



Office of the City Manager

Mr. Ashley Bloom
SVN Commercial Partners / WMS Development Group
2044 Constitution Blvd.
Sarasota, FL 34231

February 2, 2024

Mr. Bloom,

The City of North Port values the support and drive of partners seeking to help further the mission of the City to provide essential services, promote civic engagement, and ensure the well-being and prosperity of our vibrant community. Your organization exhibited this support by submitting a proposal for a Public Private Partnership to address infrastructure needs and economic development opportunities at Warm Mineral Springs Park.

Following direction from the City Commission received during the July 25, 2023, Regular Commission Meeting, and pursuant to applicable state statutes and City Code, diligent review and thorough negotiation discussions have been underway in evaluation of the proposal.

On January 23, 2024 following reevaluation of impacts from a changing financial landscape, including rising staffing costs and significant changes within the Property and Casualty insurance market, your team submitted proposal revisions for consideration. The City's Warm Mineral Springs Public Private Partnership Negotiation Team has reviewed the revised proposal from WMS Development Group, LLC, and has determined that the pursuit of this partnership is no longer in the best interest of the City. Therefore, the Negotiation Team has voted unanimously to cease negotiations on this project. Pursuant to Florida Statutes Section 255.065(5)(c) and City Code Sec. 2-420(e); I concur with the recommendation to cease negotiations on this proposal.

I appreciate the efforts afforded to this project from your team and while this project did not result in a successful Public Private Partnership, we have gained valuable knowledge through this process and the City is in a better position to assess and evaluate future plans for this parcel.

Thank you for your commitment to the City of North Port and we look forward to future opportunities to explore partnership possibilities to enhance our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Jerome Fletcher II". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

A. Jerome Fletcher II, ICMA-CM, MPA
City Manager