2019-2020 Florida Job Growth Grant Fund
Public Infrastructure Grant Proposal

Proposal Instructions: The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Proposal (this document) must be completed by the governmental entity applying for the grant and signed by either the chief elected official, the administrator for the governmental entity or their designee. Please read the proposal carefully as some questions may require a separate narrative to be completed. If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.

Governmental Entity Information

Name of Governmental Entity: City of North Port
Government Federal Employer Identification Number

Primary Contact Name: Valerie Malingowski
Title: Grant Writer
Mailing Address: 4970 City Hall Boulevard
North Port, FL 34286
Phone Number: 941-429-7001
Email: vmalingowski@cityofnorthport.com

Secondary Contact Name: Mel Thomas
Title: Economic Development Manager
Phone Number: 941-429-7029

Public Infrastructure Grant Eligibility

Pursuant to section 288.101, F.S., the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund was created to promote economic opportunity by improving public infrastructure and enhancing workforce training. Eligible entities that wish to access this grant fund must submit public infrastructure proposals that:

- Promote economic recovery in specific regions of the state, economic diversification or economic enhancement in a targeted industry (View Florida’s Targeted Industries here).
- Are not for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation or business entity.
- Are for infrastructure that is owned by the public and is for public use or predominately benefits the public.
1. Program Requirements:
(If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.)

Each proposal must include the following information describing how the project satisfies eligibility requirements listed on page 1.

A. Provide a detailed description of the public infrastructure improvements.
   Please see attached.

B. Provide location of public infrastructure, including physical address and county of project.
   The public infrastructure will be located in the right of way from approximately 4995 Hansard Avenue north on North Sumter Boulevard to Kalish Avenue in the City of North Port, Sarasota County.

C. Is this infrastructure currently owned by the public?  
   Yes ☐ No ☐
   If no, is there a current option to purchase or right of way provided to the County?
   Not applicable.

D. Provide current property owner.
   City of North Port.

E. Is this infrastructure for public use or does it predominately benefit the public?
   Yes ☐ No ☐
   This project is for public use and will benefit the public.

F. Will the public infrastructure improvements be for the exclusive benefit of any single company, corporation or business entity?
   Yes ☐ No ☐
   In addition to the service to land at the I-75 and Sumter interchange, the installation of the infrastructure will also allow the opportunity for future residential utility service connection.
G. Provide a detailed description of, and quantitative evidence demonstrating, how the proposed public infrastructure project will promote:

- Economic recovery in specific regions of the state;
- Economic diversification; or
- Economic enhancement of a Targeted Industry (View Florida’s Targeted Industries here).

  o Describe how the project will promote specific job growth. Include the number of jobs that will be retained or created, and in which industry(ies) the new net jobs will be created using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes. Where applicable, you may list specific businesses that will retain or create jobs or make capital investment.

  o Provide a detailed explanation of how the public infrastructure improvements will connect to a broader economic development vision for the community and benefit additional current or future businesses.

Please see attached.

2. Additional Information:
(If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.)

A. Provide the proposed commencement date and number of days required to complete construction of the public infrastructure project.

The proposed commencement date is October 1, 2019. Procurement would take approximately 120 days and construction would take 365 days.

B. What permits are necessary for the public infrastructure project?

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) General Permit, Florida Department of Health (DOH) General Permit and Environmental Resource Permit.
C. Detail whether required permits have been secured, and if not, detail the timeline for securing these permits. Additionally, if any required permits are local permits, will these permits be prioritized?
   Please see attached.

D. What is the future land use and zoning designation on the proposed site of the infrastructure improvements, and will the improvements conform to those uses?
   Please see attached.

E. Will an amendment to the local comprehensive plan or a development order be required on the site of the proposed project or on adjacent property to accommodate the infrastructure and potential current or future job creation opportunities? If yes, please detail the timeline.

   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

   An amendment to the local comprehensive plan or a development order will not be required.

F. Is the project ready to commence upon grant fund approval and contract execution? If no, please explain.

   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

   Yes. Understanding the limitations of not having utility services available for incoming development, in 2014, the City contracted with an engineer to design the project and obtain the necessary permits. The construction bid phase would immediately commence upon approval of grant funds.

G. Does this project have a local match amount?

   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

   If yes, please describe the entity providing the match and the amount.

   The City of North Port has a cash match of $892,760. The City has spent $78,740.25 to date in design and permitting, and the developer has spent over $100,000 in engineering and marketing studies.

H. Provide any additional information or attachments to be considered for this proposal. Maps and other supporting documents are encouraged.

   Please see attached.
3. Program Budget
(If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.)

Estimated Costs and Sources of Funding: Include all applicable public infrastructure costs and other funding sources available to support the proposal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.) Total Amount Requested</th>
<th>$1,949,650</th>
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A. Other Workforce Training Project Funding Sources:

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<tr>
<td>Other (grants, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Other Funding</td>
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B. Public Infrastructure Project Funding Sources:

<table>
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<th>Construction</th>
<th>$892,760 City Funds</th>
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<td>Reconstruction</td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design &amp; Engineering</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Acquisition</td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Improvement</td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Project Costs</td>
<td>$2,842,410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Please Specify:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: The total amount requested must equal the difference between the workforce training project costs in 3. and the other Public infrastructure project funding sources in 2.
C. Provide a detailed budget narrative, including the timing and steps necessary to obtain the funding and any other pertinent budget-related information.

Please see attached.

4. Approvals and Authority
(If additional space is needed, attach a word document with your entire answer.)

A. If the governmental entity is awarded grant funds based on this proposal, what approvals must be obtained before it can execute a grant agreement with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (e.g., approval of a board, commission or council)?

If awarded, the grant agreement will be reviewed by legal and will need to be brought before City Commission for approval.

If board authorization is not required, who is authorized to sign?

City Commission authorization is required.

B. If approval of a board, commission, council or other group is needed prior to execution of an agreement between the governmental entity and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity:

i. Provide the schedule of upcoming meetings for the group for a period of at least six months.

ii. State whether entity is willing and able to hold special meetings, and if so, upon how many days' notice.

The schedule until December 30th is attached. Regular Commission meetings are held typically every second and fourth Tuesday. Special meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of the month. The City is willing and able to hold special meetings within 2 days notice, if a quorum is available.

C. Attach evidence that the undersigned has all necessary authority to execute this proposal on behalf of the governmental entity. This evidence may take a variety of forms, including but not limited to: a delegation of authority, citation to relevant laws or codes, policy documents, etc.

The section from the City Code and agenda information from the July 11, 2019 Commission Meeting is attached.
I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I have express authority to sign this proposal on behalf of the above-described entity and to the best of my knowledge, that all data and information submitted in proposal is truthful and accurate and no material fact has been omitted.

Name of Governmental Entity: City of North Port

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: Christopher Hanks, Mayor

Representative Signature:

Signature Date: July 17, 2019
Florida Job Growth Grant Proposal
Sumter Boulevard Utilities Expansion Project
City of North Port, Florida

1.A. Provide a detailed description of the public infrastructure improvements:

The City of North Port is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two-miles of City water and sewer service on Sumter Boulevard from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange, to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. The water line will be 12” PVC and 14” HDPE, and the wastewater line will be 12” PVC, 16” PVC and 14” HDPE. This project has been designed and permitted, with the exception of an Environmental Resource Permit. The total cost of construction is $2,842,410 and the City will provide a cash match of $892,760. To date, the City has spent $78,740.25 in design and permitting for the proposed utility infrastructure, and a developer has spent over $100,000 in engineering and marketing studies for the site.

This grant, if awarded, will be a significant step towards achieving the following economic objectives:

- Create professional employment opportunities for residents closer to home: More than half of the City’s skilled workforce travels outside of the City for employment. The average travel time is 28.1 minutes. This project will help create a City where professional employed residents work and reside to shift the City’s direction away from becoming a bedroom community. It is expected that the first phase of business development proposed at the northeast and southwest quadrants of this interchange will create over 690 job opportunities. The second phase build out will provide jobs in targeted industries such as financial services, professional services and information technology. A third phase includes the construction of a hospital, bringing over 4,000 potential jobs to this corridor.
- Shift in tax base: 80% of the City’s properties are residential, causing the tax burden to be off balance. There is an inequity between residential, commercial and industrial growth, causing the burden to be primarily on residential properties. This project will help balance the tax base and create future sustainability.
- Increased revenues: If this mixed-use land area is developed and built out within the next 15 years, the City has the potential to gain $16 million in revenues over a 30-year cumulative period. These revenues are important for City sustainability and balancing of the tax base.

Over the past twelve years, North Port has experienced a steady increase in population and recently became the lead city for the North Port-Bradenton-Sarasota Metropolitan Statistical Area. According to the Bureau of Economic and Business Research 2019 data, the City of North Port population is 70,631. The City of North Port has a young, skilled workforce with a median age of 45, and opportunities for additional training and education through local colleges and universities such as State College of Florida, Suncoast Technical College and the University of South Florida add to North Port’s appeal as a great location to do business.

North Port is one of Florida’s “platted lands” communities wherein vast tracts of land were designated and platted for primarily residential development, however, most properties are still lacking central water and wastewater services. North Port has recently seen commercial development starting to catch up to the residential rooftops that have been going up steadily. Commercial development is providing new areas
for shopping, limited medical services, and restaurants. This development is helping North Port become a more sustainable community. The recent construction of the Atlanta Braves spring training stadium has triggered high residential and commercial growth in the West Villages planned community development, making it one of the fastest growing developments in the nation. However, the City has yet to see a great influx in professional and industrial facilities to complement the large and growing workforce population in North Port.

The City of North Port has eight unique Activity Centers, which are un-platted non-residential areas set aside to foster employment development. Sumter Boulevard and I-75 property is in Activity Center 3 which consists of 177 acres zoned for Planned Community Development (PCD). Under the current Comprehensive Plan, the land use scenario includes:

- **Institutional**: 32 Acres
- **Commercial**: 77 Acres
- **Professional/Office**: 12 Acres

The northeast and southwest quadrants of land surrounding the interchange are owned by private land owners who are interested in developing the properties. The southeast quadrant of the interchange is owned by Sarasota County Public Hospital Board. The northeast quadrant is under speculation for future development. All parcels are currently vacant. Sumter Boulevard is a two-lane road located near the City government center of the 104 square mile City and is one of two main corridors from the I-75 exit and is also a main evacuation route from the City. City Hall, the Police Station, a Fire Station, commercial businesses and the Post Office are located on Sumter Boulevard approximately two-miles south of I-75.

The property owned by the Sarasota County Public Hospital Board is proposed for a future hospital site. A developer is proposing two 40,000 square feet specialized medical offices for specialized physician practices, two 63,000 square foot hotels, three restaurants and professional office buildings are also being proposed on the northeast and southwest quadrants.

1. **Provide a detailed description if, and quantitative evidence demonstrating how the proposed public infrastructure will promote:**
   - Economic recovery in specific regions of the state;
   - Economic diversification; or
   - Economic enhancement of a Targeted Industry.

The City of North Port experienced substantial commercial and industrial growth after water and sewer was extended to Toledo Blade Boulevard south of I-75 in the mid-2000’s. A commerce park is now located in the corridor and includes diverse economic development such as medical offices, professional offices, light industrial and manufacturing. The City expects the utilities expansion on Sumter Boulevard at I-75 to produce even greater results, thereby expanding economic diversification.

As mentioned in the detailed description, a developer is proposing two 40,000 square feet of medical offices for specialized doctor practices. Two 63,000 square foot hotels and three restaurants are proposed. Other professional office buildings are also proposed. The developer’s proposal would create over 690 jobs. The average salary for the proposed jobs is expected to be $52,272. Based on the land use scenario, a potential of 4,859 jobs could be created in this interchange corridor, assuming a +/- 100 bed medical facility is constructed. A larger facility could increase employees by an additional 1,000. Many of these jobs will fall in targeted industry sectors, particularly financial and professional services.
In May 2019, the City of North Port Economic Overview was completed in JobsEQ®. According to the report, the City has a civilian labor force of 26,559. As of the last quarter of 2018, total employment in the City was 9,753. The largest labor employment sector in the City of North Port, FL is Retail Trade, employing 1,828 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Construction (1,200 workers) and Educational Services (1,151).

The average commute for a North Port resident is 28.1 minutes, higher than the state average of 25.7 minutes. Only 22% of employed residents work within City limits. A high concentration of the residents are employed in health and medical services. According to the 2018 North Port Community Livability Report conducted by National Research Center, Inc. and ICMA, only 27% of residents felt positive about employment opportunities in North Port. Less than 4 in 10 respondents gave favorable evaluations to the vibrancy of the commercial area and to the City as a place to visit and as a place to work. When asked about their perceptions on growth, about 7 in 10 survey respondents felt that growth was much or somewhat too slow.

The Economic Development Strategic Plan Update identifies business development of the land at I-75 could quickly close the gap and attract the resident workforce it desires. This proposed project will make the land at I-75 more attractive to developers and bring the City one step closer to providing targeted medical and professional jobs to the City’s resident workforce and reduce drive time for employed residents, simultaneously diversifying the local economy.

2.C. Detail whether required permits have been secured, and if not, detail the timeline for securing these permits. Additionally, if any required permits are local permits, will these permits be prioritized?

In 2014, the City committed to invest in this project by having an engineer prepare the design and apply for the necessary permits. The City has obtained a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) General Permit for Constructing a Domestic Wastewater Collection/Transmission System which is valid through March 13, 2024. The City has also obtained a Florida Department of Health (DOH) General Permit for Construction of Water Main Extensions for PWSs. An Environmental Resource Permit is needed from the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The remaining application can be completed concurrent with the bidding process and received within 90 days.

2.D. What is the future land use and zoning designation on the proposed site of the infrastructure improvements, and will the improvements conform to those uses?

The zoning designation for the quadrant of properties at Sumter Boulevard and I-75 interchange is Planned Community Development (PCD) district. The purpose of the PCD district is to provide an area for coordinated development of industrial, commercial, service, residential and government uses within a park-like setting. The establishment of this district provides a mechanism to attract major employers to the City, which can contribute to the diversification of the economic base in a manner consistent with the City’s adopted Comprehensive Plan. The PCD district provides for a variety of uses where project components and land use relationships are physically and functionally integrated. This concept incorporates a wide range of traditional industrial uses with a variety of non-industrial activities which may support or otherwise relate to the commerce/industrial activities which may support or otherwise relate to the commerce/industrial economic base of the City. Generally, PCD land uses include manufacturing, wholesaling and warehousing, construction services, transportation activities, retail trade and service, residential and government uses. It is the intent of these regulations to facilitate the harmonious interaction of land uses not individually provided for in other industrial, commercial, service, residential or government use districts through grouping of similar uses. These regulations are designed
to protect adjacent properties from the potentially adverse impacts associated with mixed-use development and to promote efficient and economic land use among functionally integrated activities. This intent is achieved through coordinated application of standards, which regulate location, open space, ground coverage, height, lighting, signage, landscape, buffer and other physical design elements.

The future land use is designated Activity Center 3 and mixed-use. Development within the described Activity Center has identifying characteristics and design. Activity Centers promote the public health, safety and welfare and conform to the provisions regulating the development of areas designated as Activity Centers set forth in the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan as follows:

- Ensure that the character and location of land uses maximize the potential for economic benefit and the enjoyment of natural and man-made resources by citizens while minimizing the threat to health, safety and welfare posed by hazards, nuisances, incompatible land uses, and environmental degradation.
- These lands are designated to provide an area for coordinated development of industrial, commercial, professional office, residential, public and recreational uses. This designation provides for a variety of uses where project components and land use relationships are physically and functionally integrated.
- To develop an effective multi-modal transportation system which optimizes safety, convenience, cost and pollution reduction practices by establishing internal and external transportation linkages between residential neighborhoods and activity centers.
- The City of North Port shall provide a stormwater management system which protects real and personal properties, preserves natural resources, maintains recharge to the surficial aquifer, and maintains or improves the quality of surface water runoff.

Permitted principal uses and structures for Activity Center 3 are listed in Section 55-26 of the Unified Land Development Code, and are as follows:

- Auditorium and convention center.
- Bank or financial institution.
- Commercial complex one hundred thousand (100,000) square feet + (not big box).
- Gas station.
- Hotels, (one hundred (100) rooms +) full or limited service.
- Medical.
- Motel, (one hundred (100) rooms +) full service.
- Parking lots and parking garages.
- Recreation, active and passive.
- Research and process laboratories.
- Restaurant.
- Service station.
- Sports arena.
- Theater for live stage productions.
- Wholesale club.

This project and future development conform to these uses and no changes will need to be made.

3.C. Provide a detailed budget narrative, including the timing and steps necessary to obtain the funding and any other pertinent budget-related information.

Wastewater construction is estimated at $1,669,500 and potable waterline construction is estimated at $1,172,910 for a total of $2,842,410. All funds will be used for construction.
Project construction will need to be formally bid. It takes approximately 120 days for the bid process to be prepared, let, reviewed and awarded to a construction firm at a Commission meeting. An Environmental Resource Permit, through the Southwest Florida Water Management District, is still needed and the permit process would run concurrent with the bidding process and issued in 90 days.

At the July 11, 2019, City Commission meeting, the Commission voted to move $892,760 from a neighborhood utility expansion project, which was on hold, to the Sumter and I-75 interchange project to be used as a cash match for this grant. The City is currently in the budget process, and the matching funds will be budgeted for October 1, 2019. If a grant is awarded prior to October 1, 2019, a budget amendment can be completed sooner.

APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS:

1. Project Location and Zoning Map
2. Pages from Construction Plans
3. What If Report Office of Physicians
4. What If Report Hotels
5. Traffic Usage Data
6. Commission Meeting Dates 2019
7. Section from Code Authorizing Mayor and July 11 Commission Agenda
8. Letters of Support
PIPELINE QUANTITY SUMMARY

TOTAL 12" PVC WASTE WATER FORCE MAIN: 6,687 LF
TOTAL 16" PVC WASTE WATER FORCE MAIN: 42 LF
TOTAL 14" HDPE WASTE WATER FORCE MAIN: 4,386 LF

Permit-Seal
CHRISTOPHER L. ROSENBOOM, P.E
FLORIDA LICENSE No. 68.359
Project Number. 177310475
File Name: 10475cu-CXJ3.ctwg
Dwn. Chkd. Dsgn. YY.MM.DD
Drawing No. Revision Sheet 3 of 56
What-if Report for North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton, FL MSA, NAICS 6211 - Offices of Physicians (300 Workers)

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<th>Regional Avg Wage</th>
<th>National Avg Wage</th>
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<tr>
<td>13-1199</td>
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<tr>
<td>29-2031</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Chiropractors</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$157,500</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Executive Secretaries and Executive</td>
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<td>43-6011</td>
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<td>Average Wage 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-1071</td>
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<td>$66,800</td>
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<td>Maintenance and Repair Workers, General Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists</td>
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<td>$53,900</td>
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<td>Opticians, Dispensing</td>
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<td>29-1041</td>
<td>Optometrists</td>
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<td>$120,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>29-1051</td>
<td>Pharmacists</td>
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<td>29-2052</td>
<td>Pharmacy Technicians</td>
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<td>31-2021</td>
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<td>29-1123</td>
<td>Physical Therapists</td>
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<td>29-1066</td>
<td>Psychiatrists</td>
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<td>Radiation Therapists</td>
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<td>$86,700</td>
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<td>Skincare Specialists</td>
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<tr>
<td>21-1093</td>
<td>Social and Human Service Assistants</td>
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<td>$35,800</td>
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<td>29-2055</td>
<td>Surgical Technologists</td>
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<td>43-2011</td>
<td>Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service</td>
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<td>$35,700</td>
<td>$31,300</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Annual Payroll**: $23,614,000 / $24,019,000

*Source: JobsEQ®*

1. Occupation employment and unemployment are place-of-residence data—that is, referring to workers who reside in the named locality.
2. Occupation wages are as of 2018 and represent the average for all Covered Employment Data as of 2019Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Exported on: Wednesday, July 10, 2019 11:14 AM
What-If Report for North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton, FL MSA, NAICS 72111 - Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels (195 Workers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOC</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>New Employer Demand</th>
<th>Regional Avg Wage</th>
<th>National Avg Wage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37-2012</td>
<td>Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>$24,500</td>
<td>$25,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>43-4081</td>
<td>Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>$26,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>35-3031</td>
<td>Waiters and Waitresses</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>49-9071</td>
<td>Maintenance and Repair Workers, General</td>
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<tr>
<td>35-2014</td>
<td>Cooks, Restaurant</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>$27,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>35-9011</td>
<td>Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>35-3011</td>
<td>Bartenders</td>
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<td>Janitorial Workers</td>
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<td>Administrative Support Workers</td>
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<td>51-6011</td>
<td>Laundry and Dry-Cleaning Workers</td>
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<td>Lodging Managers</td>
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<td>35-3041</td>
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<td>Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks</td>
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<tr>
<td>33-9032</td>
<td>Security Guards</td>
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<tr>
<td>39-3091</td>
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<td>41-2011</td>
<td>Cashiers</td>
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<td>35-1011</td>
<td>Chefs and Head Cooks</td>
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<tr>
<td>35-2012</td>
<td>Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria</td>
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<td>$28,300</td>
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<td>35-3022</td>
<td>Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food</td>
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<td>$24,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>43-4051</td>
<td>Customer Service Representatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>49-1011</td>
<td>First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers</td>
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<td>$69,300</td>
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<td>33-9092</td>
<td>Protective Service Workers</td>
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<td>Massage Therapists</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-1121</td>
<td>Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Human Resources Specialists</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers</td>
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<td>Recreation Workers</td>
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<td>Reservation and Transportation Ticket Agents</td>
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<td>Retail Salespersons</td>
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<td>11-2022</td>
<td>Sales Managers</td>
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<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>Average Payroll 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>秘書和行政助理，除法律、医疗、行政外的</td>
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<td>交换板操作员，包括接听服务</td>
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<td>总年度工资</td>
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<td>$6,277,000 $6,338,000</td>
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</table>

Source: JobsEQ®

1. 职业就业和失业是居住地数据，即指居住在当地的职业工作者。
2. 职业工资为2018年的平均值，代表所有覆盖就业的平均值。

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.
Exported on: Wednesday, July 10, 2019 11:17 AM
Traffic Usage Data

Traffic on I-75:

![Historical AADT graph for I-75]

Traffic on N Sumter Blvd:

![Historical AADT graph for N Sumter Blvd]
### REGULAR COMMISSION & DISTRICT MEETINGS 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 9/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 8/14</td>
<td>8/19</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 9/24</td>
<td>4:00 PM; Regular Meeting 6:00 PM</td>
<td>District 4:00 PM; Regular Meeting 6:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 9/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 9/10</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 9/11</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 9/18</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 9/25</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 9/18</td>
<td>9/19</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 10/22</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 10/9</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 10/16</td>
<td>10/19</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 10/23</td>
<td>10/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 11/13</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 12/10</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 11/20</td>
<td>11/19</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 11/27</td>
<td>11/19</td>
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</table>

### SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETINGS 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 3</td>
<td>10/19, 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>Thursday, November 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 5</td>
<td>11/19, 1:00 pm</td>
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</table>
Sec. 5.03. - Position of mayor.

(a) The City Commission shall appoint annually, by majority vote, one of its members as Mayor and one of its members as Vice-Mayor. The nomination and appointment shall occur at the assumption of office meeting during election years and at the first meeting in November in non-election years.

(b) The term of Mayor shall be one year. There shall be no limitation on the number of terms a Commissioner may serve as Mayor, provided that the terms are not consecutive. The term of Vice-Mayor shall be one year. There shall be no limitation on the number of terms a Commissioner may serve as Vice-Mayor, provided that the terms are not consecutive.

(c) The Mayor shall preside at all meetings of the City Commission, perform such other duties consistent with the position as may be imposed upon it by law or ordinance, and the Mayor shall have a vote in the proceedings of the City Commission. The Vice-Mayor shall assume the duties of Mayor in the absence thereof; if the Mayor's seat becomes vacant, the Vice-Mayor shall assume the duties of Mayor from the time of vacancy through the remainder of the term. The Commissioner serving as mayor shall have legislative and governing powers commensurate with all other Commissioners.

(d) The Mayor may use the official title when necessity arises from the general laws of the State. The Mayor shall be recognized as the official head of the City by the courts for the purpose of serving civil process; in the exercising of military law; and for all ceremonial purposes; sign on behalf of the City all intergovernmental agreements, ordinances, resolutions and any other official documents.
MEETING PROCEDURE: By submitting a “Request to Speak” card to the City Clerk, the public may comment during the course of the meeting: (1) Speakers may comment under Public Comment at the beginning and ending of each meeting on any issue that is related to City Business whether or not the item is scheduled on the Agenda, with the exception of Quasi-Judicial Items; (2) Speakers may comment on all scheduled Agenda Items and Quasi-Judicial items at the time the item is being discussed. Please indicate on the Speaker Card by writing Public Comment if you wish to speak under that portion of the meeting or specify the individual agenda item you wish to speak to. Please wait until you are recognized by the presiding Officer, state your name so that your comments may be properly recorded and limit your remarks to a period of three (3) minutes or less. The City Commission will act on an Agenda Item after comments from the Staff, Petitioner and Public have been heard.

Florida’s Sunshine Law requires the Commission to discuss this Agenda only in open session. The Commissioners cannot discuss these items with each other before this meeting is called to order. The Commissioners, individually, can however, discuss any item with concerned citizens and staff in preparation for the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

(The purpose of the Public Comments Section of the Agenda is for members of the public to speak to the City Commission/District Governing Body on any subject pertaining to City Business whether or not it is on the Agenda, with the exception of Quasi-Judicial Items. The City Commission shall not act, except to direct the City Manager to take action or to schedule the matter for discussion at a later date. This comment period shall be limited to three (3) minutes to speak. If there is insufficient time to hear all speakers, the City Commission will hear those wishing to address them, and who have completed speaker cards during the second Public Comment Section.)
3. WELCOME OF NEW EMPLOYEES:
   A. 19-0714  New Employee Acknowledgement

4. PRESENTATIONS: TIME LIMIT OF 15 MINUTES
   A. 19-0569  Kim Ferrell, Finance Director: Functions of the Finance Department
       Attachments: Presentation

5. GENERAL BUSINESS:
   A. 19-0711  Follow-Up Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the City's Tree Protection Regulations
       Attachments: Worksheets & Tree-related Code Language
                  PowerPoint
                  Tree Canopy Results using 1,000 points
                  Map of Unsewered Parcels
                  SFHA-Central City
                  SFHA-Estates
   B. 19-0767  Discussion and Possible Action to Authorize Mayor to Sign Grant Application to the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund in an Amount of $2,842,410 for the Installation of Water and Sewer Line on Sumter Boulevard from South of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue
       Attachments: Draft Grant Application
                  Draft Grant Text

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ORDINANCES - First Reading
   A. ORD. NO. 2019-33  An Ordinance of the City of North Port, Florida, Amending the Code of the City of North Port, Florida, Chapter 4 - Boards and Committees; Article IV – Audit Committee, to Incorporate Amendments to Florida Statutes § 218.391: Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing an Effective Date.
       Attachments: Ordinance
                  FS 218.391 Auditor Selection Procedures

7. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS: TIME CERTAIN AT 4:00 P.M.
   A. 19-0219  Present Smokey Bear 75th Birthday Proclamation
B. **19-0608** Proclaim August 24, 2019 as the Twenty-Eighth Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence Day

**Attachments:** Proclamation

C. **19-0749** Present Advisory Board Certificates of Appreciation to Shawn Singh for Serving on the Art Advisory Board and Ashely Higgins for Serving on the Environmental Advisory Board

**Attachments:** Certificates

**PUBLIC HEARINGS: Continued**

**ORDINANCES - First Reading**

B. **ORD. NO. 2019-24** An Ordinance of the City of North Port, Florida, Amending the Unified Land Development Code, Chapter 53, Article XVII – V Village, Sections 53-213 and 53-214 to Provide Regulations for Adoption, Contents, And Maintenance for Village Index Map, Village District Pattern Book, and Village District Pattern Plan, and Incorporating by Reference the West Villages Index Map, the West Villages Village District Pattern Book, and all Previously Adopted West Villages Village District Pattern Plans; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing an Effective Date. TXT-19-125

**Attachments:** Ordinance 2019-24

Ordinance 2019-24 with PZAB Edits

PZAB Minutes

C. **ORD. NO. 2019-20** An Ordinance of the City of North Port, Florida, Amending the West Villages Index Map to Relocate the Town Center and Village Center Boundaries, Adjust Village Boundaries, add Approximate Public use Acreages, and add Potential Fire/Police Station Location Alternatives; Providing for Findings; Providing for Adoption; Providing for Filing of Approved Documents; Providing for Severability; Providing for Conflicts; and Providing an Effective Date. (QUASI-JUDICIAL)

**Attachments:** Ordinance 2019-20

Staff Report

Staff Presentation

PZAB Minutes

Applicant Presentation

D. **ORD. NO. 2019-25** An Ordinance of the City of North Port, Florida, Adopting the Village E Village District Pattern Plan (West Villages) for a ±480 Acre Area Located to the West of River Road, to the South of US 41, to the North of the Future Playmore Road and to the East of the State College of Florida Campus
and West Villages Parkway; Amending the Unified Land Development Code, Chapter 53, Article XVIII – V Village, Section 53-214 to Incorporate the Pattern Plan by Reference; Providing for Findings; Providing for Adoption; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing an Effective Date. (QUASI-JUDICIAL)

**Attachments:**
- Ordinance 2019-25
- Staff Report
- Staff Presentation
- PZAB Minutes
- Applicant Presentation

**E. ORD. NO. 2019-19**

An Ordinance of the City of North Port, Florida, Adopting the Village F Village District Pattern Plan (West Villages) for a ±828 Acre Area Located to the West of the Future West Villages Parkway, to the South of Playmore Road and the Island Walk Subdivision, to the North of the Future Manasota Beach Road and to the East of the Sarasota National Development; Amending the Unified Land Development Code, Chapter 53, Article XVIII – V Village, Section 53-214 to Incorporate the Pattern Plan by Reference; Providing for Findings; Providing for Adoption; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing an Effective Date. (QUASI-JUDICIAL)

**Attachments:**
- Ordinance 2019-19
- Staff Report
- Staff Presentation
- PZAB Minutes
- Applicant Presentation

**F. ORD. NO. 2019-26**

An Ordinance of the City of North Port, Florida, Adopting the Village G Village District Pattern Plan (West Villages) for a ±742 Acre Area Located to the West of River Road, to the South of Playmore Road, to the North of the Future Manasota Beach Road and to the East of West Villages Parkway; Amending the Unified Land Development Code, Chapter 53, Article XVIII – V Village, Section 53-214 to Incorporate the Pattern Plan by Reference; Providing for Findings; Providing for Adoption; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing an Effective Date. (QUASI-JUDICIAL)

**Attachments:**
- Ordinance 2019-26
- Staff Report
- Staff Presentation
- PZAB Minutes
- Applicant Presentation

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT:**
(The purpose of the Public Comments Section of the Agenda is for members of the public to speak to the City Commission/District Governing Body on any subject pertaining to City Business whether or not it is on the Agenda, with the exception of Quasi-Judicial Items. The City Commission shall not act, except to direct the City Manager to take action or to schedule the matter for discussion at a later date. This comment period shall be limited to three (3) minutes to speak. If there is insufficient time to hear all speakers, the City Commission will hear those wishing to address them, and who have completed speaker cards during the second Public Comment Section.)

9. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

A. 19-0750 Commissioner Luke
B. 19-0751 Vice Mayor McDowell
C. 19-0752 Mayor Hanks
D. 19-0753 Commissioner Carusone
E. 19-0754 Commissioner Emrich

10. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

11. ADJOURNMENT:

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS - The Agenda is a summary of the proposed actions to be taken by the City Commission. For almost every agenda item, the City staff has prepared materials for Commission consideration. These materials include staff reports, which explain in detail the item before the Commission and the reason for the recommendation. The materials may also include resolutions or ordinances, which are proposed for adoption. All of these materials are available at the City Clerk’s Office, during normal business hours, for inspection and (for a fee) copying. Questions on these materials may be directed to the staff member who prepared them, or to the City Clerk’s Office, who will refer you to the appropriate person.

AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 - The North Port City Hall is wheelchair accessible. Special parking is available on the west side of City Hall and the building may be accessed from the parking area. Persons with hearing difficulties should contact the City Clerk to obtain a hearing device for use during meetings.

NONDISCRIMINATION: The City of North Port does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, family or religious status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or physical characteristic in administration of its programs, activities or services.

No stenographic record by a certified court reporter is made of these recordings. Accordingly, anyone seeking to appeal any of the decisions involving the matters herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the meeting/testimony and evidence upon which any appeal is to be based. Copies of the recordings are available (for a fee) at the City Clerk’s Office.
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I strongly support the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. The city is requesting $1,949,650 for a water and sewer extension project that will facilitate additional business investment in what has become the fastest growing community in Sarasota County.

I recently had the opportunity to take a guided tour of this community and came away extremely impressed. As a guest of the Sarasota County EDC and the City of North Port, I was brought in to attend the inaugural spring training game of the Atlanta Braves at the brand new CoolToday Park in North Port, and I chose to stay another two days to interview business leaders and learn more about why they chose to launch and grow successful ventures in that part of Southwest Florida.

What I learned blew me away. Entrepreneurs, most of them in their 20s and 30s, chose to actually start their innovative companies in Sarasota County, and they continue to flourish there today largely because of overwhelming support from the surrounding environment. Retired CEOs act as mentors to these young business leaders, and the various government agencies go out of their way to support their success. This was especially evident in North Port, where the leaders of city government have gone all-in on pro-business economic development.

I can’t think of a better place in Florida that would be more worthy of a Florida Job Growth Grant right now. Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Ron Starner  
Executive Vice President  
Site Selection Magazine and Conway Inc.  
6625 The Corners Parkway, Suite 200  
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092
July 17, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support from CareerSource Suncoast for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port. CareerSource Suncoast has the resources to assist Northport with job skills training and recruitment for jobs should this grant be awarded.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ted Ehlichman
President/CEO
Dear Governor DeSantis,

The North Port Area Chamber of Commerce is writing this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two-miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange, to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange.

The total cost of construction is $2,842,410 and the City will provide a cash match of $892,760. To date, the City has spent $78,740.25 in design and permitting for the proposed utility infrastructure, and a developer has spent over $100,000 in engineering and marketing studies for the site.

The City of North Port is largest populated City from Manatee County to Punta Gorda, Florida and continues to grow in the number of residents and businesses coming to our City. The need for the expansion and installation of the water and sewer lines that is being requested by the City of North Port is critical in order to meet the needs of our community.

The project has the potential to create over 4,800 jobs, including much needed jobs in the professional and medical field. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in the City deserve opportunities closer to home. Also, the new jobs will help shift the tax base creating a sustainable future for the City of North Port.

I would like to thank you for your time and consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

William, J. Gunnin
William J. Gunnin
Executive Director
North Port Area Chamber of Commerce
SVN Lotus  
Rob Henry  
2044 Constitution Blvd.  
Sarasota, FL 34321  

July 17, 2019  

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Governor DeSantis:  

As a resident and employee in Sarasota County, I am a huge supporter of the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and a leader in more affordable housing for families in Sarasota County, along with the best options for public education in our county. Great things are already happening in North Port and the potential for continued growth and expansion is tremendous. With the addition of the new Atlanta Braves facility, a state of the art water park being planned and the largest planned development community in the West Villages, it is easy to see why North Port should be highly considered for the grant being requested. This area is exploding and the infrastructure needs to keep up with expansion are enormous.  

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service at the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, create an easier point of access for citizens, and attract more businesses needed to supply the needs of current and future residents.  

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.  

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. Job opportunities for the residents of North Port will allow this community to keep our dollars within our community and become self-sustainable. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors.  

Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.  

Respectfully,  

[Signature]  
Rob Henry
July 17, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Governor DeSantis:  

I write in support of the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the largest city in our MSA.  

The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. In addition, the City of North Port will commit $892,760. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange and lead to higher paying jobs.  

The Sarasota Housing Authority currently has quite a few families living in North Port through the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. Our residents will benefit, whether directly or indirectly, from this project and its’ economic impacts.  

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.  

Thank you for your consideration of this grant proposal.  

Respectfully,  

[Signature]  
William O. Russell III  
President & CEO  
Sarasota Housing Authority  

WOR/ark  

"We are committed to providing quality affordable housing to enhance the lives of our residents and promote independence."
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Governor DeSantis:  

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves. The stadium is located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County. While I live in Venice, Northport is only five minutes away and has a direct impact on our local community. This includes increasing our home values as well as creating good paying jobs in the area. Downtown Venice is a great location and many from Northport visit the local business and restaurants. With the increased growth and traffic, these added jobs will increase the tax base in our region to help pay for additional road improvements, etc.  

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service [from south of Hansard Avenue to just north of I-75 at Kalish Avenue at the exit 182 exchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses and give North Port a gateway interchange that does not currently exist. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.  

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.  

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. Many of them travel to Sarasota and other communities for opportunities. They deserve opportunities closer to home, which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.  

Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.  

Sincerely,  

Kimberlie Buchanan, CPA  
Sarasota County resident
Antonia Quiros  
Goodwill Manasota  
14879 Tamiami Trail  
North Port, FL 34287  
941-244-5126 ext. 1  
antonia.quiros@gimi.org  

July 17, 2019  

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Governor DeSantis:  

I am the Job Connection Program Manager at Goodwill Manasota, and work directly with job seekers in North Port. I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County. To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port.  

Working with people in this community, I understand how imperative it is to have more employment opportunities in this area. Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion.  

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.  

Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.  

Sincerely,  

Antonia Quiros
July 22, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

The Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County - the County's designated Economic Development Organization - strongly supports the City of North Port's Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the largest and fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the infrastructure project the grant application supports would position it for much needed business growth.

North Port was chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in south Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service at the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will facilitate the availability of critically needed sites the EDC can market, and encourage commercial development and the attraction of new businesses paying higher wages.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, according to information provided by the City of North Port, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, in the business corridor being supported by this new infrastructure, the City projects employment of 4,800 people, including targeted industry jobs.

This business investment will diversify the City's growing residential tax base with emerging commercial and industry uses, an evolution to the tax base that is critical to creating a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Larry Fineberg                          Mark Huey
Board Chair                              President

EDC
Economic Development Corporation
Sarasota County

1680 Fruitville Road Suite 402 Sarasota, FL 34236
(t) 941-309-1200    (f) 941-309-1209    www.edcsarasotacounty.com
July 22, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Florida Power & Light is pleased to support the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant.

We have had a physical service center presence in North Port for nearly 25 years, served the residents electrical needs for more than 60 years and know firsthand that it is one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The additional water and sewer service will encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, an estimated 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 are expected to be created within a year of construction being completed, with more jobs projected for the future. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City would be well served to have opportunities closer to home.

Additionally, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from the ever growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

We are proud to be a partner with the City of North and thank you for your positive consideration.

Sincerely,

Rae Dowling  
Area Manager  
Florida Power & Light

cc: Mel Thomas, City of North Port  
cc: Honorable Chris Hanks, Mayor City of North Port

Florida Power & Light Company  
1177 N. Lime Ave, Sarasota, FL 34237
July 2, 2018

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

A priority for Gulf Coast Community Foundation is the creation of sustainable jobs with wages that meet the needs of our local families. Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jon Thaxton
Senior Vice President for Community Investment

GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
July 17, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

On behalf of the Manatee-Sarasota Building Industry Association (MSBIA), and its Board of Directors, please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant.

The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange.

Why is this important to the MSBIA? It is simple. The MSBIA, a building trade association, is a member of the federation of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and the Florida Home Builders Association (FHBA). The 600+ member businesses of the MSBIA is made up of local builders and developers, professional and trade associates, and affiliate members, accounting for over 8,400 employees and roughly 20,100 family members. When North Port is awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. It is important because my members need a skilled work force, and this grant will go a long way in making it happen.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jon Mast, MPA CGC
Chief Executive Officer

Joe Ernst
President of the Board
July 17, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service to the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses, create jobs & provide needed community commercial service. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

As a PROPERTY OWNER AND DEVELOPER IN NORTH PORT, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE AREA PROSPER AND CREATE JOBS THAT ARE LOCAL FOR OUR ECONOMY. Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Boman K Najmi
PARTNER
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service to the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses, create jobs & provide needed community commercial service. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

As a PROPERTY OWNER AND DEVELOPER IN NORTH PORT, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE AREA PROSPER AND CREATE JOBS THAT ARE LOCAL FOR OUR ECONOMY. Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Boman K Najmi  
PARTNER
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Governor DeSantis:  

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.  

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service to the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses, create jobs & provide needed community commercial service. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.  

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.  

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.  

As a landowner and broker in this great city for the last 15 years, I believe the type of planning, growth, and lifestyle that is being considered as part of this project will truly help the full economic growth of the city. Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.  

Sincerely,  

Ashley Barrett Bloom
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service to the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses, create jobs & provide needed community commercial service. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

As a PROPERTY OWNER AND RESIDENT OF NORTH PORT, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE AREA PROSPER AND CREATE JOBS THAT ARE LOCAL FOR OUR ECONOMY. Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Boman K Najmi
OWNER
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs. We have over 103 miles of land and most of it is undeveloped at this time. This grant would allow us to build our infrastructure which it desperately needs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce Henry  
Broker Associate/Realtor®  
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Realty  
941-628-3200
CEDAR GROVE AT THE WOODLANDS
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION (I-A)

Property Manager—Argus Property Management, Inc.
2477 Stickney Point Road, Suite 118A
Sarasota, FL 34231
941 927-6464

Florida Job Growth Fund
c/o Valerie Malingowski
City Hall
North Port, FL

Our homeowners association has recently seen the completion of the second phase of our development, located in the northeast portion of the City of North Port. Our development, in part, lies along the side of I-75. Many of our residents use I-75 and the Sumter exit for commutes to their jobs and for shopping along Sumter Boulevard. While our major exit is Toledo Blade, Sumter, as the city government center and a growing retail and service corridor, is every bit as important to the continued development of this area of North Port.

We are shortly going to see the development of the third phase of our community. As more residents move to this portion of North Port, we need things that are lacking—restaurants, hotels for visitors, and job opportunities so that our residents have a broader choice of work, especially those jobs which don’t require a long commute.

We believe that investing in infrastructure at one of the two most important I-75 exits into North Port is essential for this growth. We urge the commitment of funds from the Florida Job Growth Fund in order to put in place the initial work needed to help one of the fastest growing communities in Florida continue its growth. North Port is a community where homes are still affordable by young families and retirees alike, and needs the supporting businesses to assist this growth.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Board of Directors
Cedar Grove at the Woodlands Homeowners Association, Inc.
Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ray Brunner
Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a major supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service [from south of Hansard Avenue to just north of I-75 at Kalish Avenue, at the Sumter Avenue and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses, and most importantly give North Port a gateway interchange that does not currently exist. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Equitas Management Group, LLC

Adam Mitchell
Real Estate Manager
423-803-2914
adam.mitchell@equitasmg.com
July 18, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Equitas Management Group, LLC

By: John D. Potter
Title: Executive Vice President
Honorable Governor Ronald DeSantis:

North Port, Florida is the chosen hometown of many of 70,000-plus people, including my husband, Hugh, and me. We have lived here for 15 years and seen amazing growth and change during that time - including the Great Recession and the rebounding that is occurring.

As you probably know, North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County in Southwest Florida on what we call The SunCoast, and is among the fastest growing in our great State. We do not share a coastline like much of our county does, but we hold many unique treasures that continue to draw record numbers of new residents and businesses here. Among those treasures are a national forest within our city limits, Warm Mineral Springs (aka, The Original Fountain of Youth), 80-plus miles of canal system, and the new spring baseball training stadium for the Atlanta Braves. We are a proud community whose identity reflects our tagline, Achieve Anything!

I am writing as a business woman and former city commissioner to ask your consideration regarding funds to further our first interstate gateway development at Sumter Boulevard (exit number 179) and Interstate 75. As this is a key priority, the City of North Port is applying for a grant. This grant will support office buildings, medical facilities, hotels and restaurants in the area. In turn, it will create upward of 1,000 jobs.

Thank you Governor for your service and for all you do. Consider visiting us as we celebrate our 60th birthday this year. We would truly love to extend our warm hospitality to you!

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Moore
941.223.1609
Jacqueline@JacquelineMoore.net

Copy to: Valerie Malingowski
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

July 17, 2019

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service to the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses, create jobs & provide needed community commercial service. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

As a landowner and developer in North Port for more than 10 years, I believe this grant will help stimulate development. Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Boman K. Nguyen  
Owner.
July 18, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a local Commercial General Contracting business based in the South Sarasota County area and a strong supporter for the City of North Port's Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. In 2019, the Atlanta Braves opened their new Spring Training home in the West Villages community, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

To promote additional economic diversity, the City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to just north of I-75 at Kalish Avenue near the Sumter Avenue and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. These infrastructure improvements will encourage development and attract new businesses while creating a much needed Gateway Interchange to North Port.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Presently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. These residents deserve opportunities to work closer to their home. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from predominantly a residential base to more business and commercial properties ensuring a sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Your consideration of this grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey E. Charlotte
President/CEO

1500 E. VENICE AVE., SUITE 101 • VENICE, FLORIDA 34292
PHONE: 941.445.4045 • FAX: 941.445.4031 • www.jecarlottt.com
CG O027857
Dear Governor Desantis:

I am a City Commissioner in North Port, Florida and my story comes from a similar position as yourself... one of a public servant. Our City has a unique beginning, being a plotted community by General Development Corporation, 60 years ago, this year. In ‘City Years’, we are teenagers! And, as an adolescent attempts to grow into themselves, so are we, as a City. We are one of the fastest growing cities in the State, with some real growing pains. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. And, though we are the largest City in Sarasota County, and the MSA, our young, skilled workforce leaves this City to work, elsewhere, with a minimum half hour commute, one way. We are heavily residential because of our beginnings. Our commercial base is very small and 67% of it, is home-based business. One of the largest obstacles for commercial growth is the lack of infrastructure being implemented while the city grew. The City is applying to the Florida Job Growth Grant, requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development on the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs for our citizens.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor, created by this utility construction program, is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs, and maybe include medical. Our City of over 71,000 does not have a hospital... of which we are grateful, to you, for the repeal of the CON, so we can get one to come to our City, now, without being turned down by ACHA, again! Being able to increase the commercial base will create a more sustainable future for our City, and see us through those awkward teen years with the help of our parent... the State! Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jill Luke, City Commissioner
4970 City Hall Blvd.
North Port, FL 34286
Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

My Firm and I have had multiple discussions with end users who have expressed the importance of the utilities to this area. Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

J. Chris Malkin
Managing Director
SVN | LOTUS Commercial Real Estate Advisors
2044 Constitution Blvd, Sarasota, FL 34231
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

We are a talent management company having served all of southwest Florida for over 19 years, have served as an EDC board president in the past, and have found that anything we can do to improve economic development, assists in creating jobs and the over-all economy. This is ‘no brainer’ from our perspective.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service [from south of Hansard Avenue to just north of I-75 at Kalish Avenue]. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development [and attract businesses] and give North Port greater exposure along the I-75 corridor. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

JF Bos  
Vice President  
MBJ Group Inc.

www.mbjgroup.com  
941-922-1777
OMALI PROPERTIES, LLC
5400 Biscayne Drive South, North Port FL, 34287

July 17, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service to the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses, create jobs & provide needed community commercial service. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

As a concerned landowner, I do believe this grant will help the entire city and promote jobs. Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Owner
Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am an avid supporter for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest cities in the county of Sarasota with a total population of approximately 64,000 citizens. Being one of the largest and fastest growing Cities in the state of Florida, the city requests $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer system from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. Currently, North Port is missing an interstate entrance that I believe will be of great value to the community and entice business growth guiding the path to more substantial paying careers.

If the city of North Port is approved of this grant, there is a projected creation of 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $55,272 within the year. In addition, the development of the corridor will create up careers to 4,800 people mainly in the industry field. As of now, there are only 22% of North Port’s residents that work within the city. As a devoted graduate college student representing the youth I believe there is always room for opportunities and bringing the community closer.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chun Poon
July 22, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Governor DeSantis:  

I am writing this letter in strong support of the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant. As the Executive Director of Career and Technical Education for Sarasota County Schools, I have worked with the City of North Port to develop workforce training programs to meet the needs of local employers. In the fall of 2017, the school district opened a brand new branch campus of Suncoast Technical College to meet the workforce needs of the City of North Port. The project was funded by school district, city, county, and state. The area is one of the fastest growing communities in the state and will need to create an economic infrastructure to support the increasing population. This grant will allow the city to develop a new area to attract new businesses to North Port.

Suncoast Technical College strives to train our local workforce to obtain gainful employment in high skill, high wage careers. High school and adult students attend our new campus and have already began making a positive impact in the community. Students who have completed programs are working in the local medical, manufacturing, trades, and human services fields. The school offers apprenticeship programs for the electrical and HVAC trades to meet the demands of the city’s fast growth.

The completion of the new Atlanta Braves spring training facility in North Port’s West Villages community is a prime example of the city’s growth and need for infrastructure development. The approval of the grant request will create more opportunities for our students and citizens. This grant will create approximately 1,000 new jobs within a year of completion and as many as 4,800 new jobs when the area is fully developed.

Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  

Dr. Ron DiPillo  
Executive Director
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Governor DeSantis:  

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.  

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. At Pregnancy Solutions we see the stress this puts on the young families firsthand and believe they deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.  

Thank you very much for your consideration.  

Sincerely,  

Bobbie Smith  

Bobbie Smith  
Director of Operations
July 18, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Dana E. McGovern
General Manager
Raymond Building Supply
July 17, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept my sincere thank you for signing HB 21 which modifies the CON process thus allowing North Port, a city of 70 + thousand residents to now begin the process to bring a hospital to our fair city. As you know, North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County that doesn't have an acute care hospital. With the presence of a hospital for North Port, It will be an excellent economic driver to bring other good paying jobs to our community.

I am now asking for your help in awarding North Port the Florida Job Growth Grant. This Grant would allow North Port to complete the development of Sumter Blvd. from the heart of the city to I-75. Completion and preparation of this corridor would ensure that our community gain valuable attention to the business world as an excellent location to develop. This in turn will lead to business growth and economic prosperity for this rapidly growing city. Along this primary corridor would be an excellent location for the hospital we plan to bring to our city. It is easy to see that with your help and this grant, North Port will quickly act as an ideal economic driver bringing many high paying jobs to the community and raising our tax base which will help the rest of the state.

Thank you very much for your consideration, Governor DeSantis. Please accept my personal invitation to come to North Port to meet our city leaders and to be my guest at our Community Health Action Team Meeting. We would love to thank you in person.

With kindest regards, I am;

Sincerely:

Sam K. George, MS
Community Health Advocate
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I work with different clients whose aim is to grow their business in the most populous and fast-growing city in Sarasota County. I therefore am a strong proponent for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. My clients have been hindered by certain lack of infrastructure and housing in North Port. It makes great sense to assist an area that already have positives like the fast-expanding Master Community of the West Village and the coup in having the Atlanta Braves make their presence felt with a new stadium, training facility and ancillary sports medicine businesses. The population growth continues in all of Florida but especially in communities like North Port that have highly rated schools.

The city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service to connect with and to the I-75 and Sumter Road interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. Improving this particular area and gateway to the city will be the catalyst for future private investments in the community. I foresee a domino effect in that this improvement will lead to good jobs that will attract an influx of workers, that will require more services to cater to a growing population and in turn create more jobs.

So much of the work force commutes to North Port. Projects like this expansion will help families, live, work, school and play in the same community.

This kind of initiative will be money well spent and I greatly encourage your endorsement of this grant.

With appreciation,

Ron W. Zeigler  
Florida Bar Number 0887978
July 17, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County and the lead city in the MSA. We are proud to have been chosen as the new Spring Training home of the Atlanta Braves who are located in the West Villages, one of the fastest growing planned communities in the U.S. This is indicative of the growth potential in South Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service to the Sumter Ave. and I-75 Interchange. This grant will supplement the $892,760 from the City of North Port. This infrastructure improvement will encourage development, attract businesses, create jobs & provide needed community commercial service. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, there is a proposed project with the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Longer term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people including targeted industry jobs.

Currently, only 22% of the young, skilled North Port resident workforce actually works in the City. They deserve opportunities closer to home which in turn fuels the local economy. Additionally, the creation of new jobs will begin to shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to our burgeoning business and industry sectors. That move ensures a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

As a PROPERTY OWNER AND DEVELOPER IN NORTH PORT, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE AREA PROSPER AND CREATE JOBS THAT ARE LOCAL FOR OUR ECONOMY. Your careful consideration of the grant proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOMAN K. NAJMI
PARTNER
July 24, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis,

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two-miles of City water and sewer service on Sumter Boulevard to I-75 to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange.

The total cost of construction is $2,842,410 and the City will provide a cash match of $892,760. To date, the City has spent $78,740.25 in design and permitting for the proposed utility infrastructure, and a developer has spent over $100,000 in engineering and marketing studies for the site.

The project has the potential to create over 4,800 jobs, including much needed jobs in the professional and medical field. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in the City deserve employment opportunities closer to home. Also, the new jobs will help shift the tax base creating a sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please let me know if there is anything my office can do to assist in this process. If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my Deputy District Director, Libby Bolles, at Libby.Bolles@mail.house.gov or at 941.499.3214. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Greg Steube
Member of Congress
July 26, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am a strong supporter for the City of North Port’s Florida Job Growth Grant Application. North Port is the fastest growing city in Sarasota County.

To foster additional economic diversity, the city is requesting a construction grant for enhanced infrastructure needs. The City of North Port has committed financial resources to this grant as well as encourage development for a gateway interchange which will create new jobs and opportunities. The attraction of new businesses will lead to higher paying jobs.

This proposed project has the ability to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within one year of construction completion. Long term, the business corridor being created by this new infrastructure is projected to employ 4,800 people.

As North Port continues to grow residentially and commercially, these type of projects will help North Port protect its residents while providing additional career opportunities. This will ensure a sustainable economic future for the City of North Port.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Joe Gruters

REPLY TO:
☐ 381 Interstate Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida 34240 (941) 378-6309
☐ 324 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5023
Senate’s Website: www.flsenate.gov

BILL GALVANO
President of the Senate

DAVID SIMMONS
President Pro Tempore
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Re: City of North Port Application/Florida Job Growth Grant  

Dear Governor DeSantis:  

The Cross College Alliance which represents 5 colleges and universities in Sarasota and Manatee counties and over 16,000 students urges you to support the funding of the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant to create North Port’s first interstate gateway.  

The interstate gateway project is estimated to create within one year almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272.  

Longer term, the entire corridor is projected to employ up to 4,800 people—many of whom would be graduates of Cross College Alliance institutions who currently leave our region and the state of Florida in search of well-paying jobs and opportunities.  

The vibrancy and competitiveness of Florida’s economy depends on attracting and retaining a highly educated and skilled workforce positioned to pursue today’s and tomorrow’s opportunities and to become the innovators and leaders of Florida’s economy in the 21st century.  

It is economic investments like the creation of the City of North Port’s interstate gateway that become magnets for economic growth that attract new and emerging industries and enables local businesses to prosper.  

The time is right for the City of North Port to leverage its many assets including its burgeoning businesses and industry sectors to develop a vibrant economy of opportunity for all. We trust in your leadership and your vision for our state to recognize the catalytic potential of the creation of the City of North Port’s first interstate gateway and to support the funding of its Florida Job Growth Grant request.  

Sincerely,  

Linda M. de Mello  
Manager, Cross College Alliance
July 22, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this utility construction program is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City deserve opportunities closer to home. In addition, the creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

The State College of Florida’s Venice Campus serves the North Port community and this grant would provide greater employment opportunity for its graduates. Also, SCF stands ready to provide workforce training and education related to the completion of this grant and to the new business and industry it attracts to the region.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol F. Probstfeld, Ed.D.
July 22, 2019

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Please accept this letter of support for the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is the largest city in Sarasota County, the largest of the MSA, and one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City is requesting $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service. The goal is to encourage and attract business development to the properties surrounding the interchange. Currently, North Port does not have an interstate gateway and we believe that the creation of such will not only help this growing community gain notoriety but will also attract substantial business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

Should North Port be awarded this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,272 within a year of construction being completed.

Employment opportunities and continued growth potential is of the highest importance for our Club members and their families. Our Gene Matthews Boys & Girls Club currently enrolls over 706 students (ages 6 to 18), with 22% of families reporting a family income below $28,000. 66% of our Club members are on Free/Reduced Lunch and are living below the State and local poverty indicators.

The creation of new jobs will help shift the tax base from our growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port and for all of its children.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Sadlo
President/CEO
The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am writing this letter to support the City of North Port’s application to the Florida Job Growth Grant. The City of North Port is one of the fastest growing cities in Florida. The City’s request for $1,949,650 for the construction of approximately two miles of City water and sewer service from south of Hansard Avenue to Kalish Avenue, just north of the I-75 Sumter Boulevard exit 182 interchange will boost the community’s infrastructure and provide job-creating opportunities that will serve the city and the entire region. The city’s goal for this grant project is to encourage and attract businesses to the properties surrounding the interchange. Creating an interstate gateway for North Port will generate new jobs at this location and will help this growing community to attract additional business growth leading to the creation of higher-paying jobs.

With the award of this grant, the project is estimated to create almost 1,000 jobs with an average annual wage of $52,000 shortly after construction is completed. Longer term, the entire corridor that is created with this infrastructure investment is projected to employ up to 4,800 people, which will include targeted industry jobs. Currently, only 22% of the City’s working residents work in North Port. The young, skilled workforce in this City will benefit from this project as new jobs are created closer to their homes. Additionally, the new jobs that are created will diversify the city’s tax base shifting the burden from the city’s growing residential sector to that of a burgeoning business and industry sector, creating a more sustainable future for the City of North Port.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stuart L. Rogel  
President & CEO
July 18, 2019

Office of Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  

Dear Gov. DeSantis:

Our community is requesting the assistance of the Florida Job Growth Fund grant to help change our quality of life. North Port residence often have to drive 45 minutes to an hour outside of our community for jobs that pay $11-15 dollars an hour. When you consider the amount of funds an individual spends on gas each year, that $11-15 does not leave much in the way of paying the bills for a household. As a school counselor, I have worked with high school students and adults that have indicated various obstacles when trying to obtain work locally for a livable wage. Often, because of the absence of jobs paying over $11 hour and the need to travel so far outside of our community, multiple generations of families are living under one roof to help meet the living situations as well as assisting with childcare.

When I moved to North Port four years ago, I was told that “North Port is a bedroom community, you live here but there are not many jobs that pay over $10 hour.” I, myself, drove outside of our community for the first two years until I was fortunate enough to obtain a position at the local school. Moreover, often times, one parent will work in Ft. Myers while the other is driving all the way to Tampa; school events are missed as a result of working outside of our community. This drive time takes precious family time away from our residences. North Port has grown into a quant community, but now we need help with funding for our infrastructure to bring businesses and jobs to our community.

I would like to request your consideration in approving the City of North Port’s grant request. This grant, if awarded, is projected to bring 690-990 jobs to North Port with an average salary of $52,000 each. This would have an enormous impact on our community; residents will have opportunities for jobs with a decent livable wage, staying close to home, can attend their children’s school events and bond with other community members. Please helps the citizens of North Port improve our quality of life.

Respectfully,

Jodie Vaughn  
School Counselor