**WHEREAS**, Florida's natural resources are a significant contributor to our economy and quality of life, and Florida's native plants provide both economic and ecological benefits; and

WHEREAS, native plants, and their relationships with insects and other arthropods, create the biological foundation for all ecosystems and life on Earth; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida is one of the most biodiverse states in the US, yet has one of the highest numbers of threatened and endangered native plants due to habitat destruction and degradation; and

**WHEREAS**, because North Port is experiencing unprecedented population growth, the need for the protection of native plants and habitats has never been greater; and

WHEREAS, October is a spectacular time to view native plants in bloom in the many North Port parks, such as Oaks Park and Myakkahatchee Creek Environmental Park; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to parks, native plants add beauty and sustainability to home, commercial, governmental, and other landscapes.

**NOW**, **THEREFORE**, we, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 2025 as

## "Florida Native Plant Month"

and all citizens, businesses, local governments, and others are encouraged to plant native and protect native habitats and the ecosystems upon which we depend.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, we have hereunto set our hands and Seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 2nd day of October 2025.

## **CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA**

	Phil Stokes, Mayor	
Pete Emrich, Vice-Mayor		Barbara Langdon, Commissioner
David Duval, Commissioner		Demetrius Petrow, Commissioner
	ATTEST	
	Heather Faust, City Clerk	