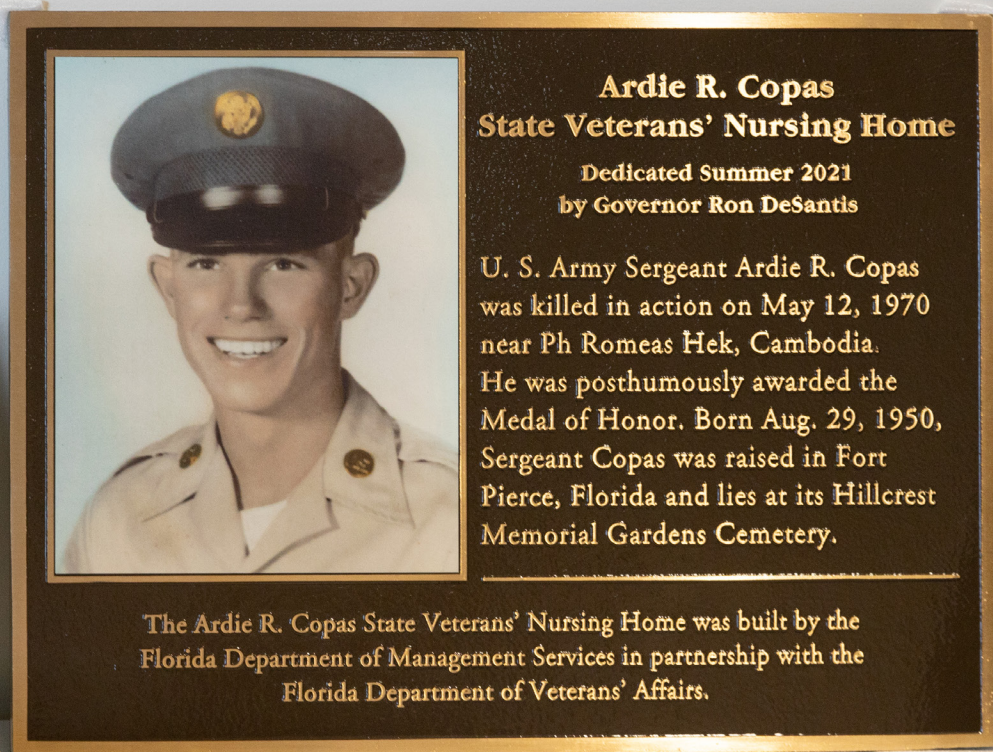


City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report

Sept. 3, 2021 • Vol. 5 • Issue 16



City Officials

The City is led by a five-member elected Council, which sets policy and determines the long-term vision for the City. The Council appoints a City Manager to handle the daily business affairs, and a City Attorney to provide legal advice. This system is called a Council-Manager form of local government. Each Council member has one vote, including the Mayor, so legislative authority is equally spread among all five members.

Dates set for special election for Port St. Lucie mayoral seat

City voters will elect Port St. Lucie's next mayor during a special election with a primary to be held Sept. 21 and a general election on Dec. 7, according to a resolution approved by the City Council on June 14.

[Read More](#)



Vice Mayor,
District 3
Councilwoman

Shannon M. Martin



District 1
Councilwoman

Stephanie Morgan



District 2
Councilman

David Pickett



District 4
Councilwoman

Jolien Caraballo



City Manager

Russ Blackburn

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Port St. Lucie is a safe, beautiful and prosperous City for all people – your hometown.

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ON THE COVER

Ardie R. Copas Veterans' Nursing Home in Tradition Grand Opening on Friday, Aug. 27, 2021



SUBSCRIBE TODAY

CITYOFPSL.COM/BIWEEKLY

Receive regular updates of the City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report, a digital publication released every two weeks, highlighting the City of Port St. Lucie's latest news, events and projects.



QUESTIONS?

Email the Communications Department with questions or comments about this publication at pslcommunications@cityofpsl.com.

Strategic Goals

The City's Strategic Plan is the guiding document that the City Council and staff use to fulfill a strategic vision to be a safe, beautiful and prosperous City for all people. The entire organization is focused on carrying out the strategic plan, which is updated every year based on citizen input through the annual Citizen Survey and Citizen Summit.



An essential part of bringing the plan to life is measuring performance through objective indicators and reporting those results back to citizens.

In the City Manager's Bi-Weekly Report, we will highlight projects specifically prioritized in the strategic plan that have achieved milestones, or where changes have occurred in our effort to remain transparent and proactive.

In addition, strategic plan "badges" will indicate the strategic goal that each project, program or event advances, as everything that we do at the City of Port St. Lucie aligns with our Strategic Plan.



Safe, Clean & Beautiful



Vibrant Neighborhoods



Quality Education for All Residents



Diverse Economy & Employment Opportunities



High Quality Infrastructure & Facilities



Culture, Nature & Fun Activities



High-Performing City Government Organization

Coming Up

September 2021

Sept. 8

CAPRA Virtual Hearing, Community Center

Healthy Cooking 101, Community Center

City University Class No. 11, City Hall

Port St. Lucie Blvd. South Public Workshop, Minsky Gym

Sept. 9

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Jobs Express Terminal and Park & Ride Lot

Free Business Tax Workshop: *"She-cession Recovery: Support for Female Entrepreneurs,"* Webinar

Sept. 10

Vaccine Clinic, Keiser University

Sept. 11

9/11 Ceremony, MIDFLORIDA Event Center

Sept. 11-18

Early Voting, Community Center & MIDFLORIDA Event Center

Sept. 13

Regular City Council Meeting, City Hall

Sept. 14

O.L. Peacock Sr. Park Public Information Meeting, via Zoom

Sept. 15

Healthy Cooking 101, Community Center

City University Class No. 11, City Hall

Sept. 17

Recycling Lunch & Learn, via Zoom

Sept. 18

Spread the Shade Tree Giveaway, Public Works Department

Community Garage Sale, Minsky Gym

Sept. 22

Healthy Cooking 101, Community Center

City University Class No. 11, City Hall

Sept. 24

Coffee with the Mayor, City Hall

Sept. 27

Regular Council Meeting, City Hall

Sept. 28

Duck Court Park Public Information Meeting, via Zoom

Sept. 29

Healthy Cooking 101, Community Center

City University Class No. 11, City Hall



CALENDAR

See all upcoming events at:
www.cityofpsl.com/calendar.

Highlight of the Week

The City of Port St. Lucie is proud to be a hometown for heroes!

We welcome the new Ardie R. Copas Veterans' Nursing Home in Tradition. St. Lucie County was honored to join the City of Port St. Lucie; The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs; state and federal officials; local veterans; and the Copas family on Friday, Aug. 27, for the official flag raising and open house ceremony for the state's seventh Veterans Nursing Home, named after local Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Ardie R. Copas, a Fort Pierce/St. Lucie County native killed in action during the Vietnam War. This 120-bed veterans nursing home is located at 10700 SW Tradition Square, Port St. Lucie.



High-Performing
City Government
Organization



Strategic Plan Highlight



The City has prioritized Quality Education for All Residents as a key strategic goal in the annual Strategic Plan. In order to best support education, the City Council last spring hosted representatives from St. Lucie Public Schools, area charter schools, the Early Learning Coalition and Children’s Services Council of St. Lucie County to present updates and asked them how the City can better support their critical work. Every participant reiterated a request to partner with the City on outreach to inform residents of the educational and support service opportunities available in the community. Since that time, the Communications Department has increased its promotion of important education-related information and focused on education in the most recent episodes of PSL Living and The Agenda.

READ MORE ON PAGE 14



**QUALITY
EDUCATION FOR
ALL RESIDENTS**



Half-Cent Sales Tax

BETTER **ROADS**,
MORE **SIDEWALKS**,
AND **CLEANER RIVERS**.



High Quality
Infrastructure
& Facilities



ST. LUCIE WEST BOULEVARD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

The construction of the California Boulevard widening from St. Lucie West Boulevard to Crosstown Parkway starts in FY 25/26.

SIDEWALKS

Fairgreen Crossings Neighborhood (Import, Galiano, Cadima, Fairgreen): Construction underway.

Sandia Drive (Thornhill to Crosspoint): Construction is underway.

REPAVING

Gatlin Boulevard: Repaving starts in FY 26/27.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL COORDINATION ALONG PORT ST. LUCIE BOULEVARD

Adaptive Traffic Signal Implementation along Port St. Lucie Boulevard was planned to start in FY 27/28. The City has now identified this project as one to be expedited utilizing upcoming bond proceeds. Implementation will now be completed in FY 21/22.

LANDSCAPING & BEAUTIFICATION

U.S. 1 landscaping and beautification is planned to start in April 2022. This will follow the completion of FDOT's resurfacing and safety improvement project that is currently ongoing.



Floresta Drive Improvements

SOUTHBEND BOULEVARD TO ELKCAM WATERWAY (SEGMENT 1): CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

PROGRESS UPDATE

- The speed limit was reduced to 25 mph in the construction zone.
- Periodic Lane Closures will take place along Floresta Drive. Please use caution driving through the work zone. Lane closures will not be permitted from 6:30-9:30 a.m. and 4-7 p.m. Monday through Friday or on the weekends.
- Side streets, including Portage Avenue, Essex Drive, Penn Avenue, Academy Lane and Chapman Avenue, will have temporary closures as the contractor installs pipe across the roadway during daytime hours.
- The contractor will utilize closures on Thanksgiving Avenue at Floresta Drive to accommodate necessary roadway activities and construction of the roundabout.
- The contractor is working to complete drainage activities.
- The contractor paved the temporary roadway and shifted traffic to the east, north of Port St. Lucie Boulevard; and west, south of Port St. Lucie Boulevard.
- The contractor has been pouring sidewalk and curb throughout the project.
- Work on resident driveways has resumed as final concrete is being poured in some areas.

UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES:

- Sidewalk, curb and gutter
- Roadway construction
- Installing mast arms at Port St. Lucie Boulevard
- Installing and setting light fixtures
- Roundabout construction on Thanksgiving Avenue
- Finalize Pond 1 area near Essex Drive with landscaping and irrigation
- Work in Pond 2 area including wall installation
- Paving parts of Floresta and preparing to shift traffic the other side of the roadway

ELKCAM WATERWAY TO PRIMA VISTA BOULEVARD (SEGMENTS 2 AND 3)

- Design is underway. Segment 2 and 3 have been combined and are being designed together. The final plan submittal is slightly delayed to address comments received during the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) permitting process.
- A letter was sent to residents along the Phase 2 and Phase 3 corridor introducing the upcoming project and asking for resident contact information to keep residents updated as the project moves forward. Meetings and outreach to residents will continue as the project moves closer to construction.
- A meeting took place April 22 with residents near the SE Thornhill Drive and April 28 with residents near Harborview Drive stormwater retention areas to give the residents the opportunity to view the pond area designs and ask questions. Subsequent information has been provided to those neighboring residents addressing their questions and concerns raised during the meetings.



1PSL System



High-Performing
Government
Organization



Your 24/7 City Hall

What is 1PSL?

1PSL is your 24/7 City Hall. This all-in-one system allows residents to connect with the City either via mobile app, phone or web portal. Residents can use 1PSL to request services, ask questions, pay bills, learn about City news and upcoming events, pinpoint an issue location with GPS, attach a photo with your comments, and receive status updates and resolution notifications.



CALL 772-871-1PSL

Call a 1PSL Navigator 24/7. After hours calls are answered by Police Service Aides. For all emergencies, call 911.



DOWNLOAD APP

The 1PSL mobile app is available on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.



WEB PORTAL

Residents can use 1PSL without downloading the mobile app by visiting the 1PSL Web Portal.



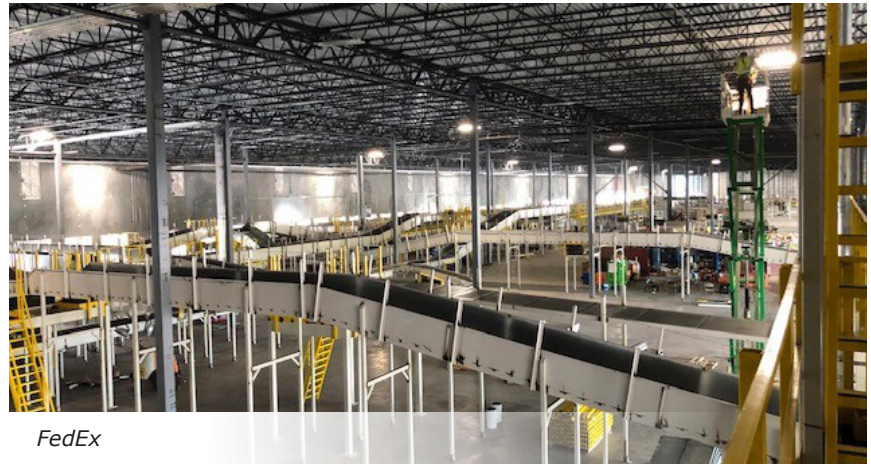
Building Department



Diverse Economy
& Employment
Opportunities

Highlights

- The Building Department participated in the TCBA Builders Showcase Aug. 20 at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center.
- The next stakeholder meeting will be held Sept. 13 with Electrical Contractors.
- A pre-build meeting took place with Project Midway Aug. 26.
- Building Department's reaccreditation surveillance review takes place Aug. 31
- New building permit, for Project Midway, was applied for Aug. 25.



FedEx

COMMERCIAL CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY

- Endure Martial Arts, 240 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd. | Interior renovation
- Gatlin Dialysis, 1631 SW Gatlin Blvd., Suite 101 | Interior renovation
- Burlington, 10648 SW Village Parkway | Interior renovation

COMMERCIAL PERMITS

- Aviva Port St. Lucie, 590 NW Lake Whitney Place | New building
- Sugar'd Up Dessert Studio, 5309 NW East Torino Parkway | Interior renovation
- Kids Harbour, 5351 NW East Torino Parkway | Interior renovation
- Subway, 5371 NW St. James Drive | New building

Building Activities

ACTIVITY	AUG. 13-26, 2021	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Permits Issued	2,875	46,547	52,355	41,504	39,899	32,020
Single-Family Permits Issued	168	3,546	3,592	2,722	2,200	1,518
Certificates of Occupancy Issued (SFR)	145	2,398	2,893	2,711	1,824	1,382
Number of Inspections Completed	7,580	132,831	155,421	137,302	115,073	84,510
Number of Plans Reviewed	858	16,842	19,150	13,978	13,559	10,352
Number of Permits Applied for Online	2,153	30,857	26,855	18,395	13,421	8,346

TESTIMONIALS

"I have recently sent out two emails regarding an issue at a new home construction the address is listed in subject line. I wanted to thank everyone involved for the level of professionalism and how quickly your department resolved all of the issues. I met with the inspectors yesterday evening and had a great conversation. So, thank you everyone, have a great day."

Communications Department



Quality Education
for All Residents

Two more episodes of PSL Living available, with a focus on education

The PSL Living team of Melissa Yunas, Maureen Kenyon, Avi Monina and Matt Dutiel filmed two more episodes for August and both videos are now available.

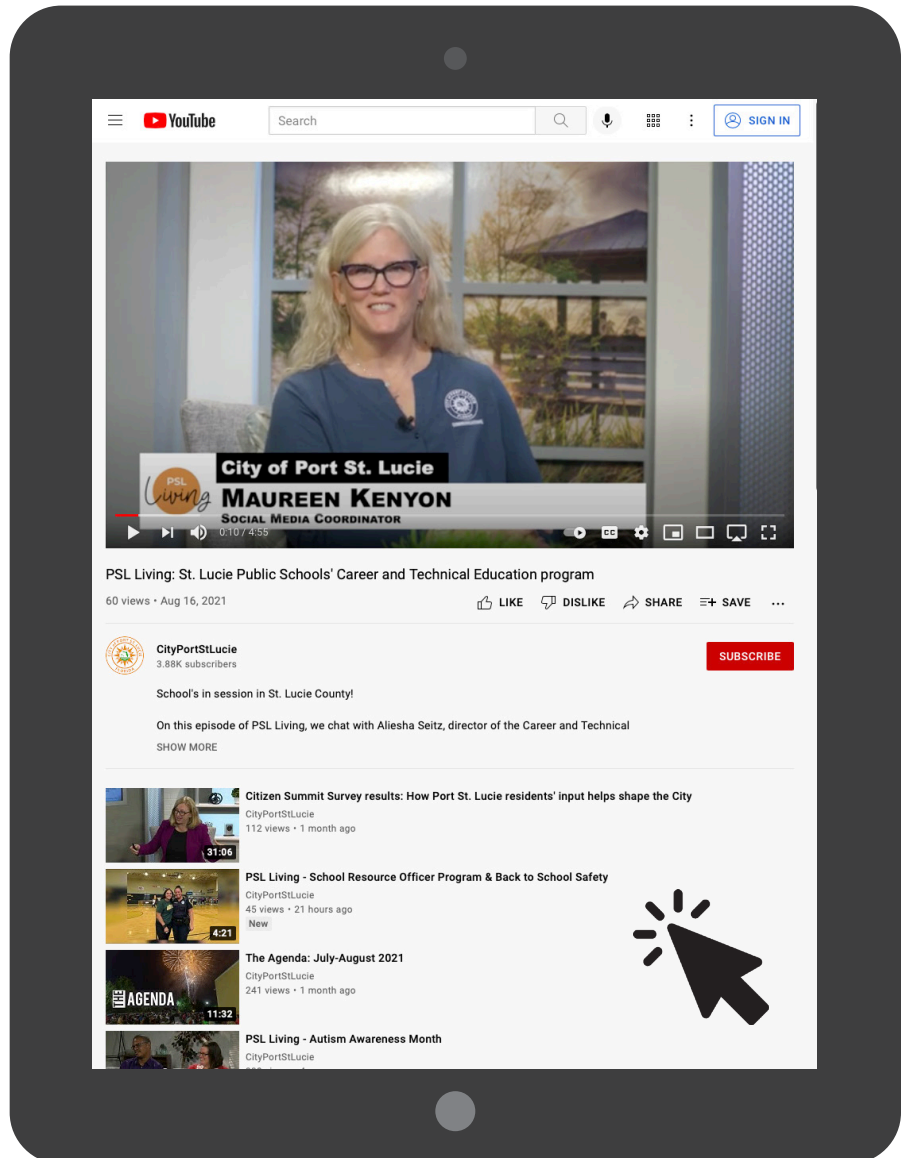
Episode 3 of the new and improved PSL Living highlights the Career & Technical Education program in St. Lucie Public Schools. CTE is open to all St. Lucie County high school students and helps them gain the technical skills, rigorous academic foundation & real-world experience for post-secondary education and a high-skill, high-wage, high-demand career. Students earn industry-recognized certifications and college credits, too.

Maureen Kenyon discusses the program with its director Alisha Seitz and Lorika Chery, a senior studying aerospace technologies in the CTE program at Fort Pierce Central High School.

Episode 4 focuses on school safety. Avi Monina chats with Port St. Lucie Police Sgt. Keith Bohan about the department's School Resource Officer (SRO) program, and Melissa Yunas talks about safety tips with SRO Amanda McCarty, a sworn police officer, who mentors and assists students at Treasure Coast High School.

SROs are educators, informal counselors and law enforcement officers, who are part of the schools in which they serve. At each school, the SRO becomes a dependable, appreciated member of the administration who students look to for advice, support and safety.

PSLPD's successful SRO program focuses on building healthy relationships between law enforcement and members of the school district to benefit individual students and the greater community.



St. Lucie Public Schools accolades

Ranked first in state for academic growth

93% graduation rate; ranked 10th in the state

98% graduation rate for traditional high schools

One of the top producers of industry certifications

Recognized as a Cambridge District of the Year

INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS

CAMPAIGNS RADIANCE WINNER



City of Port St. Lucie

PSL 2020 Census



High Performing
City Government
Organization

Communications Department racks up another award

The City of Port St. Lucie Communications Department was honored with a top award from the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA).

The PRISM Award for Integrated Communications recognized the City's outreach efforts for the 2020 Census. The City took home the honor while facing steep competition from several major public relations agencies, companies and corporations. The award was presented at the PRSA PRISM Awards Virtual gala.

PRSA is the largest public relations organization in the world, with more than 30,000 members nationwide.



Merging Port St. Lucie, county road impact fees to benefit residents, developers | Opinion

Russ Blackburn Guest columnist

Published 5:03 a.m. ET Aug. 19, 2021

[View Comments](#)



The Communications Department teamed up with the City Manager and Planning & Zoning to help educate our citizens about the proposed Mobility Fee and Plan that went before the City Council on Aug. 23 and will come back for a second reading vote on Sept. 13. To help our residents and the builder/developer community understand the proposed Mobility Fee and Plan, the Communications Department:

- Created a dedicated landing page with easy-to-understand information and a section on misconceptions vs. facts.
- Sent out a press release about this issue
- Created social media posts
- Sent out emails directed to both residents and builders/developers.
- Arranged for TcPalm to publish a guest column by City Manager Russ Blackburn [here](#).



High Quality
Infrastructure &
Facilities



Several Pacers Bikeshare bicycles are shown in downtown Indianapolis. Port St. Lucie is looking at a Mobility Plan that would include fees developers would pay not only to build roads, but to encourage other, less-expensive modes of transportation.

Community Redevelopment



Diverse Economy
& Employment
Opportunities

Mobility and opportunity for all

The City of Port St. Lucie recently requested \$16.7 million in U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) funds for a \$29.3 million project that will improve mobility, unlock economic development and connect disadvantaged residents with emerging local job opportunities.

The proposed "Mobility and Opportunity for All" project will achieve the following:

- Create a separated 13-mile trail for pedestrians, cyclists and autonomous vehicles in the Tradition community, such as the one shown here;
- Build critical road infrastructure in the adjacent Southern Grove Jobs Corridor for commercial and industrial development;
- Optimize transit routes and build new mobility hubs to ensure low-income and minority populations have equitable access to work in Port St. Lucie; and
- Implement Smart City infrastructure to inform real-time traffic data analysis that can be used to dynamically adjust speed limits, flows of traffic and operation of traffic-calming features.

Though similar grants have been submitted in the past, this grant application cycle is even more timely as the COVID-19 health crisis has frozen development across the state. America's recovery depends on federal infrastructure investment like the RAISE grants to put people back to work. Important before the pandemic, the proposed transportation improvements in Port St. Lucie are absolutely critical now to help jumpstart Florida's recovery.



Office of Emergency Management

Hurricane tips: Pets

Pets are a very important parts of the family. Have you made a plan to ensure your pets will be prepared for a hurricane?

HERE ARE SOME TIPS REGARDING YOUR PETS:

- Once a tropical storm warning has been issued, keep animals inside. Try not to leave them unattended (they're scared, too) and absolutely do not leave them behind in your home if you evacuate.
- If your pet is lost during a storm, call Port St Lucie Animal Control at 772-871-5042.
- Microchip your pet in advance, in case their ID tags get lost. This way if your pet gets turned into Animal Control, they will be able to scan the chip for your contact information. Also, make sure chipped pets have up-to-date contact information with their chip.
- Assemble a pet kit. Similar to your emergency kit, you would want to have one for your dogs and cats as well. It should include a three-to-five-day day supply of pet food and treats, bottled water, bowls for food and water, medicines, cat litter, cleansers, plus newspapers and extra plastic bags to handle pet waste. To keep your pet entertained, pack toys or bones, and a leash and collar. Have a carrier large enough for the animal to stand in and turn around and a blanket big enough to cover it. Keep your pet's vaccination records in the kit as well.
- Make sure your pets are part of your evacuation plan. If it isn't safe for you to remain at home, then it isn't safe for your pet either. Check with your vet before a storm to see if they offer boarding services, or prepay for boarding services with a local boarding facility.

For more information about how to keep your pets safe during hurricane season, visit www.cityofpsl.com/hurricane.



Safe, Clean & Beautiful



**Hurricane season
June 1–Nov. 30**
ARE YOU READY? VISIT,
WWW.CITYOFPSL.COM/HURRICANE

City continues vaccination POD outreach at Keiser University, Somerset College Preparatory Academy

The City of Port St Lucie's Office of Emergency Management is working diligently to ensure residents have every opportunity to get the COVID-19 vaccine as conveniently and safely as possible. The City has partnered with Dr. Mark Pamer, a local pulmonologist, to have vaccination pods (points of distribution) throughout the City, on dates and times announced on www.cityofpsl.com. On Friday, Aug. 20, over 70 people received either a first dose of Pfizer or the one-dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccines. (The City administered both vaccines). Also, on Aug. 26, over 170 people were vaccinated at Somerset College Preparatory Academy.

Our next Vaccination POD is Friday, Sept. 10, at Keiser University The clinic will be administering Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccines. Johnson & Johnson is a single-dose vaccine. Pfizer and Moderna both require a first and a second dose; a third dose is recommended for patients who self-disclose that they are moderate to severely immunocompromised. All doses are available at this clinic. The POD will operate from 1-5 p.m. and no appointment is necessary.

New outreach video available online



Because of the recent uptick in COVID cases and the inability present our hurricane and other hazards presentations in person, to our local community HOAs and others, the OEM decided to record our presentation and place it on YouTube so the community could have access to the presentations all the time.

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUdsP8acs74> and get the most up-to-date information on the various hazards (not just hurricanes) that we have in our communities.

MIDFLORIDA Event Center



Culture, Nature
& Fun Activities



Event attendance: 154,664
Events: 260

Upcoming Events

SEPT. 11

Remembrance Ceremony

SEPT. 11-12

Spirit Fest – Metaphysical &
Holistic Fair

SEPT. 14

567 Workshop: Taxes in
Retirement

SEPT. 18-19

Port St. Lucie Home Show

SEPT. 23-24

Care Net Fundraising Banquet

SEPT. 25

17th annual San Juan Festival

Suncoast Basset Rescue
Annual Fundraiser



MIDFLORIDA Event Center unveils new pop-up art exhibit

On Wednesday, Aug. 19, the MIDFLORIDA Event Center launched a special art exhibit, The BEZO Show, featuring masterpieces by Brian Taylor. This local artist's paintings and drawings range from the small-scale intimacy of a tattoo to large standout murals. Brilliant color and bold form define his style. Being a multi-talented, multimedia using, multi-art man comes natural for him. Indulging in art all his life, he uses his given craft/skill to create multiple different forms of visual beauty. As a part-time tattoo artist as well as a painter, Brian expresses his talents on and off paper. Brian often travels as a tattoo artist, but in his downtime he paints, draws and creates masterpieces while also teaching his children art.

This exhibit will be on display weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Sept. 20.



An American flag is shown waving in the wind against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow light breaking through dark clouds. The flag's stars and stripes are clearly visible.

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

20 YEARS LATER

Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021, 8:30 a.m.

MIDFLORIDA EVENT CENTER

Watch in person at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center or on Facebook @CityofPSL

City of Port St. Lucie invites residents to attend 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center

The City of Port St. Lucie invites the public to join us for our annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. Marking the 20th anniversary since the attacks on our great nation, this ceremony will honor and remember the lives lost and forever impacted on Sept. 11, 2001.

The Port St. Lucie Police Department, St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office and St. Lucie County Fire District will assist with the ceremonies, with a special invocation by Pastor Matt Misiano of Calvary PSL.

The ceremony will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, adjacent to the 9/11 monument at the MIDFLORIDA Event Center. Guests will be invited inside following the ceremony for light refreshments. Those unable to attend in person are encouraged to watch live on the City's Facebook Page, @cityofpsl.

We ask the members of our community to join us as we reflect, honor and remember our fallen neighbors, friends and loved ones lost on that fateful September day.



Turn your dream home into a reality at the Port St. Lucie Home Show!

East Coast Consumer Shows is returning once again to the MIDFLORIDA Event Center for the Port St. Lucie Home Show on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 18-19.

Find professional exhibitors with fabulous ideas for consumers and find the latest in products and services for home improvement. Visitors can meet with professionals to make that next remodeling, renovation, landscaping or decorating project a big success. For one weekend, you'll find wall-to-wall displays and exhibits. Most importantly, you can speak directly with experts and receive advice and inspiration.

This is the perfect event for the Port St. Lucie area homeowner who is planning for the year ahead! Plus, meet award-winning cookbook author and celebrity chef Warren Caterson! He will present a variety of temptingly delicious in-home culinary experiences suitable for every situation, palate and budget. Chef Caterson is a full-time writer and foodie. He has studied at the Southeast Institute of Culinary Arts. You, too, can learn how to cook healthy, using easy-to-find local ingredients. Chef Caterson has many creative kitchen tips to fit every budget. It makes no difference if one is cooking for two or 200. He is convinced that life, joy, and communion can be found in a freshly prepared and shared meal. Be sure to visit Chef Warren at the Home Show for a fun, informative experience. For more information, visit www.portstluciehomeshow.com.



Spirit Fest

Treasure Coast

Metaphysical and Holistic Fair

80+ booths! Readers, merchandise, crystals, authors, artists and demonstrations

September 11 & 12 · 10am-6pm

MidFlorida Event Center · 9221 SE Event Center Place, Port St. Lucie

Admission \$12 day · Free parking · Speakers all day, both days included with admission

See our website for discounted admission and more details! www.SpiritFestFL.com



BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE SANCTUARY FOR
MIND, BODY, & SPIRIT



Explore, connect & flourish at the Treasure Coast Spirit Fest

Join us Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 11-12 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the first-ever Treasure Coast Spirit Fest, the largest metaphysical fair on the Treasure Coast! Enjoy two full days exploring 80-plus vendors specializing in wide-ranging metaphysical and holistic practices, including readers, crystals, merchandisers, artists and more.

Spirit Fest will feature the latest on holistic health, natural food trends and healthy diet options, as well as great resources for different practices such as yoga and tai chi, essential oils and holistic modalities.

Plus, at Spirit Fest you will find THE BEST psychic readers and mediums in the country!

Special guests include Scott Donat (Reflexology); Heidi Korsch (Energy Integrator and Reiki Master); Dr. Stuart Shipe (Acupuncture and Chinese Herbology); and Christopher Tims (The Power of Sound).

Admission is \$12 per day or \$20 for the weekend. Children 12 and younger are free.

For more information visit, www.spiritfestfl.com.



Neighborhood Services

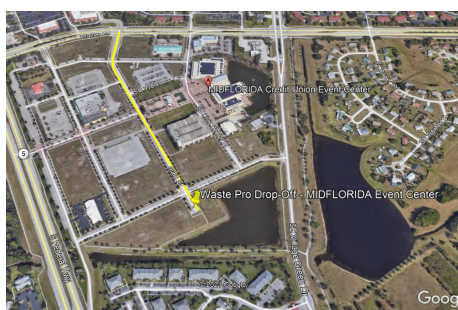
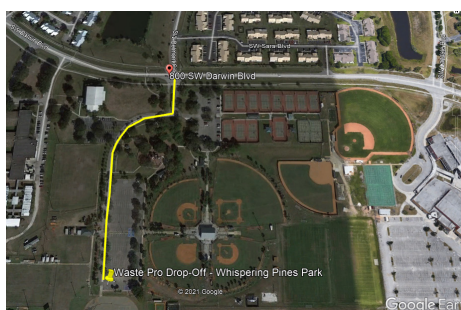
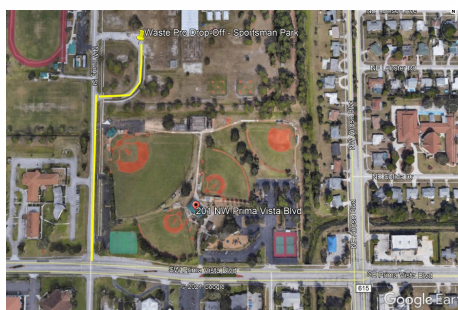


Vibrant
Neighborhoods



Code Specialists help with yard waste pickup

Over the past few weeks, our Code Specialists have stepped up in a big way to assist elderly and disabled citizens who have had missed yard waste collection. In one instance, Code Supervisor Biehl lifted a pickup truck-sized load of yard waste that had been sitting out for three weeks, without producing a single drop of sweat. The Neighborhood Services Department continues to provide solutions to Waste Pro in an effort to improve the service delays currently being experienced. Once again, we would like to thank all of our Code Specialists for assisting our residents in need.



Bulk waste drop-off sites remain open

Our four self-service bulk drop-off locations have been busy with several hundred residents delivering their bulky trash and yard waste since they opened for collection on Aug. 10. To ease the waste accumulation and to provide residents with another option rather than waiting for service, the City of Port St. Lucie and Waste Pro established four self-serve drop-off sites. These free, bulky and yard waste drop-off collection sites will remain available to Port St. Lucie residents, Monday-Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., until further notice.



NICE hosts Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design meeting

On Aug. 26, Neighborhood Improvement & Community Engagement (NICE) hosted a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) information meeting. The meeting aimed to provide residents simple and inexpensive techniques to reduce the threat of crime within neighborhoods. It also provided ready-to-implement solutions to the common crime and public safety-related issues that neighborhoods experience.

Last chance to register for City University!

Registration remains open for City University Class No. 11 and will be closing on Sept. 8. City U runs through Oct. 27.

What is City University?

The goal of Port St. Lucie's City University is to provide residents the opportunity to learn about the City's services and operations. Classes meet every Wednesday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. for nine scheduled sessions, including a graduation ceremony.

To register and learn more, visit www.cityofpsl.com/cityu





Recreation

- The St. Lucie County Supervisor of Elections will be utilizing the Community Center, as well as the P&R MIDFLORIDA Event Center, for early voting, starting Sept. 11.
- Tot Drop will resume Sept. 7, at the P&R MIDFLORIDA Event Center.
- After the regional eSports qualifier events we hosted in June, three teams were sent to represent the City of Port St. Lucie in the United States Parks & Recreation eSports Championship (USPREC). All three teams placed in the top three of their respective events. The Rocket League 3v3 team finished in first place overall!
- Launched in conjunction with National Recovery Month, Port St. Lucie Parks & Recreation is now offering Life Raft, a fitness program specifically designed for individuals in substance use disorder recovery programs. Offered at the Humana Fitness & Wellness Center inside the MIDFLORIDA Event Center, the program is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-4 p.m.

Life Raft is a fitness program specifically designed for individuals in substance use disorder recovery programs.

LIFE RAFT

\$10
PER MONTH

HUMANA FITNESS & WELLNESS CENTER
AT THE MIDFLORIDA EVENT CENTER

Life Raft is offered in an open and welcoming environment for those seeking physical, social and mental well-being while in recovery.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
2-4 P.M.

In presentation with
HealthyU



THE SAINTS GOLF COURSE

While The Saints Golf Course continues to host some really great golf this summer, the course also has been taking extra steps to keep the clubhouse facility and the course as clean as possible. This includes trimming trees, limbs, plants and hedges. We can't thank all the crew members enough for helping to make The Saints such a beautiful place to come out and play golf.

Also, The Saints was recently visited by the Keep Port Saint Lucie Beautiful team. The team's email back to staff at The Saints:

"Keith and David, It was a pleasure for Paul and I to be at the Saints Golf Course, talking with you both and interacting with your staff while performing our cigarette litter prevention program scan. Your golf course is beautiful and clean. I have been there several times before and have seen it to be the same each time. I like very much the great attitudes of everyone working there. They are very proud of the Saints Golf Course. Keep up the great work!"

- Wayne Landry

The Saints Golf Course is looking great while continuing to receive great reviews from guests - Come out and play!



Planning & Zoning



**Diverse Economy
& Employment
Opportunities**

Coming Soon to PSL

P21-135. 460 PEACOCK BUSINESS CENTER @ SLW:

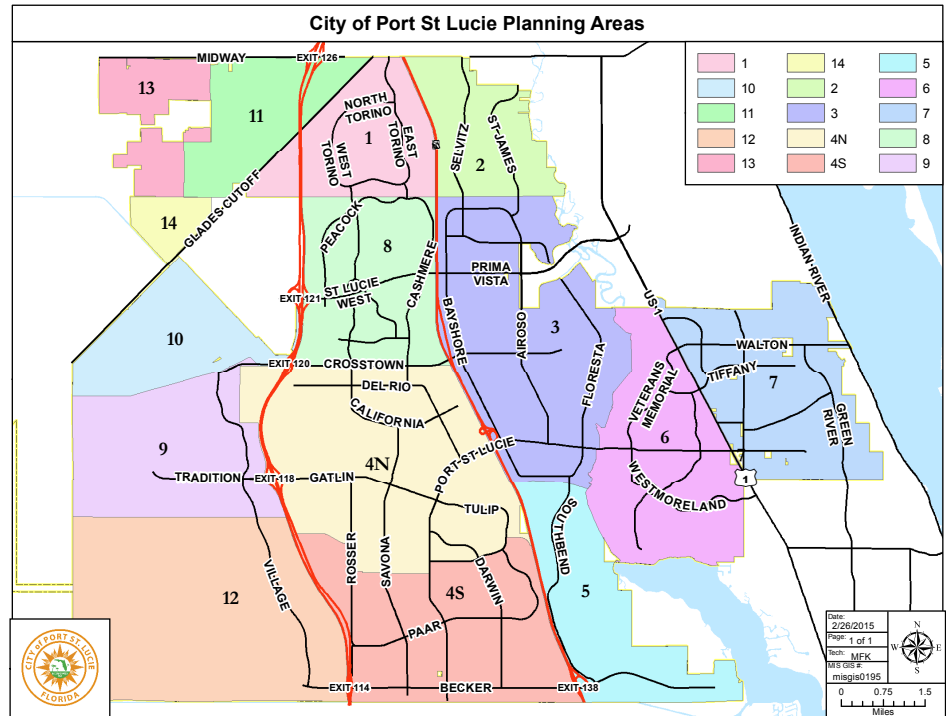
Two warehouse/office buildings, totaling 30,624 square feet, proposed to be at the southwest corner of NW Stadium Drive and NW Peacock Boulevard.

P21-136. 500 STADIUM BUSINESS CENTER @ SLW:

Two warehouse/office buildings, totaling 35,056 square feet, proposed to be at the northwest corner of NW Stadium Drive and NW Peacock Boulevard.

P21-147. RAISING CANES RESTAURANT @ SLW:

A 3,181-square-foot drive-thru restaurant proposed to be at the northwest corner of NW Central Park Plaza and NW St. Lucie West Boulevard.



Dwelling Units in PSL as of June 2021



**Diverse Economy
& Employment
Opportunities**



[VIEW PLANNING
AREAS MAP \(PDF\)](#)

PLANNING AREA	BUILT SINGLE-FAMILY UNITS	BUILT MULTI-FAMILY UNITS	TOTAL BUILT UNITS	APPROVED UNITS	REMAINING UNITS TO BE BUILT
1	3,515	785	4,300	5,733	1,433
2	2,817	479	3,296	4,056	760
3	17,243	1	17,244	20,210	2,966
4N	16,811	677	17,488	22,444	4,956
4S	11,220	26	11,246	15,296	4,050
5	2,265	12	2,277	2,961	684
6	4,572	1,214	5,786	6,237	451
7	5,665	2,267	7,932	9,532	1,600
8	5,362	1,661	7,023	7,523	500
9	3,533	2,009	5,542	11,092	5,550
10	1,108	223	1,331	7,200	5,869
11	0	0	0	4,000	4,000
12	1,489	66	1,555	22,410	20,855
13	0	0	0	0	-
14	406	0	406	579	173
TOTAL	76,006	9,420	85,426	139,273	53,847

Police Department



Safe, Clean
& Beautiful

District 1

Case Numbers 2021-00681 & 2021-00684

On Jan. 11, a male suspect stole a gold flatbed truck and attempted to steal another vehicle but caused damage instead from the parking of SW Biltmore Street. Road patrol processed another commercial vehicle on the scene that was rummaged through and lifted a print of value identifying a male who resides in Miami. Video of the suspect vehicle on the scene appeared to be the exact vehicle registered to the identified man. That same vehicle was also used in other vehicle thefts in the St. Lucie County jurisdiction. Detectives conducted online investigations and worked with St. Lucie County Sheriff Office Detectives to develop probable cause. Detectives submitted e-warrants that were approved in February. The male suspect was arrested on the warrants Aug. 10.

Case Numbers 2021-14717, 2021-14722 & 2021-14424

On July 4, two males entered a Self-Storage business located on SW South Macedo Boulevard after forcing the electronic front gate open wide enough to squeeze through. Once inside the storage area, the suspects located an unlocked van that had the keys inside. The suspects entered the van and drove through the electronic front gate, causing significant damage to the gate and the stolen van. On July 8, the suspects used the stolen van to drive through the front entrance to a vehicle collision business located on SW South Macedo Boulevard, causing significant damage to the front gate/fence and the van. After the vehicle was used to force entry to the vehicle lot, the suspects worked in concert to steal a car, unlocked with the keys inside. The suspects drove the vehicle through the damaged front gate, which caused damage to the car. Both suspects were interviewed by Detectives and eventually confessed to these incidents in August 2021. Both individuals were charged with two counts of Theft of Motor Vehicle, four counts of Criminal Mischief, and two counts of Burglary.

District 2

Case Number 2021-17026

A victim reported numerous articles of jewelry and tools were missing from her residence. Her home is currently under renovation. A search of pawn transactions involving residents who live on her street revealed that a female recently sold numerous items that matched the property description that the victim reported as missing. During an interview with the victim, she stated that the woman is a friend that she trusted to care for her dogs while she is away working. The investigation revealed that the suspect utilized access to the victim's home to procure numerous items from her, which she then sold. The defendant was arrested, and during a post-arrest interview, she gave a full confession.

District 3

Case Number 2021-14069

The victim allowed her sister to utilize her car for an extended period. In July, the victim attempted to recover the vehicle from her sister, at which time she learned that the vehicle was stolen in May. The investigation revealed that a male stole the car and gave the car to an unknown subject in the area. The defendant is a transient. Thus, a warrant was issued for his arrest. He was apprehended by the Fort Pierce Police Department a few weeks later.



On Aug. 23, Assistant Chief Richard Del Toro and Vice Mayor Shannon Martin were guest speakers at the Valencia Cay Women's Club meeting. The City of Port St. Lucie once again had the lowest crime rate among cities with a population over 100,000 in 2020. In addition, the Port St. Lucie Police Department is the only law enforcement agency in St. Lucie County accredited through (national) C.A.L.E.A and (state) C.F.A (Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation).



Some days our Officers show up for work and put out literal fires. Neighbors living on SW San Antonio Avenue and SW McMullen Street reported a tree catching fire this evening after being struck by lightning. Officers Brostenant and Thomas quickly arrived and used their extinguishers before the fire could spread. St. Lucie County Fire District put the finishing touches on the fire, making sure everything was extinguished. Earlier this year, the National Weather Service declared Florida the country's lightning capital, which holds true today.

District 4

On Aug. 15, at approximately 10 a.m., Port St. Lucie Police Officers responded to the area of SE Kaspar Drive and SE Sandia Drive due to a motor vehicle crash involving a motorcycle and a minivan. The male defendant traveled north on SE Sandia Drive in a minivan when he slowed and turned West on SE Kaspar Drive. As the vehicle driver made the turn, he drove into the path of the motorcyclist who was traveling South on SE Sandia Drive. The adult motorcyclist was not wearing a helmet at the time of the accident.

The motorcyclist was taken to the hospital in critical condition, where he remains in critical condition. P.S.L.P.D. Traffic Homicide Investigators continue to investigate the accident. It does not appear that the speed of either vehicle was a contributing factor. The driver of the minivan was arrested on scene and charged with Florida State Statute 322.34 (6)(a) Any person who operates a motor vehicle: (a) Without having a driver's license as required under s. 322.03 and who by careless operation of the motor vehicle causes the death of or serious bodily injury to another human being commits a felony of the third degree.

District Support

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Aug.31:** Overdose Awareness Event
- **Sept. 18:** Tree giveaway
- **Oct. 5:** National Night Out
- **Oct. 9:** Keiser Fall Festival
- **Oct. 23:** Waste collection

TRAFFIC UNIT

Port St. Lucie Police Officers patrolling S.W. Gatlin Boulevard near midnight on Aug. 24, found a white sedan stationary in a turning lane. Officers found the driver asleep at the wheel. Upon waking up, the vehicle began to move forward until Officers yelled for him to stop. He was subsequently arrested for DUI Breath samples showed a .218 BAL, almost three times the legal limit. According to the driver, he was headed home; it's a good thing we intervened.

P.S.L.P.D. arrested 14 drivers last month for DUI Please don't drive under the influence of any substance that could impair your driving. Call for a ride.



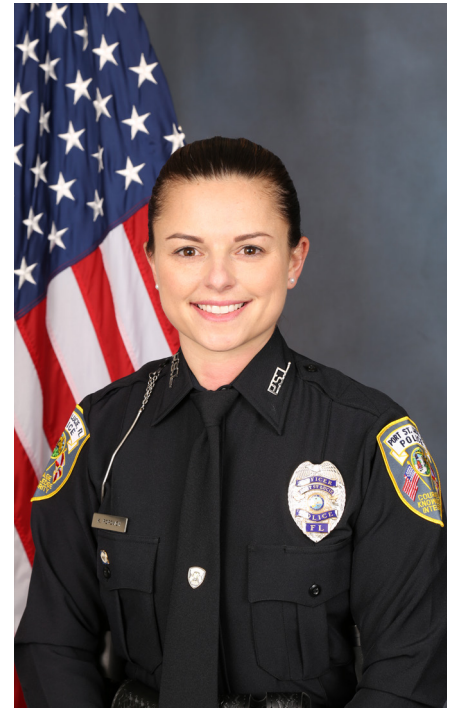
PSL Police Athletic League (P.A.L.):

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Karate:** Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 6-8 p.m.
- **Boxing conditioning:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6-8 p.m.
- **Wrestling conditioning:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6-8 p.m.
- **Baton clinic at the P.A.L. Building:** Saturdays, noon-5 p.m.
- **Marching Drum Line:** Sundays, from 3-5 p.m.

In Other News

Officer Kristina Popovich received recognition through Human Resources after a call was accepted as a thank you for the safe removal and assistance in finding temporary housing of a pet parrot, "Mango," for a hospitalized resident who had no one to take care of Mango. Way to go!



Public Works Department



High Quality
Infrastructure
& Facilities



SIDEWALK PROJECTS

www.cityofpsl.com/sidewalks

Grand Drive is underway.

STREET PAVING PROJECTS

www.cityofpsl.com/repaving

The street paving goal for FY 20/21 is 32.9 miles of which 30.1 miles have been completed to date. See table below.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Sagamore Stormwater Treatment Areas (STA): Excavation is complete at the West STA. Stabilization and sodding of the top of bank has been completed and aquatic planting is partially complete. Excavation is ongoing at the East STA.

ROSSER RESERVE (TENTATIVE START: WEEK OF JULY 19; WEATHER DELAY)	
SW Stony Avenue	SW Savona Boulevard to SW Chaffin Street
SW Bartell Avenue	SW Chaffin Street to SW Crary Street
SW Chaffin Street	SW Stony Avenue to SW Bartell Avenue
SW Ridley Street	SW Stony Avenue to SW Bartell Avenue
SW Chicopee Street	SW Stony Avenue to SW Axtell Avenue
SW Ramspeck Street	SW Stony Avenue to SW Bartell Avenue
SW Ruark Street	SW Stony Avenue to SW Bartell Avenue
SW Crary Street	SW Stony Avenue to SW Bartell Avenue
SW Lawndale Avenue	SW Crary Street to SW Savona Boulevard
SW Axtell Avenue	SW Balleto Street to SW Savona Boulevard
SW Wampler Avenue	SW Carlile Street to SW Savona Boulevard
SW Amboy Avenue	SW Carlile Street to SW Savona Boulevard
SW Carlile Street	SW Axtell Avenue to SW Hunnicut Avenue
SW Balleto Street	SW Axtell Avenue to SW Hunnicut Avenue
SW Hunnicut Avenue	SW Balleto Street to SW Savona Boulevard
SW Hextel Avenue	SW Rosser Boulevard to SW Cheribon Street
SW Neponset Road	SW Bamberg Street to SW Mullimax Avenue
SW Laveto Avenue	SW Rosser Boulevard to SW Bamberg Street
SW Kosnar Avenue	SW Brunswick Street to SW Cheribon Street
SW Tiskilwa Avenue	SW Brunswick Street to SW Cheribon Street
SW Latshaw Avenue	SW Brunswick Street to SW Cheribon Street
SW Hunnicut Avenue	SW Rosser Boulevard to SW Cheribon Street
SW Alice Street	SW Hunnicut Avenue to SW Levato Avenue
SW Bamberg Street	SW Hunnicut Avenue to SW Levato Avenue
SW Cheribon Street	SW Hextel Avenue to SW Hunnicut Avenue
SW Alice Street	SW Mullinax Avenue to SW Hextel Avenue
SW Bamberg Street	SW Mullinax Avenue to SW Hextel Avenue
SW Brunswick Street	SW Hunnicut Avenue to SW Mullinax Avenue
SW Mackemer Road	SW Brunswick Street to SW Hunnicut Avenue
SW Canrady Street	SW Hunnicut Avenue to SW Latshaw Avenue
SW Mullinax Avenue	SW Rosser Boulevard to SW Chaffin Street



Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful



Safe, Clean & Beautiful

Drive-Thru Tree Giveaway

KPSLB will be partnering with the Botanical Gardens, Master Gardeners and the UF/IFAS Extension Office on Sept. 18. Trees will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Trees include mango, avocado, pomegranate, gumbo limbo, green buttonwood, royal poinciana and red maple. City of Port St. Lucie residents may receive one free tree per household (IDs required) while supplies last. The event rain or shine).

After receiving a tree, participants can visit the gardens and speak with Master Gardeners. UF/IFAS Extension Office will also be available to provide planting instructions. The Botanical Gardens will be sponsoring a Scavenger Hunt (ages 6-11) during the event.

There's now a larger selection of trees!

SPREAD-THE-SHADE DRIVE-THRU TREE GIVEAWAY

SATURDAY, SEPT. 18, 2021 | 8-10 A.M.
Botanical Gardens: 2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd.

The City of Port St. Lucie is giving away an assorted variety of trees. This popular event is a drive-thru and trees will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis to City of Port St. Lucie residents, while supplies last. IDs are required.

In memory of family and friends we've lost to COVID-19, residents can choose to plant their free tree in their honor. Send names to kpslb@cityofpsl.com.

TREES ARE GIVEN AWAY ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS. ONE PER HOUSEHOLD, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. LIMITED QUANTITY OF TREE TYPES AVAILABLE. RAIN OR SHINE.

After receiving a tree, residents are invited to visit the gardens for a scavenger hunt, UF/IFAS Extension demonstration and tour the garden center. Have a garden or landscape question? Come speak to a Master Gardener Volunteer and receive a free gift.

- Avocado
- Mango
- Pomegranate
- Green buttonwood
- Royal poinciana
- Gumbo limbo
- Red maple



Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens
2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952
772-871-5103 • www.cityofpsl.com/KPSLB



Utility Systems



Quality Education for
All Residents

Staff assists with vaccine registration

Utility Systems team members offered their assistance at two COVID-19 vaccine clinics in August, which were facilitated by a public/private partnership with the City of Port St. Lucie and Dr. Mark Pamer. Stefanie Beskovoyne, Deputy Director, Utility Legal Affairs; Stacy Iovieno, Safety and Training Coordinator; and Marielly Blanco-Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant helped organize registration for the events.

Nearly 180 doses were administered and those in attendance were pleased with the process. The City of Port St. Lucie has scheduled future vaccine clinics and encourages those interested to check www.cityofpsl.com/vaccine for more information.

Education and outreach is an opportunity for Utility Systems to bring awareness to the many ways we all can help keep our environment thriving.



Water series kicks off in Vero classroom

Fifth-graders at Vero Beach Elementary School just started their elective class which focuses on different aspects of water. Their goal is to create a water-related project for their science fair, but first they must gather the educational resources to learn more about it. In August, Utility Marketing Coordinator Jenny Tomes kicked off a series of three lessons starting with an introduction to water. The kids compared and contrasted fresh and salt water. They walked through the water cycle. And they even made water molecule models from recycled materials. In September, Jenny will teach them about water filtration, where students will make their own water filters. The series will end in October with a lesson on water distribution, plus water conservation and how to protect our freshwater resources.





Spotlight on Sean Meehan

Water Treatment Plant Operator Sean Meehan was featured in the Member Spotlight section of the August edition of Recovery Zone, the Southeast Desalting Association (SEDA) industry publication. Sean's love for water treatment runs in the family. He grew up watching his dad work at the plant and even helped him study for his license exams. Sean has his "B" operator's license and is currently working toward his "A." He is a certified membrane specialist and appreciates the professional development opportunities SEDA has to offer. Sean has been working at the James E. Anderson Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant for more than three years.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

- How did your career in the Water or Wastewater Industry get started?**
My father has been in the industry since I was a child. I remember going on plant tours and being amazed by the whole process. After school, I would help my dad study for his licenses, and I knew that it was what I wanted to do when I grew up. After graduating high school, I completed both of my water treatment course books before I managed to get a trainee job with the City of Port St. Lucie. I am now a B licensed water plant operator with three and half years of experience.
- How long have you been a member of SEDA?**
I have been a member of SEDA for about 2 years.
- What/who prompted you to join SEDA? How did you get involved in SEDA on a deeper level? Explain your history with SEDA.**
I was first introduced to SEDA during my membrane specialist training course. Being at a reverse osmosis plant, my lead and chief operators make it a priority to have all of our operators certified. It was only recently that I started getting involved in SEDA on a deeper level. I am still relatively new to SEDA, but I look forward to any future opportunities it holds.

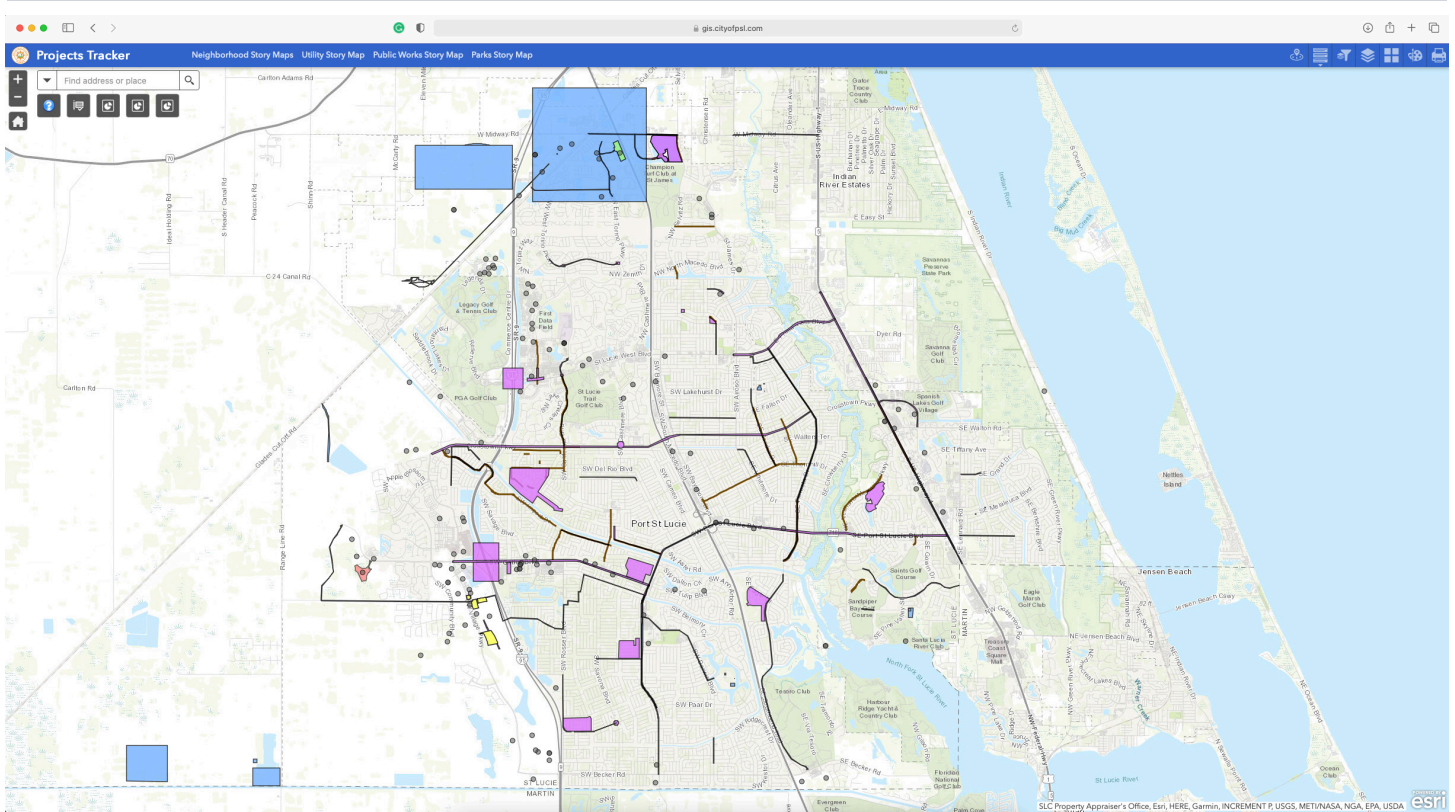


Sean Meehan
Plant Operator, City of Port St. Lucie

- How does being a member of SEDA benefit you? What do you enjoy the most about SEDA?**
I really enjoy SEDA as it provides operators with a place to meet people in the same field of work. It has helped me make a lot of networking connections with other operators/vendors that I would otherwise not have met. SEDA provides great learning experiences to both old and new operators. I look forward to seeing how SEDA records all the advancements in water/wastewater treatment through the coming years.
- What do you enjoy doing in your free time?**
I love trying new things. My hobbies change a lot, but at the moment I really enjoy roller skating.
- What is the most recent book you have read or concert you have been to?**
I just finished reading Shadow and Bone. I have always been a fan of YA fantasy novels.
- What advice do you have for the younger generation in the beginning years of their careers in Water/Wastewater and SEDA?**
My advice to people around my age would be to stick with the career. Knock the tests out as soon as you can because the experience you get from having these licenses is worth the hours of studying. Being a water treatment plant operator has greatly improved me as a person, and it would benefit a lot of people around my age to join this career path. Before I was in water treatment, I was very timid and would do anything to avoid a problem, but now I am capable of handling any problem that comes my way. I now view every problem in this line of work as a chance to learn something new about the process that I might have otherwise overlooked. I am still relatively new to the field, but I can tell you from firsthand experience that it is an ever-changing field. You need to have a flexible mindset.



S&P upgrades City of Port St. Lucie Revenue Bond to 'AA,' its highest rating in 33 years



PORT ST. LUCIE – S&P Global Ratings (S&P) — one of the world’s big three credit agencies — has upgraded the City of Port St. Lucie’s approximately \$50 million in Capital Improvement and Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2021 bond rating from A+ to AA, the third highest possible S&P rating. This rating is the highest the City has achieved in approximately 33 years and will allow the City to issue debt at lower borrowing costs.

The S&P rating upgrade is largely attributable to the City Council’s prudent fiscal policies and direction, stable and strong senior management

team, sustainable budgeting and financial policies and practices, improved reserve position to weather the next down-cycle and robust tax base. These ratings indicate the bonds issued are high quality and low risk.

“It is great news for the City to have earned the confidence of the world’s leading credit rating agencies,” said Jeff Snyder, Port St. Lucie’s Chief Financial Officer. “These bond ratings reflect the economic stability of the City of Port St. Lucie and the fact that the City has been a good steward of citizens’ tax dollars.”

This higher bond rating means \$600,000 to \$1 million in present value interest savings in the life of the 30-year bond. While focusing on reducing the City’s debt, the successful bond issue will increase resources for the following projects:

- New Public Works building
- New Police training facility
- Torino Regional Park
- Tradition Regional Park
- Adaptive traffic light system

Visit www.cityofpsl.com/projecttracker to learn more about the City’s capital improvement projects.