



**2021**  
A YEAR IN REVIEW



MESSAGE FROM

# MAYOR LINDA HUDSON:

*2021 WAS YEAR OF 'ONE FORT PIERCE'*

The year of 2021 was a year of renewed commitment to unity in our city. As a commission, we adopted the mission of 'One Fort Pierce,' and pledged to govern for the good of all Fort Pierce. We are a unified city, dedicated to making decisions that benefit all of our residents.

In 2021, our city suffered the loss of Commissioner Rufus J. Alexander, who had served for 20 years. We welcomed two new District One representatives, Commissioners Curtis Johnson, Jr. and Arnold S. Gaines. The five of us work as a team with civility, energy, and a commitment to 'One Fort Pierce' and 'Fort Pierce Proud.' Some of our accomplishments in 2021 include: a reduction in crime; increase in property values; new homes on the way; new and expanded businesses; approved developments like Kings Landing and The Wave Garden; rehabilitating our animal shelter with a new operator; improving the roads and bridges, and began designing a community rebuild of Jaycee Park playground to be accessible to all children, including those with special needs.

We continue to serve and protect our citizens, and appreciate the new heroes in our lives, like first responders, medical staff, grocery store workers, public works employees and many others who continued to serve us during the pandemic. For most of us, we learned there's no place like home, the City of Fort Pierce, in 2021.





THE FORT PIERCE  
**CITY COMMISSION**

TOGETHER, WE ARE **'ONE FORT PIERCE'**



**Arnold S. Gaines**  
District 1



**Curtis Johnson, Jr.**  
District 1



**Jeremiah Johnson**  
District 2



**Thomas K. Perona**  
District 2

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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 **SERVING**  
OUR COMMUNITY..... 6

 **DEVELOPING**  
OUR COMMUNITY..... 16

 **ENGAGING**  
OUR COMMUNITY..... 22

 **BEAUTIFYING**  
OUR COMMUNITY..... 28

 **ENJOYING**  
OUR COMMUNITY ..... 34

# MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

The end of 2021 marks the end of another unprecedented year in the history of the City of Fort Pierce. The last two years have been extraordinarily challenging and this crippling pandemic is still having detrimental repercussions on our city. Fortunately, this has not prohibited us from achieving our goals and continuing to keep pace with the current development momentum. In 2022, we shall continue to build upon our strengths as the center for culture, art, history, recreation, and tourism for the Treasure Coast, and capitalize on opportunities to enhance our profile in the areas of economic development.

The resilience of the City of Fort Pierce continues to shine under the leadership of Mayor Linda Hudson, City Commissioners Tom Perona, Jeremiah Johnson, Curtis Johnson Jr., and our newest member Arnold Gaines. These consummate leaders have been remarkably successful at identifying opportunities for improvement and setting forth measurable tasks with attainable goals for City Staff to achieve. This combination of functional leadership and organizational accountability has catapulted the City of Fort Pierce into an era of prosperity.

Our success is exemplified by our award winning financial accounting, superb financial position, and designation as one of the Best Places to Work in St. Lucie County. This comes as a result of the efforts of our astonishing workforce that exhausts great effort to provide high level public service. It is our intent to continue to invest in our internal labor force and provide them the tools to remain customer centric and result oriented.

We have also forged positive alliances with the private development community. These relationships have cleared the path for several exciting projects in every corner of Fort Pierce such as the \$140 million-dollar hotel and mixed-use development, Kings Landing, the \$40 million-dollar Marine Recreational Fisherman's Wharf development in the Port District, the Incubate Neighborhood Center, a Multi-purpose community hub, and the Highwaymen Art Museum in Lincoln Park; not to mention the 200 acre Willow Lakes development highlighted by the Wavegarden Cove surfing lagoon, the newest and largest world-class surf park in the country located in the Midway Road area.

These, and many, many other initiatives are ahead of us, and we shall continue to provide community leadership, quality public service, and a safe environment for all citizens, by an empowered team of employees motivated by pride in themselves and their work.



*Nick Mimms*

Nicholas C. Mimms, P.E., ICMA-CM  
City Manager

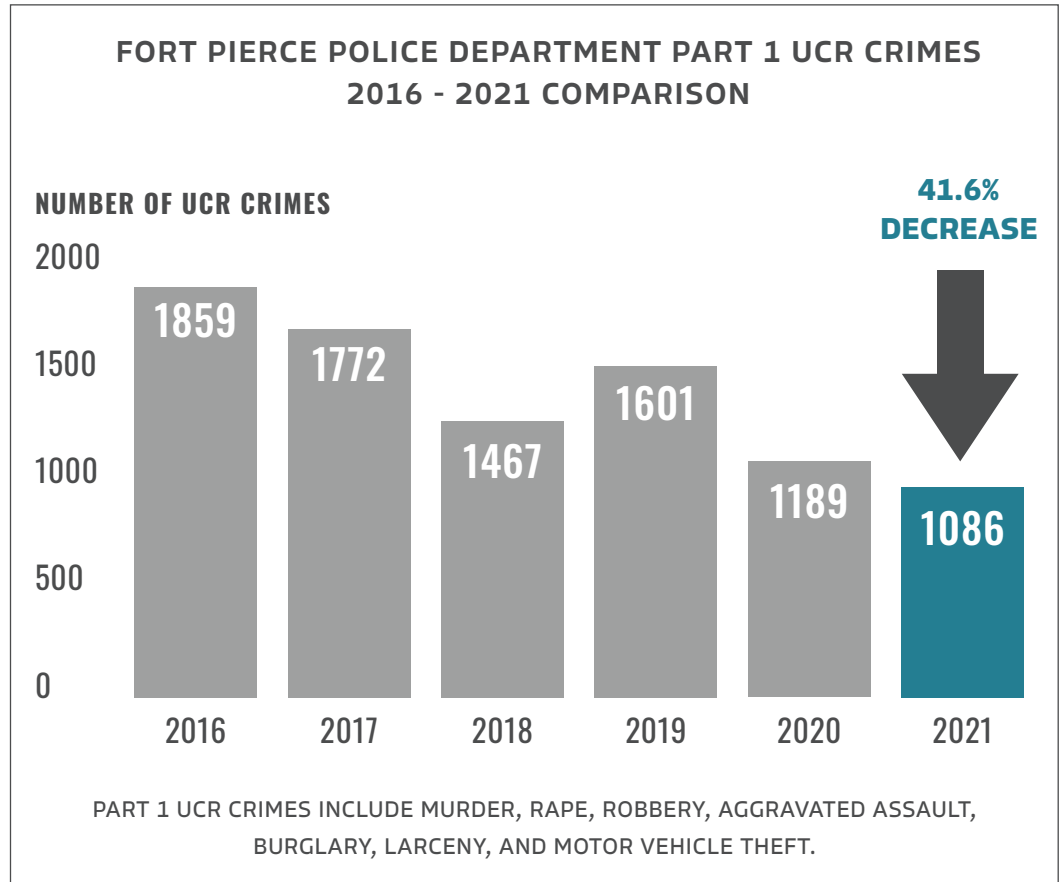
# CRIME CONTINUES TO DECREASE, FORT PIERCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

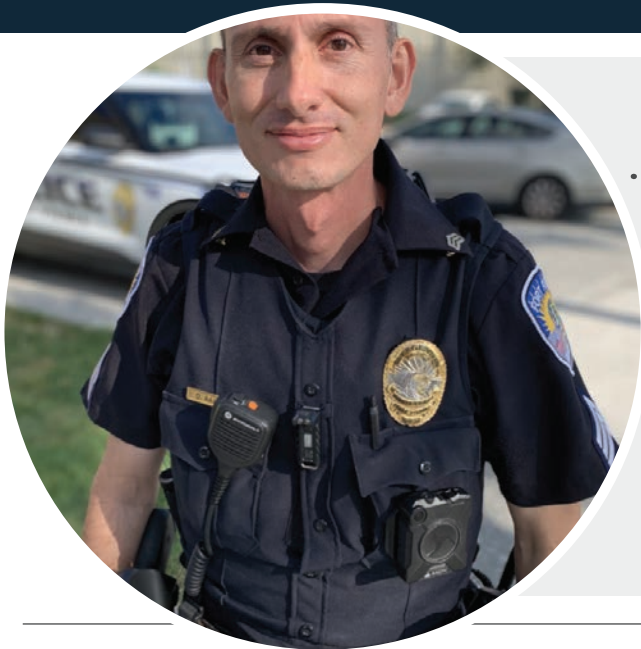


# 41.6%

*Since 2016, the City of Fort Pierce has seen a city-wide decrease in crime by 41.6% thanks to Chief of Police, Diane Hobley-Burney who took office in June of 2016.*

In 2021, the city experienced a decrease in overall part 1 UCR crimes, which include homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle thefts. Due to the officers' proactive policing and the watchful eyes of our citizens, the city saw a **13.9% decrease in violent crimes**, and a **7.2% decrease in non-violent crimes**.





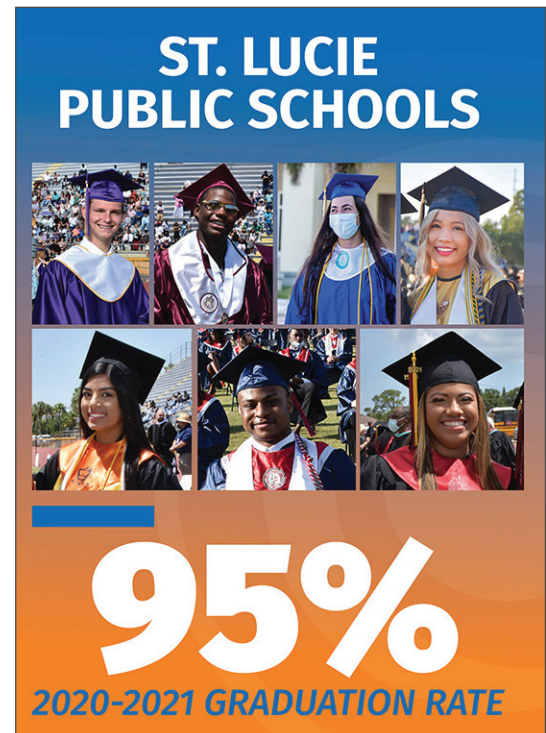
## POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPANDS TECHNOLOGY

To assist in transparency and the safety of all, the City of Fort Pierce has contracted with AXON for over \$2 million dollars in cutting-edge technology to expand and update the Police Department's body-worn camera and Taser program. This will increase the total number of officer-worn body cameras, and provide GPS locations and alerts for Taser activation and firearm draw, supervisor oversight, and live stream capability. It will also add 65 in-car video cameras with "Automated License Plate Readers" and 130 new X7-Tasers, which have been redesigned to be a more effective less-lethal option.

## FORT PIERCE PROUD!



St. Lucie Public Schools graduation rate reaches an all-time high! SLPS earned a historic graduation rate of **95%** which exceeds the state average of **90%**. Six traditional high schools boasted an unprecedented rate of **99%**. This is the 5th consecutive year that the graduation rate for SLPS is above **90%**. St. Lucie Public Schools improved its state ranking to 7th in the state out of 67 districts. Congratulations to our schools and students for this tremendous success!



## PUBLIC FIRST

Public Works Department provides management and guidance for several city divisions that provide vital services residents and business owners rely on every day. The department's responsibilities encompasses a variety of infrastructure-related services which includes regularly scheduled maintenance and repair of all city owned facilities, vehicles, equipment, parks, rights-of-way, streets, drainage, and the storage, collection and transportation of all refuse generated by residential, commercial, and institutional structures within the city's corporate limits. 2021 has been an amazing year for the Public Works Department as so many accomplishments have been made throughout every division.

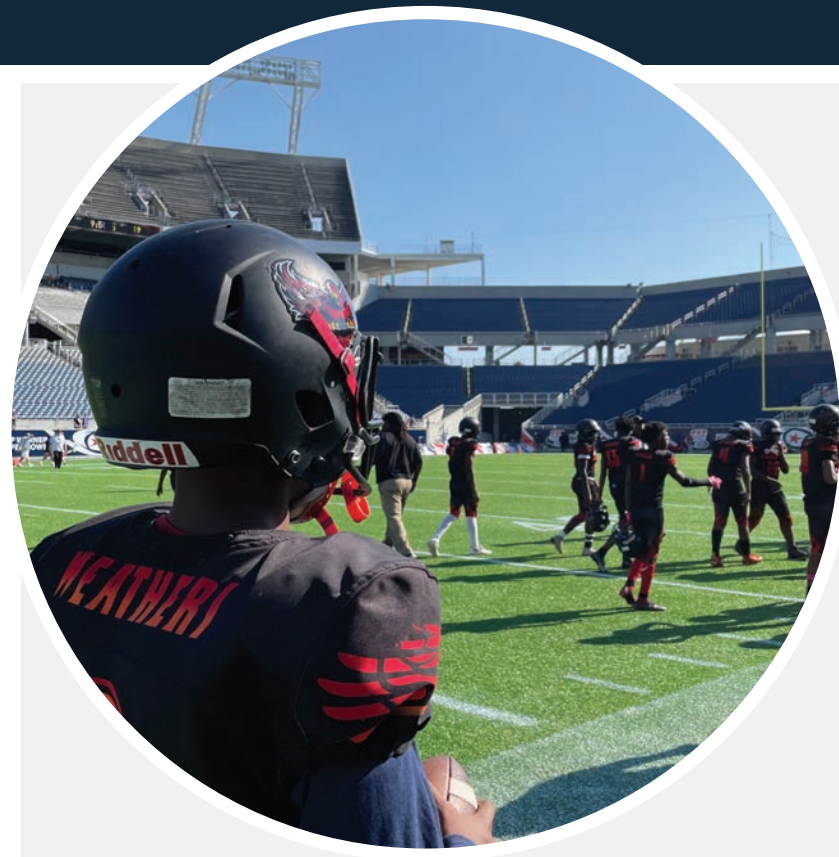


**ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM**

## THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

- Manages three City of Fort Pierce Boards and Committees which consist of the Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful Advisory Board, Arts and Culture Advisory Board, and the Parks Advisory Committee.
- Developed and implemented a quarterly cleanup initiative.
- Developed and implemented a quarterly "Lunch and Learn" series.
- Manages and coordinates the "Adopt-A-Road" program. (Had eight road adoptions last year)
- Manages and coordinates the adopt-a-park program.
- Plans and executes the annual Great American Cleanup and Arbor Day initiative.
- Provides customer service for Solid Waste customers and City of Fort Pierce residents.





## THE RECREATION CENTER

- Manages **10** Youth Recreational Activities for the City of Fort Pierce.
- Processed over **650** applications for Youth Football and Cheer program.
- Processed **60** applications for the Youth Martial Arts program.
- Processed **125** applications for the Youth Basketball program.
- Processed **35** applications for the Youth Art program.
- Processed **100** applications for Friday Night Hoops Open Gym for youth.



## PARKS AND GROUNDS DIVISION

- Maintained over **140** acres of community parks, beach accesses, roadway corridors, building landscapes, and drainage canals.
- Installed new vegetation in the Causeway Park Medians.
- Upgraded landscaping around the north City Marina sign.
- Upgraded the landscaping at Jetty Park.



## THE RIVER WALK CENTER

- Managed and processed **174** special event permits throughout the City of Fort Pierce.
- Managed and processed **277** facility rentals. (River Walk Center, Garden Center, Maravilla Center, and Old City Hall).
- Managed and processed **263** park pavilion rentals. (Jaycee Park, Rotary Park, Dreamland Park, and Surfside).
- Manages and coordinates the River Walk Center which hosts over **1,000** classes a year.

## STREETS AND DRAINAGE DIVISION

### Maintained

**103** miles of curbs  
and gutters

**13** miles of canals

**156** alleyways

**162** miles  
of paved streets

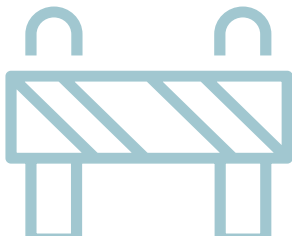
**5** miles  
of unpaved streets

**70** miles  
of storm sewer lines

**77** miles  
of sidewalks

approximately  
**3,915** drainage structures

Built a temporary parking lot on South Beach located between the Manatee Island and Square Grouper restaurants on Seaway Dr. which added approximately **125** additional parking spaces and **7** handicap spaces for the area.



## SOLID WASTE DIVISION

### Serviced

**13,053**  
resident customers

**1,831**  
commercial customers

**23**  
public locations

**14,907**  
customers in total



### Collected

**4,555**  
tons of horticulture

**47,737**  
tons of garbage

**1,021**  
tons of construction  
debris



## FACILITIES MAINTENANCE DIVISION

- Partnered with St. Lucie County and the Sunrise Humane Society to completely renovate and re-open the Animal Shelter located within our Public Works Compound.
- Repaired and refreshed the pedestrian bridges located in the Indian Hills recreation area which are part of the SUN Trail Program.
- Pressure washed and refreshed all the coral bridge railings in the Moore's Creek area.
- Currently conducting new office construction, renovations, and flooring installations at the Main Station for the Fort Pierce Police Department.
- Provided janitorial services, maintenance, and repairs to over **500,000** square feet of City owned buildings.
- Maintained over twenty parks, playgrounds, and beach access facilities throughout the City of Fort Pierce.
- Invited to speak at the APWA Leadership Seminar at Indian River State College.
- Ordered nine new Solid Waste units which include two side loaders, two front loaders, and five grapple trucks.
- Worked approximately **18,000 hours** maintaining and repairing City vehicles.
- Performed over **900** preventative maintenance measures on City vehicles.



## MEANS COURT

### A MULTI-USE SERVICE HUB

Incubate Neighborhood Center (INC) was the highest-ranked proposal received in response to the request for proposals to develop a Multi-Service Community Hub at the Means Court Center, formerly the first school for African Americans in St. Lucie County. On October 12, 2021, a 20-year lease agreement was executed between the FPRA and INC. With an option to renew an additional 10 years, if mutually agreed upon by both parties. The Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency (FPRA) was in support for the submission of a U.S. Economic Development Administration Economic Assistance grant to create an incubator for mixed-use purpose.

Immediately INC, a non-profit organization, empowered and purposed to revitalize poor communities of color, started plans to turn the Historic building of Means Court School into an Innovative Community Hub, designed to place individuals on a pathway to upward mobility. INC plans to embody the spirit of the founding pioneers from 100 hundred years ago, by continuing to have the building become a training and gathering place for the community. This innovative hub will house the following services and programs: Shared workspaces,



Medical Clinic, Internet Café, Conference and classrooms, Interactive Art Gallery, TV Production/Podcast Studios, and a Business Technology Center/Business and Kitchen Incubator.

The program brings nutritious grocery items to low-income areas and allows individuals to shop for health food options at a low cost. The kitchen, also offers cooking demonstrations. Florida Community Health Centers Inc. plans to park their mobile unit at INC, and offer medical, dental, OB/GYN, pharmacy, and behavioral health services. In another inaugural endeavor, INC finalized plans to offer free CDL training classes on-site and vehicle training at their location on Kings Highway. In addition, INC is receiving technical assistance from the Florida Housing Coalition to become a HUD housing counseling agency. Once

approved, INC will be the only HUD approved agency in St. Lucie County. This endorsement will complement INC's homeownership program called "Dream Home" that prepares residents to purchase and maintain their homes. INC's massive project will be completed in phases. During the first phase, INC will host a Community Partner Open House, ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony in 2022.

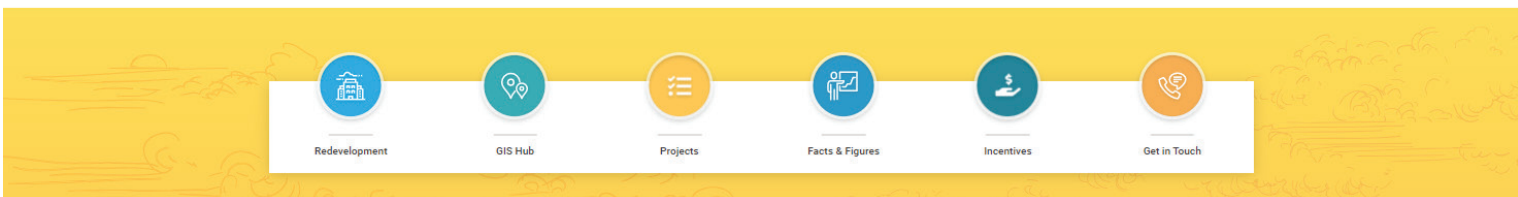




# THE RICH HOUSE

The mission of the Fort Pierce Police Department is to reduce crime and enrich the quality of life through a collaborative partnership with all citizens. In fulfilling that, the Resources in Community Hope (R.I.C.H.) House was established to create a safe haven and provide curriculum geared towards educational assistance, conflict-resolution, socialization skills, and self-esteem building for children, parents, and seniors. It will be a place that fosters police and community relationships and provide a multi-purpose education and resource center for all ages to enhance their quality of life.





## LAUNCHES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEB PAGE

The City of Fort Pierce launched a new website dedicated to the economic development and redevelopment activities in the Sunrise City. The website, [choosefortpierce.com](http://choosefortpierce.com), features interactive mapping tools, incentive information, and is a hub for economic plans, studies, and reports like the new Retail and Market Study by Colliers International, and the recently updated Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency Plan. Economic Development has been identified as a high priority in the City's strategic plan. The new website is part of an ongoing commitment to ensure that resources support the Fort Pierce community and economy.

***The Choose Fort Pierce website provides all the information you need to live, work, and play in Fort Pierce!***

”



## City of Fort Pierce GIS Hub

*The Sunrise City*

Welcome to the City of Fort Pierce's "GIS Hub" where you may find all the GIS resources that the City has to offer. Our **Open Data** platform allows the exploring and downloading GIS data which anybody can use for building apps and engaging others to solve important issues. Our **Applications** and **Story Maps** pages offer access to all of the publicly-available GIS web applications and GIS story maps that Fort Pierce has to offer. Check out the **PDF Map Gallery** to download a selection of static PDF maps that we have available. The **City Overview** page provides a quick look at some Fort Pierce statistics and, lastly, the **City Initiatives** page showcases some of the issues that the City is addressing using GIS tools.



APPS



MAPS



STORIES



OPEN DATA



CITY OVERVIEW



CITY INITIATIVES

## THE CITY'S NEW GIS HUB

The City of Fort Pierce also launched the GIS Hub, a webpage platform that enables the City to communicate more effectively with the community. The "geographic information system" (GIS) integrates hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information within the city. It helps the user understand exactly what it is they are looking at and puts the data in perspective that is quickly understood and easily shared. With the new City of Fort Pierce GIS Hub, the user has access to search data-driven content such as city zoning, future land use, building permits, annexation, agreements, and so much more. For more info, visit: [www.cityoffortpierce.com](http://www.cityoffortpierce.com)



## STATE COVID-19 VACCINATION SITE

In March of 2021, the City of Fort Pierce partnered with the State of Florida to open a COVID-19 vaccination site at the Fort Pierce Recreation Center located at 903 S. 21st Street. The vaccination site offered the Pfizer vaccines to anyone on a first-come, first-serve basis. The site was open from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM, seven days a week, and had the capacity to administer approximately 200 Pfizer vaccines per day. The City of Fort Pierce was extremely proud to help facilitate this joint initiative for the community during a time of need and opposition.





## KING'S LANDING

The King's Landing project is perfectly positioned for a prominent downtown location, overlooking the Indian River waterfront and city marina. The architectural style is contemporary but features design elements that blend with the existing surroundings, the urban marina setting and the scenic beauty. The scale of development provides a transition from the neighboring Edgartown Settlement District with the proposed townhouse villas on the north bank of Moore's Creek and the buildings that front N. 2nd Street to the larger mixed use structures center to the development. The proposed development maintains a human scale and pedestrian orientation through dedicated walkways, shaded arcades, and expansive storefronts. The extensive landscaping provides an inviting and relaxing atmosphere. Additionally, it is envisioned that the King's Landing development will also complement the uses planned for Fisherman's Wharf. It is likely that King's Landing will serve as the catalyst for future redevelopment and economic prosperity for the downtown and the City as a whole.





# DERECKTOR



In 2021, Derecktor began the construction for a haul-out style basin designed specifically for mega-yachts, and feature the world's largest mobile-boat hoist. The new 1,500 ton mobile lift is capable of hoisting 200 foot yachts for maintenance and repair. A new horse-shoe like seawall would be needed in order to support the new mega-yacht hoist so that it can maneuver precisely over the cut-out for yacht retrievals shown in the picture to the left. Derecktor is located in the Port of Fort Pierce at Fishermen's Wharf provides eight acres of level concrete apron which gives ample storage and repair space.





# THE WAVEGARDEN

## AT WILLOW LAKES

.....

The Willow Lakes Development is envisioned to be a world-class destination and set to be situated on 200.3 acres of land, lying immediately north of Midway Road and west of I-95. The development has been planned to be a lively, pedestrian-oriented community of inviting public spaces, walkable streets, and authentic neighborhoods with a recreational amenity for seasoned and novice surfers.





# PHASE 1 OF THE PROJECT



*Willow Lakes is a mixed use live, work, play and learn community.*

”

The vision proposed by the applicant for Willow Lakes is a community that celebrates outdoor activity and a healthy lifestyle. The residential, retail, and commercial uses will be combined to provide a critical mass of activity that will bring year-round life to the proposed community. Willow Lakes is being designed to create a “village” that will be one of a kind in Florida, built around a state-of-the-art, world-class surf park which will be the largest in the country.

The architecture for the Willow Lakes Hub and Surf Pods (Lanais) is contemporary in design. The Hub creates a look and feel as though the building is a wave. A number of uses are proposed within the Hub that will cater to not only sports enthusiasts but to residents and tourists alike.

“The Wavegarden at Willow Lakes will deliver high quality waves and authentic surfing experiences year-round for new and existing surfers of all ages, experience and ability. Beyond the Wavegarden, the Village will be comprised of several distinct neighborhoods, knit together by a network of walkable, pedestrian-oriented streets, and navigable flow-ways designed for maximum environmental and recreational purposes. The result will be an inclusive environment where visitors, residents, and professionals have fun, keep fit and feel part of a community that shares their passion and respect for surfing, the ocean, others, and the planet.”

## KINGS HIGHWAY EMPLOYMENT CENTER CORRIDOR

The Kings Highway Commercial Park, located at 2496 South Kings Highway, is proposed for annexation and includes a petition for Development Review and Design Review for nine (9) properties that will eventually be combined into one (1) expansive property. It is perfectly situated along Kings Highway, and is best suited for the City and County's employment center corridor!



### PHASE 1

**485,000 Sq. Ft**

warehouse, office, and  
flex space development.

**103 acres**

combined approximate  
property size



*Future planned phases will expand the development to 1.9 million square feet of overall building space! Below is a conceptual plan of this innovative project that will contribute immensely to economic growth of the City of Fort Pierce while bringing much needed employment opportunities for the residents of our growing community!*

## BLUE SKY LANDINGS



The City of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County welcomed Blue Sky Landing to our community. Blue Sky Landing broke ground on a 164 unit, multi-family development located on the west side of McNeil Road in Fort Pierce. Blue Sky Landing aims to provide visually appealing, well-provisioned, affordable housing to residents of the City of Fort Pierce. Developed according to market analysis and staff feedback during pre-application meetings, the current site plan features contemporary architecture oriented in such a way as to reduce monotony and enhance curb appeal. Proposed amenities include a large recreation area with clubhouse, pool, open space, and substantial lakes with connecting pathways throughout the development. In addition to providing storm-water retention and floodplain compensating storage requirements, the lakes provide aesthetically pleasing views for the residents. To learn more about Blue Sky Landing, please visit: <https://www.blueskylanding.com>





## ● BETTER ROADS, BETTER SIDEWALKS, AND BETTER WATER ●



Utilizing the Half Cent Surtax funds, the City continued to focus on streets that were in dire need of rehabilitation. The improvements included roadway reconstruction with sidewalks, ADA upgrades, curb and gutter installation, and storm water collection systems. More upcoming projects are currently under design which include the Georgia Avenue Basin Improvements, and the reconstruction of Ohio Avenue.



### DELIVERED AS PROMISED:

- **Citrus Overpass Bridge Repair**
- **17th Street** (Orange Avenue to Avenue D)
- **8th Street** (Avenue D to Avenue E)
- **Avenue B** (8th Street to 13th Street)

For the full list of projects, funding, and upcoming projects, please visit:

<https://cityoffortpierce.com/792/Half-Cent-Sales-Tax>



# NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

The Fort Pierce Firehawks 14U Division swept their opponent December 10, 2021 at the Camping World Stadium in Orlando as they played for the National Pop Warner Title. Facing the Northampton Indians out of Pennsylvania, a power-heavy running team that was just as eager for the trophy, the Firehawks quickly racked up 19-points by the first half without allowing the Indians to score and continued battling their way through the 2nd half. The defense held the Indians to just 12 points, while the offense put up another 19 points on the board with a final score of Firehawks - 38, Indians - 12.





# ROAD TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP

## TREASURE COAST CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

FIREHAWKS VS PBG GATORS, W 19-0

## SOUTHEAST REGIONAL PLAYOFFS

RD 1: FIREHAWKS VS DAYTONA BEACH BUCS, W 25-6

RD 2: FIREHAWKS VS BOCA BRAVES, W 38-8

RD 3: FIREHAWKS VS LAKE NONA LIONS, W 57-24

## SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

FIREHAWKS VS ATLANTA SOUTHWEST CARDINALS,  
W 29-7

## POP WARNER NATIONALS

RD 1: FIREHAWKS VS CARLSBAD LANCERS, W 26-0

RD 2: FIREHAWKS VS RENO MINERS, W 20 -8

## 2021 POP WARNER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

FIREHAWKS VS NORTHHAMPTON INDIANS, W 38-12



**THE FORT PIERCE  
FIREHAWKS 14U DIVISION  
ENDED THE SEASON WITH  
A PERFECT RECORD, 17-0.**



The Fort Pierce Firehawks Youth Football and Cheerleading program is based out of the City's Recreation Center located at 903 S. 21st Street in Fort Pierce, engaging over 400 youth in the community and offering various activities such as football, cheerleading, basketball, and much more.

# COMMUNICATIONS INCREASED

# CONNECTING DIGITAL MARQUEE

In June of 2021, the City of Fort Pierce took another internal step towards growth by expanding media and marketing into a Communications Division under the Information Technologies Department.



### The Vision:

*“To deliver effective story-telling that reinforces the quality of life in Fort Pierce.”*

#### INTERNAL & EXTERNAL SERVICES

- News Releases
- Social Media Marketing
- Graphic Design
- Photography & Video
- Media Relations
- Event Coverage
- Channel 27
- Website Management

To learn more visit:

[www.cityoffortpierce.com/782/Communications-Division](http://www.cityoffortpierce.com/782/Communications-Division)



The City of Fort Pierce further enhanced its communications by installing a digital marquee in front of City Hall along US Highway 1. The purpose was to connect residents and visitors with important information such as events, traffic, or weather alerts.

## SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Facebook



**36,683**  
followers

Instagram



**8,208**  
followers

Twitter



**2,662**  
followers

LinkedIn



**863**  
followers

Nextdoor



**4,909**  
members

YouTube



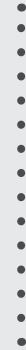
**259**  
subscribers



## CITY REDESIGNS WEBSITE

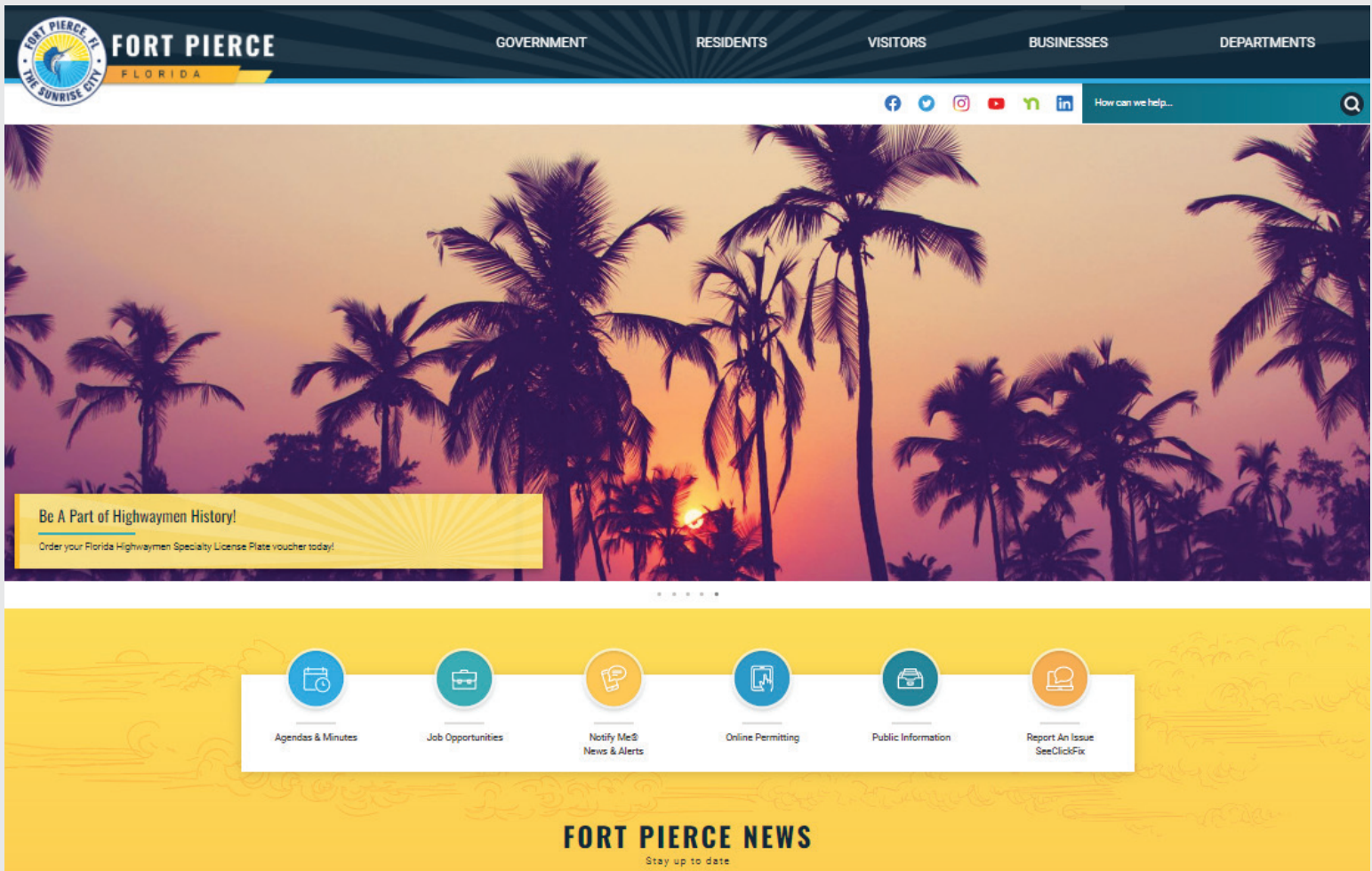
The City of Fort Pierce launched a new and improved website built with the user in mind. The site features improved navigation, enhanced design, and accessibility to help visitors surf Fort Pierce with greater ease.

With the new redesign, the City of Fort Pierce will be able to increase its community engagement and enhance the communication between residents and the local government.



### MAJOR UPGRADES:

- *more professional design*
- *revamped navigation*
- *responsive design*
- *embedded social media widget*
- *community calendar widget*
- *quick-to-scroll News Flash*



# ACTION BOUND:

## THE INTERACTIVE HUNT



Indian Hills Recreation Area located at 54 Savannah Road is a stormwater treatment area that includes recreational components featuring a one-mile loop walking path with exercise stations and picnic areas. Indian Hills Recreation Area is the result of a partnership between the City of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County, South Florida Water Management District, and the Department of Environmental Protection. **Action Bound** is a brand new, interactive scavenger hunt game installed at Hills Indian Recreational Area in an effort to help educate the community about the Six Best Management Practices (BMPs), which directly impact the storm-water runoff and the Indian River Lagoon. To play, users must first download the **Action Bound app** on their mobile device(s) and scan the QR code found on the sign at the south side entrance of the walking path. The app will then guide players through a scavenger hunt to locate the BMPs. The educational components were created and provided by St. Lucie County's 4-H program. Their mission is to use a learn-by-doing approach for the community to gain the knowl-

edge and life skills needed to be productive and responsible citizens. On May 17th 2021, the St. Lucie County 4-H program hosted the newest graduates of their Master Gardeners Program at Indian Hills Recreational Area and launched the Action Bound scavenger hunt game. For further information on educational opportunities, field trips and group activities at Indian Hills Recreational Area, please contact Debbie McManus, St. Lucie Count 4-H Program Specialist at [dmcmanus@ufl.edu](mailto:dmcmanus@ufl.edu).





## FORT PIERCE YOUTH COUNCIL

The Fort Pierce Youth Council members have been fully immersed in activities in the community. From volunteering during Thanksgiving and providing community members with the provisions necessary to celebrate with their families to aiding in neighborhood clean-ups. The Youth Council is consistently showing up in service of our community and their peers. Most recently, one of the members was named Youth of the Year at the Boys & Girls Club. Currently, the members are involved with developing key points of discussion for the Dream It, Be It Conference. They supported a local non-profit organization in educating young girls about what career opportunities are available to them, how to set and achieve goals, and how to overcome obstacles for success. They juggle these activities while going to school full time, sometimes holding two jobs, participating in extracurricular activities while getting ready to graduate and applying to colleges. We are very proud of our Youth Council and all they continue to do for our community!



2021



St. Lucie County's recognized the City of Fort Pierce as 2021 Best Places to Work. It is an extreme honor, and we thank the employees, management, the Mayor and the Commission for the heartfelt dedication to improve our beautiful city. The employees of City Hall are constantly building, serving and protecting the community which allows Fort Pierce to be a top-notch touring, dining and entertainment area for residents and visitors. In addition to serving the 46,000 residents in the City of Fort Pierce, the city employs 350 hardworking and dedicated individuals. The City offers employees a host of educational, training and learning opportunities, including extras like certification initiatives, and tuition reimbursement. The city also boasts competitive salaries, a robust defined benefit retirement program, and a 457b plan (our employer-sponsored, tax-favored retirement savings account), along with a full range of benefits. The city is growing, and we invite the best and brightest to join our team in their efforts to maintain the City of Fort Pierce as *the Best Place to Work, Live, and Play.*

# 2021 GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP

The 2021 Great American Cleanup began as a litter cleanup initiative designed to aesthetically improve our environment by creating cleaner parks, street-scapes, and public spaces through litter removal and elimination. To this day, our litter removal campaign success depends on community volunteerism. Without the support of volunteers, programs would not exist. Volunteers participated in litter removal, painting projects, and horticultural initiative. Every corner of Fort Pierce was beautifully touched by the efforts of 500 amazing volunteers! Thank you to all who was a part of this incredible turnout.



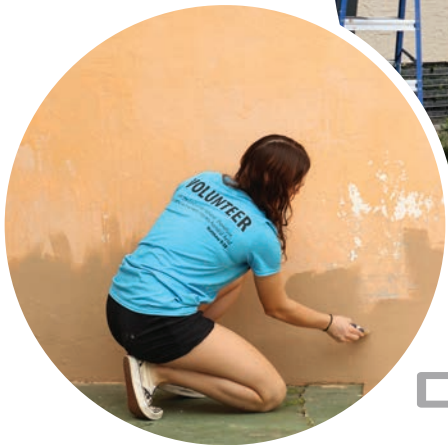
*Volunteers planted over 20 trees and 75 shrubs, collected 45 tons of debris, painted 2 pavilions and 3 cannons!*





## PAINT OUR TOWN PROGRAM

It truly takes a village! Thanks to a partnership with Westside Church and its' volunteers, the Paint Our Town program was able to assist homeowner(s), Ms. Hudson on Oleander Avenue, and the Mercer family on Avenue D. The City of Fort Pierce purchased the paint, painting supplies, and materials needed for the project while the manpower and talent came from the hearts of the Westside volunteers. The homes were prepped the day before on a Friday leaving Saturday morning to begin painting and make any minor exterior improvements. During the projects, Westside graciously provided lunch to the volunteers and the families, This collaboration allowed individuals, churches or civic organizations, and businesses to donate their time and services to help make a difference in the community we love and serve.





## ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM

The City of Fort Pierce Adopt-a-Road program offers businesses, civic groups, local organizations, schools, churches, families, and individuals the opportunity to adopt a section of a City-maintained roadway. The purpose of this adoption consists of litter reduction, volunteer opportunities, and enabling community members to show their pride in the beautiful City of Fort Pierce. The goals of this program also include reducing the litter along the roadways, keeping the surrounding environment clean, including swales, canals, and storm water inlets, and increasing public awareness about littering. The City of Fort Pierce has always been committed

to its beautification efforts and offering a program such as this gives residents, business owners, and other locals a chance to contribute to those efforts. Adopting a road in our great City evokes community pride, reduces crime, increases economic growth, and increases the quality of life for people that live, work, and visit Fort Pierce. This program truly is a great opportunity to make a noticeable difference throughout the community. To get started, the City of Fort Pierce Public Works Department will provide volunteers with safety vests, gloves, trash bags, and trash grabbers when they adopt a city roadway. There are many roads throughout that City of Fort Pierce that are up for adoption and are waiting for their new cleaning crew.



For more info, please visit our website at:  
[www.cityoffortpiece.com](http://www.cityoffortpiece.com)



## REVAMPING JAYCEE PARK

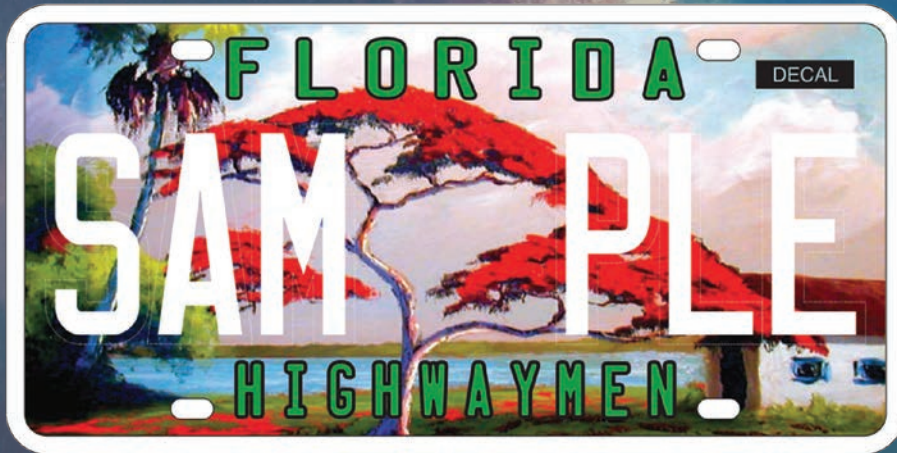
Fort Pierce is known for its beautiful parks throughout the city. In 2021, the City began working with community partners like Fort Pierce Sunrise Kiwanis and Children Services Council to help rebuild the Kids Park at Jaycee Park, so that children of all levels of ability can enjoy playing in the park. There are over 200,000 visitors of all ages who visit Jaycee Park year-to-year, and the City wants to continue to provide recreational opportunities for all. To learn more about this initiative, visit: <https://bit.ly/36UhsZ7>



### INDIAN HILLS RECREATION AREA: MULTI-USE TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE SUN TRAIL

Indian Hills Recreation Area Multi-Use Trail Improvements became a reality in 2021 by becoming a part of the East Coast Greenway System, stretching from Key West to Canada. The 12' wide concrete trail begins at the southernmost point of the recreation area at the FEC spur track and proceeds north to Indian Hills Drive. This segment, 1.56 miles in length, is the first of three sections that will traverse the City of Fort Pierce. Design and construction were fully funded by a grant applied for by St. Lucie County through FDOT and the City provided the project management and construction administration necessary to complete the phases. The phase II of this project will proceed through the Indian Hills Golf Course and is currently under design.





## THE HIGHWAYMEN SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE

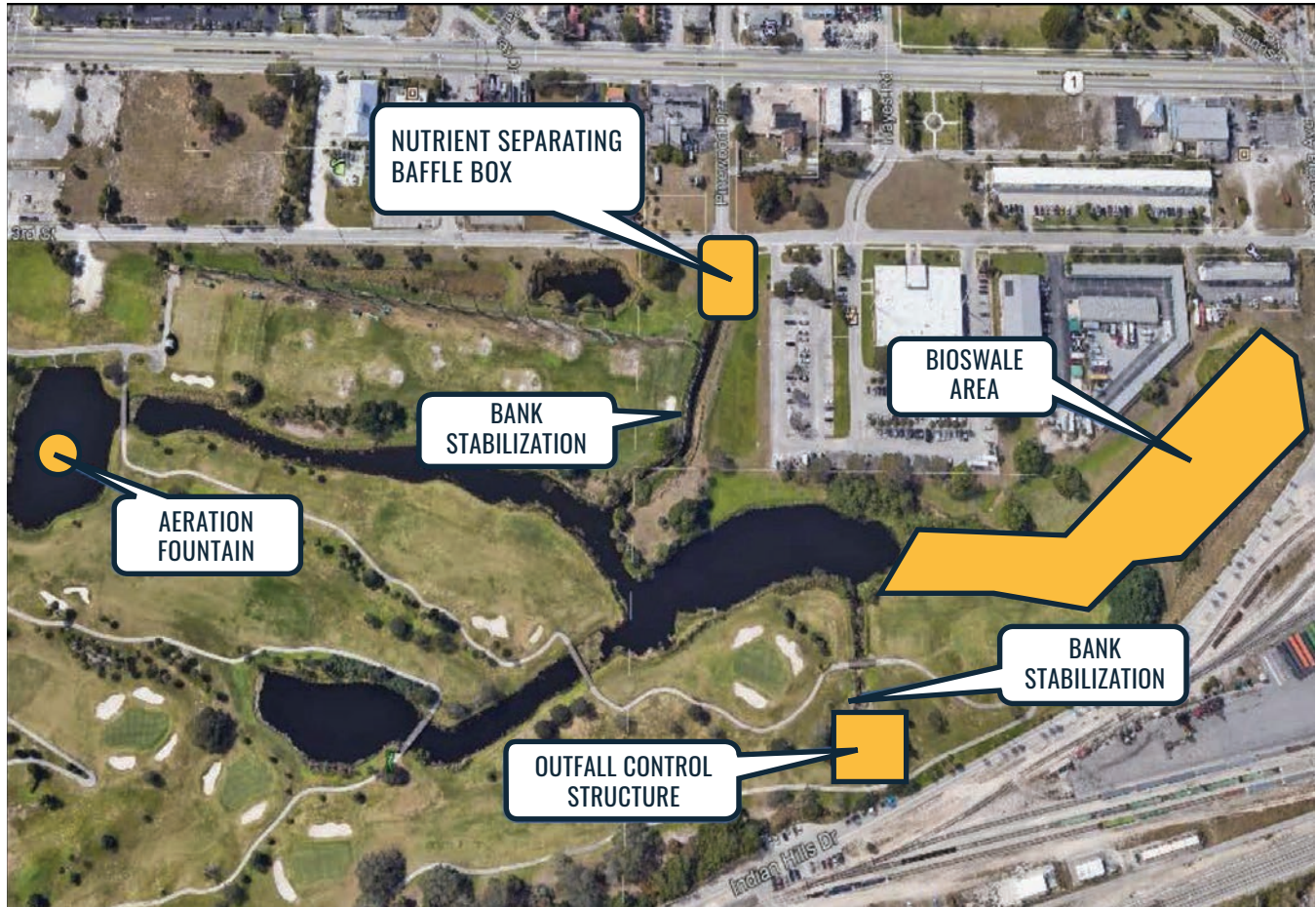
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### *Own A Part of History :*

The City of Fort Pierce supported the creation of the Highwaymen License Plate. Three thousand plates must be sold in three years in order to keep the plate as a permanent option, but the fees from the specialty plate will go toward local school art programs, and the creation of a future Highwayman Museum in the Lincoln Park District.

For more info, please visit:

[www.myfloridaspecialtyplate.com/highwaymenorder.html](http://www.myfloridaspecialtyplate.com/highwaymenorder.html)



## GEORGIA AVENUE BASIN WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Fort Pierce has long known the importance of protecting our waterways, particularly the Indian River Lagoon. This is primarily done through storm-water quality improvement projects throughout city's neighborhoods. In 2021, the City of Fort Pierce began the Georgia Avenue Basin Water Quality improvement project, funded by the South Florida Water Management District. Water flowing into the Indian River Lagoon is first cleaned and filtered thanks to past storm-water projects in Moore's Creek, Veterans Memorial Park, Indian Hills Restoration and Recreation area, and the islands that protect the waterfront and city marina. The City is proud to continue these efforts in order to improve and conserve our precious waterways.



# 100 YEAR INLET CELEBRATION



From fish fries, boat parades, and plein air to a 1920's cocktail party, boater education, and Friday Fest, the month of May in 2021 was celebrated in various ways to honor the 100 years since the creation of the beautiful Fort Pierce Inlet.

### *History of the Inlet:*

The original inlet, known as the Indian River Inlet, existed 2 miles north of the present inlet, near Pepper Park on North Hutchinson Island. The channel was just large enough for small crafts but immensely difficult for fishermen and sailors to cross into the Atlantic, especially during storm season as the inlet was often closed. The new inlet started as a shoal, or sand bar between two barrier islands known today as North and South Hutchinson Islands. This slight opening was only big enough for small crafts and made navigating during tide changes tedious. In 1920, the famous inventor of Crayola Crayons, and an avid fisherman, Edwin Binney, led the dredging efforts at the point of the shoal to open a more natural flow between the two barrier islands, making the passage from the Indian River to the Atlantic Ocean safer, and easier. In 1921, the artificial inlet now know as the Jetty Inlet was open to nautical navigation.



# #10 MOST AFFORDABLE BEACH TOWNS

Fort Pierce was named one of the **“Most Affordable Beach Towns”** in 2021!! What’s not to love about being minutes from the beach, great cuisine, charming atmosphere, and let’s not forget about those sunrises on the Jetty... and all at an affordable price according to [smartasset.com](https://www.smartasset.com).



# RANKED ONE OF FLORIDA'S #61 SAFEST CITIES

The National Council for Home Safety and Security by [Alarms.org](https://www.alarms.org) ranked the beautiful City of Fort Pierce at **#61** making it one of the safest cities to live, work, and play for 2021!



## FORT PIERCE CITY MARINA

A boater owners prime destination and location, having hosted overnight **1725 vessels** in 2021, and another **842 vessels** in the first 5 months of 2022. The Fort Pierce Marina allows guests prime access to downtown retail stores, restaurants, entertainment, and events such as the famous Farmers Market on Saturday mornings in Marina Square. An owner's needs are professionally met with near-by food, supplies, hardware, fuel or boat maintenance, our staff look forward to serving you!

[www.cityoffortpierce.com/1015/City-Marina](http://www.cityoffortpierce.com/1015/City-Marina)



## THE HISTORIC SUNRISE THEATRE

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places the beautifully restored, intimate 1,200-seat Sunrise Theatre, located in Historic downtown Fort Pierce, presents national touring Broadway shows, musical and comedy acts, ballet, country stars, and classic rock icons. The Sunrise Theatre directly benefits the economy and quality of life in Fort Pierce by attracting visitors from other cities, counties, and states. Also located within the theatre complex is the 220-seat Black Box Theatre, a state-of-the-art venue offering a variety of national, regional, and local programming.

During the pandemic, Sunrise staff successfully submitted and received Federal grant funding administered through the Small Business Administration (SBA) in July of 2021. The grant program was a lifeline to the entertainment industry and included over \$16 billion in grants that helped propel the theatre forward during the COVID-19. The grant-



provided the Sunrise Theatre with necessary funding for staffing, utilities, and other incurred costs during the pandemic and assisted the theatre in reviving the entertainment for downtown Fort Pierce. The Sunrise Theatre is excited for what's in store for 2022, featuring a lineup of new shows and performances. For more information, please visit:

[www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com)

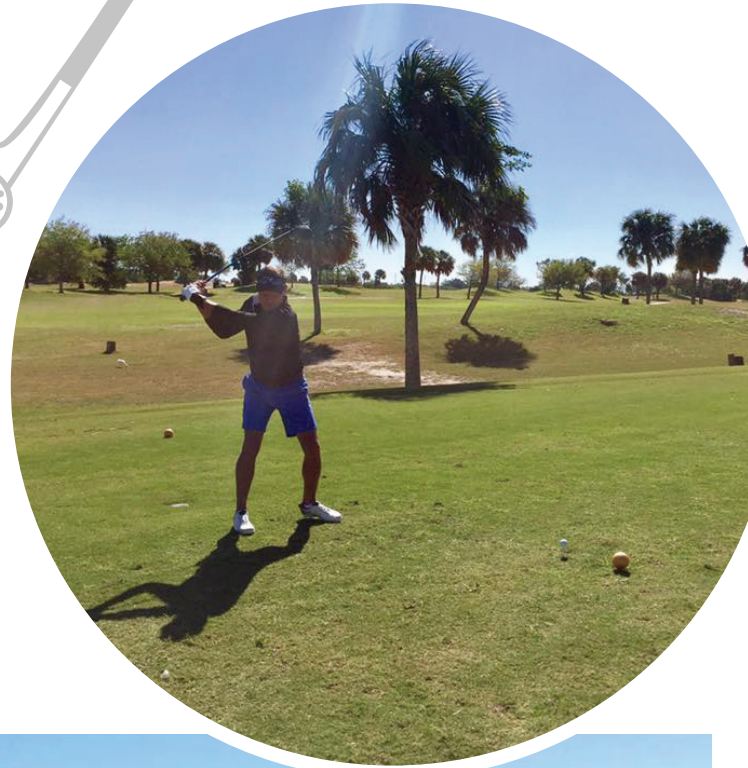


# INDIAN HILLS GOLF COURSE

In 2021, the Indian Hills Golf Course witnessed self-sustaining improvements from golf maintenance which gave The Hills complete control of expenses, allowing for better greens, and the addition of a fantastic new maintenance team of both seasoned veterans and ambitious, hard-working newcomers.

In February of 2022, the golf course was up in an excess of **600 rounds** compared to last February in 2021. With a little cooperation from the weather for March and April, The Hills will be able to finish out this season strong and continue to aggressively improve the turf-health. We truly appreciate all the continued support and will continue to work hard to provide a great product for all residents and guests!

***So far, Indian Hills is having it's best financial year!***





## **2x WORLD CHAMPIONS!**

The St. Lucie County Fire District Combat Challenge Team defended their title on November 6th 2021, competing for the “*World Championship*” in the Team category, retaining the title, and finished 2nd place in the Relay. The 2021 World Championship Firefighter Combat Challenge event took place in Fort Pierce at the City Marina bringing hundreds of spectators and visitors to the area.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**September 2022 - National Firefighter Combat Challenge, Fort Pierce**



**REGISTER TODAY!**

FORT PIERCE, FL  
CAUSEWAY COVE  
MARINA

APR 20-23,  
2022

## NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The City of Fort Pierce will once again host the Southern Kingfish Association, “SKA” in April of 2022 for the 29th National Championship. Though the Nationals were cut short in 2021, the SKA and the anglers are looking forward to catching kingfish in Fort Pierce waters. Every few years, the City hosts hundreds of anglers from as far north as the Carolinas to as far south as the Florida Keys and are looking forward to having them back in one Florida’s prime sport fishing locations.



# CITIZENS OF FORT PIERCE



CITY COMMISSION



NICHOLAS MIMMS  
CITY MANAGER



TANYA EARLEY  
CITY ATTORNEY



LINDA COX  
CITY CLERK



## DEPARTMENT HEADS



JACK ANDREWS  
CITY ENGINEER



PEGGY ARRAIZ  
CODE COMPLIANCE DIRECTOR



KEVIN BROWNING  
HUMAN RESOURCE  
DIRECTOR



DIANE HOBLEY-BURNEY  
POLICE CHIEF



SHARON ENGLE  
SUNRISE THEATRE DIRECTOR



JENNIFER HOFMEISTER  
PLANNING DIRECTOR



DEVOSHAY JOHNSON  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
DIRECTOR



DEAN KUBITSCHEK  
MARINA DIRECTOR



JOHNNA MORRIS  
FINANCE DIRECTOR



MIKE REALS  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR



PAUL THOMAS  
BUILDING DIRECTOR



DANNY VISCONTI  
INDIAN HILLS  
GOLF COURSE DIRECTOR



### **ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY BOARD**

meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The board advises the City Commission on matters pertaining to Arts and Culture and Art in Public Places (AIPP) projects and promotes outreach and involvement of the community. Members must be city residents.

### **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. The board reviews and votes on variance and special exception applications along with appeals. Members must be a St. Lucie County resident and financial disclosure to the State of Florida is required.

### **BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF CONTRACTORS**

meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. The board provides practical and adequate control of all contractors in the construction trades in the city. Members must be a St. Lucie County resident for at least two years representing specific fields.

### **CIVIL SERVICE APPEALS BOARD**

meets as needed to hear employee appeals, conduct investigations and enforce

a code of rules. Members must be St. Lucie County residents and not an employee of the city.

**COMMUNITYWIDE COUNCIL** meets as needed at 6:00 p.m. (Two or three times per year). The Council reviews the city's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Annual Action Plan, economic development business loan applications, non-profit organizations' request for funding applications, and proposed projects for recommendations to staff and City Commission. Members must represent specific targeted areas and be a city resident and financial disclosure to the State of Florida is required.

### **COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Its function is to study, review and provide recommendations, guidance and advice as to matters relevant to the purposes and goals of the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency. Members must be a resident within the district boundaries, own a business or be a financial executive of a business within the CRA boundaries.

### **FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY**

meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. In 1972, the citizens of Fort Pierce voted by referendum to create the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority which oversees utility services provide to city residents. Members must be a qualified elector of the City and have no business relationship with FPUA; financial disclosure to the State of Florida is required.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION** Board meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. This board handles many tasks including maintaining historic district boundaries and monitoring the upkeep of the local register of historic sites and districts. Members must be city residents or operate a business in the City and financial disclosure to the State of Florida is required.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE SURTAX**

**CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE** meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 3:00 p.m. This committee reviews projects funded by the Infrastructure Surtax and issuance of reports to the City Commission to insure transparency and to provide the citizens of the City with the assurance that funds are



being spent in the manner approved by the voters and in accordance with state law. All members must be a resident of the City of Fort Pierce.

### **KEEP FORT PIERCE BEAUTIFUL**

**ADVISORY BOARD** meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 12:00 along with the Tree Board. The board engages, educates and empowers community members to take greater responsibility for creating a clean and beautiful city through litter abatement, waste reduction, recycling and community beautification in order to improve health and prosperity of our community. Members must be city residents or own a business in the city. There is one seat dedicated for a St. Lucie County resident.

**PARKING COMMITTEE** meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. The committee will evaluate the effectiveness of parking resources and make recommendations to the City Commission on policy, procedures or improvements to enhance parking. Members shall be residents, property owners or business owners in the City of Fort Pierce.

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE** meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. This group provides input to the City Commission on park related activities and policy; they review naming requests and conduct research on issues as requested by the City Commission. Members must be residents of the city.

**PLANNING BOARD** meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. This board is essential in reviewing and influencing the management of growth in Fort Pierce. Members must be a city resident for at least two years and financial disclosure to the State of Florida is required.

**POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m. Its main purpose is to facilitate interaction, build trust and mutual respect and improve understanding between Citizens and their Police Department. Eligible individuals will be residents of the City of Fort Pierce.

**POLICE OFFICERS RETIREMENT FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES** meet quarterly. The Board is responsible for administering the

trust fund and members must be a city resident and financial disclosure to the State of Florida is required.

**SUNRISE THEATRE ADVISORY BOARD** meets on the 2nd Tuesday of even months at 12:30 p.m. at the Sunrise Theatre. This Board serves as a liaison between the community and the Theater. Members must be city residents however there are seats dedicated for St. Lucie County and neighboring county representation.

**YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL** meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. This group of high school students are dedicated to assisting the Mayor and City Council in solving problems and accomplishing goals on behalf of youth in the community. Members must be residents of the City, or attend a school within the city, or attend Westwood High School.

*~Note - Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Please refer to the Community Calendar on the City's website at [www.cityoffortpierce.com](http://www.cityoffortpierce.com) for current information and details.*



## CITY OF FORT PIERCE MISSION STATEMENT:

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*"To provide community leadership, quality public service, and a safe environment for all citizens by an empowered team of employees motivated by pride in themselves and their work."*

[www.cityoffortpierce.com](http://www.cityoffortpierce.com) | 772.467.3000

