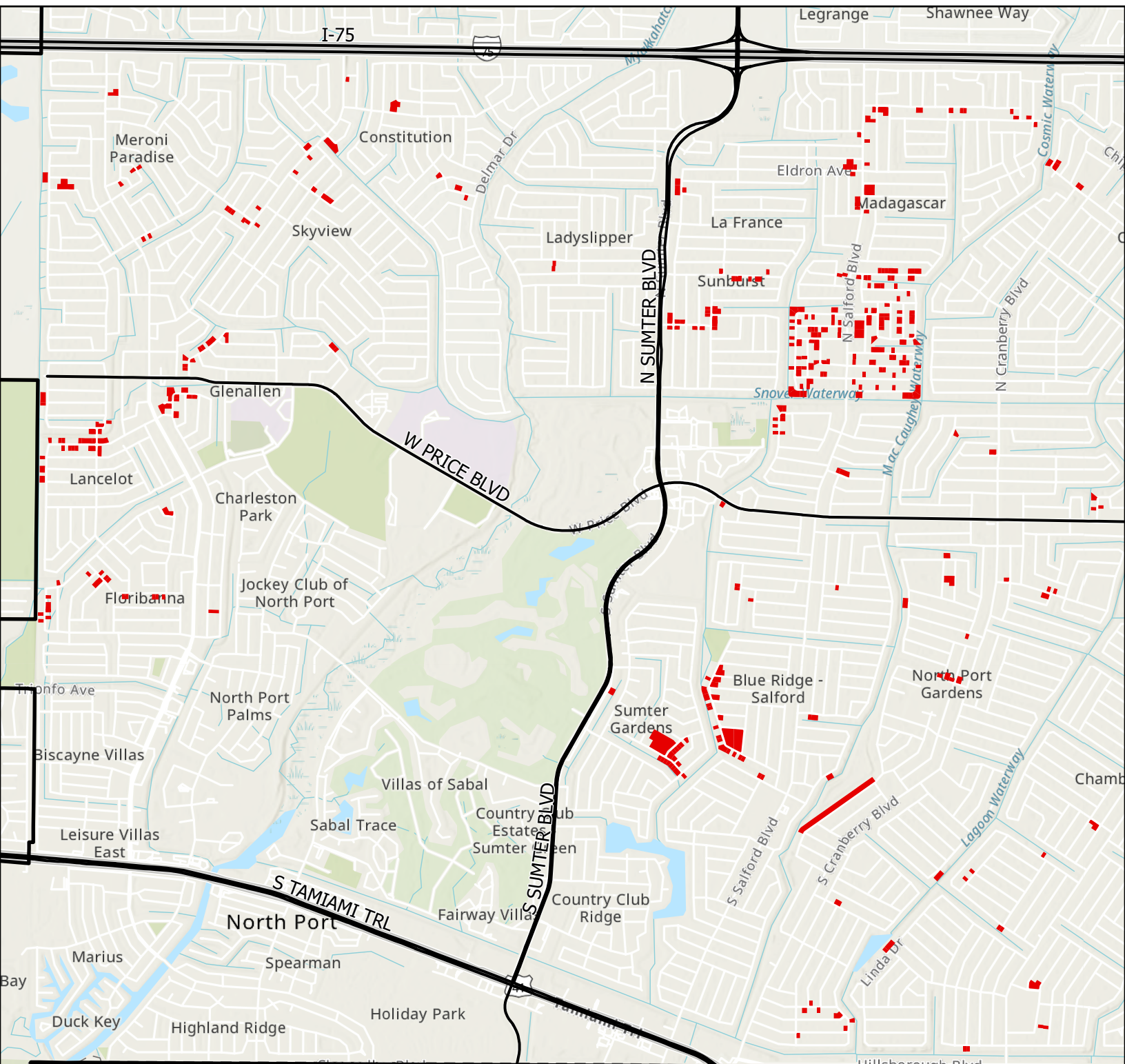
Tricia Wisner  
Utilities Director  
City of North Port





# North Port Utilities

## Parcels That Will Be Receiving A Mandatory Connection Notification

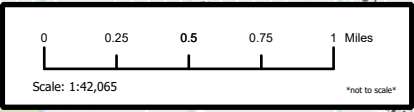
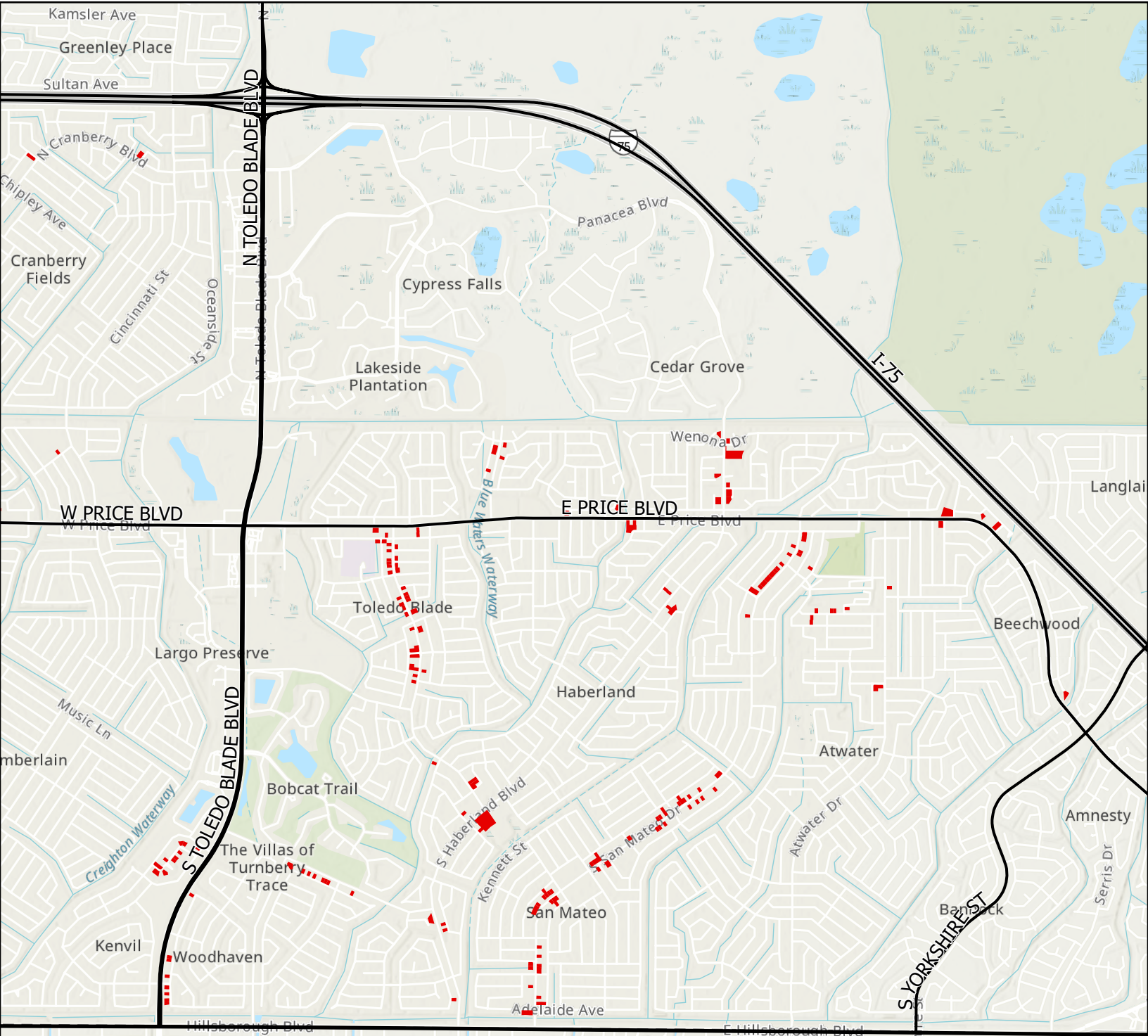


Parcel Count: 349

- North Port Streets
- North Port City Limits
- Parcels that will receive notice of connection requirement.
- Parcel



# North Port Utilities Parcels That Will Be Receiving A Mandatory Connection Notification



**Parcel Count: 154**

- North Port Streets
- ▬ North Port City Limits
- ▬ Parcels that will receive notice of connection requirement.
- ▬ Parcel