

DRAFT-NOT FINAL

2022

ANNUAL
City Manager's

REPORT

Evolving & Adapting

a year in review





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Sustainability



28 PAGE

Business Support



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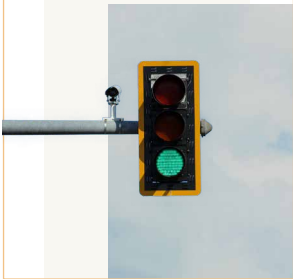
Engagement & Education



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Experiences & Destinations





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Mobility



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Safety



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**Developing the
Organization**



72 PAGE

**Financial
Accountability**



mission | vision | values | goals

VALUES: ACCOUNTABILITY • DIVERSITY • CUSTOMER SERVICE • TEAMWORK • ETHICS • STEWARDSHIP

mission

Our mission is to provide **Exceptional Municipal Services** that are **Responsive to our Community** while **Planning for Smart and Balanced Growth** that is managed in a **Financially Responsible Manner**.

vision

Port St. Lucie has **Great Neighborhoods**; excellent **Educational Opportunities** for lifelong learning; a **Diverse Local Economy and Employment** options; **Convenient Transportation**; unique **Natural Resources**, including the **St. Lucie River**; and **Leisure Opportunities** for an **Active Lifestyle**.

"Port St. Lucie is a Safe, Beautiful and Prosperous City for All People - Your Hometown."



strategic goals

Safe, Clean and Beautiful



Vibrant Neighborhoods



Smart and Connected City



Diverse Economy and Employment Opportunities



High-Quality Infrastructure and Facilities



Culture, Nature and Fun Activities



High-Performing City Government Organization





Residents of Port St. Lucie

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Jolien Caraballo
Vice Mayor,
District 4 Councilwoman



Stephanie Morgan
District 1 Councilwoman



David Pickett
District 2 Councilman



Anthony Bonna
District 3 Councilman



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"Port St. Lucie is a Safe, Beautiful and Prosperous City for All People - Your Hometown."

DRAFT – NOT FINAL

Our Evolving City



224,905 Port St. Lucie residents

11,000 New residents in the past year.

In 1970, just nine years after our incorporation, our population was about 300. Since then, our population has increased 33% over the past 10 years, reaching 244,905 residents. 11,000 of which have moved to Port St. Lucie in the past year.

Third Largest city in South Florida
Seventh Largest city in Florida

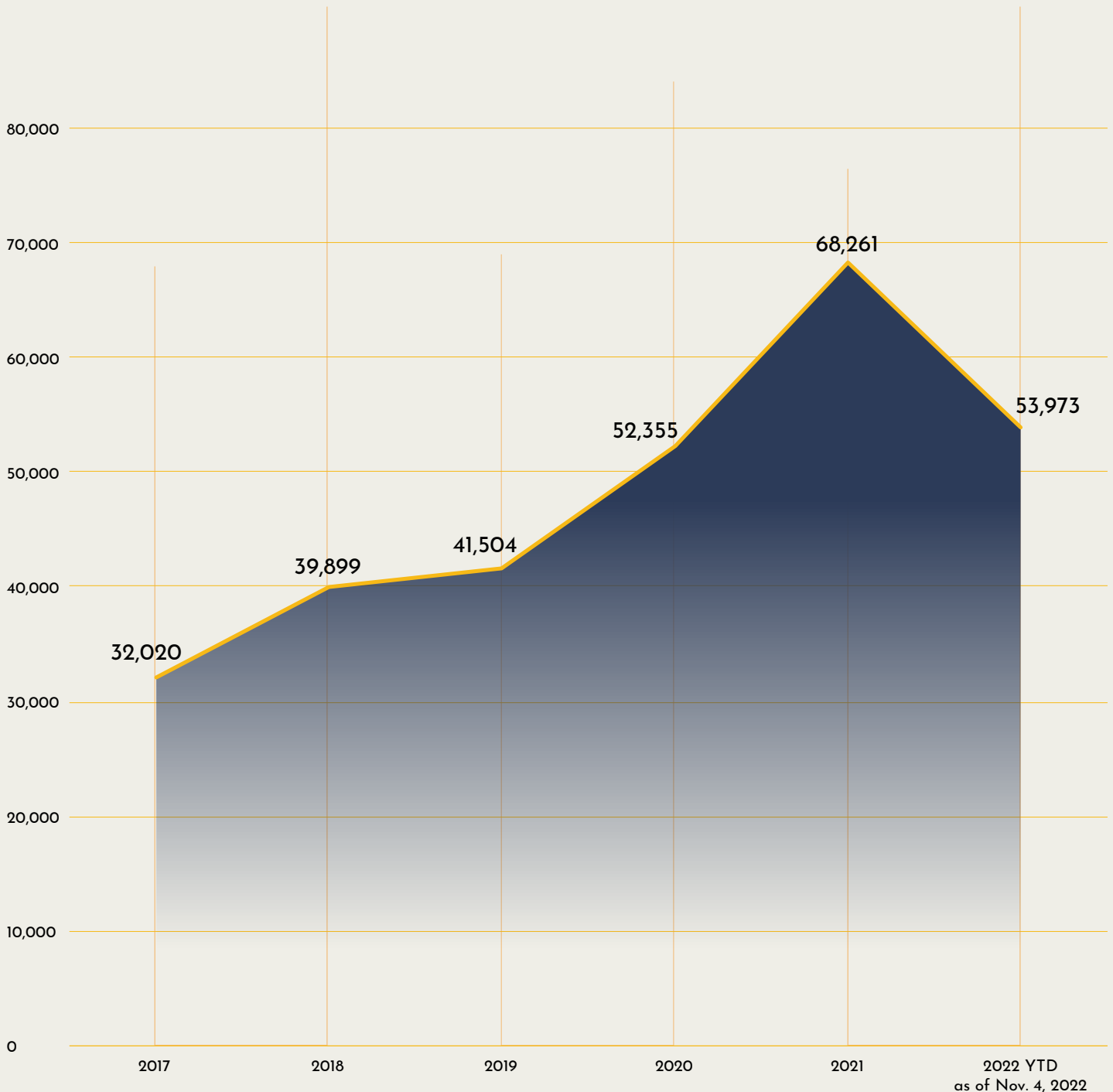
Port St. Lucie is not a typical City. Port St. Lucie was originally planned by General Development Corp. (GDC) in the 1960s as a retirement haven with 80,000 platted single-family lots. It wasn't built with the infrastructure future residents would need for more residential, commercial and industrial uses. Over the past six decades, we have successfully overcome many obstacles to become the city we are today.

That has meant retrofitting much of the city to include infrastructure like sidewalks and additional roadways such as Crosstown Parkway. There is still work to be done as Port St. Lucie continues to evolve. The Mayor, City Council and staff are working everyday to manage the growth we are experiencing today and to plan for what we know is coming in the future.

Building Department

All Permits Issued

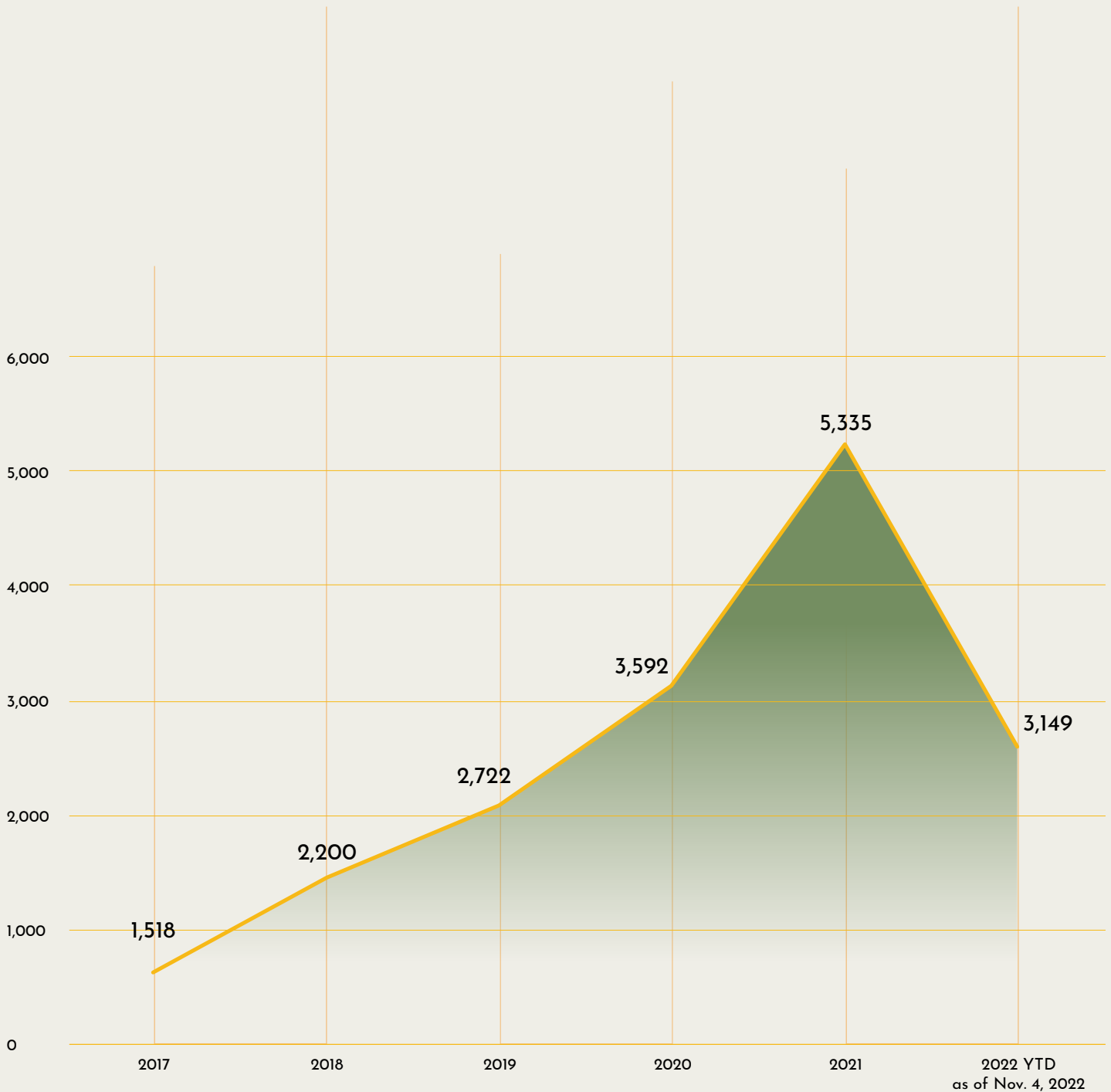
In 2022, the City of Port St. Lucie was on track to reflect about the same amount of building permits as we saw in 2020. Staff believes that 2021 building permit numbers were a unique spike.



Building Department

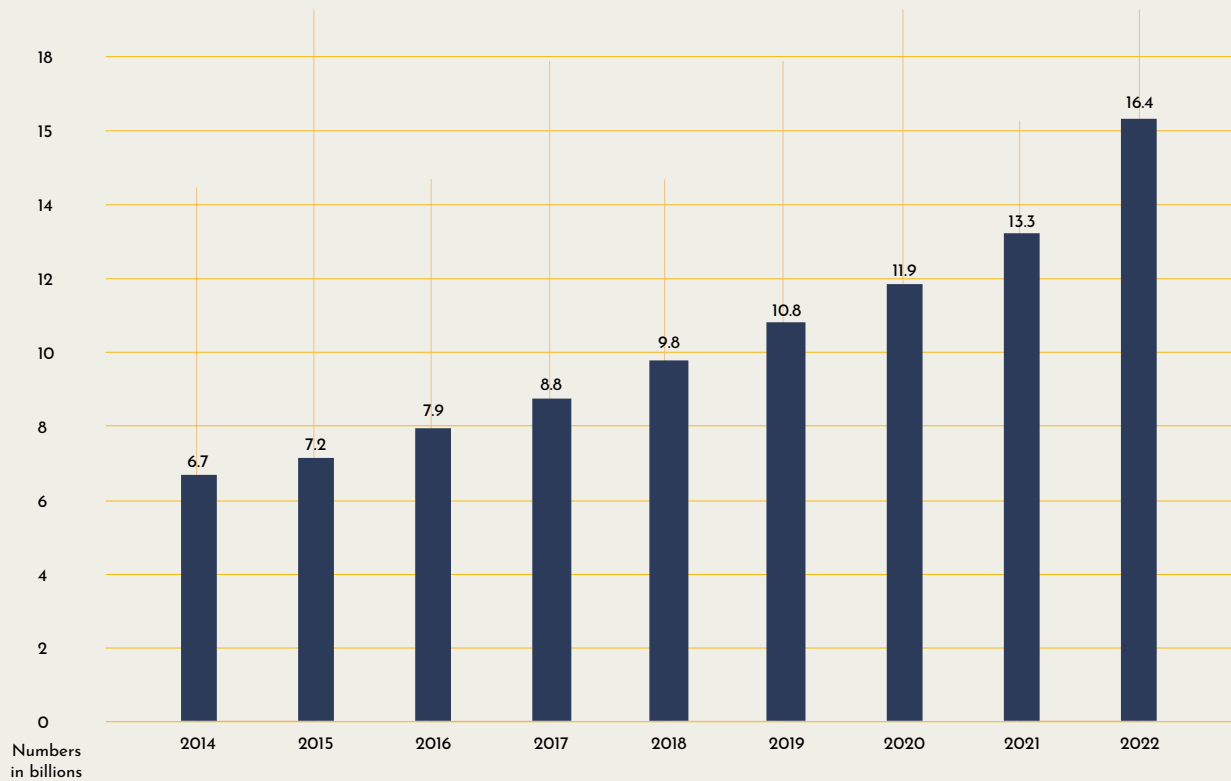
Single-family Permits Issued

With single family permits, we are closer to 2020s numbers, rather than 2021. This indicates growth will slow down, but not stop.



Taxable Value Trends

The tax base increased by 23% over the final adjusted value, because of increased growth and property appreciation, from \$13.4 billion to FY 21/22 \$16.4 billion as on the July 2022 estimate.



Approved vs. Built Residential Units

In the entire city, there are 139,784 approved residential units. Of those, nearly 50,000 have yet to be built. These are not only in our western areas, like Tradition and St. Lucie West, but about 12,000 are in the original, platted areas of PSL.



139,784 Approved units

50,193 Remaining units to be built



79,833 Built single-family units

9,758 Built multi-family units

89,591 Total built units

Buzz Lists



US News and World Report:

- #2 in safest places to live in the U.S.
- #7 in fastest growing places
- #8 in best places to live in Florida
- #22 in best places to retire
- #78 in best places to live in the U.S.



Smart Asset:

- #5 city where young residents are buying homes
- #11 in top boomtowns in America



Patch:

- #6 city in Florida with most new businesses



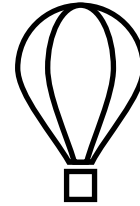
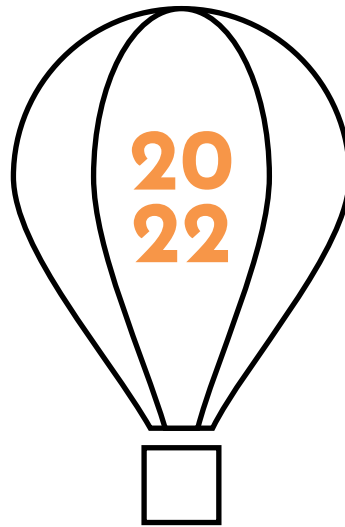
WalletHub:

- #15 in U.S. among best real estate markets



Realtor.com:

- #6 most affordable place to retire in America



Facilities Maintenance



47 Projects managed



2,391 Work orders completed

Neighborhood Services

86% of residents rate their quality of life in their neighborhood positively

98.56% Building inspections & permits processed within timelines

9 Working days on average to process single-family permits

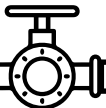
Building Department

Public Works Department



45.95 Repaved miles

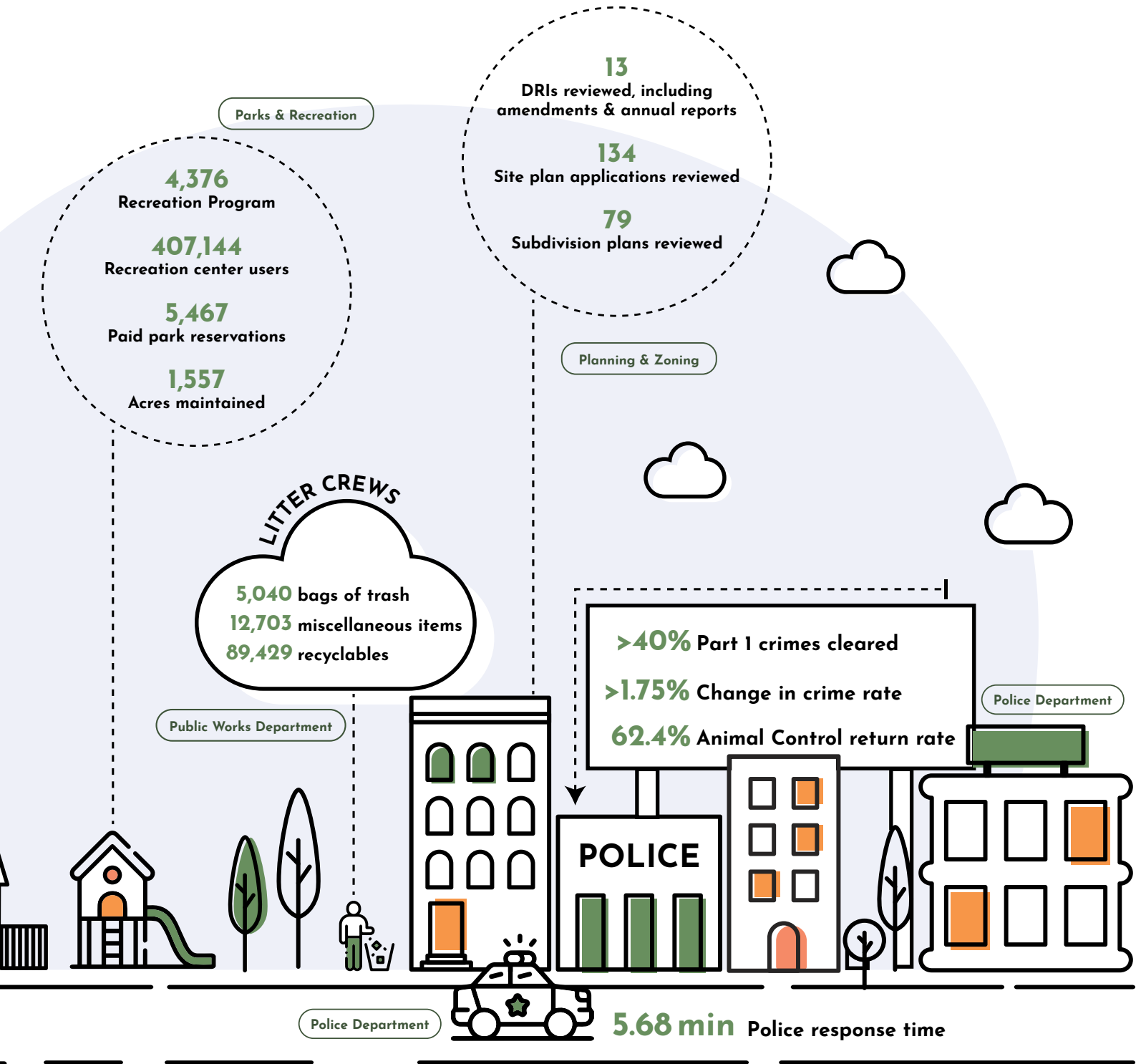
4.9 Sidewalk miles



95%

Completion rate on preventative maintenance

Utility Systems



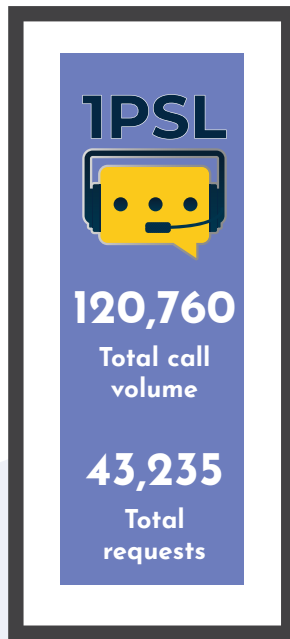
Septic to Sewer Conversions

2,427 New construction installations

616 Conversions

Utility Systems

More than 20 billion gallons of wastewater has been diverted to wastewater treatment facilities.



Communications

174,754
Social media followers

250
New releases

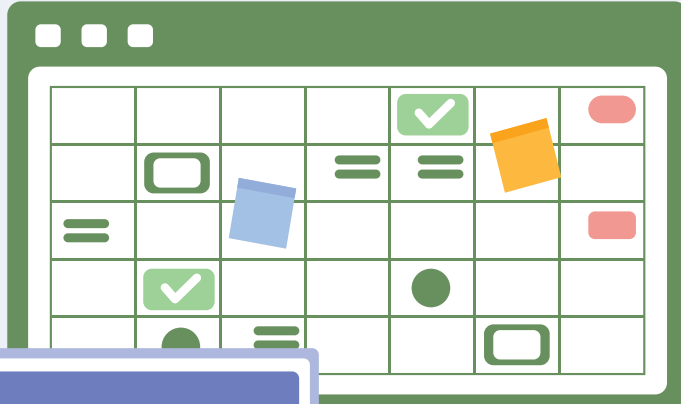
185
Videos produced

4,000 Emails
300 Live chats
100% New construction applications online
75,000 Electronic payments

Utility Systems
Customer Service

2,545 Devices
10,135 Support requests
>90% IT Services

IT Department



310 Board & committee meetings attended

278 Ordinances & resolutions executed

85 Citizen applications processed for City Boards & Committees

25 Police officers sworn to serve

6,517
Public Records
requests processed

Clerks Office

Office of Management & Budget

30 Days between budget adoption and final budget document published

120 Number of bids/solicitations issued

81% Employees rating services as overall excellent or good

90%

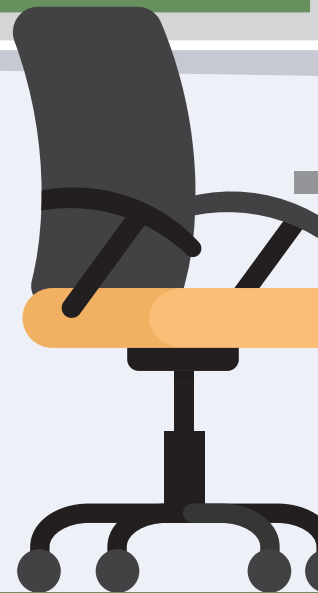
Employees values
match the City.

Human Resources

72,467
'Water Cooler' internal
employee website visits.

90%

Employees
recommend
working for
the City




Stewardship

Clerk's Office expands digital footprint

Accessing digital information about public meetings has never been easier in Port St. Lucie. The Clerk's Office's electronic agenda software, Legistar, expanded its services in 2022 with the addition of Boards and Committees moving from paper creation to electronic. Board members also now review their agenda items electronically, eliminating the need for paper copies. This saves the City nearly \$38,000 in supply costs annually.

To provide exceptional municipal services, the City Clerk's Office also acquired a new feature called "Send Agenda" at no cost to the City. This feature allows residents to receive meeting agendas delivered directly to their email accounts without having to navigate multiple websites.


Activity on the Clerk's public facing web portal has skyrocketed to 1.3 million views in fiscal year 2021/22. This over 70% increase from the previous year shows the outreach to the public has been effective and supports the City's goal to be a High Performing Government Organization. 




Don't be baffled by these boxes that enhance water quality

The City of Port St Lucie installed “baffle boxes” at various ends of the stormwater management systems throughout the city. Before this stormwater runoff reaches the St. Lucie River, it enters through these boxes, which capture pollutants and sediment within a series of settling chambers separated by baffles. Now that the baffle boxes are in place, city has developed a monitoring plan to collect and analyze the sediment captured within the baffle boxes for dissolved nutrients, such as Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorous. This will give the City an idea of how much pollution is being prevented from entering the St. Lucie River and help track and improve the


city's environmental impact.

In addition to the baffle boxes, Public Works staff conducts a water quality sampling project on key waterways across the city on a bimonthly basis. This is done to assess the condition of the water leaving the city through the stormwater system before it enters the St Lucie River. The sampling project tests for many important indicators of water quality such as Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, Turbidity, Dissolved Oxygen, pH, and bacterial levels. These water quality results are then submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. — 

Hogpen Slough in eastern PSL to gain new amenity sustain


Hog Pen Slough is a unique natural feature that has tremendous benefits to the surrounding area, including stormwater, environmental, and wildlife benefits. It is located east of U.S. 1 and just south of Village Green Drive. While gathering public feedback about a new master plan for Village Green Drive, survey respondents overwhelmingly supported the idea of an elevated boardwalk through Hog Pen Slough by more than 90%. After the successful adoption of the Village Green Drive Corridor Master Plan in 2021, the City engaged MARLIN Engineering, Inc., to provide design and permitting services for the Hogpen Slough Trail Boardwalk and Shared Use Paths. As part of the scope, MARLIN will be responsible for designing and permitting more than 1.2 miles of boardwalk within the slough. The Hogpen Slough has long been targeted as an opportunity to improve stormwater, so being able to couple a recreational amenity with an infrastructure component of the City's strategic plan trends toward a win-win for the residents of Port St. Lucie. — 

Street sweeping surpasses annual goal

Street Sweeping is a very important City service. It not only helps keep streets looking beautiful, but it provides a water quality benefit by removing sediment that carry pollutants to natural waterways. In 2022, the Public Works Department's target was to sweep 6,250 miles. The department's drainage division exceeded the target with 6,542. In addition, the City of Port St Lucie maintains a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). This permit program works to address water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States miles. The City's street sweeping accomplishments are an important part of the information that is reported as a requirement of the permit. — 



New Sagamore Stormwater Treatment Area helps water quality in St. Lucie River

The City's stormwater projects not only protect our neighborhoods from flooding events, but they also play a role in protecting the quality of water in our natural waterways. In August 2022, the City's Public Works Department completed the construction of the Sagamore Stormwater Treatment Area (STA), which will help enhance water quality before it reaches the St. Lucie River. The Sagamore East (approximately 5 acres) and West (approximately 4 acres) STAs receive water runoff from the 293-acre Sagamore basin area. The STAs consist of deep-water lakes and shallow water-planted wetlands. These provide storage and water quality treatment for the surrounding upstream areas. — 





St. Lucie River/C-23 Water Quality Project advances

Even though the full project is still under construction, Port St. Lucie's largest strategic project aimed at protecting both our rivers and future water supply is already proving its worth. The St. Lucie River/C-23 Water Quality Project at McCarty Ranch held back more than 1.7 billion gallons of water in 2022, including rainfall and water pumped from the C-23 Canal. This is nutrient-laden water that will never reach the St. Lucie River.

The City's Utility Systems Department will continue to pursue all funding opportunities to advance this Council strategic priority. This water quality storage/treatment project is taking approximately 1,871 acres of fallow citrus grove and a 315-acre water impoundment, located at McCarty Ranch Preserve, and converting them to a shallow water storage facility consisting of seven reservoirs capable of receiving water diverted from the C-23 Canal.

More than 42.3 billion gallons of water flow annually into the North Fork of the St. Lucie River from the C-23 Canal. This project is anticipated to keep up to 21% of excess freshwater C-23 Canal discharges from entering the North Fork of the St. Lucie River.


Construction of Area 4 of the project began in October 2021 and is anticipated to be completed by December 2022. Areas 5 and 6 went out to bid for construction in October 2022. Construction is anticipated to be completed by June 2023. Area 7A received \$416,875 for design through legislative appropriations, and its design began in December 2022. 





Improvements at Westport facility to benefit St. Lucie River

The City is investing \$30 million in improvements to the Westport Wastewater Treatment Facility that will remove more nitrogen and phosphorous, which can pollute our natural waterways, from nearly 6 million gallons a day of wastewater. New treatment standards were established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for domestic wastewater effluent or reclaimed water that may flow into the St. Lucie River and Estuary. Nitrogen and phosphorous are responsible for harmful algae blooms and

pollution of the river. The City of Port St. Lucie has planned the construction of new treatment processes to achieve the reduction of these pollutants. These improvements include new process equipment and modifications to the headworks, aeration basins, filters, miscellaneous piping, and upgrading the electrical power distribution system, instrumentation, and process control upgrades. When completed in 2025, the treatment plant will be a more energy efficient system with high quality reclaimed water used for irrigation. – 



Adopt A Street celebrates 30 years with an Appreciation Breakfast

For three decades, Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful's (KPSLB) Adopt-a-Street (AAS) volunteers have played a pivotal role in helping keep our City clean. A special breakfast marking the program's 30th anniversary and recognizing these extraordinary volunteers who make a meaningful difference in our community took place Saturday, July 30, 2022 at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center.

Almost 200 guests were in attendance, and each volunteer was gifted with a special star key chain with a poem. The honorees were recognized for their contributions, praised for their time, talent and voice in keeping their city beautiful. These volunteers make a huge difference in the community. In fact, the volunteers collected more than 60,965 pounds (3,048 bags) of trash in 2021. –



Positive change

Future of solid waste collection in PSL built on teamwork

In 2022, the City of Port St. Lucie underwent a monumental solid waste transition, switching from its previous solid waste hauler to FCC Environmental Services LLC (FCC) in a matter of six months. A change from one waste hauler to another typically takes at least 18 months to procure, plan and carry out. It took an immense amount of teamwork from staff in several City departments to facilitate the transition to FCC in this extremely compressed timeframe – and to help restore consistent and reliable solid waste collection services for PSL.

A transition of this magnitude required the highest level of attention, which is why, at the direction of the City Manager, the Solid Waste Working Group was formed. As a cross-departmental collaboration between the City's Neighborhood Services, Office of Management & Budget, City Attorney's Office, Communications, Finance, City Manager's Office and Public Works Department, the Working Group created several key priorities that would remedy the solid waste situation that was worsening by the day.

The average 18-month procurement timeline for solid waste collection services was condensed to two months. On May 18, 2022, the City Council approved a contract with FCC to begin in September 2022. The urgency of this purchase was a result of the former contractor's decision to terminate its contract 3 years early, while providing the City only six months' notice of its last day of service. With the collaboration of many City employees and external stakeholders, the City team was able to condense the procurement timeline while adhering to all state and local policies and procedures and following procurement best practices.

Meanwhile, the Working Group prioritized up-to-date and accurate communication to residents. These messages were published on a diverse array of platforms, through the Communications Department, including social media, mailers, videos, constant website updates, press releases and stories in the local media, television and radio ads, graphics and banners, phone calls and texts and two in-person solid waste open houses. The City's IPSL customer service call takers fielded thousands of phone calls and service requests from residents.



Working on another front, the City Attorney's Office pursued a lawsuit against the previous solid waste hauler in an effort to make sure it provided service through the end of the contract. The lawsuit also aims to recover monetary damages to recoup costs for supplemental services needed because of previous hauler's poor service. That lawsuit was still ongoing at the end of 2022.

On the operations side, when service levels declined to the point where residents were missed for weeks at a time, the City's Neighborhood Services team took several steps to restore minimum service levels. The department managed three outside agencies that collected bulk waste and yard waste at a time where both were being neglected by the previous hauler. Both Neighborhood Services and the Public Works Department facilitated the collection of garbage by City forces using several leased rear-load vehicles. Parks & Recreation's staff also stepped up to assist with those collection efforts.

Neighborhood Services also made several upgrades to the City's Cameo Boulevard voluntary drop-off site or accommodate unlimited bulk waste, yard waste, and recycling drop offs seven days a week. In addition to this, Neighborhood Services staff conducted daily route inspections to verify how many residents the failing contractor left uncollected. They also oversaw the program to deliver a new garbage cart to every single-family home customer in Port St. Lucie. Administrative Code staff also were heavily involved in organizing contracts and documenting financial information, assisting in answering phone calls from residents and preparing the legal justification for the fines assessed to the previous solid waste contractor.

The City's Information Technology department also was critical in helping create new interactive maps where residents could easily find their new service dates. They also worked with Neighborhood Service to create an application that allowed residents to choose the size of their new garbage cart.


In November 2022, the City created an Office of Solid Waste with a new director and dedicated staff, whose sole responsibility is to monitor and enforce the new solid waste contract and educate residents about their solid waste service.

The City will work throughout 2023 to continue to engage residents on proper cart placement, bulk waste size restrictions, yard waste placement, recycling and other aspects of the new service with FCC. Staff also will work with FCC Environmental to ensure they become an active stakeholder in our community.



Business Support

State grant to aid PSL's small businesses

The Department of Economic Opportunity awarded the City of Port St. Lucie \$423,707 through its Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Program to assist businesses impacted by the pandemic. Eligible companies must be located in low-to-moderate income census tracts, or the business owner's household income must qualify as low to moderate income. The small business grant program will provide up to \$10,000 to eligible businesses based on employment size. . 



Programs aim to support local, small business community

Supporting the small business community is a key ingredient in furthering the City's Strategic Plan. The City facilitates monthly small business development meetings with City staff and other agencies to help further community outreach and support for PSL's small businesses. In 2022, the City also supported its small businesses through:


- The Port St. Lucie Business Accelerator Program, which is a partnership with Indian River State College, the Small Business Development Center and South State Bank. Thirty participants graduated from the Business Accelerator Program in the Spring 2022. As a result, \$45,000 in small business grants were awarded to ten businesses. In the fall, 31 businesses participated, which allowed 8 companies to apply for \$40,000 in small business grants.
- Before You Sign the Lease, a free quarterly lunch and learn program, was attended by more than 50 businesses in 2022. The sessions offer companies a toolkit of resources for understanding the City's regulatory requirements when starting a business. Attendees learned from workshop presenters, including the St. Lucie Chamber of Commerce, Business Tax Division, Planning & Zoning Department, Building Department, and Office of Economic Development. Additionally, we thank workshop sponsors Engineering, Design and Construction Inc. and Colliers International for their collaboration.

Evolution in Action: Companies keep investing in PSL's Jobs Corridor

	ACRES	PURCHASE PRICE	ASSESMENTS
SOLD - FY 18/19	10.55	\$474,661.93	\$128,245.10
SOLD - FY 19/20	24.42	\$5,690,420.00	\$77,771.49
SOLD - FY 20/21	165.48	\$13,844,778.54	\$639,371.24
SOLD - FY 21/22	25.23	\$6,050,000.00	\$124,200.00
TOTAL SOLD	225.68	\$26,059,860.47	\$969,587.83
PENDING/ OPTIONS	344.25	\$33,183,493.95	\$1,807,826.08
CIVIC/SCHOOL/ FIRE	64.86	\$0	\$0
BALANCE REMAINING	324.48	TBD	\$1,938,380.82
TOTAL	959.27		\$4,715,794.73

Known as Port St. Lucie's jobs corridor, Southern Grove, is key to fulfilling the City's strategic goal to create a diverse economy and employment opportunities. Southern Grove in Tradition is part of encompasses the land to the east and west of Village Parkway, south of Tradition Parkway and north of the Martin County line by Becker Road. This land is approved for a mix of uses, including research and development, industrial, commercial and multi-family residential units. The City acquired 1,200 acres of Southern Grove in 2018 and our

leaders and staff have worked hard over the past six years to attract national companies to bring high-paying jobs to PSL. Development in Legacy Park and other parcels in Southern Grove have resulted in more than 5 million square feet in current and future economic development projects.

This year, the Sansone Group continued building their "legacy" in Legacy Park at Tradition, exercising multiple options of their purchase agreement. — 



- Amazon occupancy in Legacy Park.



- Traditions Commerce Park is nestled south of TAMCO/City Electric and Accel, between Tom Mackie Blvd and Interstate 95. This 40-acre tract is slated for 622,000 square feet of Class A manufacturing, distribution and office facilities.



- Accel International Holdings, Inc., a wire and cable manufacturer, has selected Port St. Lucie's Tradition Center for Commerce for its southeast Florida expansion. Accel's newest facility should be complete in early 2023. Situated on 10 acres, the facility will manufacture high performance cables, wires and conductors serving the aerospace, medical, industrial and telecommunications marketplace with silver, nickel- and tin-plated copper and copper alloy products.



- In 2022, Cheney Brothers, Inc., officially broke ground on their newest distribution center in Port St. Lucie's Jobs Corridor! The \$55-million facility set to bring hundreds of new jobs to the area and estimated wages per employee will exceed \$55,000, plus benefits, reflecting approximately 35% higher than St. Lucie County's average wage. Cheney Brothers is a fourth-generation family owned broadline food distributor, which was founded in West Palm Beach in 1925. Their new state-of-the-art distribution center will be constructed in Legacy Park fronting Interstate 95, located north of the FedEx facility.



- The new OCULUS Surgical facility broke ground in 2022! Though a longstanding business in Port St. Lucie, OCULUS committed in 2020 to relocating to the Tradition Center for Commerce in Southern Grove to expand their operations. They acquired 10 acres of land to construct a manufacturing, distribution, sales and service facility, with the ability for future expansion on the site. The new facility results in the creation new jobs, as well. As a leader in the ophthalmic surgical market, OCULUS Surgical has made advancements in wide angle viewing and new, innovative tools for today's ophthalmic surgeon.




- In 2022, the City closed on a transaction with Warehomes Precision LLC. Based out of Miami, Warehomes' portfolio consists of manufacturing and industrial buildings, retail destinations, mixed-use properties, multi-family residential and hotels. The 25.25 acre site is located in the Tradition Center for Commerce along the east side of Village Parkway, just south of Discovery Way. Warehomes plans on developing approximately 400,000 square feet of speculative and build-to-suit Class A manufacturing, distribution and flex space.

A tale of two Amazons

Amazon has made significant investments in the City of Port St. Lucie with two major facilities, which will bring hundreds of jobs, to both Southern Grove in Tradition and the Midway Business Park in the northern part of the City. Construction was in full swing on both facilities throughout 2022.

Amazon will operate a traditional non-sortable fulfillment center in a 1.1-million-square-foot building on 110 acres at Midway Business Park on West Midway Road, near the Interstate 95 ramps. Employees in the retailer's non-sortable centers pick, pack, and ship bulky or larger-sized customer items, such as sports equipment, patio furniture, fishing rods, pet food, kayaks, bicycles, and larger household goods. Distribution to individual homes will not be made directly from the center, which is considered a "first-mile" facility. This facility will bring 500 full-time jobs to PSL. It is expected to open by March 2023.

Meanwhile, construction is underway at Amazon's second PSL facility in Legacy Park at Tradition. This one is a 220,000-square-foot delivery station that plans to hire 200 full-time workers to prepare customer orders for "last-mile" delivery within 45 miles. This facility also is expected to open its doors in 2023.

Nationwide, Amazon offers a starting wage of \$15 per hour and provides comprehensive benefits starting day one on the job. The company also offers an innovative Career Choice program which pays 95% of tuition and fees (up to a yearly maximum) towards a certificate or diploma in qualified fields of study, leading to in-demand jobs. — 

PSL's Midway Business Park also sees economic evolution

Amazon isn't the only new business coming to the Midway Business Park. Two other companies announced plans in 2022 to invest in northern Port St. Lucie.

- Galleria Farms, a company that imports and distributes premium fresh-cut flowers, plans to build a 70,000-square-foot building with refrigerated space and office space. This project is expected to create 210 new jobs. Galleria Farms, LLC was founded in 2000 and imports and distributes flowers and perishables grown on their farms in Columbia, Ecuador and South America. The company now operates two warehouses in Miami-Dade County and has 100 employees. The Port St. Lucie location will provide additional storage, repacking and distribution capacity to better serve the region. Galleria Farms plans to make a capital investment of \$12.5 million in Port St. Lucie.
- Total Truck Parts also plans to expand in the Midway Business Park. Total Truck Parts is the leading supplier of commercial vehicle parts and service in Florida. The company plans to add 20 new jobs in addition to its existing 15.






Southern Grove Amazon



Midway Business Park Amazon



Best practices bolster training opportunities


Port St. Lucie's Building Department is one of only four internationally accredited building departments in Florida and only one of 22 building departments in the world that is internationally accredited. The Building Department's staff have proudly taught their best management practices to 35 Florida building departments throughout the U.S. and five departments outside of Florida. — 





Paperless building permits saves money, time

The Building Department is continually working to expand its online permitting system, and the City is about to take another major step toward paperless. Starting January 1, 2023, the Building Department will only accept electronic permit and inspection documents for all residential construction, with the exception of homeowner builder permits. Staff has been working with residential contractors to ensure satisfactory transition to paperless permitting. Paperless permitting eliminates the requirement of the contractor/builder to place approved paper plans on each job site. The building inspector can retrieve the original approved electronic version that is stored in our system.

The City's Building Online Service Portal enables contractors to complete all the steps in the building permit process online, including scheduling inspections and viewing inspections results. Its online permitting platform cuts down on permit review time without sacrificing review standards. The online building permit cost savings will be between \$15 to \$200 for small jobs such as plumbing, electrical, fences, windows and roofs. For large construction projects, the reduction can add up to tens of thousands of dollars, making Port St. Lucie one of the most affordable cities for developers and builders. — 



Engagement & Education

Ice cream socials, Barbecues and a Movie Night – that's NICE!

This year's NICE Neighborhood Meetings and engagement activities brought our neighborhoods outdoors. NICE hosted networking and informational meetings with Public Works, Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Communications, the MIDFLORIDA Events Center, and the Boys and Girls Club. In the City's beautiful parks, free ice cream, hamburgers and hot dogs were distributed. Topping it off, residents were invited to the first movie night! Families watched the adventure film, *The Polar Express* under the stars and enjoyed free popcorn and Kona Ice shaved ice cups. —




Community

NICE Program recognizes neighbors who make a difference

The Neighborhood Improvement and Community Engagement (NICE) Recognition Program celebrates the vibrant, diverse neighborhoods that contribute to Port St. Lucie's unique charm. It also recognizes those who make a difference in our overall community. Residents were encouraged to nominate neighbors, agencies, or groups for each available award category. The 2021 NICE Recognition Award recipients were:

- NICE Contributor of the Year: Gary Smith
- NICE Outstanding Neighbor of the Year: John Lomba
- NICE Outstanding Neighborhood of the Year: Tradition
- NICE Community Involvement Award: The Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County (CSCSLC)

Congratulations to these winners for being integral members of our community. We look forward to seeing who will join them as NICE recipients in 2023! – 

Hundreds share feedback during Citizen Summit events

The City's annual Citizen Summit allows residents to receive in-depth information about the City's Strategic Plan and to provide input on the plan's seven goals. Participants are encouraged to share their thoughts and feedback to help shape PSL's future. In 2022, to garner as much feedback as possible, Communications and the City Manager's Office worked together for weeks to plan two events, one virtually and one in person.

More than 75 residents participated Feb. 3 in the virtual summit via Zoom, which also was streamed live from the City's Facebook page. Communications Director Sarah Prohaska and Strategic Initiatives & Innovation Director Kate Parmelee co-hosted the event in City


Council Chambers. More than 30 project managers were on hand to answer residents' questions, which ranged from traffic-calming measures and streetlights to public art and taxes. Participants also answered poll questions about each Strategic Goal and also had the opportunity to win prizes playing trivia.

Over 100 residents braved windy conditions Feb. 5 and strolled along the Strategic Plan Exploration Trail, set up in front of the MIDFLORIDA Credit Union Event Center, to learn about the plan and its seven goals. Booths were set up along the trail and manned by City staffers, who were available to answer questions. Residents used stickers to identify projects most important to them and their families. Participants also were given a roadmap corresponding to the seven goals, which they used to write down ideas about where taxpayer dollars should be spent. Those who participated in the virtual and in-person events received a 2022-2023 wall calendar, full of upcoming events and beautiful photos from throughout the City.

We look forward to returning to one in-person Citizen Summit on February 18, 2023 at the Port St. Lucie Community Center. — 



Increased engagement aims to help citizens better understand PSL's budget


Budgets can be daunting to those who don't look at them on a regular basis. But the Office of Management and Budget wants to make PSL's budget as assessable, understandable and relatable as possible. That's why the office initiated a community and budget engagement strategy at the 2022 Citizens' Summit. OMB facilitated an exercise in partnership with the Citizen Summit Team that allowed residents to spend "PSL Bucks." Residents were provided \$100 and asked where one would like to invest their tax dollars. More than 100 people participated in the budget engagement. About half of the spending supported the City Council's Strategic Goal for expanding recreational and cultural opportunities. Staff plans to expand its citizen engagement activities regarding the City's budget in 2023 with a new tool called Balancing Act. Be on the lookout for these engagement opportunities in the new year! — 



Boys & Girls Club goes “Mobile” in PSL



Nearly 2,000 students participated in the Boys & Girls Mobile Club thanks to a collaboration between the City of Port St. Lucie's Neighborhood Services Department and the Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County. The Mobile Club provided children who didn't have access to a Boys & Girls Club in their neighborhood a chance to connect to fun, life-enriching programs, unique experiences and tutoring with certified teachers in the City's terrific parks. Free food and snacks were provided to students who participate.

The City Council approved the allocating some of its program income from its long-standing Community Development Block Grant Program awarded by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to create a Mobile Club by Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County. The program will be continued next year. "Thanks to the amazing support from the City, many more children will be able to experience Boys & Girls Club programs like S.T.E.A.M. activities, brain games, and, of course, fun!" said Will Armstead, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County. — 




Gold Star family receives keys to new, payment-free, forgivable mortgage home

Gene and Kathi Sandburg, parents of fallen Petty Officer Brendon Sandburg, received keys to their newly constructed home in July 2022 thanks to the City of Port St. Lucie's Gold Star Family Home Giveaway – a public-private partnership that aims to make PSL a hometown for heroes.

Representatives from GL HOMES, St. Lucie County Veteran Services, Congressman Brian Mast's office, Believe with Me Foundation and the City of Port St. Lucie welcomed Gene and Kathi to their new home with a payment-free, 25-year forgivable mortgage. Coordinated by the Neighborhood Services Department, GL HOMES will build the 2,435-square-foot home. The City donated the lot to the selected family which was vetted through St. Lucie County's Veterans Service Division.

"Partnerships like this are rare, and the City is incredibly fortunate to be in the position to offer a second home to another local Gold Star Family who made the ultimate sacrifice," said Carmen Capezzuto, Port St. Lucie's Neighborhood Services Director. "Thanks to GL Homes, the City Council and team can extend the American dream of homeownership to the Sandburg family, an amazing couple, who have been so humble and gracious throughout this lengthy process."


In 2021, the City worked with Synergy Homes to offer a similar home to another Gold Star Family. – 



Code education essential to a safe and healthy city

Educating the community about the City's code ordinance is one of the best ways to prevent violations from occurring or reoccurring. With that in mind, the City Code Compliance Division created innovative, new ways to garner more favorable results on behalf of the property owner and the community as a whole.

The Division, in collaboration with the Communications Department, developed a proactive video series called "Know Your Codes." In less than two minutes, City code officers provide solutions on how to remedy common code violations. The first episode highlighted how residents can avoid parking violations and the second explains why a resident should remove their hurricane shutters after a storm.

Another proactive education tool is providing first-time violators informative warnings and handouts on how to remedy violations. The goal is to increase compliance and decrease the number of phone calls it takes for a resident to understand their case. In addition, the Division is increasing its presence at City events, HOA meetings, and neighborhood meetings to discuss code-related inquiries in a more informal atmosphere and foster more community dialogue. To reinforce the message, the Division plans on disseminating code-related promotional items. – 



Port St. Lucie lights up the holiday season



Beginning Wednesday, Nov. 23, more than 200,000 LEDs will illuminate Port St. Lucie from dusk to dawn until Jan. 1, but the holiday cheer doesn't end there.

The City has planned family-friendly activities throughout the season, including dazzling lights and displays, a destination photo-op contest, a PSLinLights Holiday Special, a residential outdoor holiday-decorating contest, a searchable holiday lights map and nine festive events. For the ultimate list of Port St. Lucie's holiday light displays and events visit www.CityofPSL.com/PSLinLights.

Residents are invited to engage with us this holiday season in the following festive ways:



PSL photo-op contest

Eleven holiday-themed photo-op displays will pop up throughout Port St. Lucie, and residents are encouraged to take a family portrait or snap a selfie and send it to PSLCommunications@CityofPSL.com beginning Wednesday, Nov. 23 through Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023, for a chance to win \$150 in prizes. Winners will be announced on Friday, Jan. 6, 2023.

PSLinLights Party on Friday, Dec. 16 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Contestants with festive and unique light displays will be featured on the big screen at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center. The dazzling night includes a festive pet costume contest, live music and dance performances, children's activities, food trucks, cookies, cocoa and candy canes (while supplies last), and photos with Santa himself! Presented by the City of Port St. Lucie and St. Lucie Cultural Alliance and admission is free.

PSLinLights residential outdoor holiday-decorating contest

City elves have been working hard to spread holiday cheer and now they're challenging residents to untangle their lights, pull out the inflatables and start decorating for the seventh annual PSLinLights Holiday Lights Contest. This outdoor holiday-decorating contest is a festive way to demonstrate community pride and light up the holiday season. Residents can sign up from Tuesday, Nov. 22 to Sunday, Jan. 1 at www.CityofPSL.com/PSLinLights. The best part: it's free to enter for a chance to win \$500 in prizes. Winners will be announced on Friday, Jan. 6, 2023.

Once residents string their lights, deck the halls and enter into PSLinLights residential outdoor holiday-decorating contest, they become the shining stars for our entire community to enjoy in our PSLinLights holiday campaign:

PSL holiday lights map

When holiday lights enthusiasts register their homes in the contest, the City adds the display information into a searchable database, creating a must-see holiday lights display list with photos and a map. The holiday lights map can be used by the entire community to create their holiday lights tour of the City.

Festive Pet Contest at the PSLinLights Party

Pet owners are invited to bring their friendly pet, dressed in their holiday best to the MIDFLORIDA Event Center and walk in the pet parade on Friday, Dec. 16 at 8:30 p.m. Each pet (and its owner) will strut its stuff, and judges will vote on the most festive pet. Winners will be announced at the event.


PSLinLights Holiday Special on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m.

Contestants with the most festive and over-the-top holiday light displays will be featured on Facebook and PSLTV. Throughout the show, viewers also can win \$25 gift cards during a live trivia contest! PSLTV is available on AT&T UVerse (Channel 99), Comcast (Channel 20) and Blue Stream Fiber (Channel 20). To be eligible for the PSLinLights Facebook live holiday lights event, contestants must enter their home into the PSLinLights residential outdoor holiday-decorating contest by 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, 2022.

For contest rules and entry information, visit www.CityofPSL.com/PSLinLights.



Water Woman splashes onto the scene

Utility Systems' newest edition to its education program wears blue shiny pants and teaches kids about the wonders of water and sewer—it's Water Woman! Also known as Jenny Tomes, Assistant Manager of Utility Outreach, Water Woman has her own stickers and activity book. She presented to nearly 1,000 kids in 2022 and represented Utility Systems at three different community events that garnered more than 10,000 attendees. She teaches kids about the importance of saving and protecting our water resources, plus where water comes from and how it's treated. She walks them through the water cycle and the different states of water. They even make their own H₂O molecule models. On average students show 80% learning gains measured in pre and post-tests. Water Woman is currently working on a new activity book, and even more ways to inspire the love of water! — 



Students learn the importance of local government

Nearly 1,000 students participated in Florida City Government Week on Oct. 17-23 along with Mayor Shannon Martin, Councilman David Pickett and 27 Port St. Lucie city staff members. The speakers and panelists taught students about how local government operates, different ways to be engaged in local events, and the importance of voting.

Five presentations were arranged in-person at four schools, including Somerset College Preparatory Academy, Southport Middle School, St. Lucie West K-8 and Tradition Preparatory High. For three of these schools, it was the first in-person assembly since the coronavirus pandemic. The City's goal was to educate students third, seventh, ninth and 10th grades who were studying civics and government about the diverse roles and inner workings of a local government in order to inspire students to get involved in their local democracy and take action in their community. The annual event is sponsored by the Florida League of Cities, the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. —



New Lunch & Learn series “extremely valuable” to residents

The Utility Systems Department launched a new free Lunch & Learn series sponsored by South State Bank in March 2022. Held quarterly at the Port St. Lucie Community Center, each event focused on a different topic to provide residents the opportunity to understand aspects of their water and sewer services. Nearly 50 people attended the events, the majority of which surveyed said the presentations were “extremely valuable.” Their feedback also indicated that they felt the employees who presented were “extremely knowledgeable.” Links to watch each presentation were also made available, and those videos have been viewed more than 1,500 times. The topics included understanding your bill, the water treatment and distribution process, the wastewater collection and treatment process, plus grease interceptors, locating and inspecting underground lines. Utility Systems will host a similar event series in 2023 with new speakers and topics. —


Citizen Scholars Internship Program aims to provide real world experience

The City of Port St. Lucie want to help cultivate our community's next generation of leaders, and its Citizen Scholars Internship Program is one way to achieve that. It provides student interns with invaluable hands-on experience in local government and an opportunity to expand their knowledge in a variety of fields. In partnership with St. Lucie County Schools, the program outlines student eligibility requirements, expectations of student interns and the supervising department. The City of Port St. Lucie is excited to implement this Program and invites student interns to help make a difference in the affairs of local government. Please visit www.CityofPSL.com and search for Citizen Scholars for more information. —

Experiences & Destinations

City Center transformation begins

In March 2022, the City took ownership of the Securities and Exchange Commission Receiver-held parcels at City Center in eastern Port St. Lucie. This acquisition allows for a more comprehensive development vision to be created for this area along U.S. 1. Soon thereafter, the City engaged Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council to facilitate creating a master plan for City Center. With the help of financial consultants and event center analysts, the project team swiftly moved

into a due diligence phase gathering data on the site and from stakeholders and focus groups. After a series of successful online public input surveys over the fall, the first public visioning workshop was held December 7, 2022 at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center. Attendees were given an update on the project findings from the team, but were also provided an opportunity to provide input as to what they envision this destination becoming. Stay tuned -- City leaders look forward to hearing more feedback on how residents envision the future of City Center in 2023 as we build the new master plan. — 




Spectacular Parks Coming Soon!

Partnerships with the private sector have enabled the City to move forward with two new park projects in the Tradition area. Staff in the Parks & Recreation Department were working hard throughout 2022 to prepare for the future Tradition Regional Park and Riverland Paseo Park in Tradition - along with another future regional park in Torino.

The first one to begin construction is Riverland Paseo Park, which will officially break ground in January 2023. The City and GL Homes are working in partnership in creating this public park, complete with a 2-acre dog park for all sizes, softball fields, restrooms, a scoreboard, bleachers and dugouts. This 13-acre park is on the southwest corner of Community Boulevard and Stockton Place. The new park will also be linked to the Paseo multi-use path system for jogging and walking.

Down the road, Mattamy Homes partnered with the City for the 110-acre Tradition Regional Park Phase 1, which will be about a quarter mile from where Tradition Parkway new ends near the Fern Lake roundabout. Design amenities should be finalized, and construction is anticipated to begin in 2023. This will be the City's first large-scale regional park.

In addition to those parks, the City is moving forward with another regional park in Torino. This nearly 200-acre park was previously designed and permitted in 2007 to include lighted ball fields, nature trails, preserve areas, picnic areas, trails, sports courts, dog park among other amenities. Unfortunately, the construction of the park was put on hold due to the Great Recession and the economic climate at the time. But the need for additional recreational amenities in this area did not go away and has been a priority for many years. In 2023, the City will begin working on a new Torino Regional Park Conceptual Master Plan. This will be developed through public and stakeholder engagement sessions, so be on the lookout for opportunities to give us your input on this future park! — 

MIDFLORIDA EVENT CENTER



317 days
of events

127,000
Total Attendance

11,317 Florida Sports Hall
of Fame guests

Concerts



Molly Hatchet/
Fabulous Thunderbirds

Great White/
Blackfoot

Jo Dee Messina/
Tracy Byrd

Little River Band

Foghat



14 New events


- Freestyle Festival
- Treasure Coast Women's Day
- Exotic Bird Expo
- Christmas in July
- Kickin' It United for Kids
- Dexta Daps Concert
- Zen Arts & Music Festival, featuring Tone Loc & Tag Team
- Country Music Tribute Bacon & BBQ Festival
- EDC Leadership Dinner
- Rock N' Roll Tribute Concert
- Urban Music Awards
- Pride Festival
- The Boss Expo
- Health, Wellness & Business Expo

Construction begins in the heart of The Port District

The Port District's riverfront park and playground will soon become a reality after the City Council approved a contract award in June 2022 for the construction to Ferreira Construction, LLC., of Hobe Sound, FL, who brings a multi-disciplined team to this unique project.

Located along the North Fork of the St. Lucie River near Port St. Lucie's Botanical Gardens at the southern end of The Port District, the site formerly known as the Westmoreland Middle Tract, will be enhanced with improved infrastructure, parking, restrooms, event lawn, overwater stage and boardwalk connections, canoe/kayak launch, and upland trails, as well as a pad ready site for a waterfront restaurant. In addition, the Pioneer

Park Playground will include a one-of-a-kind "wow" play experience for visitors, unlike anything on the Treasure Coast. Custom play elements will include sensory play for all levels of physical capabilities, a climbable schooner and alligator, rope climbing structure, water play features, swings and other motion activities, 6-foot chalk wall, sidewalks, landscaping, interpretive and wayfinding signage, safety surfacing, lighting and much more.

Funding for the project is made possible through a combination of Parks Impact Fees, Special Assessment District Revenue, and Reserves. Custom artwork on the site will be partially funded through a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts. — 





Grant to help connect 2 existing trail segments

Trails offer a wide range of community benefits, including improved public health, increased property values and strengthened local economies.

In 2020, 45% of residents ranked the City's paths and walking trails as good or excellent, but these numbers are still lower than benchmarked cities, according to the National Community Survey, which is conducted annually.

As a result, the development of a City-wide trails system has been a key component of the City of Port St. Lucie's 10-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

This year, the City was awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Recreation Trails Program (RTP), which will aid in the construction of two connecting trail segments, Wilderness Trail and The Port Preserve Trails.

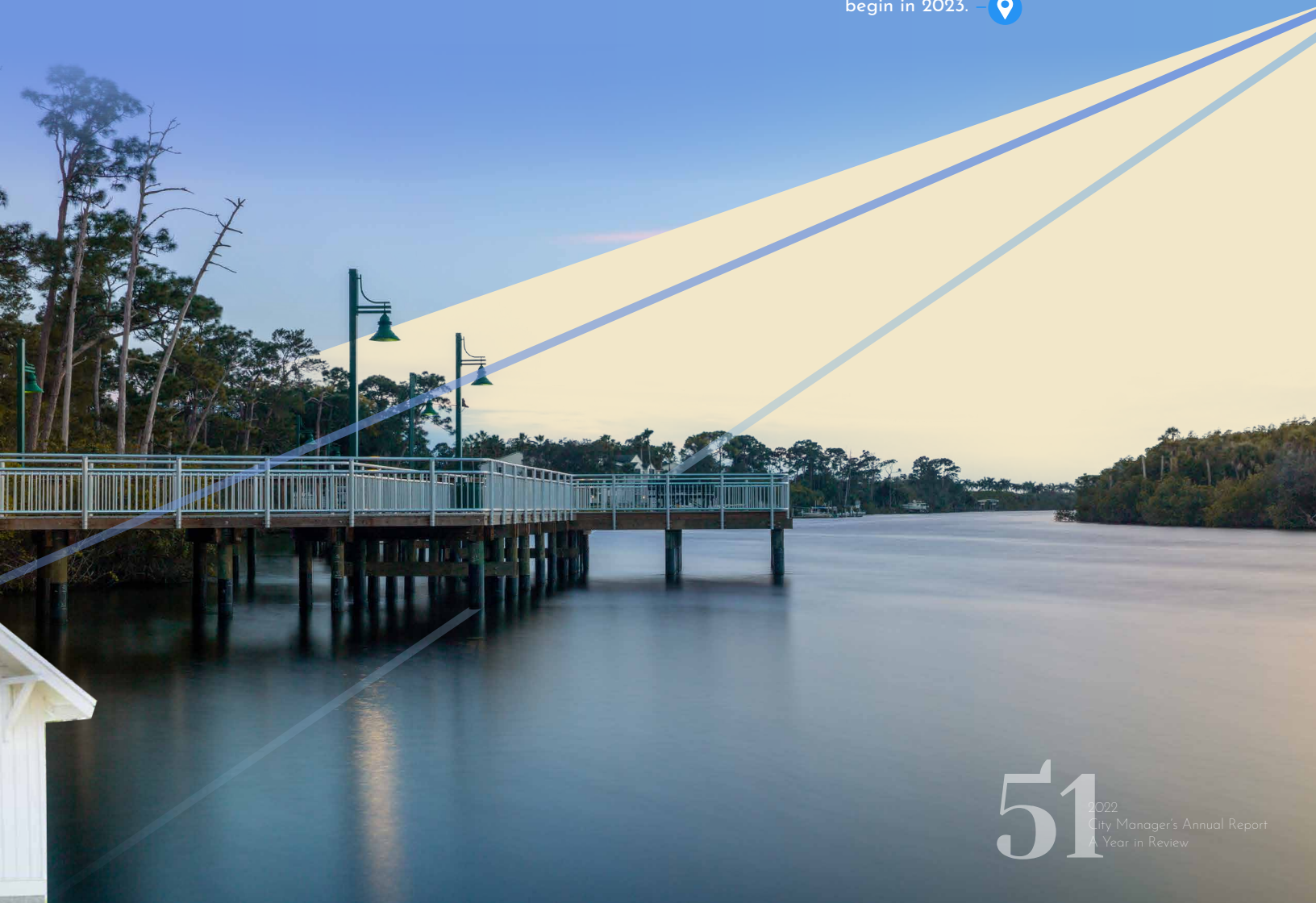
Wilderness Trail is a 1-mile, multi-use path that weaves through Wilderness Park, formerly a golf course. It's gentle terrain and natural habitat will provide an easy way to enjoy open space, view native species and fish from a freshwater lake. The trail will connect with existing sidewalks, starting at SE Morningside Boulevard, navigating through Wilderness Park along SE Cambridge Drive, and terminating at SE Westmoreland Boulevard.

Two crosswalks with curb ramps will provide safe passage across roads. The SE Cambridge Drive/SE Morningside Boulevard crosswalk will provide access to The Saints Golf Course, and the SE Cambridge Drive/SE Westmoreland Boulevard crosswalk will connect the Wilderness Park and Port Preserve trails via a local sidewalk.

The 4/10-mile Preserve Trail at The Port will allow access to a 13-acre conservation tract within The Port District, a park that includes a 2,500-foot riverfront boardwalk with access to the North Fork of the St. Lucie River, an iconic banyan tree, the St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, the historic Peacock House and Peacock Lodge and open green space.

The Port Preserve Trail will commence at SE Westmoreland Boulevard and traverse the conservation tract within the Port District, terminating at the riverfront boardwalk. Nature overlooks on the Port Preserve Trail will enable residents and visitors to witness pristine and undisturbed environment. The trail is intended to raise environmental awareness and promote stewardship of this unique Florida habitat.

Construction of the trails is expected to begin in 2023. —





Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens continues to bloom


The Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens is undergoing several enhancements that will sustain its beauty and continue to attract visitors to this local gem. Renovations should be complete by early 2023.

The most notable upgrades to the 20-acre nature preserve include the installation of a new sidewalk; three ornate gates; synthetic turf around the pond; a 2,000-square-foot concrete pad inside The Secret Garden; an 8-foot-tall ornamental picket fence; and free Wi-Fi.

A whimsical pair of 12-foot-wide rolling chrysanthemum-decorated handmade gates will greet guests as they enter The Gardens, and a stunning 8-foot butterfly-decorated gate will welcome visitors to the Butterfly Garden.

Inside The Secret Garden, a 2,000-square-foot decorative pad with saw cuts to replicate the look of tile also is being installed. These enhancements will create a vibrant space that can be used all year long and will be perfect for larger events.

The Gardens is part of The Port District. The City broke ground Aug. 3 on The Port's Pioneer Park and Playground project, which will include a water play area with a river schooner and a 43-foot-long faux alligator. The Port is expected to be a regional cultural destination and will include a riverfront stage, general event open space, public seating area, historic homes, a waterfront restaurant and paved parking.

The Botanical Gardens is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. — 



Saints Golf Course Continues to Bring its ‘A’ game

The Saints had a fantastic year with a record \$2,261,864 in revenue while supporting 64,273 rounds of play. The Saints has been a pillar of the golf community for decades and offers excellent opportunities for men and women of all ages. As a result, The Saints Golf Course was selected again as TCPalm’s 2022 Best of the Best Treasure Coast contest winner in the Sports and Fitness Category. Sponsored by TCPalm and Treasure Coast Newspapers, the Official Community Choice Awards recognizes the best our tri-county area has to offer.

In October 2022, the Saints hosted the popular City Golf Championship for amateurs 16 years and older. A premier ladies’ golf association also plays weekly at the golf course. In addition, junior golf programs for ages 7 to 17 are available throughout the year. For an extra treat, visitors swing by The Saints Pub after a round of golf, dine in and enjoy live music.



DRAFT – NOT FINAL

Special Events



Port St. Lucie
**PARKS &
RECREATION**





Oktoberfest



Fall Fun Fest



Festival of Lights



Bonfire Hayride



Freedomfest



Harvest in the Preserve



Eggstravaganza



River Nights



Winter Wonderland Lights Show



Mobility

City finishes first phase of Floresta Drive improvement

One of the most visible examples of how Port St. Lucie has evolved in 2022 is Floresta Drive. Changes to the Floresta corridor had been discussed for many years, and in 2017 the City Council approved a major improvement master plan after listening to much feedback and input from citizens. Thanks to the voters of St. Lucie County and the City of Port St. Lucie, the half-cent sales tax voter referendum was approved on November 6, 2018, which provided a source of funds for this project, and construction began in 2020.

The Floresta Drive project passed a major milestone in 2022 with the completion of the first phase from Southbend Boulevard to the Elkcarn Waterway. This phase provides residents with a beautiful, two-lane corridor with sidewalks that facilitates safe and efficient traffic flow and enhances pedestrian and bicycle movements. Construction has begun on the second phase of the project from the Elkcarn Waterway to Crosstown Parkway, and is expected to take about two years to complete.


The overall goals of the entire Floresta project are to:

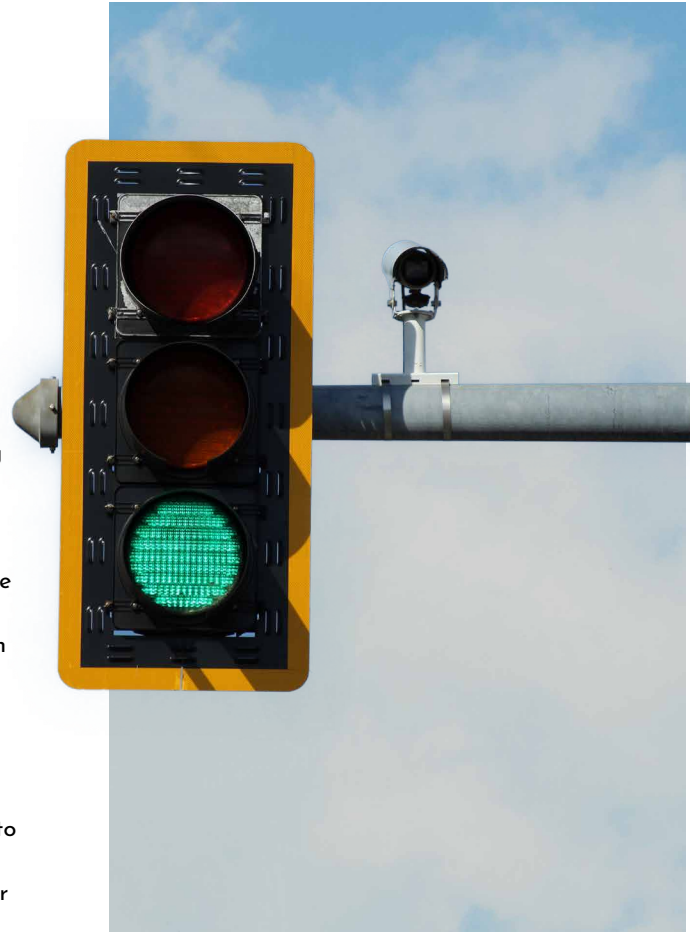
- Accommodate projected traffic volumes while minimizing impacts to adjacent properties and neighborhoods
- Provide improvements to the corridor that facilitate safe and efficient flow of traffic and minimize points of conflict
- Preserve the residential nature of the corridor
- Strengthen a sense of neighborhood along the corridor through implementation of a Complete Street Concept
- Enhance pedestrian and bicycle movements and strengthen their connections to the school
- Introduce landscaping and lighting schemes that are in harmony with the community

Traffic signal improvements help keep traffic moving safely

To help enhance mobility throughout the City, the Public Works Department in 2022 moved forward with two separate traffic signal projects that will create more efficient signalized intersections.

First, in an effort to provide safer left turns in the City, the first phase of the “flashing yellow arrows” signal conversions was launched in St. Lucie West on NW Peacock Boulevard and St. Lucie West Boulevard in October 2021. This consisted of installing the new 4-section flashing yellow arrows signal heads at seven intersections, which was completed by August 2022. These left-turn signal heads are designed to improve driver understanding of left-turn traffic signal displays. The goal of providing these type of signal displays is to provide safer and more efficient left turns for drivers. The signal conversions will be implemented Citywide in phases as funding allows.

Meanwhile, the Public Works Department also made progress in 2022 with expanding the use of Adaptive Traffic Signal Control (ATSC) in the City to help decrease travel times and enhance mobility. This technology incorporates real-time traffic volumes into the signal coordination plans. It captures current traffic demand data and uses it to adjust signal timing for both the main corridor and side streets. The City Council directed staff to fund and implement ATSC from Gatlin Boulevard to US Highway 1 on Port St. Lucie Boulevard. In June 2022, staff began working with the vendor, Econolite, to obtain the equipment for installation, and the installation was complete by September 2022. — 



Plan aims to increase mobility options

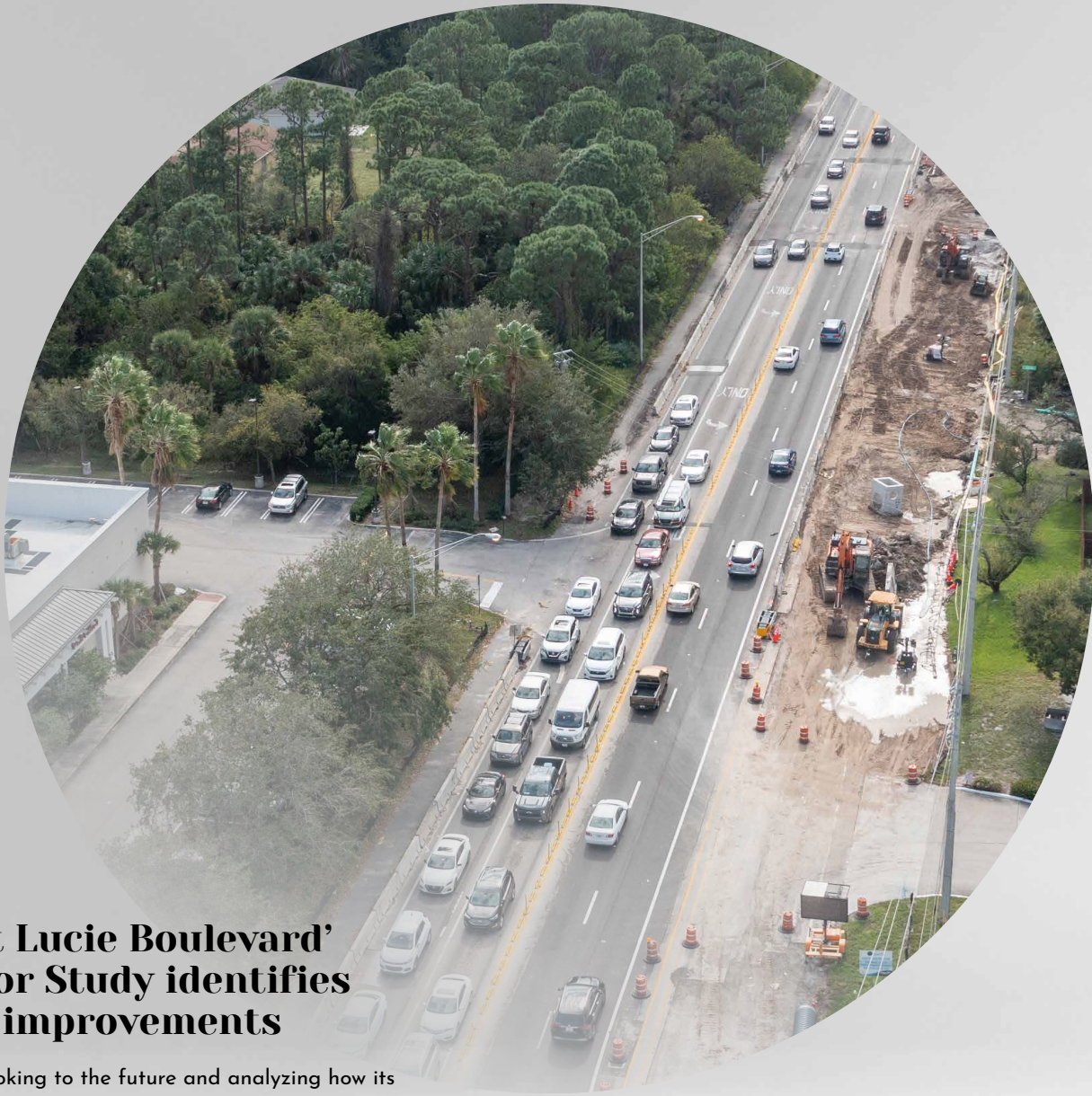
The City’s annual Community Survey has shown that mobility issues are a priority for residents, and the City Council and staff have been working on ways to make it easier to move around the City. One of those ways was by changing the City’s approach to planning future mobility improvements.

The City Council, working with the Planning and Zoning Department and in collaboration with community stakeholders, adopted the Mobility Plan, and fully implemented Mobility

Fees for PSL. This community-based planning effort looked into how people in Port St. Lucie got around – either by driving cars, walking, riding bicycles, taking transit, or other means. The new Mobility Plan provides the City with more flexibility and options when planning for the necessary changes to our transportation network. And as a result, in April 2022, after negotiations between the City and County, Port St. Lucie entered into an interlocal agreement with the county for Mobility/Road Impact Fees, reducing the fees charged in the City.

The City’s Mobility Plan is a forward-looking and progressive approach to integrating land use and transportation improvements that provide people with the opportunity to safely, comfortably and conveniently walk, bicycle, ride transit, drive, or use new technology to move around their city. The plan helped to define the City’s goal of crash reduction and increasing bike/pedestrian connectivity and capacity every year.

To learn more about the City’s new Mobility Plan, please visit www.CityofPSL.com/MobilityFees.




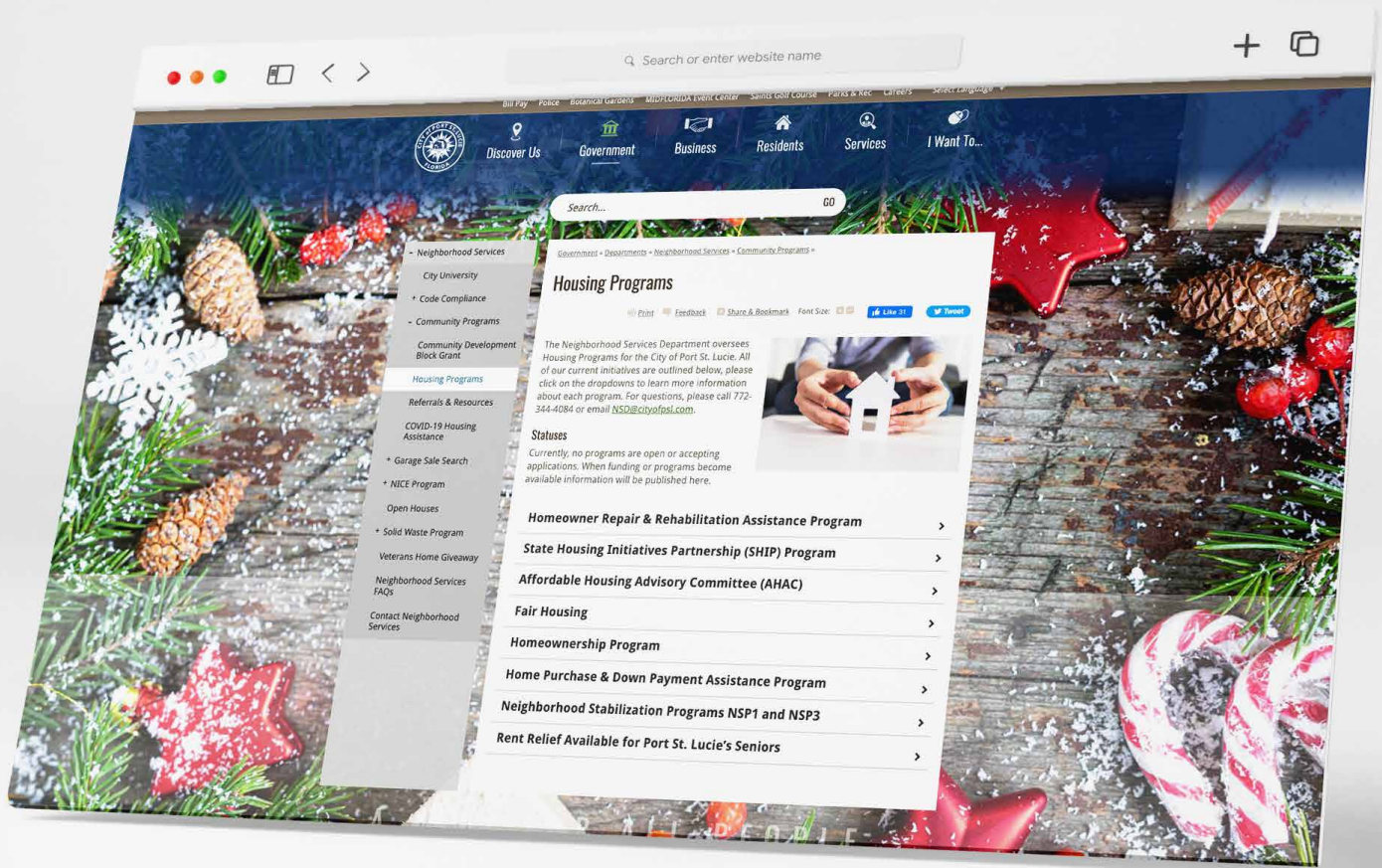
Port St Lucie Boulevard' Corridor Study identifies future improvements

The City is looking to the future and analyzing how its namesake boulevard, one of PSL's primary east-west corridors, can be better utilized by pedestrians and drivers as the Florida Department of Transportation improves the road over the next few years. The City collaborated with the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council to complete the Port St. Lucie Boulevard Corridor Study. As a result of the study, future road improvements will include increased pedestrian connectivity, increased capacity, and streetscape improvements along this important corridor. The study focused on an approximately a 3.5-mile section of PSL Blvd., from the intersections from Gatlin Blvd. to Becker Road and included feedback and input from residents and stakeholders. —➡

Securing affordable housing inventory

The City's Neighborhood Services Department developed a pilot PSL Homeownership Program to assist in securing additional affordable housing funding and grow the City's affordable housing inventory. Partnering with the Community Land Trust of Palm Beach County and the Treasure Coast, the City built and sold six single-family homes to low- and moderate-income families utilizing Neighborhood Stabilization Program grant funding. The highly successful program had nearly 400 applicants and over 600 candidates that attended the open house.

As a result of the accomplishment, City staff was invited to showcase the PSL Homeownership Program during a Florida Housing Coalition webinar called "Affordable Housing Funding Sources." As rent and home prices increase, the City hopes to expand on the success of the program and help more people become first-time home buyers. 



Safety


**2022
BEST PLACES**



PORT ST. LUCIE

**#2 SAFEST PLACE
TO LIVE IN THE U.S.**

US News & World Report ranks PSL #2 for safety

Port St. Lucie's reputation for safety made national news in 2022. U.S. News & World Report named PSL as the second safest City in the United States. The City has consistently been named one of the safest cities in Florida for many years on various national lists. For the past 12 years (2009-2020) the City of Port St. Lucie has been one of the safest cities in Florida with a population of over 100,000, according to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. (As of December 2022, the 2021 stats were not yet available.) As a result of this accomplishment, the quality of life for our citizens has been enhanced. Our residents have a stronger sense of safety and security. The Crime Rate declined 10.0% from FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21, achieving this annual strategic plan priority. – 



New police district established for western PSL

As the City of Port St. Lucie grows, public safety is a priority. On October 1, 2022, a new police district was established, District 5, and is currently being staffed by two officers and overseen by the current District 3 sergeants. As the City's population expands westerly, District Five is proposed to expand over the next five years, including the addition of 24 patrol police officers, 6 Sergeants, and 1 Lieutenant. This expansion of the City's police force is to maintain and improve Port St. Lucie Police Department's customer service, decrease response times for emergencies, increase accountability, improve traffic enforcement and ensure optimum uncommitted time to practice community policing and build relationships with the new residents and business owners in a newly developed part of the City.

The District will be built incrementally adding patrol zones to existing districts until the span of control and caseload necessitate additional supervision and administration positions. This plan will be evaluated annually and take into consideration whether new resources should be allocated to maintain the current level of service and enhance the new service. —✔

Police roll out new traffic stop program for teens

Nearly 250 ninth-grade students in five PSL schools received a 1-hour trial training by their highly respected Port St. Lucie Police Department's School Resource Officers on the Officer Steve Brown Model Traffic Stop Program. The program was highly received by students, teachers, administrative staff and the public, through local media coverage. The curriculum was approved by the St. Lucie County School District and will be incorporated into the student course schedules in the second semester of the 22/23 school year. Copies of the Model Traffic Stop Program have been disseminated to 98 different law enforcement agencies throughout the state for use in their local schools.

The Officer Steve Brown Model Traffic Stop Program focuses on educating teen drivers on how to interact with law enforcement during a traffic stop. The goal is to reduce misunderstands, and aggressive behavior while de-escalating violent interactions. This training also helps students build trust with their local law enforcement. —✔

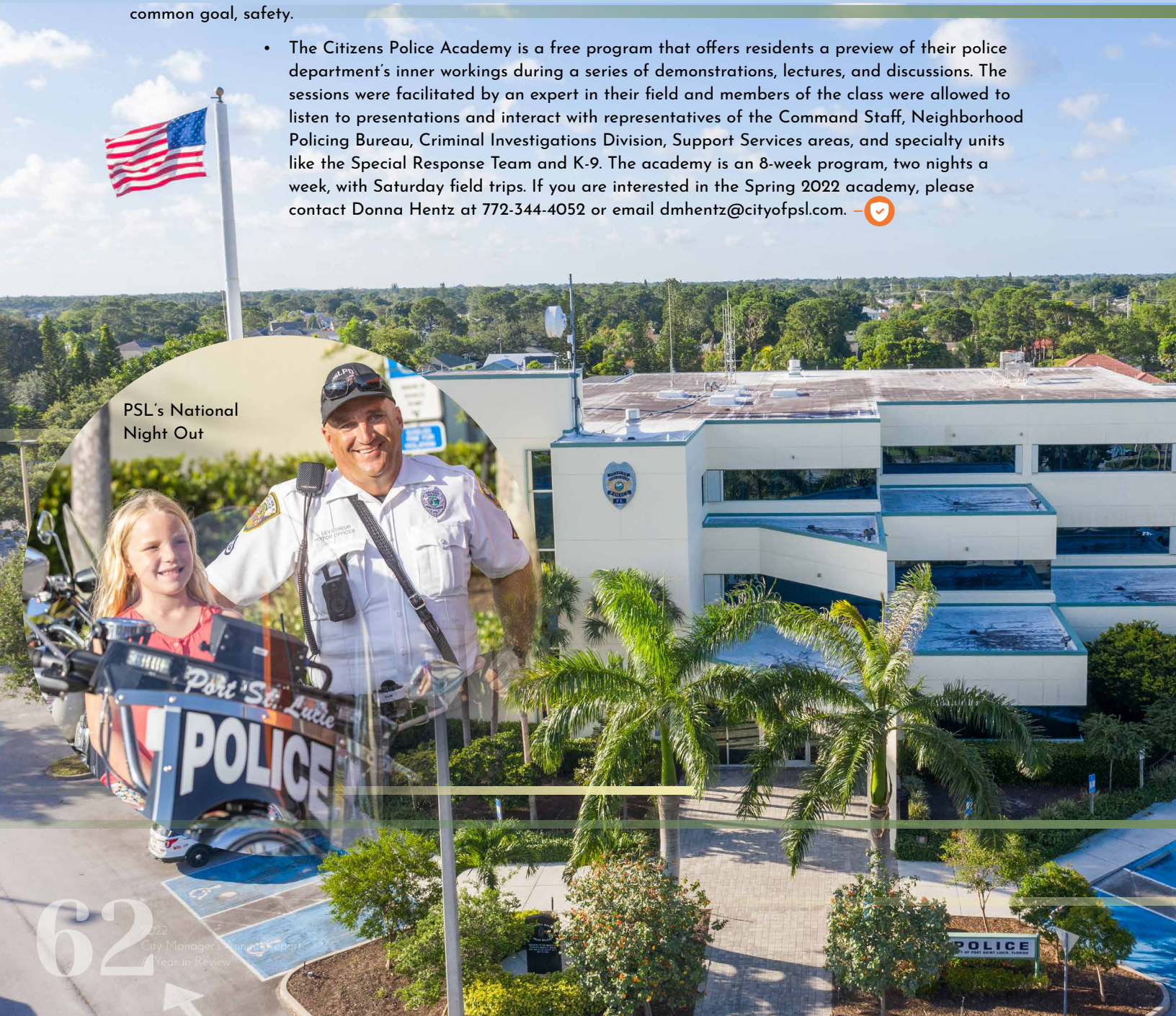
Community connections are key to a safe city

The Port St. Lucie Police Department strongly embraces the philosophy of Community Policing in all its daily operations and functions. To further build trust and transparency between law enforcement officers and the residents they serve, the Port St. Lucie Police Department coordinated several community events:

- In June 2022, over 17 participants attended the Junior Police Academy, which is a 2-week summer camp-style program designed to accomplish the same objectives for youth as the Citizens Police Academy does for parents. Cadets participated in drills and marches, team building-exercises, obstacle courses, building searches, tours, crime scene investigations and more.
- Throughout the evening of October 4, 2022, nearly 1,000 residents attended PSL's National Night Out held at the City Hall complex. Residents had the opportunity to meet Officers, watch an exciting K9 demonstration, climb aboard the marine patrol boat, test their fingerprinting skills, learn about the SWAT Team, and experience many other special presentations. National Night Out is an event that enhances the relationship between our community and law enforcement while bringing back a sense of community in a positive manner. Knowing your neighbors and surroundings is the best way to create a safer neighborhood. National Night Out brings everyone together for one common goal, safety.
- The Citizens Police Academy is a free program that offers residents a preview of their police department's inner workings during a series of demonstrations, lectures, and discussions. The sessions were facilitated by an expert in their field and members of the class were allowed to listen to presentations and interact with representatives of the Command Staff, Neighborhood Policing Bureau, Criminal Investigations Division, Support Services areas, and specialty units like the Special Response Team and K-9. The academy is an 8-week program, two nights a week, with Saturday field trips. If you are interested in the Spring 2022 academy, please contact Donna Hentz at 772-344-4052 or email dmhentz@cityofpsl.com. —



PSL's National Night Out





Hurricane Expo went live!

On July 9, the first in-person Hurricane Preparedness Expo in 3 years had over 2,000 participants in attendance, making it one of the most successful Expos ever. Residents and businesses received crucial storm-related information from Emergency Management professionals and vendors at one convenient location at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center. This year's expo focused on education and included informative presentations from meteorologists, local emergency managers, City staff and key community organizations. The expo also had a few fun new editions such as a scavenger hunt, an interactive photo booth and emergency vehicles on display from the American Red Cross, St. Lucie County Fire District and the Salvation Army. In addition, the City's website offered a virtual educational component including videos, hurricane supply lists, disaster preparedness guides, shelter locations and evacuation routes.

Grant helps make PSL Emergency ready

To harden City Hall Building B, which houses the City's Emergency Operations Center, Port St. Lucie was awarded a FEMA grant of \$1.2 million dollars for purchase and installation of a generator. Funding was provided by the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, which is designed to fund impactful projects that support recovery efforts and harden infrastructure for communities to mitigate the effects of future disasters.



New initiatives target speeders

The City of Port St. Lucie in 2022 launched a new program aimed at putting the brakes on excessive speeding and reckless driving on residential streets.

On July 21 2021, the PSL City Council passed Ordinance 21-64, the Areawide Speed Limit Reduction Within ordinance. It specifies certain neighborhoods where the maximum speed limit has been reduced to 25 mph. The installation of new 1,130 residential speed limit and other street signs was completed in 2022 across Port St. Lucie on city streets (excluding gated communities) lowering the neighborhood speed limits from 30 to 25 mph.

The "We Drive 25" campaign was created to help inform residents of the slower limit. Residents are being asked to take the "We Drive 25" pledge and commit to keeping PSL streets safe, as well as spreading the word about the speed limit change to their families, neighbors and friends about the need to keep neighborhoods safe.

In a combined effort, Port St. Lucie Police Department, Planning and Zoning and Communications also implemented a new City road traffic safety initiative aiming to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries involving road traffic. The City held a Target Zero Pop-up Barbecue that celebrated the new initiative with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) as they work towards a goal of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries within the City of Port St. Lucie. Nearly 300 people attended the event in support. FDOT's Target Zero focuses on identifying behaviors that contribute to crashes and understanding why those behaviors occurred, identifying who the specific target audience is and creating impactful messages to influence safe driving. Target Zero focuses on influencing change in these specific behaviors before they occur.



Utility Systems routes reclaimed water to help extinguish mulch fire


In September, the Utilities Systems Department provided 20.25 million gallons of water – enough to fill more than 30 Olympic-size swimming pools – to help extinguish a 28-acre mulch fire that had been burning for more than a month.

A lightning strike started the fire Aug. 25 on unimproved land near Glades Cutoff and Range Line roads. The fire emitted enormous amounts of smoke into St. Lucie and Martin counties.

The St. Lucie County Fire District requested the assistance of Utilities Systems to provide the water to help flood the base of the mulch pile.

Utilities Systems repurposed 36-inch piping to temporarily direct the flow of reclaimed water from the Glades Wastewater Treatment Plant into an existing ditch to bring the water next to the fire. This allowed a pump to be used to remove the water from the ditch system and saturate the area by flooding the ground.

Water started flowing Sept. 14, and the fire was completely extinguished about two weeks later, according to the Florida Forest Service.

Emergency authorization from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection was required to utilize reclaimed water, which is highly treated wastewater used for beneficial purposes, such as irrigation of lawns and golf courses. – 

Council approved City's Emergency Management Plan

Port St. Lucie is vulnerable to a variety of hazards that threaten its communities, businesses and the environment. The City's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) approved by Council establishes the framework to ensure that the City is prepared to deal with these hazards. The plan outlines the organizational management style implemented, the emergency roles and responsibilities of the local government, and coordination methods between local, county, state, and federal agencies and volunteer organizations. Port St. Lucie is one of a handful of cities in Florida to have a Council-approved CEMP.

Residents to see a 10-25% savings on Flood Insurance

The Federal Emergency Management Agency increased Port St. Lucie's flood insurance rating to a Class 5 rating. The increase in rating from the City's prior rating of Class 8 will mean residents will see a 10-25% discount on their flood insurance premiums renewals starting April 1, 2023. With the improvement to a Class 5 community, policies within the Special Flood Hazard area will be given up to a 25% discount on flood policies and those outside those areas will now be eligible for 10% discounts. These discounts will remain in effect as long as the City continues to adhere to the CRS program regulations, which are recertified annually and verified in person every 5 years. To learn more, visit www.CityofPSL.com/Flood.

Developing the

Developing the organization



Port St. Lucie joins international innovation community at CityLab

City of Port St. Lucie Director of Strategic Initiatives & Innovation Kate Parmelee was selected to receive a scholarship to attend CityLab 2022 in Amsterdam October. She attended the fourth Chief Innovators Studio (CIS), hosted by the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies. The CIS provides city innovators with a unique opportunity to network with their peers, learn new skills and hear about approaches and techniques that are helping to drive bold innovation in local governments around the world. Kate participated along with more than 40 leaders from around the globe to learn more about actionable solutions that can be scaled and put into practice in cities such as Port St. Lucie. CityLab 2022 included opportunities to meet and learn from some of the world's most creative mayors, artists, academics, and public and private sector leaders working to improve cities. With Amsterdam as the backdrop and Mayor Femke Halsema as host, this event was an incredible opportunity to reconnect, reflect, refresh and re-energize as we look ahead toward building upon the culture of government innovation here in Port St. Lucie, a key component of our City's Strategic Plan. — 

Organization

Canto organizes City's digital content onto centralized platform

Digital asset management systems help teams store, coordinate, find, retrieve and share their entire digital content catalog from a centralized location.

Over the past year, Communications Department staff extensively researched several of these platforms, and in May launched Canto, the City's first digital asset management system, or DAM.

Digital assets are any content that can be stored digitally, including photos, graphics and video. Canto allows us to create, manage, publish and share our content with anyone inside or outside the organization.

Before Canto, Communications stored its content on various public and shared drives. Now, all our digital content can be found with just a few keystrokes; staff can access files via any web browser or with an app on their mobile phones.

This new solution upholds our brand standards and expands our storage capacity. Most importantly, it allows our team to find content quickly and easily.



Facilities Maintenance Department provides crucial support for key projects

While much of their work is conducted behind-the-scenes, the Facilities Maintenance Department is crucial to keeping our City looking and running effectively and efficiently. The Department is committed to providing fast and complete support to all City departments for facility and fleet needs and services. The Department maintains more than 125 facilities and addresses, including requested maintenance or services, preventive maintenance, deferred maintenance and is responsible for facility construction, renovations, improvements, and routine services. The Fleet Division is responsible for providing management of the maintenance of over 1,000 fleet vehicles including grounds and heavy construction equipment.

The Department's accomplishments in 2022 included:

- Improved response time for work orders submitted by city Departments and completed more than 2,000 Work Order requests;
- Improved vendor services for construction requests;
- Developed and implemented a new system for growth opportunities for maintenance workers;
- Supported the design of new police training facility;
- Supported the design of the City clinic expansion;
- Completed the construction of the MIDFLORIDA Event Center Interactive Fountain underground controls relocation project;
- Refurbished the 9-11 Memorial Fountain and sculpture base at the event center;
- Completed construction for the City Hall generator replacement project.






In-person community job fair connected residents with jobs

While the Human Resources Department focuses on internal staff, it also strives to help connect residents with employment information. That's why On Human Resources Department hosted a Community Job Fair in partnership with CareerSource in the summer of 2022. The job fair was held at the Port St. Lucie Community Center, with early participation for veterans. Over 500 job seekers and over 50 local businesses were in attendance. Industries represented included local government, retail, food service and distribution, medical, construction, manufacturing, education, and many more. Some larger area employers included Coca-Cola, Amazon, FCC, Cheney Brothers, and Cleveland Clinic. Many attendees participated in on-the-spot interviews, and several job seekers were hired on the spot! –



City innovations create valuable efficiencies

The City's Organizational Vision is for Port St. Lucie to be recognized nationally as a leader providing superior services through a diverse, empowered, and visionary city team. A key force driving the work of the team is innovation. Port St. Lucie employees are charged with seeing challenges as opportunities and encouraged to meet the changing needs of our residents in new ways. One way the organization supports this work is through the City's growing innovation program which includes a focus on advancing the City's Smart & Connected City Goal. Led by the Strategic Initiatives & Innovation Team in the City Manager's Office, the work includes Innovation training in partnership with the Human Resources Department's PSL Forward Academy, which is the City's overall training program. It also includes performance-driven innovation projects, expanding the use of data and analytics in partnership with Information Technology and innovatively engaging our residents through human-centered design in partnership with the Communications Department. In the past year, city employees from multiple departments gained process improvement skills through the virtual training and hands-on projects that reduced wait times for residents and improve efficiency. Innovation projects completed this year improved the efficiency of our procurements services, created process maps as training guides, streamlined our grant application and management process, improved our utility grinder repair process by updating standard operating procedures, reduced the amount of time setting up computer work stations and much more. Port St. Lucie's efforts to advance innovation led to inclusion in a meeting of 90 chief innovation officers from around the world at the Chief Innovators Studio in Amsterdam this year to share solutions and learn from each other's' experiences driving new ways of working in city halls. Port St. Lucie looks forward to continuing to learning from this global network as we continue to innovate and improve our services. — 





PSL's S.T.A.R.s shine in awards program

The 2nd Annual S.T.A.R. (Special Thanks and Recognition) Awards were held in November 2022. The program was established to recognize staff's accomplishments, dedication and commitment to the City of Port St. Lucie and our shared values. As a way to honor employee contributions while promoting their growth and engagement, City Manager Russ Blackburn tasked Human Resources with developing an annual staff award program. Staff members are nominated by their peers for their hard work and contributions that reflect the City's values. Award categories include Employee of the Year, Team of the Year, Customer Service Award, Diversity Award, Humanitarian of the Year, Mentorship Award, Stewardship Award, Duct Tape Award, Department of the Year, and the Cyber Safety Award. —

Employee experience survey gathers valuable insights, growth opportunities

The City partnered with Polco's National Research Center (NCR) to conduct the third annual City-wide employee survey. Employees answered questions about their job satisfaction, work environment, compensation, supervisory relationships, organizational climate and communication. The results help to understand employee experiences, address concerns and monitor perspectives. Overall, the City of Port St. Lucie continues to be a great place to work. Approximately nine in 10 employees reported being satisfied with their job.

Further, nine in 10 employees planned on working for the City a year from now, were likely to recommend working for the City of Port St. Lucie and felt optimistic about working for the City. Staff gave higher ratings than employees from other organizations across the country regarding overall compensation, work schedule flexibility, and helping new employees feel connected and integrated. Due to HR Department's positive communications and outreach efforts, employee participation in the survey increased from 472 to 508 employees. —


New hires provided with 'Keys to the City'

Human Resources' primary role is to improve employee performance, which helps the overall organization function better and achieve more for citizens. The HR team is committed to providing high-quality and essential services for residents. To further this goal, in March of 2022, the HR team launched its "Keys to the City" program. Newly hired team members spend a half day learning about the City, its culture and operations. The program also focuses on the City's values, strategic plan, collaboration and how the organization recognizes its employees. Employees also learn about the available benefits and resource offerings. A review of data and metrics revealed that more than 70 separations occurred within the first year of employment in 2021. The HR team sought to reduce this turnover rate by taking the Keys to the City program further and implementing a stay interview program.

After thirty days of employment, HR meets with employees to address any issues with equipment or training; a six-month check-in with the employees; and a stay interview is conducted at the nine-month mark. The Keys to the City sessions' feedback has been positive and continues to be a very successful onboarding program. —

Financial Accountability

PSL's overall debt continues to drop

The City has made tremendous strides in reducing its long-term debt, and that debt reduction trend continued in 2022. This was the result of principal payments, early debt retirement and refinancing, when appropriate. The City's long-term debt has dropped from a high of more than \$1.042 billion in debt in fiscal year 09/10 to a projected \$665.4 million for fiscal year 22/23, based upon the budgeted principal payments. This will represent a 36% reduction in debt over the past 13 years. This equates to annual savings of approximately \$220,000 through 2029. — 

City's Property tax rate decreases for seventh year in a row

The Port St. Lucie City Council approved a budget that includes a reduction in the City's property tax rate. This is the seventh consecutive year that Port St. Lucie's millage rate decreased for the portion of residents' property tax bills that the City Council controls. The adopted budget of \$731,023,223 supports the City's strategic goal to be a high-performing organization and its initiative to reduce the City's tax rate, while ensuring a balanced budget that still provides excellent service for City residents.

The total FY 2022-23 City budget represents an increase of 19.7% compared to the FY 2021-22 adopted budget. Because of the strength of our local economy, the adopted budget for FY 2022-23 makes significant community

investments while

maintaining reserves for governmental revenues.

Community investments

include equipment for three

new parks (Tradition Regional,

Riverland Paseo, and Pioneer Park);

a new police training facility; fiber

infrastructure construction; the Saints

Golf Course drainage project; Floresta Drive

roadway improvements; the Westport Treatment

Plant upgrades and other water treatment

projects. Also adding to the budget increase are

the growing taxable values and the addition

of 71 new staff members across all funds to

continue providing exceptional customer service

to our growing population base. These include

16 new sworn police officers.

The budget included an overall total millage

rate of 5.3000. The millage rate is the rate

of tax per \$1,000 of taxable property value.

When looking at a tax bill in St. Lucie County,

it is important to keep in mind that the City

of Port St. Lucie's millage rate represents just

one portion of it. Because of that and rising

property values, the total amount paid by

homeowners can vary every year. Other local

taxing authorities include the St. Lucie County


School District, St. Lucie County, St. Lucie

County Fire District and the South Florida

Water Management District.

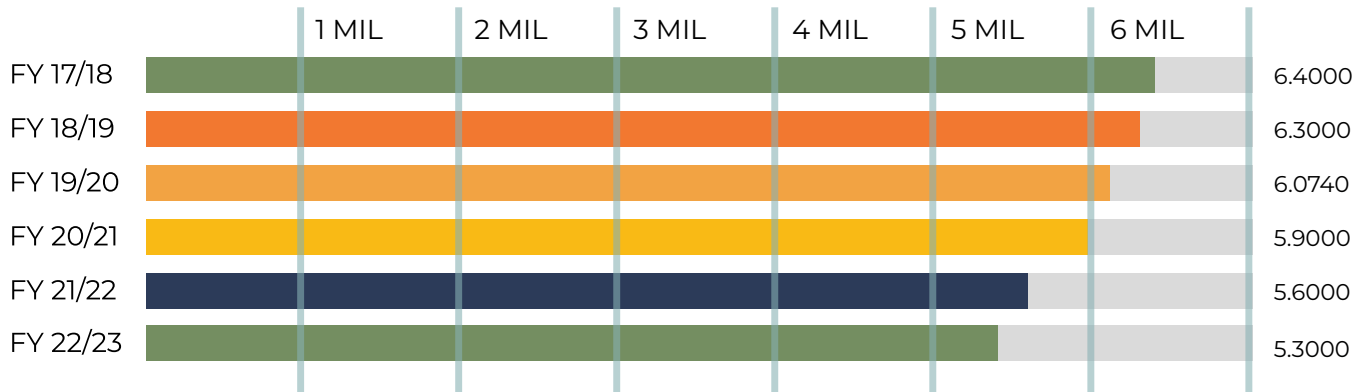
The City of Port St. Lucie's full adopted budget can be found at www.CityofPSL.com/Budget.

New program, policy strengthens oversight of city contracts

The Office of Management and Budget and the Finance Department deployed the Tyler Munis technology solution for contracts management. The Contracts Management program supports the entire life cycle of a contract from initiation to expiration. The program is fully integrated with other City planning systems, including purchasing, accounts payable, and general ledger. The launch of the citywide contracts management program will improve the Procurement Management Division's (PMD) oversight of all City contracts and its internal controls and enhance financial management of City. The new system will improve project and spending tracking and generate automated progress reports. To support this new program, a new contract management policy was developed, and contract administration procedures were enhanced to align with the new policy. The new system includes an advanced workflow and reminder notifications to improve the City's procurement efficiency and effectiveness. — 



MILLAGE RATE Millage rate is the tax rate per \$1,000 of taxable property value.



PSL has 4th lowest millage among large Florida cities

The City of Port St. Lucie has one of the lowest municipal tax rates comparatively to the 20 most populous cities in Florida, according to an annual Millage Rate Benchmarking Study for FY22/23.

The Millage Rate Benchmarking Study ranked Port St. Lucie as having the fourth lowest municipal property tax rate out of 22 cities. The study looked at the 20 most populous cities in Florida, along with our neighboring cities of Stuart and Fort Pierce.

In accordance with the City's Strategic Plan, the City's property tax rate (also called the millage rate), and ranking among these other cities, has steadily decreased since the study was first conducted in fiscal year 2019/2020:

- In 2020, PSL was ranked tenth.
- In 2021, PSL was ranked seventh.
- In 2022, PSL was ranked fifth.
- In 2023, PSL was ranked fourth.

The City of Port St. Lucie's millage rate is 5.3000. The millage rate is the tax rate used to calculate a resident's property tax, which is the rate of tax per thousand dollars of taxable value. If the millage rate is 5.3000, then a resident is paying \$5.30 in taxes for every \$1,000 of taxable property taxes.

A misconception that City officials frequently hear is that some residents believe the City is responsible for their entire tax bill – or at least a significant majority of it. In fact, if you look at your entire tax bill, you will see more than a dozen different taxing authorities in St. Lucie County. In the end, the City Council is responsible for the millage rate for only two lines on your bill: City of Port St. Lucie and City of PSL Voted Debt, which was voter approved to pay for the Crosstown Parkway. If you do the calculations, those two portions make up only about 22% of your total tax bill.

Some of the other taxing authorities, which set their own millage rates, include St. Lucie County, St. Lucie County School District, the Fire District and the South Florida Water Management District.

Property taxes (also called ad valorem taxes) are the largest single revenue source of the City's General Fund. Property taxes are used to pay for many of the primary services of government, including police protection, park maintenance, recreation activities and city planning.

The full Millage Rate Benchmarking Study can be found online at www.CityofPSL.com/taxes. To learn more about Port St. Lucie's Budget, visit www.CityofPSL.com/Budget.



The City Manager's

Revised 07/25/22

ADOPTED BUDGET IN BRIEF

FY 2022/23

121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34984 | www.CityofPSL.com

The Fiscal Year 22/23 Proposed Budget allocates resources to support Port St. Lucie's Strategic Plan goals.

BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR

22/23

19.72%

INCREASE
FROM FY 21/22
DUE TO INCREASED
CAPITAL PROJECTS

TOTAL BUDGET

\$731,023,223

**GENERAL
FUND**

28.32%

INCREASE FROM
FY 21/22 WHICH IS
\$35.1 MILLION

TOTAL BUDGET

\$159,188,870

Crosstown Voter Debt Reduced

The voter-approved debt service millage for Crosstown Parkway is reduced to 0.5693 in FY 22/23 from 0.7193 in FY 21/22.

Operating Millage Reduced

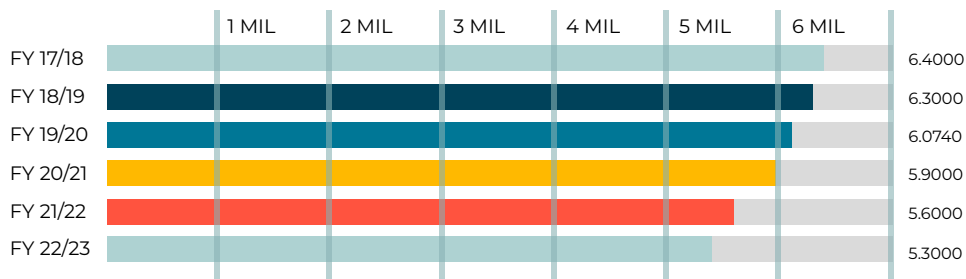
Operating Millage reduced by 0.1500 for a new total of 4.7307.

Tax Base Increase

The tax base increased by 23% over the final adjusted value, because of increased growth and property appreciation, from **\$13.4 billion** to **FY 21/22 \$16.4 billion** as on the July 2022 estimate.

MILLAGE RATE

Millage rate is the tax rate per \$1,000 of taxable property value. The City's Operating Millage rate is **4.7307** per thousand for **FY 22/23**. The total millage rate is **5.3000**. This is the seventh year the millage rate is proposed to be reduced.



Assessed impact of millage reduction on City taxes for a median home with a homestead exemption increased by the save our homes limit of 3%

	FY 21/22 Tax Year City Taxes	FY 22/23 Tax Year City Taxes
Assessed Value	\$188,770	\$194,433
Exemption Amount	\$50,000	\$50,000
Taxable Amount	\$138,770	\$144,433
City Total Millage Rate (Per \$1,000 of value)	5.6000	5.3000
Total City Taxes per Year	\$777.11	\$765.49
Difference with Proposed Millage Reduction		\$(11.62)

Although the median market value of an average single-family home in PSL is \$298,539, the median assessed value by the County Property Appraiser is \$194,433. The assessed value is used to determine the annual property tax.

STORMWATER

Stormwater Fee will remain at \$168 for residential and \$126 for vacant property.

SOUTHERN GROVE

Southern Grove debt and tax payment equal **\$3.6 million** from the GFC Fund, a reduction of an estimated **\$700,000** for debt, because of activity from sales of property.

SOLID WASTE

The Solid Waste Assessment Fee would increase to **\$416.21** to support a new solid waste hauler contract that moves the City to automated trash collection. Residential homeowners will receive a one-time credit of **\$36.76**; thereby reducing the net assessment fee to **\$379.45**.

**Median market value
average single-family
home in Port St. Lucie**

\$298,539

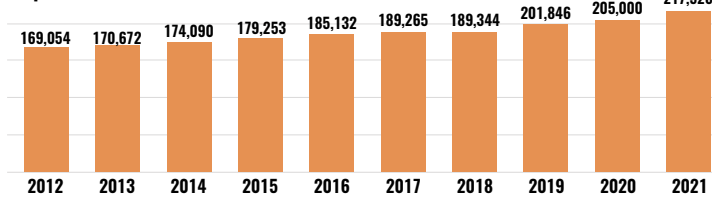
STAFFING

FY 22/23 proposed budget recommends a net change of **71.125** positions for a total of **1,317.06 FTEs** which is **6.4%** more than the number in FY 08/09. In FY 08/09 the population was estimated at **155,000** residents compared to a current population of over **217,500** residents; a nearly **40.32%** increase.

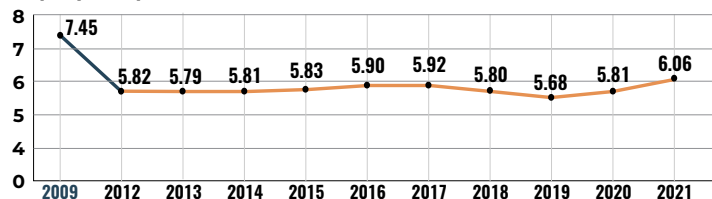
HISTORY OF AUTHORIZED POSITIONS



Population Growth Data from U.S. Census Bureau



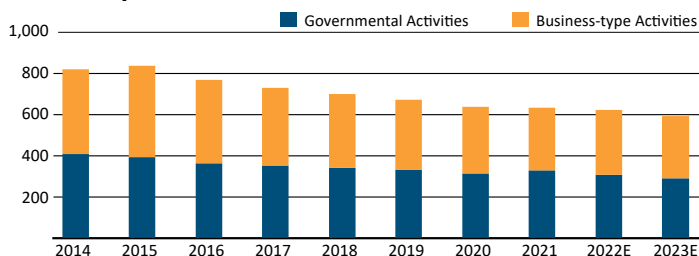
Employees per 1,000 residents Units in thousands



DEBT REDUCTION

The City's long-term debt has been reduced as a result of principal payments and refinancing, when appropriate, from a high of more than \$1.042 billion in debt in FY 09/10 to a **projected \$665.4 million for FY 22/23** based upon the budgeted principal payments. This will represent a **36% reduction in debt** over the past 13 years.

Total City Debt in millions



GENERAL FUND:

Police:

- 5 Police Officers
- 2 Civilian Background Investigators
- 1 Administrative Assistant
- 1 Bodyworn Camera Coordinator Officer
- 4 Detectives (Major Crimes)
- 1 Detective (Sex/Internet Crimes Against Children)
- 1 Lieutenant (CID)
- 1 Lieutenant (SID)
- 1 Lieutenant - District Support
- 1 Redaction Coordinator - Body Worn Camera

Information Technology:

- 1 Security Analyst

Parks & Recreation:

- 2 PT Recreation Aide - MFEC
- 1 Park Leader
- 1 P/T Maintenance Worker (Pioneer Park)/The Port
- 1 P/T Recreation Aide (Minsky Gym)
- 2 Maintenance Workers (Pioneer Park/The Port)
- 1 Park Coordinator - Riverland Paseo
- 1 Park Leader - Riverland Paseo Park
- 1 P/T Maintenance Worker (Riverland Paseo Park)
- 2 Parks Maintenance Workers
- 1 Maintenance Worker (Whispering Pines)

City Attorney:

- .50 Accounting Clerk (increase part-time position to full-time)

Communications:

- 1 Brand Strategist
- 1 Engagement Manager

Keep PSL Beautiful:

- 2 Maintenance Workers (Litter Crew)
- 1 Maintenance Worker (City Street Amenities)

Facilities:

- 2 Maintenance Workers

Finance:

- 1 Financial Specialist
- 1 Project Manager

Human Resources:

- 1 Administrative Assistant

Management and Budget:

- 1 Procurement Contracts Manager
- 1 Budget Analyst

UTILITY SYSTEMS FUND:

- 1 Maintenance Worker
- 1 Project Coordinator
- 1 Regulatory Compliance Coordinator
- 1 Manager, Utility Infrastructure
- 1 Project Manager
- 1 Asset Manager
- 1 CADD Technician
- 1 Network Administrator
- 2 Utility Locators
- 1 Utility Inspector
- 1 Instrumentation & Controls Technician
- 1 SCADA Technician

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND:

- 1 Traffic Signal Technician
- 1 Construction Inspector
- 1 Project Manager, CIP
- 1 Regulatory Compliance Coordinator
- 1 Survey Inspector

SOLID WASTE FUND:

- 1 Neighborhood Services Solid Waste Division Director
- 1 Neighborhood Services Solid Waste Operations Supervisor
- 1 Solid Waste Customer Service Supervisor
- 1 Code Compliance Specialist (Solid Waste Division)

STORMWATER FUND:

- 1 Large Culvert Inspector

BUILDING FUND:

Building:

- 2 Building Plans Examiners
- 3 Building Construction Inspectors IV

STAFFING INCREASES FOR FY 22/23:

Employee increases are directly related to rapid growth in the City, including funding for District 5 of the Police Department.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The City is prudently planning projects while slightly decreasing the current debt load. Projects planned over the five-year period are projected to cost **\$385.4 million**.

UTILITY SYSTEM UPGRADES

\$140.7M

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

\$7.1M

STREET RESURFACING

\$37.5M

OTHER PROJECTS

\$156.2M

TORINO REGIONAL PARK, THE PORT PROJECT, TRADITION REGIONAL PARK

\$29.6M

SIWALK PROJECTS

\$11.8M



2022 Awards

Communications:

- 2022 Dot Comm Awards, Honorable Mention for Video/Informational Category, PSL Living: What is forest bathing?
- 2022 Dot Comm Awards, Gold Award for Digital Marketing Campaign, We Drive 25 campaign
- 2022 National Association of Government Communicators, Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Award for the Higher-Paying Jobs for PSL referendum educational campaign. Second Place in the educational or promotional campaign (less than \$100,000) category.
- 2022 Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA), Award of Distinction: Higher-Paying Jobs for PSL referendum educational campaign
- 2022 FPRA, Treasure Coast Chapter, Image Award: Higher-Paying Jobs for PSL referendum educational campaign
- 2022 FPRA Treasure Coast Chapter Communicator of the Year for Public Relations through Technology: Maureen Kenyon
- 2022 Public Relations Association of America, Radiance Award, Public Service Commendation: Keep Our Roadways Safe Speeding Campaign
- 2022 Communicator Award of Excellence (Campaign Diversity, Equality & Inclusion): Police Recruitment Video & Web page
- 2022 Communicator Award of Distinction (Campaigns & Series-Arts & Entertainment): Harvest in the Garden
- 2022 AVA Digital Awards
 - » Gold: City Manager's Bi-Weekly Reports
 - » Platinum: Water Quality Initiatives
- 2022 American Advertising Awards Treasure Coast Chapter
 - » Gold: City Manager's Annual Report
 - » Gold: The Agenda
 - » Gold: PSL Living



Human Resources:

- 2022 Best Place to Work by the St. Lucie County Human Resource Association
- 2021 Platinum Bell Seal for Workplace Mental Health by Mental Health America

Police Department:

- 2022 International Association of Chiefs of Police Leadership in Volunteer Police Programs Award.

MIDFLORIDA Event Center:

- 2022 St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce: Business and Industry Award (Professional Services)

Office of Management & Budget:

- Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award"
 - » The City has earned this annual award for 32 consecutive years.
 - » For the third year in a row, the City received the Special Performance Measures Recognition as part of the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for FY 2021/22.
- Florida Association of Public Procurement Officials (FAPPO) Award for Excellence in Public Procurement.
 - » The City has maintained this achievement for 19 consecutive years and earned the 3rd highest ranking in 2022.
- National Institute for Governmental Purchasing (NIGP: The institute for Public Procurement) Accreditation for Quality Public Procurement Departments (QPPD)

Neighborhood Services:

- 2022 Neighborhoods USA Conference: Neighborhood Improvement and Community Engagement (NICE) was recognized and was a finalist for Best Neighborhood Program - Physical Revitalization for its Neighborhood Entry Sign Program.
- State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program - Homeowner Repair & Rehabilitation Award
- St. Lucie County Upward Mobility Cohort - Upward Mobility Leadership Award

Parks & Recreation:

- 2022 TC Palm Best Golf Course on the Treasure Coast: The Saints Golf Course
- 2022 Florida Recreation & Park Association Public Relations Campaign Award for the Community Input Survey.
- 2022 Florida Recreation & Park Association Facility Showcase, featuring major park improvements at Rotary Park.

Utility Systems:

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Focus on Change Plant Operations Excellence Award: Glades Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) Golden Image Award: Jenny Tones, APR for "Living Reef Dedicated to Lost Founder"
- Florida Section American Water Works Association (FSAWWA) Volunteer of the Award: Jenny Tones, APR



The City of Port St. Lucie

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