



Economic Development Update

April 6, 2026



- Business Retention
- Business Attraction
- *Workforce Development*





Workforce Development

“strategic approach to preparing individuals for employment while ensuring businesses have access to skilled talent”





Healthcare Workforce Alliance

Inaugural meeting held on February 20, 2026

- Enrico Pucci, Campus Director, Southern Technical College
- Shelby Otway, Campus Outreach Coordinator, Southern Technical College
- Jenna Geringer, HCA-USF, Center for Career and Professional Development
- Toni Ripo, Career Consultant, Training and Leadership Development USF
- Jenna Theil, College and Career Consultant, USF
- Lindsey Votour, Business Development, NP Behavioral Health
- Nicole Carr DNP,RN,MSN, Cheif Nursing Officer, HCA
- Jeff Mangrum, Director, SMH





Healthcare Workforce Alliance

Primary Discussion Themes

- The need for expanded clinical placement capacity for nursing students
- The importance of creating visible career pathways beginning in high school.
- Persistent hiring challenges for CNAs, PCTs, and specialty technicians.
- Financial and logistical barriers, preventing residents from entering healthcare training.
- The necessity of a cohesive, community-wide marketing effort to retain local talent.





Healthcare Workforce Alliance

June 6, 2026

Career Exposition & Hiring Event

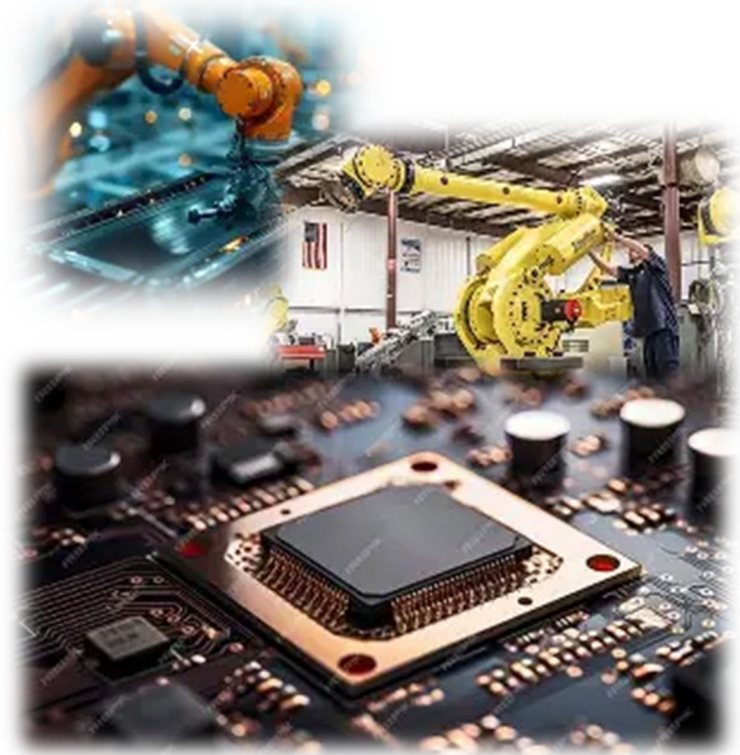




Quantum Technology Workforce Alliance

Aerospace ~ Aviation ~ Semiconductor
~ Advanced Manufacturing

- Design practical, industry driven strategies that better align with education, technical training, and employer needs.
- Identify scalable models that support new pathways and specialized upskilling programs.





Quantum Technology Workforce Alliance

Aerospace ~ Aviation ~ Semiconductor ~ Advanced Manufacturing

Inaugural meeting held on March 4, 2026

- Dr. Roseanne Perez, Workforce Development Program Specialist, Florida Semiconductor Institute, University of Florida
- Ernie Friend, Executive Director, Florida Advanced Technological Education Center
- Rob Harris, Executive Director, Sarasota-Manatee Manufacturers Association
- Keely DeGroot, Director in Semiconductors, Plug and Play
- Jenna Thiel, Coordinator of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning, University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
- Melanie Lyons, Scholarship Advisor, College of Engineering, University of South Florida,
- Bernard Batson, Associate Dean of Access & Engineering Workforce Development, University of South Florida College of Engineering





Quantum Technology Workforce Alliance

Aerospace ~ Aviation ~ Semiconductor ~ Advanced Manufacturing

Primary Discussion Themes

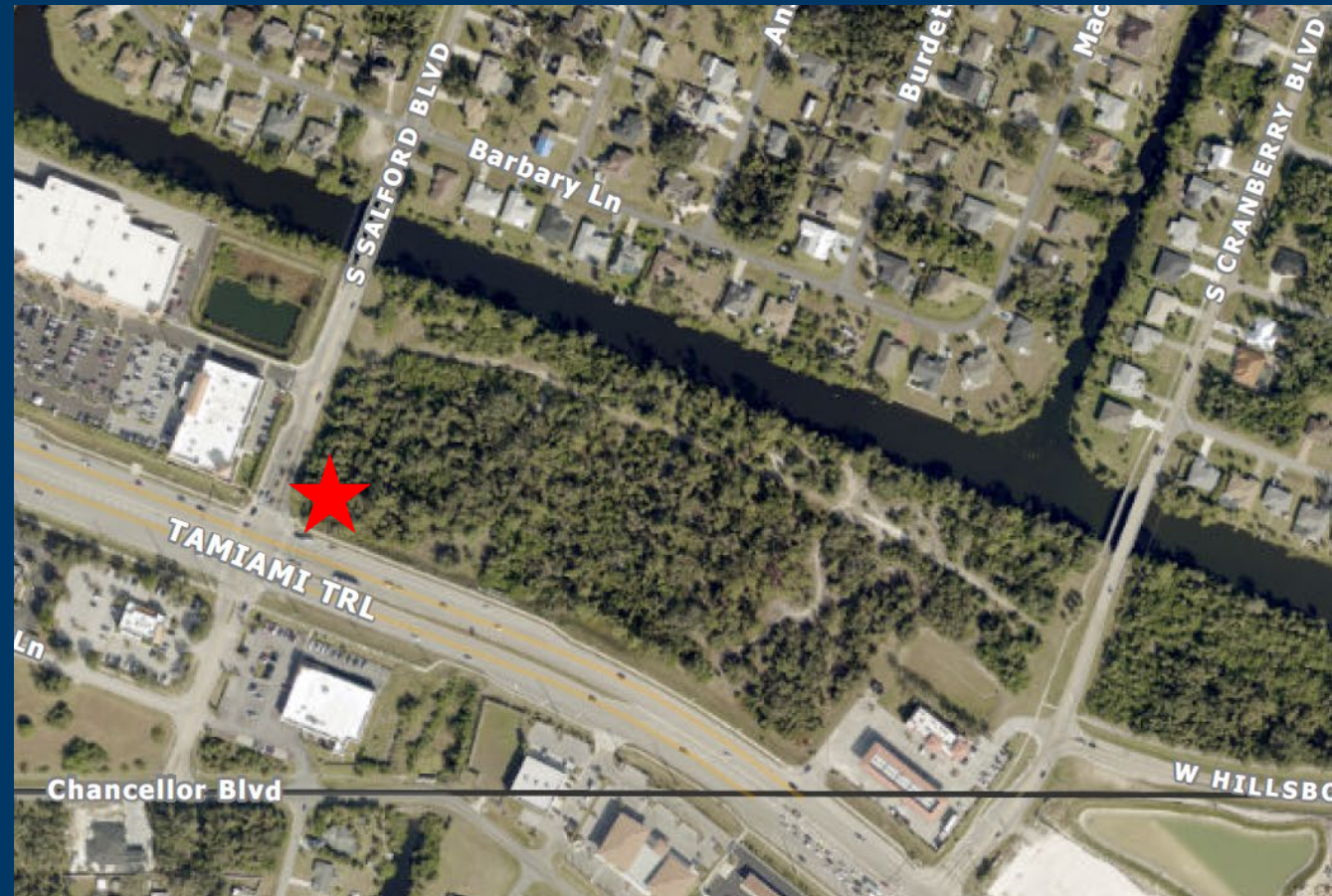
- Talent Attraction & Retention Strategy
- Technician & Engineering Workforce Alignment
- Stackable Credentials & Education Integration Early Awareness & K-12 Pipeline Development
- Consortium Structure & Ongoing Coordination



New Development Update

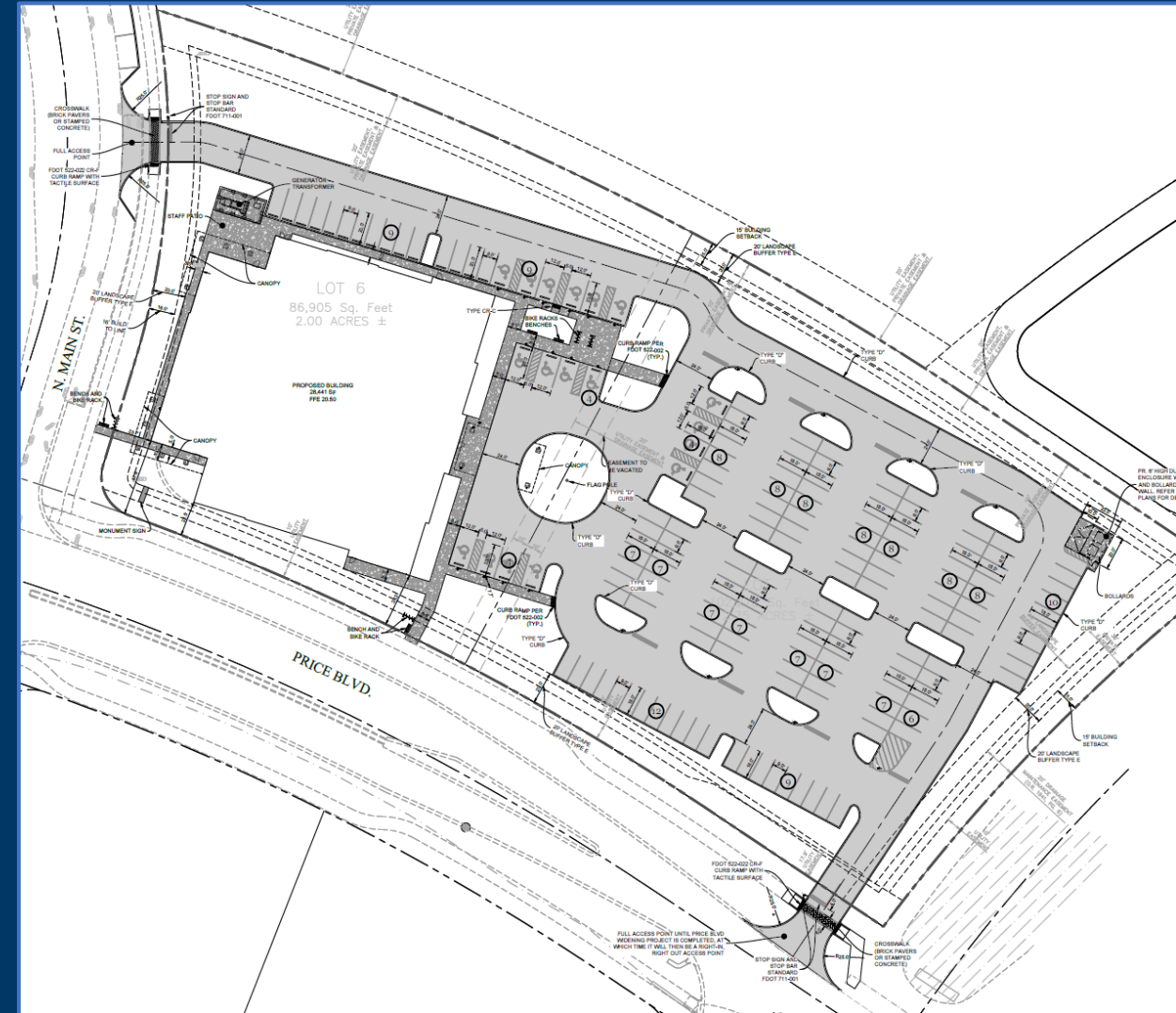
AdventHealth North Port

- UPDATE: Site Development Plan Application submitted 3/25/2026
- 16,235 sf Hospital Emergency Department
- 24 Beds



Heron Creek VA Clinic

- UPDATE: Site Development Plan Approved 3/16/2026
- 28,441 sf Clinic



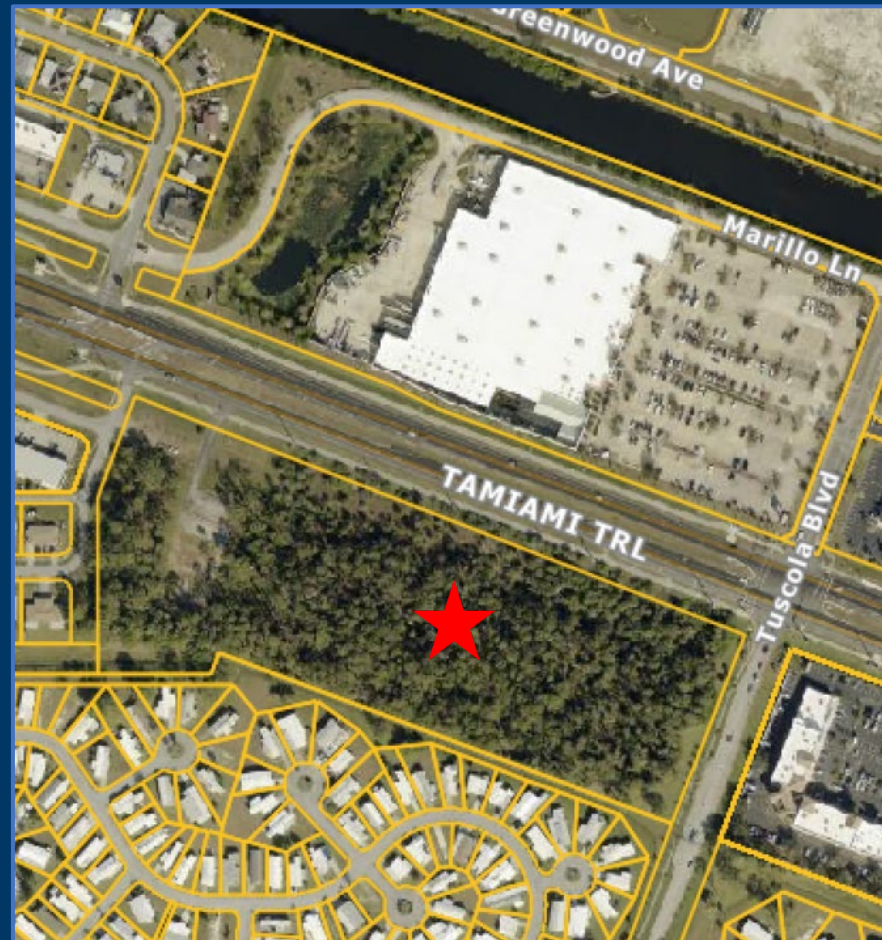
Wellen Park Downtown Hotel

- Site Development Plan approved 2/27/2026
- 148 rooms
- 3,200 sf Flexible Event Space
- Rooftop Dining & Bar
- Resort Pool



Tuscola Retail

- Pre-Application Meeting Request
- 77,000 sf Retail/Restaurant Use Proposed





Additional Information

- Current Development Projects Map:
<https://www.northportfl.gov/Building-Planning/Projects/Current-Development-Map>
- Development Review Committee agenda packets:
<https://www.northportfl.gov/Building-Planning/Planning-Zoning/Development-Review-Committee>