



CITY OF BARTOW
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026 AT 6:00 P.M. (EST)
OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
450 N. WILSON AVE., BARTOW, FL 33830

AMENDED AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION – Bishop Anthony Roberts, New Beginnings Church
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
4. OATH OF OFFICE AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION
 - a. City Attorney Parker will officiate, and Pastor Adam Mayfield of Church for the One will administer the Oath of Office to Commissioner Gary Ball, Seat 4, At-Large District.
 - b. City Attorney Parker will officiate, and Senior Pastor Don'Tavius L. Sanders of St. James AME Church will administer the Oath of Office to Commissioner Leo E. Longworth, Seat 5, East District.
5. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
 - a. Smith Lane Joint Fire Station Update Presentation – Keith Tate, Polk County Facilities Management Director.
 - b. Issuance of proclamation recognizing May 6-12, 2026 as Nurses Week. Being accepted by Kristin Williams, RN CN II, Same Day Surgery at Bartow Regional Medical Center.
 - c. Issuance of proclamation recognizing May 11-16, 2026 as National Police Week. Being accepted by Police Chief Stephen Walker, BPD Police Officers & BPD Citizen Advisory Committee Members.
 - d. Issuance of proclamation recognizing May 2026 as Community Action Month. Being accepted by Albert Miller, Community Services & Economic Development Division Director, Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc. (ALPI).
 - e. Issuance of proclamation recognizing May 2026 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Awareness Month. Being accepted by Tiara Merricks, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Alliance Coordinator, Healthy Start Coalition of Hardee, Highlands & Polk Counties, Inc.

- f. Issuance of proclamation recognizing May 2026 as Aviation Appreciation Month. Being accepted by Bartow Airport Executive Director John Helms and staff.
 - g. Issuance of proclamation recognizing May 17-23, 2026 as Public Works Week. Being accepted by Public Works Director Billy Groover and staff.
 - h. Issuance of proclamation recognizing May 3-9, 2026 as Municipal Clerk's Week. Being accepted by City Clerk Jacqueline Poole and staff.
 - i. Issuance of proclamation recognizing May 2026 as Historic Preservation Month. Being accepted by Denise Bohde, Polk County Historical Association Board of Directors.
6. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – At this time, the Commission will receive comments from the public regarding matters not appearing on this agenda.
7. CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. REPORTS OF CHARTER OFFICERS
- a. City Manager Communications
 - 1. Engineering and Planning Services Agreement with Patel Greene – John Hall, Asst. City Manager
 - 2. Bartow Police Department's Social Media Strategies 2026 – Chief Walker & BPD Team
 - b. City Attorney Communications
 - c. Legislative updates
9. AGENDA MODIFICATION/APPROVAL
10. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – At this time, the Commission will receive comments from the public regarding matters that appear on this agenda, not otherwise scheduled for a separate Public Hearing.
11. HEARINGS – FIRST AND SECOND READINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE
12. CONSENT AGENDA
- a. Approval of April 20, 2026 City Commission Regular Meeting minutes.
 - b. Approval to renew Duke Energy Florida LLC non-exclusive Electric Franchise Agreement for a ten-year term.
 - c. Approval to appoint Yolanda Floyd to the Beautification Advisory Board with a term ending May 2029. Recommendation being made by Commissioner Pfeiffer.
 - d. Approval of City Commissioner absence(s) for April 20, 2026 excusal(s): None

13. OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS

- a. OLD BUSINESS – NONE
- b. NEW BUSINESS – NONE

14. RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution No. 26-4262-R – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA, APPOINTING PRIMARY AND ALTERNATE DIRECTORS TO THE POLK REGIONAL WATER COOPERATIVE (PRWC) BOARD OF DIRECTORS; ESTABLISHING THE TERM OF THE APPOINTMENT; PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THIS RESOLUTION TO PRWC; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

15. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- a. GARY BALL
- b. LEO E. LONGWORTH
- c. TRISH PFEIFFER
- d. LAURA SIMPSON
- e. TANYA TUCKER

16. ADJOURNMENT

Please be advised that if you desire to appeal any decisions made because of the above hearing or meeting, you will need a record of the proceedings and in some cases a verbatim record is required. You must make your own arrangements to produce this record. (Florida Statute 286.0105). The City Commission may continue the public hearing(s) to other dates and times as it deems necessary. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time, and place of any continuation of these or continued public hearings may be announced during the hearing and that no further notice regarding this matter will be published. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 450 N. Wilson Avenue, P.O. Box 1069, Bartow, Florida 33831-1069 or phone (863) 534-0100 within 2 working days of your receipt of this meeting notification; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771. Posted at City Hall, Bartow Public Library, the City's website on April 30, 2026.

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



CITY OF BARTOW

Welcome to the City of Bartow's City Commission meeting. We are glad you are here, and we appreciate your interest in our Community. We value your comments and participation.

To assist you in making presentations to the City Commission, please consider the following procedural guidelines.

- ❖ We do not generally allow comments during our work session unless the Mayor or Commission to clarify an item specifically asks for them. If comments are solicited, we ask you to subject yourself to a maximum three-minute comment. We ask that you be patient and save your comments for the regular Commission meeting.
- ❖ Each speaker shall provide his or her name and address to the Clerk on our Speaker's Identification form prior to the beginning of the meeting.
- ❖ We encourage you to speak and become active in your city but please do so at the appropriate time on the agenda.
- ❖ Comments on items scheduled for Public Hearing will be allowed only during the announced Public Hearing period.
- ❖ In the meeting, section titled "**Consideration of Questions from the floor, Petitions and Communications**", you may comment on any other matters, subject to a maximum time limit of three minutes to speak. In the event of a large number of speakers in a particular meeting, your time may be limited in order to allow all an opportunity to speak. Speakers going over the allotted time limit may be called out of order by the Mayor and asked to return to their seats.
- ❖ While speaking, speakers shall refrain from personal attacks, abusive language, issues in litigation or under investigation, and issues that the Commission deems as not falling within their area of responsibility.

These guidelines are intended to help us streamline our meeting time so that we may conduct business in an orderly manner on your behalf. It is not our intent to keep our citizens from participating in the democratic process.

We are glad you are here and hope you find your experience with your City Government a good one. Thank you for attending.

Sincerely,

Tanya Tucker
Mayor

ORDINANCE ADOPTION PROCEDURE

First Reading of Ordinances

1. After the caption of the Ordinance is read, the motion should be to set the same for public hearing (or to continue to a time certain - in which event there shall be an immediate vote on the motion to continue; if that motion fails, the following process would continue):
2. After the motion is seconded, the Mayor announces that this is not a public hearing.
3. The Mayor then may upon call on Staff to explain the Ordinance in a reasonable length of time.
4. The City Commissioners may direct questions to Staff.
5. The Mayor asks the Clerk to call the roll for a vote. Only under extraordinary circumstances should this vote be negative (and never regarding a quasi-judicial matter, such as zonings, rezonings, plat approvals, etc.).

Second Reading of Ordinances

1. After the caption of the Ordinance is read, the motion should be to adopt or to defeat the Ordinance (or to continue to a time certain - in which event there shall be an immediate vote on the motion to continue; if that motion fails, the following process would continue):
2. After the motion is seconded, the Mayor announces that this is a public hearing and announces the following procedure and that it shall apply to all second readings on the Agenda:
 - (a) First Staff shall explain the Ordinance.
 - (b) The Applicant and/or his representatives shall then speak.
 - (c) Members of the public shall have a maximum of three (3) minutes each to present their views.
 - (d) A member of the public who wishes to represent more than two people may at the discretion of the Mayor or Commissioners be allowed additional time to speak.
 - (e) City Commissioners may direct questions to any speaker (whose time to speak shall not be affected by the length of their answers).
 - (f) Speakers should not be redundant by repeating remarks of previous speakers, although they are welcome to announce their approval of previous remarks by other speakers.
 - (g) Addressing the Commissioners without being recognized, clapping, shouting, hooting and the like from the audience will not be tolerated, nor will personal attacks by speakers.
 - (h) Within these parameters, everyone who wishes to speak shall be given that opportunity.
3. When all the speakers have been heard, the Mayor closes the public hearing, asks for comments from the Commissioners and then asks the Clerk to call the roll for a vote.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA MUNICIPAL ELECTION - APRIL 7, 2026

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

GARY BALL

WAS ELECTED TO CITY COMMISSION SEAT NO. 4 - AT-LARGE DISTRICT



City of Bartow
Polk County's Capital City



SEAN R, PARKER, CANVASSING BOARD CHAIRMAN



PETER LEAR, CANVASSING BOARD MEMBER



JACQUELINE POOLE, CANVASSING BOARD MEMBER

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA MUNICIPAL ELECTION - APRIL 7, 2026

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

LEO E. LONGWORTH

WAS ELECTED TO CITY COMMISSION SEAT NO. 5 - EAST DISTRICT



City of Bartow
Polk County's Capital City

A blue ink signature of Sean R. Parker, written over a horizontal line.

SEAN R, PARKER, CANVASSING BOARD CHAIRMAN

A blue ink signature of Peter Lear, written over a horizontal line.

PETER LEAR, CANVASSING BOARD MEMBER

A blue ink signature of Jacqueline Poole, written over a horizontal line.

JACQUELINE POOLE, CANVASSING BOARD MEMBER



Smith Lane Joint Use Fire Rescue Station

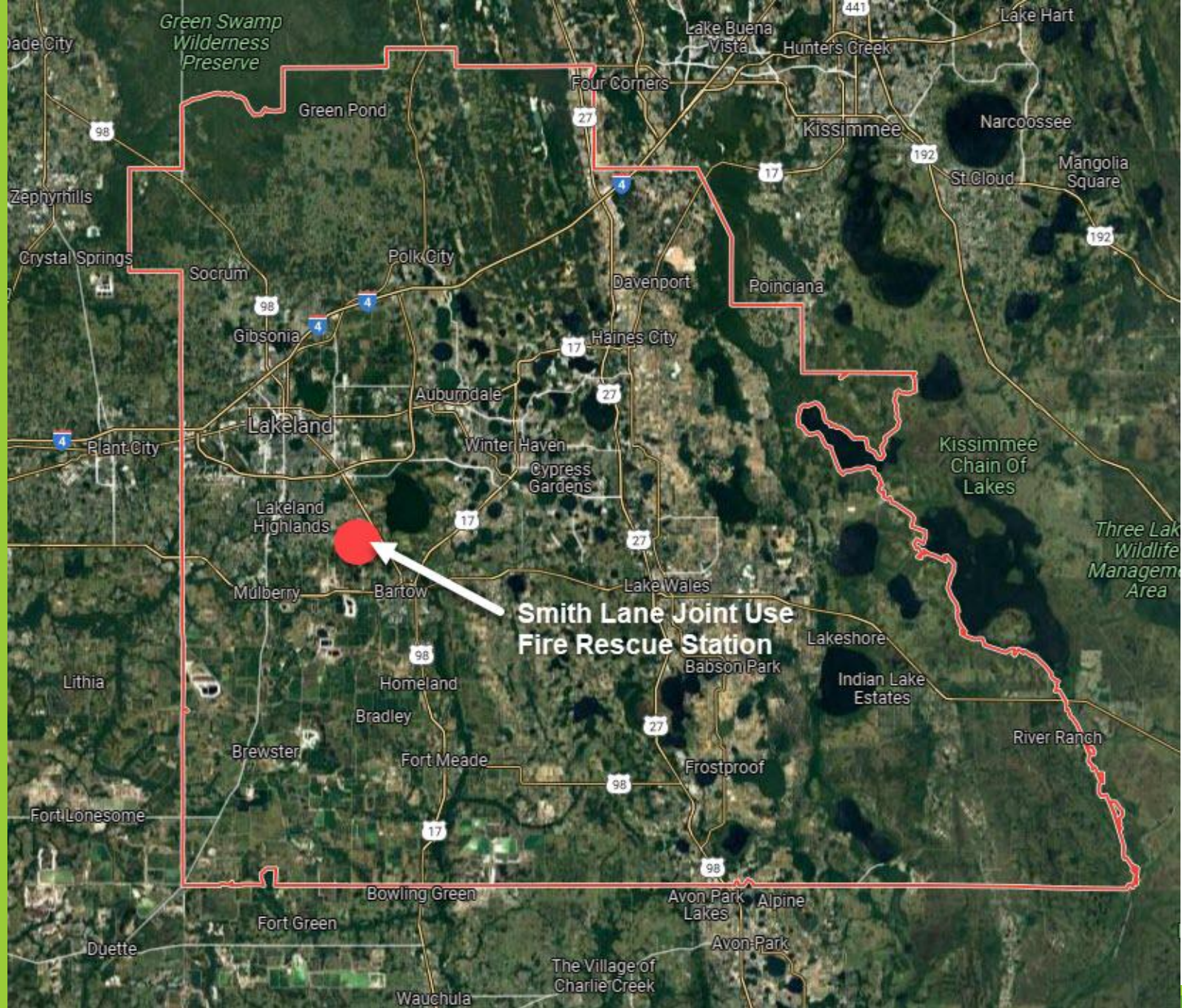


Polk County Board of County Commissioners

City Of Bartow

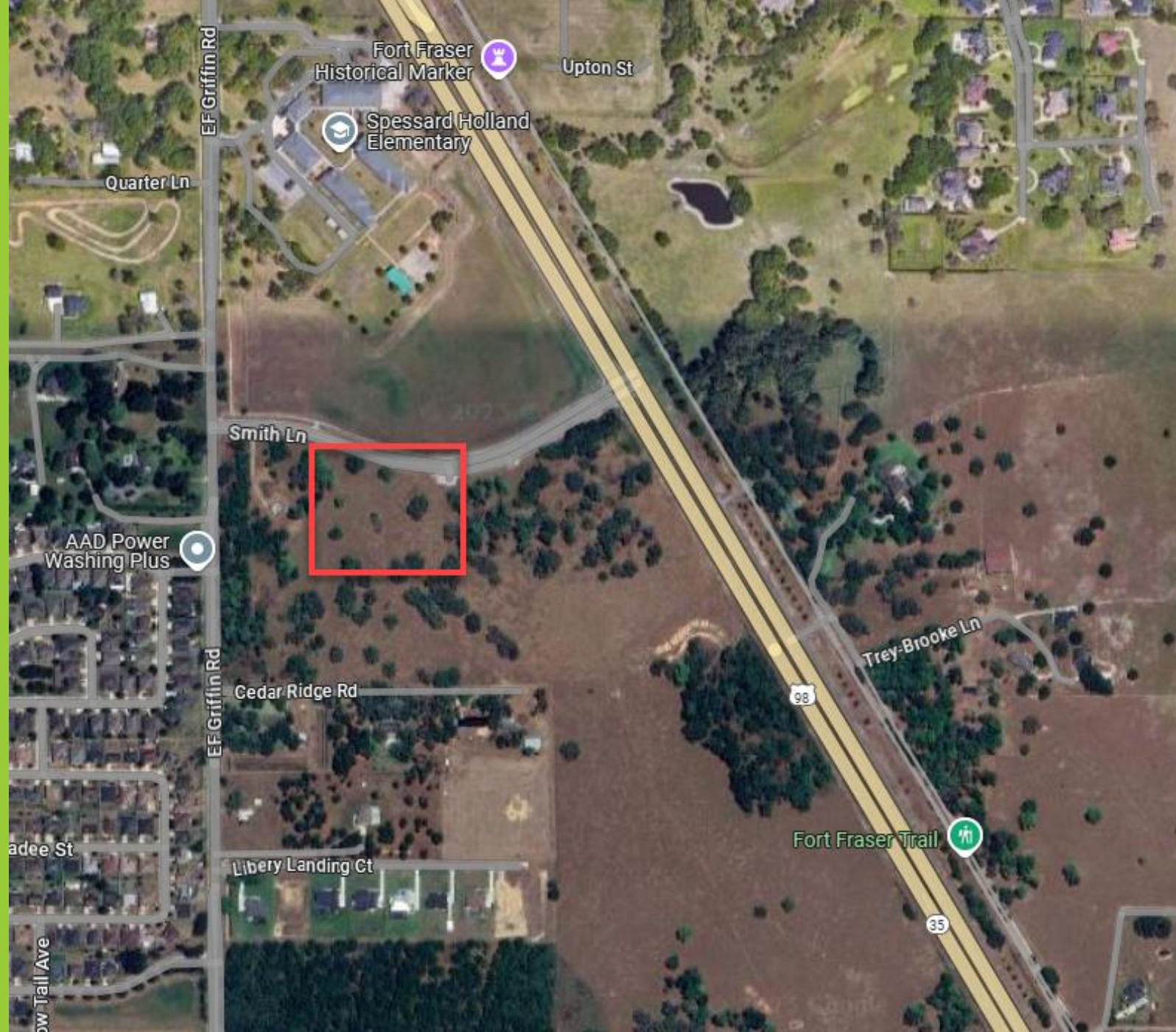


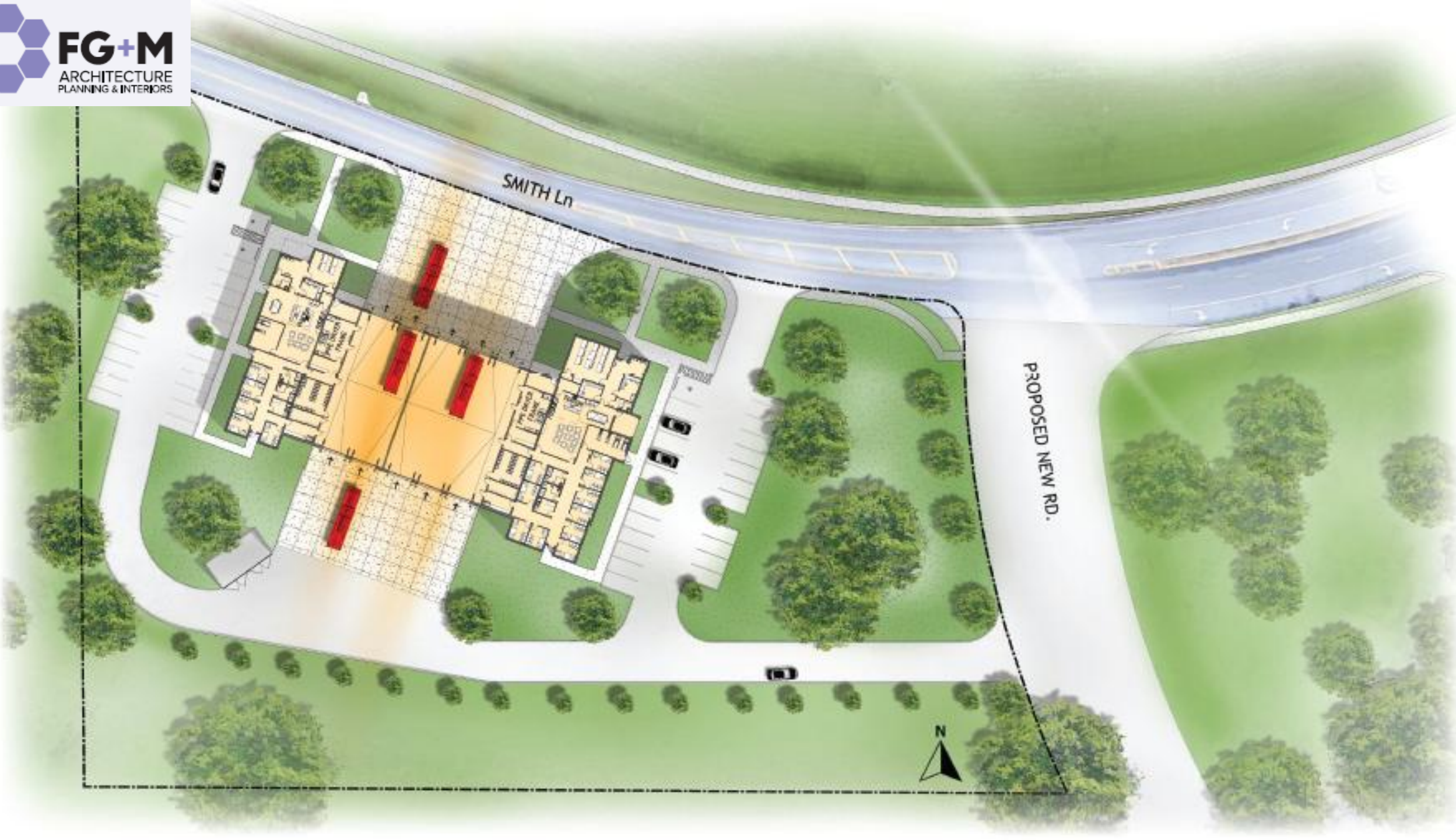
Area Map

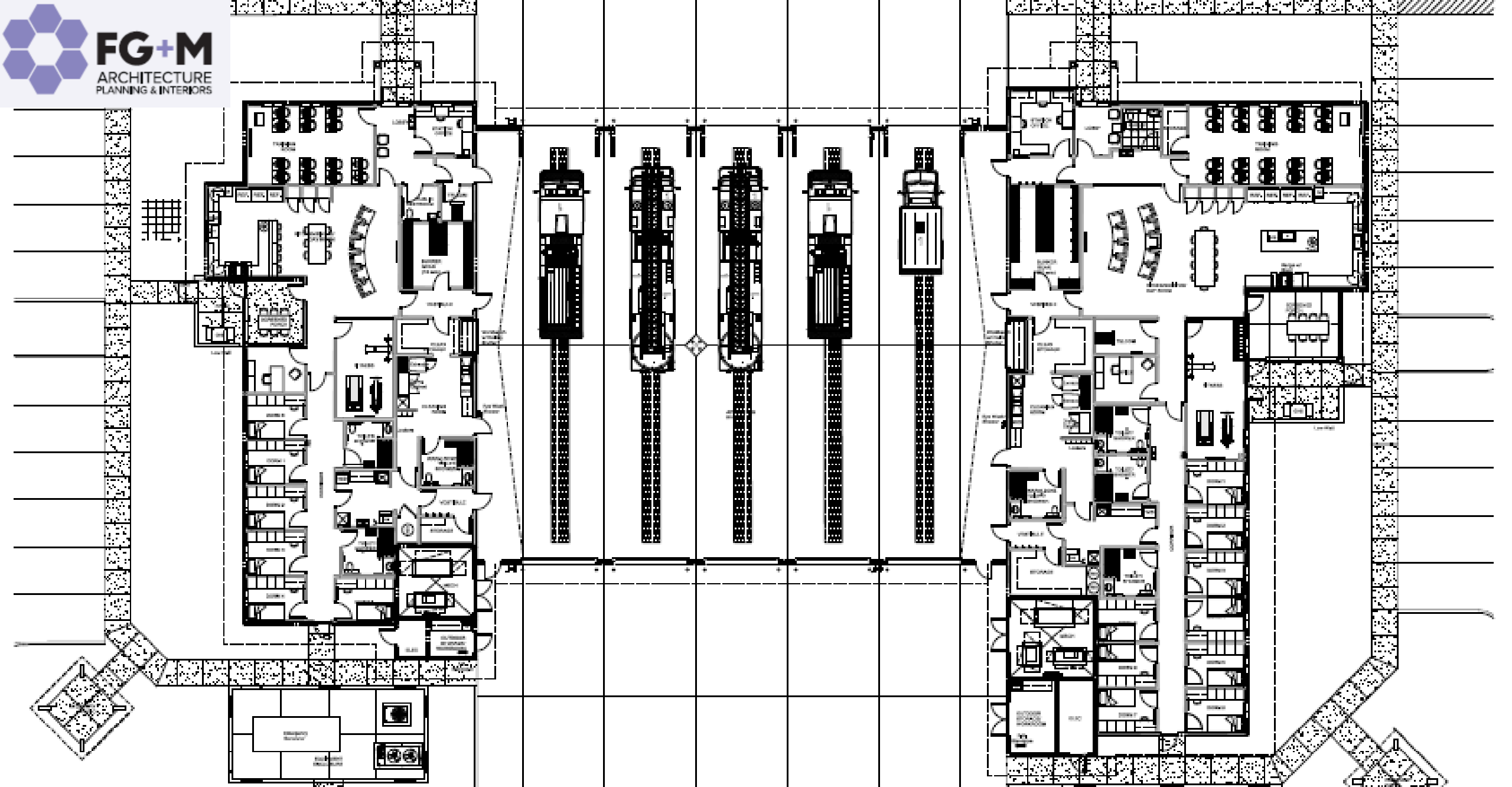




Vicinity Map













Per the Interlocal Agreement:

Polk County -	\$ 6,780,000 (60%)
City of Bartow -	<u>\$ 5,220,000 (40%)</u>
Estimated Cost -	\$12,000,000



POLK COUNTY JOINT USE FIRE STATION

Tate, Keith (KeithTate@polkfl.gov)

Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish	Actual Finish	Qtr 1, 2026			Qtr 2, 2026			Qtr 3, 2026			Qtr 4, 2026			Qtr 1, 2027			Qtr 2, 2027			Qtr 3, 2027			Qtr 4, 2027		
					Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	
DESIGN TRACK	157 days	Wed 1/21/26	Thu 8/27/26	NA																								
Schematic Design	22 days	Wed 1/21/26	Thu 2/19/26	NA																								
Elevation Approval	15 days	Wed 1/21/26	Tue 2/10/26	Tue 2/10/26																								
Floor Plan Approval	7 days	Wed 1/21/26	Thu 1/29/26	Thu 1/29/26																								
Site Plan Approval	7 days	Wed 2/11/26	Thu 2/19/26	NA																								
Design Development	75 days	Fri 2/20/26	Thu 6/4/26	NA																								
30% Design Development Working Time	25 days	Fri 2/20/26	Thu 3/26/26	NA																								
Owner Review	10 days	Fri 3/27/26	Thu 4/9/26	NA																								
60% Design Development Working time	25 days	Fri 4/10/26	Thu 5/14/26	NA																								
Owner Review	10 days	Fri 5/15/26	Thu 5/28/26	NA																								
Incorporate Owner Comments	5 days	Fri 5/29/26	Thu 6/4/26	NA																								
Design Development Delivered	0 days	Thu 6/4/26	Thu 6/4/26	NA																								
Construction Documents	45 days	Fri 6/5/26	Thu 8/6/26	NA																								
90% Construction Documents Working Time	30 days	Fri 6/5/26	Thu 7/16/26	NA																								
Owner Review	10 days	Fri 7/17/26	Thu 7/30/26	NA																								
Incorporate Owner Comments	5 days	Fri 7/31/26	Thu 8/6/26	NA																								
100% Construction Documents Delivered	0 days	Thu 8/6/26	Thu 8/6/26	NA																								
Site Permitting	60 days	Fri 6/5/26	Thu 8/27/26	NA																								
CMaR Track	165 days	Tue 2/17/26	Tue 10/6/26	NA																								
CMaR Interviews	0 days	Tue 2/17/26	Tue 2/17/26	NA																								
CMaR Selection BoCC Confirmation	0 days	Tue 3/3/26	Tue 3/3/26	NA																								
CMaR Negotiations	30 days	Tue 3/3/26	Mon 4/13/26	NA																								
CMaR Contract Approved	0 days	Mon 4/13/26	Mon 4/13/26	NA																								
DD Pricing Exercise	30 days	Fri 6/5/26	Thu 7/16/26	NA																								
GMP Pricing	30 days	Fri 8/7/26	Thu 9/17/26	NA																								
BoCC Approval	0 days	Tue 10/6/26	Tue 10/6/26	NA																								
CONSTRUCTION	267 days	Fri 8/28/26	Mon 9/6/27	NA																								
SITE	6 mons	Fri 8/28/26	Thu 2/11/27	NA																								
BUILDING	12 mons	Tue 10/6/26	Mon 9/6/27	NA																								

Milestone Dates:

100% Construction Documents - 8/6/2026

Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) - 9/17/2026

Est. Construction Start Date - 6/30/2026

Est. Construction Completion Date - 9/6/2027

Thank You!



PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the profession of nursing is committed to the promotion of health, the prevention of disease, and the delivery of quality nursing care; and,

WHEREAS, the scope and depth of responsibilities assumed by nurses are expanding rapidly in today's complex health care system; and,

WHEREAS, the over 4 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession, and

WHEREAS, Florida women and men in nursing are expanding their professional health care roles by continually striving to upgrade standards of care and improve services through research, education, and practice; and,

WHEREAS, Florida is fortunate to have dedicated nurses utilizing their knowledge, skills, energy, and compassion to improve the quality and accessibility of health care services for our residents.

WHEREAS, the American Nursing Association has designated this year's theme as "**THE POWER OF NURSES**". This year's theme highlights the profound impact nurses have on healthcare, communities, and policy, celebrating their skill, dedication, and vital role in creating a healthier world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Tanya Tucker, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bartow, Florida, I do hereby proclaim the week of May 6, 2026 through May 12, 2026 as:

NURSES WEEK

in the City of Bartow in recognition of the contributions of the nursing profession to the health care of our residents.

Dated at Bartow, Florida this 4th day of May 2026.

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Mayor Tanya Tucker

ATTEST WITH SEAL:

By: _____
City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, more than 800,000 law enforcement officers serve communities throughout the United States, including the dedicated members of the Bartow Police Department; and

WHEREAS, since the first recorded line-of-duty death in 1786, over 24,000 law enforcement officers in the United States have given their lives while serving, making the ultimate sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, the names of these committed public servants are permanently inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, this spring, 363 additional names are being added to the Memorial, including 109 officers who lost their lives in 2025 and 254 officers who died in prior years, whose stories of sacrifice have only recently come to light. With these additions, the Memorial will now honor 24,775 fallen officers; and

WHEREAS, Bartow has lost two of its own in the line of duty: On May 15, 1886, Town Marshal Silas Campbell, age 37, was shot and killed while attempting to arrest two intoxicated individuals, leaving behind a wife and children; and on January 26, 1954, Officer A.G. Bush, Bartow's first motorcycle patrolman and a World War II veteran, died from injuries sustained in a patrol crash. He was 47 years old and survived by his wife and two stepsons; and

WHEREAS, the service and sacrifice of all officers killed in the line of duty will be commemorated during the 38th Candlelight Vigil hosted by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund on the evening of May 13, 2026; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Tanya Tucker by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bartow, Florida, do hereby proclaim the week of May 11-May 16, 2026 as:

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

in the City of Bartow and call upon all citizens to join in publicly honoring the service and dedication of law enforcement officers in our community and across the nation.

DATED at Bartow, Florida, this 4th day of May 2026.

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Mayor Tanya Tucker

By: _____
City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Community Action creates pathways to prosperity by helping hardworking families achieve economic independence rather than keeping them reliant on government assistance; and

WHEREAS, Community Action is built on innovative, responsive, and efficient programs that are uniquely tailored to meet local needs; and

WHEREAS, Community Action delivers high-impact, cost-effective results that generate a significant return on investment for local communities; and

WHEREAS, Community Action invests in private-sector job creation and career training, ensuring that communities grow through free-market solutions; and

WHEREAS, Community Action Agencies are trusted pillars of the community that engage volunteers who donate their time to advance local progress, support working families, and contribute to lasting community success; and

WHEREAS, Community Action programs are both necessary and popular – delivering effective, high-quality assistance that strengthens community resilience and fosters local prosperity; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Tanya Tucker by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bartow, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2026 as

COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH

in recognition of the hard work and dedication of all Bartow, Florida Community Action Agencies.

DATED at Bartow, Florida, this 4th day of May 2026.

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Mayor Tanya Tucker

ATTEST WITH SEAL:

By: _____
City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, all children of Polk County should have the opportunity to be born healthy, grow up in a safe and nurturing environment, experience educational success, achieve economic independence, and reach their fullest potential in life; and

WHEREAS, teen childbearing costs U.S. taxpayers about \$9 billion each year; the burden associated with teen pregnancy and parenting is also born by the taxpayer of Polk County; and

WHEREAS, teen pregnancy is closely linked to a number of critical social issues such as poverty, educational attainment, involvement in criminal justice and child welfare systems, and more; and

WHEREAS, a child is nine times more likely to grow up in poverty if he or she is born to unmarried teen parents who have not yet completed high school; and

WHEREAS, every three days a baby is born to a teen mom between the ages of 10-17 and sexually transmitted diseases in youth are increasing in Polk County; and

WHEREAS, the Polk Teen Pregnancy Prevention Alliance of the Healthy Start Coalition of Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties, Inc., has identified public awareness as an important strategy for addressing these problems; and

WHEREAS, the prevention of teen pregnancy should be a priority in the City of Bartow; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Tanya Tucker by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bartow, Florida, I do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as:

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Awareness Month

DATED at Bartow, Florida, this 4th day of May 2026.

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Mayor Tanya Tucker

ATTEST WITH SEAL:

By: _____
City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the State of Florida ranks second in the nation in aerospace and aviation establishments; and

WHEREAS, Florida’s general aviation airports serve more than 4.6 million out-of-state visitors and business travelers each year and are home to more than 6% of the nation’s total general aviation fleet; and

WHEREAS, Florida’s aviation industry generates more than \$336 billion in annual economic activity; and Bartow Executive Airport contributes more than \$345 million to the Florida economy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bartow has a strong interest in the continued vitality of aviation, aircraft and aerospace manufacturing, Bartow Executive Airport, and aviation education; and

WHEREAS, Bartow Executive Airport both supports and drives economic growth and development, serving as an important economic engine and providing vital health, welfare, emergency, and public safety services; and

WHEREAS, Bartow Executive Airport is committed to the future of aviation through the provision of flight instruction and air traffic control instruction; and

WHEREAS, Bartow Executive Airport has remained true to its mission and vision of providing the Bartow Airport Experience through outstanding customer service, quality facilities, and respect for the history of the city and airport.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Tanya Tucker by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bartow, Florida, I do hereby proclaim May 2026 as:

AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

in Bartow, Florida.

DATED at Bartow, Florida, this 4th day of May 2026.

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Mayor Tanya Tucker

ATTEST WITH SEAL:

By: _____
City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to public health, high quality of life, and well-being of the people of Bartow; and

WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and protecting our nation’s transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders, and children in the City of Bartow to gain knowledge of and maintain an ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks the 66th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association.

WHEREAS, this year’s theme, “Rooted in Service, Powered by Community” acknowledges that the roots of service run deep in public works. It’s what has propelled public works innovations that have helped our communities evolve into places where people can lead lives of purpose and possibility. Some work like building roads and bridges is highly visible, while other public works contributions like maintaining water and sewer systems are sometimes hidden from view. Together, these efforts form the foundation of thriving communities, reminding us that every project, seen or unseen, powers the connection between service and the people it supports.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Tanya Tucker by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bartow, Florida, I do hereby proclaim the week of May 17th – May 23rd, 2026 as:

PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

In the City of Bartow and urge all citizens to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events, and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees, and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and advancing quality of life for all.

DATED at Bartow, Florida, this 18th day of May 2026.

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Mayor Tanya Tucker

ATTEST WITH SEAL:

By: _____
City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the office of the Municipal Clerk is a respected and essential institution within local governments around the world; and

WHEREAS, the role of Municipal Clerk stands as one of the most longstanding positions among public service professions; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Clerk serves as a crucial liaison, connecting citizens with their local governing bodies and with agencies at various levels of government; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Clerks are committed to upholding the principles of neutrality and impartiality, ensuring fair and equal service to all members of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Clerk acts as a central source of information regarding the operations of local government and community affairs; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Clerks are dedicated to enhancing the effectiveness of their office by actively participating in educational opportunities, and conferences of their professional organizations at the state, provincial, county, and international levels.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bartow, Florida, I do hereby proclaim the week of May 3-9, 2026 as the 57th Annual:

MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK

in the City of Bartow and further extend our sincere appreciation to our City Clerks for the vital services they provide and for their unwavering dedication to the community they serve

DATED at Bartow, Florida, this 4th day of May 2026.

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Mayor Tanya Tucker

ATTEST WITH SEAL:

By: _____
City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The National Trust for Historic Preservation established May as Historic Preservation Month in 1973, to promote historic places for the purpose of instilling nation and community pride, promoting heritage tourism, and showing the social and economic benefits of historic preservation; and

WHEREAS, historic preservation is an effective tool for promoting sustainable development, revitalizing neighborhoods, fostering local pride, and maintaining community character; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bartow has 12 resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including three historic districts and nine individual properties; and

WHEREAS, it is important to acknowledge and celebrate the benefit of history, architecture, and archeology to our lives and the contributions made by dedicated individuals in helping to preserve the tangible aspects of the heritage that has shaped the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Tanya Tucker by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bartow, Florida, I do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as:

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

in the City of Bartow and call upon the people of Bartow to join their fellow citizens across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance.

DATED at Bartow, Florida, this 4th day of May 2026.

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Mayor Tanya Tucker

ATTEST WITH SEAL:

By: _____
City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

ITEM NO. 8.a.1

CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA

TO: City of Bartow City Commission
THROUGH: Mike Herr, City Manager
FROM: John Hall, Assistant City Manager of Infrastructure Services
DATE: May 4, 2026
SUBJECT: Approval of professional services agreement for Engineering and Planning Services with Patel Greene & Associates.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

On April 24, 2026, Bob Weigers retired from the City of Bartow as the Planning Director after 25 years. His retirement has left Bartow with no one on staff to receive development plans and coordinate with the appropriate departments for their review and input. Recruitment activity for the new Director of Planning has started; however, the process will probably take 6 or 7 months and in the interim we still must receive and review development requests. The city has continuing contracts with Engineering and Planning firms which can be utilized for this service until a new Director is employed. We have decided to engage and utilize the services of a local firm, Patel-Greene Engineering, for the City's required Engineering and Planning services.

STAFF ANALYSIS KEY ISSUES

After reviewing Planning Director Wieger's job duties and responsibilities it has been decided that we need a firm to provide services as follows:

- Support City review of assigned applications for land development, plans, designs, studies, and other engineering or city planning work products.
- Review assigned materials for overall conformance with the City's Unified Land Development Code and all other applicable criteria.
- Perform technical review in the following areas: city planning, zoning and future land use, site plan, grading, roadway, stormwater, utilities, environmental permits, traffic studies, Maintenance of Traffic (MOT), performance bonds, Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI), as-built documentation, and Geographic Information System (GIS) data. Review shall include documentation of any issues or improvements needed to quality of the design, constructability issues, and, if applicable, cost-saving suggestions.
- As directed, coordinate the review with applicable City Departments to assess conformance in topical areas not listed above.
- Determine either a recommendation for approval or identification of additional information and/or corrections required prior to such approval.

Prepare and deliver presentations summarizing completed technical reviews and associated recommendations to assigned public groups, City committees, and boards, including:

ITEM NO. 8.a.1

- Development Review Commission; attend virtually monthly.
- Planning Commission; attend in person monthly, or as scheduled.
- Zoning Board of Adjustment; attend in person monthly, or as scheduled.
- Support City process improvement initiatives.

INTERDEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION

- Attend staff retreats and other process improvement meetings.
- Document issues and bottlenecks in the City's review and approval processes. Process areas to be addressed include review status tracking, as-built documentation, issuing of permits, software tools, website information, submittal templates, integration with other City systems, and associated data processing.
- Research and document feasible process improvement opportunities and associated implementation requirements for specific opportunities as assigned by City staff.
- Support the city in their efforts to amend the Land Development Code.

SERVICES & INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF BARTOW

- The City shall accept and process each application packet and other engineering or city planning work products, ensuring they are complete prior to assigning the review.
- The City shall provide information needed to complete the assigned reviews including any existing and available right of way, easements, as-built plans, studies, or other documentation.
- The City shall perform all required logistics and notification required for assigned presentations at public meetings, City committees, or boards.

SCHEDULE

Services will commence upon approval and continue until the allocated task budget has been expended or September 30, 2026, whichever happens first.

FISCAL IMPACT

Not to Exceed \$100,000.00

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend approval of the agreement with Patel-Greene to provide Engineering and Planning services to the City.

ATTACHMENT(s)

Agreement
Purchase Order



City of Bartow
Staff Augmentation – Planning & Engineering Support
Scope & Fee Proposal

Contract No.: CM 2023-04-01, PGA Task Work Order #8

April 27, 2026

I. PURPOSE

This task assignment will provide support and staff augmentation for ongoing reviews of land development applications and engineering work products.

II. TASKS

The following tasks will be completed as a part of the study:

1. Coordinate with City staff and stakeholders.
 - a. Hold ongoing meetings with City staff.
 - b. Coordinate with partner agencies including but not limited to FDOT District One, Polk County, and the City of Eagle Lake.
2. Support City review of assigned applications for land development, plans, designs, studies, and other engineering or city planning work products.
 - a. Review assigned materials for overall conformance with the City's Unified Land Development Code and all other applicable criteria.
 - b. Perform technical review in the following areas: city planning, zoning and future land use, site plan, grading, roadway, stormwater, utilities, environmental permits, traffic studies, Maintenance of Traffic (MOT), performance bonds, Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI), as-built documentation, and Geographic Information System (GIS) data. Review shall include documentation of any issues or improvements needed to quality of the design, constructability issues, and, if applicable, cost-saving suggestions.
 - c. As directed, coordinate the review with applicable City Departments to assess conformance in topical areas not listed above.
 - d. Determine either a recommendation for approval or identification of additional information and/or corrections required prior to such approval.
3. Prepare and deliver presentations summarizing completed technical reviews and associated recommendations to assigned public groups, City committees, and boards, including:
 - a. Development Review Commission; attend virtually monthly.
 - b. Planning Commission; attend in person monthly, or as scheduled.
 - c. Zoning Board of Adjustment; attend in person monthly, or as scheduled.
 - d. City Commission
4. Support City process improvement initiatives.
 - a. Attend staff retreats and other process improvement meetings.
 - b. Document issues and bottlenecks in the City's review and approval processes. Process areas to be addressed include review status tracking, as-built documentation, issuing of permits, software tools,



website information, submittal templates, integration with other City systems, and associated data processing.

- c. Research and document feasible process improvement opportunities and associated implementation requirements for specific opportunities as assigned by City staff.
- d. Support the city in their efforts to amend the Land Development Code.

III. SERVICES & INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF BARTOW

The City shall accept and process each application packet and other engineering or city planning work products, ensuring they are complete prior to assigning the review.

The City shall provide information needed to complete the assigned reviews including any existing and available right of way, easements, as-built plans, studies, or other documentation.

The City shall perform all required logistics and notification required for assigned presentations at public meetings, City committees, or boards.


IV. SCHEDULE

Services will continue until the allocated task budget has been expended or September 30, 2026, whichever happens first.

V. PROPOSED FEE

Not to Exceed \$100,000.00

Invoices to be submitted monthly with a progress report and details of charges by task. Rates to conform with Contract No.: CM 2023-04-01, Exhibit A from which is provided on the following page.

Submitted by: 
Lucas Cruse, AICP / Contract Manager

Date: April 27, 2026

Accepted by: 

Date: 4/30/26

Patel, Greene & Associates, LLC - Exhibit A

		Direct Labor	Overhead	FCCM	Direct Expense	Operating Margin
Multiplier:	300.535%	100.00%	159.02%	0.775%	0.74%	40.00%

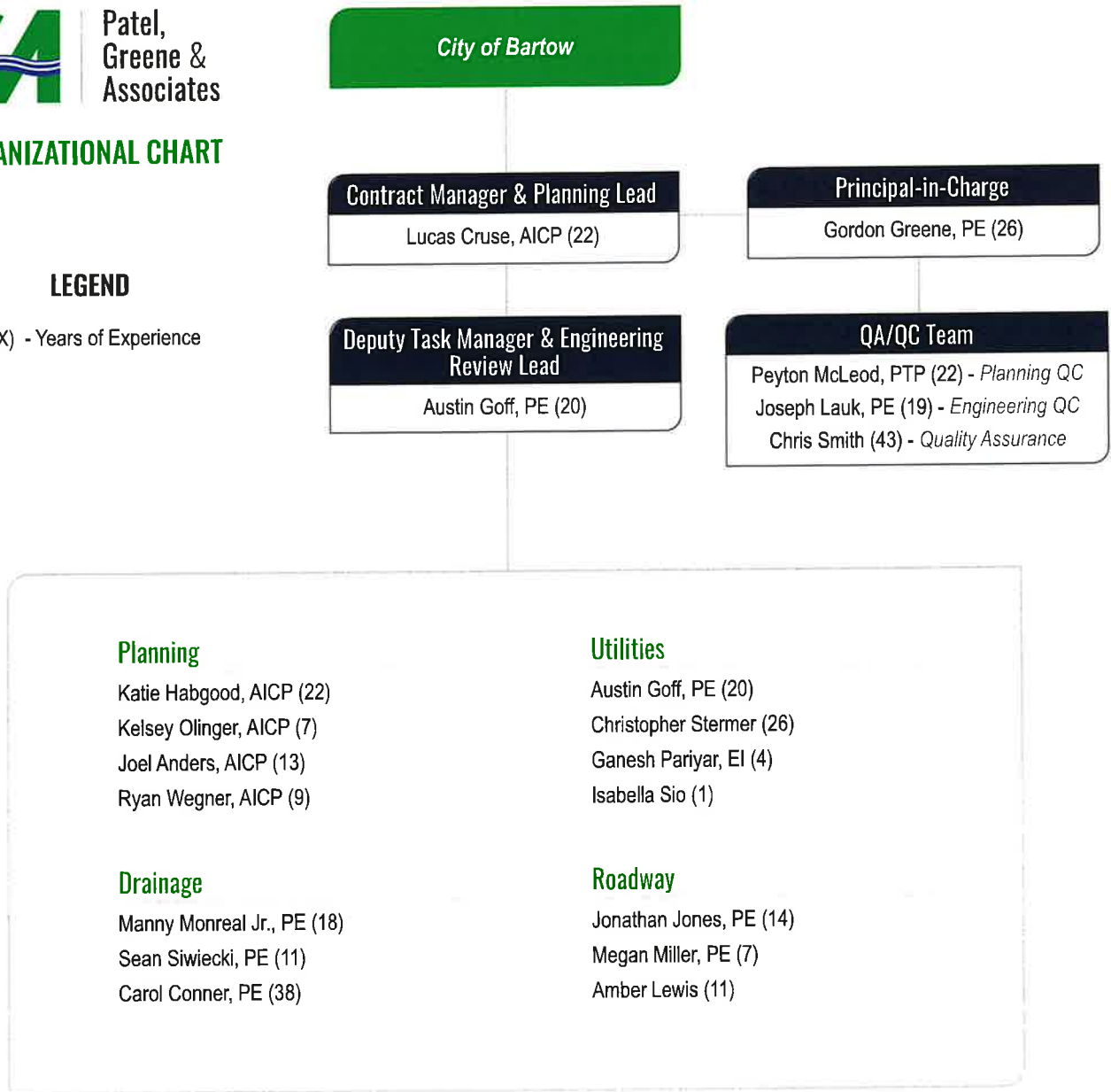
Classification	Range of Hourly Direct Labor Rates	Range of Hourly Billing Rates
CEI Associate Res Compliance Specialist	\$27.33	\$82.14
CEI Bridge Paint/Repair Inspect (SSR/LA)	\$30.00	\$90.16
CEI Bridge Paint/Repair Sen Inspect (SSR/LA)	\$34.50 - \$75.00	\$103.68 – \$225.40
CEI Contract Support Specialist	\$42.00	\$126.22
CEI Inspector	\$29.00	\$87.16
CEI Project Admin	\$40.50 - \$70.00	\$121.72 - \$210.37
CEI Res Compliance Specialist	\$54.00	\$162.29
CEI Senior Project Engineer	\$76.50	\$229.91
Chief Designer	\$41.00 - \$62.00	\$123.22 - \$186.33
Chief Engineer 1	\$73.00 - \$93.00	\$219.39 - \$279.50
Chief Engineer 2	\$81.00 - \$93.00	\$243.43 - \$279.50
Chief Planner	\$65.00 - \$73.00	\$195.35 - \$219.39
Chief Scientist	\$62.00	\$186.33
Community Outreach Specialist	\$27.50 - \$34.00	\$82.65 - \$102.18
Community Outreach Specialist - Junior	\$24.00 - \$29.00	\$72.13 – \$87.16
Community Outreach Specialist – Senior	\$56.00	\$168.30
Engineer 1	\$46.50 - \$57.69	\$139.75 - \$173.38
Engineer 2	\$61.00 - \$64.00	\$183.33 - \$192.34
Engineering Intern	\$33.00 - \$48.00	\$99.18 - \$144.26
Engineering Technician	\$24.50 - \$33.00	\$73.63 - \$99.18
Environmental Specialist	\$35.00	\$105.19
Graphic Designer	\$29.00 - \$39.50	\$87.16 - \$118.71
Landscape Designer /Landscape Planner	\$35.00	\$105.19
Planner	\$36.50 - \$40.00	\$109.70 – 120.21
Principal Engineer	\$110.00	\$330.59
Project Manager 1	\$43.27	\$130.04
Project Manager 3	\$85.00 - \$90.00	\$255.45 - \$270.48
Secretary/Clerical	\$17.00 - \$64.50	\$51.09 - \$193.85
Senior Engineer 1	\$72.00 - \$85.00	\$216.39 - \$255.45
Senior Engineering Technician	\$34.50 - \$41.00	\$103.68 - \$123.22
Senior Environmental Specialist	\$51.00	\$153.27
Senior Landscape Architect	\$62.50	\$187.83
SUR Chief Surveyor	\$75.00	\$225.40
Technician Aid	\$20.00 - \$22.00	\$60.11 - \$66.12



— ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

LEGEND

(X) - Years of Experience



PRE-QUALIFICATIONS

2.0 • 3.1 • 3.2 • 3.3 • 4.1.1 • 4.1.2 • 4.2.1 • 4.2.2 • 5.1 • 5.4 • 6.1 • 6.2 • 6.3.1 • 6.3.2 • 6.3.3
7.1 • 7.2 • 7.3 • 8.1 • 8.2 • 8.4 • 9.1 • 9.2 • 9.4.1 • 10.1 • 10.3 • 11.0 • 13.3 • 13.4 • 13.5 • 13.6 • 15.0



Lucas Cruse, AICP
Contract Manager & Planning Lead
22 Years of Experience

Education: M.A., Urban and Regional Planning, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2003

Lucas Cruse is the Context-Based Solutions Group Leader with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). For over 22 years, he has managed urban planning and design projects, with a focus on facilitating quality development and placemaking. His wide range of experience includes land use planning and development review, Land Development Regulation updates, public involvement, multimodal roadway and trail design, MPO management, research and training, and geospatial analysis. In a prior role, Lucas was staff for the City of Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he managed the review and approval processes for proposed land developments, zoning and future land use designation changes, and annexations. He was staff for the City of St. Petersburg for more than seven years, where he reviewed proposed developments for conformance with adopted policies and successfully implemented numerous studies, projects, and programs. Lucas has experience presenting to elected boards, appointed committees, public meeting participants, and professional planners as an instructor in the Florida Department of Transportation Local Agency Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). Lucas has been managing projects for the City of Bartow including transportation safety studies, trail plans, grant applications, and Geographic Information System data analysis, and he is eager to continue supporting the City's planning and design needs.



Peyton McLeod, PTP
Planning QC
22 Years of Experience

Education: B.A., Geography, Stetson University, 2001

Peyton McLeod is an Associate and the Planner Director with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He has spent the last 22 years coordinating and managing multimodal transportation planning projects, including numerous corridor and PD&E studies for FDOT and regional transportation planning agencies. His wide range of experience includes multimodal level of service analyses, nonmotorized trip prediction techniques, Roadway Safety Audits, transportation facilities and conditions mapping, national transportation safety studies, multimodal facility demand analyses, and evaluations of transit systems.



Joseph Lauk, PE
Engineering QC
19 Years of Experience

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering, University of South Florida, 2007

Joe is a firm principal and the Roadway Group Manager for Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He has 19 years of experience, including seven years with FDOT District One managing high-profile projects and serving on multiple committees to enhance effectiveness of statewide transportation initiatives. Joe's experience working on both the client and consultant side of transportation design has not only granted him a deep understanding of FDOT policies and procedures, but has also enabled him to develop strong relationships with stakeholders across the state.



Austin Goff, PE
Deputy Task Manager & Engineering Review Lead
20 Years of Experience

Education: B.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of South Florida, 2005

Austin is the Civil Site Group Manager with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He has over 20 years of design and project management experience, including land planning, right-of-way vacation and easement release, zoning plan production and coordination, wet zoning, agency permitting, construction inspections and coordination, and close out. Austin has ample experience maintaining client relationships, acquiring new clients and products, and providing solutions to complex site configurations.



Gordon Greene, PE
Principal-in-Charge
26 Years of Experience

Education: M.B.A., University of South Florida, 2008

Gordon is the Executive Vice President at Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). With more than 25 years of experience, he has built a diverse technical foundation, serving as a project manager, engineer of record (EOR), and principal-in-charge on projects throughout Florida. His specific experience includes 3D modeling, project management, bridge hydraulic reports (BHRs), storm drain design, permitting, pavement design, resurfacings, widenings, temporary traffic control plans, and stormwater management. Gordon has intimate knowledge of current design standards, bringing this experience to PGA along with a strong commitment to see his company gain a reputation for engineering excellence and superb client service.



Chris Smith
Quality Assurance
43 Years of Experience

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering, Florida International University, 2006

Chris is a Senior Project Manager with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He has 43 years of experience, including three decades of service with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in District One. His leadership roles with the FDOT include 11 years as a Project Manager and 10 years as the District Production Manager. As the District Production Manager, Chris led production coordination for District One including coordination efforts with FDOT's Central Production Management Office in Tallahassee. Chris was also responsible for project construction estimates and project schedules for District One. As District One's Director of Transportation Development, Chris oversaw over 185 employees in Planning, PD&E, Design, Right-of-Way and Program Management.



Katie Habgood, AICP
Planning
22 Years of Experience

Education: M.A., Urban & Regional Planning, University of Florida, 2005

Katie Habgood is the Master Planning Group Leader and a Chief Planner with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). Her 22 years of professional practice has involved a range of planning products at all scales of geography, from focused corridor studies to multi-county Long Range Transportation Plans. She is an adept communicator, enjoying face-to-face time with clients and a project's audience and stakeholders. She creates presentations that effectively share complex information and data in easily understood ways. Her project experience includes transportation content and analysis for Comprehensive Plans, bicycle and pedestrian feasibility and master planning, context-based planning, funding analyses (including exploring new funding sources tailored for each community), and meaningful public engagement.



Joel Anders, AICP
Planning
13 Years of Experience

Education: M.S., Civil Engineering & City Planning, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2012

Joel is a Project Planner with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He brings over 13 years of experience with delivering multimodal transportation projects in urban and suburban settings. He combines strong analytical skills with a practical design approach to support planning and implementation of pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and roadway improvements. He works collaboratively with multidisciplinary teams to develop clear, effective solutions and communicates complex ideas through concise writing and visualizations. Joel has also contributed to successful grant applications, helping clients secure funding for transportation initiatives.



Kelsey Olinger, AICP
Planning
7 Years of Experience

Education: M.A., Urban & Regional Planning, University of South Florida, 2024

Kelsey Olinger is a Project Planner with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). She has over seven years of experience specializing in local and regional planning with an emphasis on development concurrency review. She is a technical expert in intergovernmental coordination and has been involved in reviewing plans from various disciplines including land use compatibility, transportation concurrency, and environmental regulation.



Ryan Wegner, AICP
Planning
9 Years of Experience

Education: M.S., Urban and Regional Planning, Florida State University, 2018

Ryan is a Project Planner with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA) and has nine years of experience working in both the private and the public sector. He works extensively with FDOT across multiple districts. He also works closely with local municipalities and universities. Ryan has previously supported the City of Bartow through the development of GIS-based applications that enhance the visualization and prioritization of transportation asset maintenance. In addition, he has provided ongoing technical GIS support to the City's Public Works GIS team, assisting with troubleshooting, data management, and application refinement.



Jonathan Jones, PE
Roadway
14 Years of Experience

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering, University of Central Florida, 2011

Jonathan is a Project Roadway Engineer with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He has 14 years of experience and has successfully provided transportation engineering services for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), as well as municipal government clients throughout Florida, since 2011. Jonathan has experience in both roadway design and structural and bridge engineering. His specific expertise includes developing vertical and horizontal alignments, roadway pavement design type selection studies, signing and pavement marking plans, traffic control plans, and general plans production.



Megan Miller, PE
Roadway
7 Years of Experience

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering, University of South Florida, 2018

Megan is a Roadway Engineer with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). She has over seven years of experience that includes the design of roadway and safety improvements, pedestrian and roadway bridges in both superstructure and substructure, and new and existing miscellaneous structures. Her specific project experience includes roundabouts, task work order assignments, RRR projects, and complete streets design. In addition, Megan has forensic experience that includes in-field investigations to determine the cause and origin of damage to private residences.



Amber Lewis
Roadway
11 Years of Experience

Education: A.S., Liberal Arts, Polk State College, 2017

Amber is a Roadway Designer at Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). She has over 11 years of combined experience in managing multiple levels of staff, working in Bentley's OpenRoads Designer and other FDOT programs such as Connection Client, Crash Analysis Reporting, Long Range Estimate System, Electronic Review Comments, and the Financial Management system. She is skilled at planning, organizing, and managing multiple work assignments while maintaining a positive attitude, work atmosphere, and employee morale.



Sean Siwiecki, PE
Drainage
11 Years of Experience

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering, University of South Florida, 2014

Sean is a Drainage Project Engineer with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He has 11 years of experience in transportation design, including working in-house at FDOT District One providing production support. His design background includes roundabout, limited-access, sidewalk, and bridge replacement projects. Sean's specific experience includes drainage documentation such as bridge hydraulic reports (BHRs), pond siting reports (PSRs), and location hydraulic reports (LHRs), plans production, and quantity computation. He is a dedicated individual who strives to provide innovative and feasible engineering solutions.



Ganesh Pariyar
Utilities
4 Years of Experience

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering, University of South Florida, 2024

Ganesh is an Engineering Technician at Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He brings more than four years of experience in technical design and data interpretation. Ganesh is skilled in AutoCAD, ArcGIS Pro, Sketchup, and Solid Works, and is familiar with project management software such as Jira and Confluence. He thrives in a team environment and has excellent time management and problem-solving skills.



Isabella Sio
Utilities
1 Year of Experience

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering, Michigan State University, 2023

Isabella is a Technician Aide at Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). She is a collaborative and detail-oriented professional with excellent written and verbal communication skills, and she brings valuable experience in AutoCAD.



Manny Monreal Jr., PE
Drainage
18 Years of Experience

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering, Florida International University, 2006

Manny is a Senior Drainage Engineer with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). His 18 years of engineering experience includes stormwater management facility and stormdrain design, hydraulic modeling, CADD and GIS support, site inspections, site data collection, and event coordination. Previously, Manny has provided staff augmentation to FDOT District One through the General Engineering Contract (GEC). His responsibilities include planning, design, production of engineering drawings, preparing technical specifications, preparing documentation for reports and permit applications, and performing construction field observation.



Carol Conner, PE
Drainage
38 Years of Experience

Education: M.A., Mathematics Education, University of Central Florida, 2010

Carol is a Chief Drainage Engineer for Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). She has 38 years of engineering experience. She has a broad range of expertise that includes drainage design for large and small projects, stormwater master plans, permitting, and stormwater expert witness services. Carol is a native Floridian. Her extensive experience and understanding of Florida regulations and hydrology allow her to tackle complex projects with a unique perspective. Carol's broad-range of experience also includes site planning and engineering on projects ranging from small commercial sites to large master-planned communities. She has served numerous of private and public clients throughout Central and West Florida.



Christopher Stermer
Utility Coordination
26 Years of Experience

Education: A.A., University of Maryland, 1996

Christopher is the Utility Coordination Group Leader with Patel, Greene and Associates (PGA). He has more than 26 years of experience in utility coordination and subsurface utility engineering (SUE) for roadway projects. He facilitates the resolution of utility and design conflicts between utility owners, roadway designers, and engineers within project limits. His responsibilities include leading milestone coordination meetings to identify impacts on existing utilities and address constructability concerns. Chris is well-versed in the coordination and dissemination of SUE information and maintains a thorough knowledge of current statutes and regulations.



CITY OF BARTOW
 PO BOX 567
 BARTOW, FL 33831-0567
 (863) 534-0100
 www.cityofbartow.net

PURCHASE ORDER

PO NUMBER: 039381

PAGE 1

This PO Number must appear on all invoices and correspondence.

VENDOR #: 01-160263

REQ #: 039381

DATE: 04/30/2026

VENDOR: PATEL, GREENE & ASSOCIATES
 215 E MAIN STREET
 BARTOW, FL 33830

SHIP TO: CITY OF BARTOW
 450 N. WILSON AVE
 BARTOW, FL 33830

UNITS	DESCRIPTION	G/L ACCOUNT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
	PLANNING/ENGINEERING SVC	001-512101-334-900	0.00	100,000.00
	CCNA CM 2023-04-01; PLANNING AND ENGINEERING SERVICES PATEL GREENE; CONTRACT NO. CM 2023-04-01			

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TOTAL 100,000.00

Purchaser is exempt from Federal and State Tax. EIN #: 696000272

State law requires the vendor to furnish an itemized invoice which states the vendor's name and address, a clear description of each item purchased, its unit price, the number or volume of each item, its total price, the total amount of the purchase and the date of the purchase.

CITY OF BARTOW
 AUTHORIZED BY

Mail invoices to: City of Bartow
 ATTN: Purchasing
 450 N. Wilson Avenue
 Bartow, FL 33830

ORIGINAL

R. Vazquez
 Purchasing Agent



ITEM NO. 8.a.2

BARTOW POLICE DEPARTMENT'S

SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

Bartow Police Department · Facebook Insights · January 2025 – April 2026

2.2M

Total Views

2,900+

New Followers

80K

Avg Video Views

\$0

Ad Spend



OUR GROWTH STORY

January 2025 – April 2026

2,900+

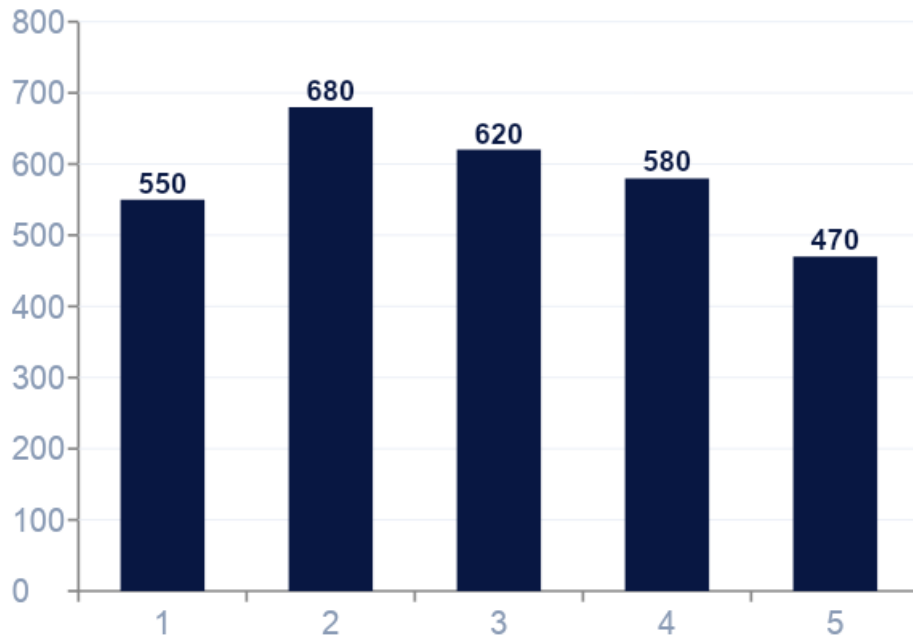
NEW FOLLOWERS

over 16 months

★ Largest following among ALL city departments

Monthly Follower Growth

Cumulative new followers since account revival



Estimated quarterly breakdown. Total: 2,900+ followers gained over 16 months.

100% organic growth · Zero ad spend · January 2025 – April 2026

+2,200,000

TOTAL VIEWS · JANUARY 2025 – APRIL 2026 · ZERO AD SPEND

LAST 28 DAYS — REAL NUMBERS FROM FACEBOOK INSIGHTS

163.9K

Views

↑ **206%**

63.0K

Unique Viewers

↑ **184%**

62.0K

3-Sec Views

↑ **416%**

1.9K

Interactions

↑ **439%**

319

New Follows

↑ **177%**

EARNED MEDIA VALUE

What would it cost to buy the attention we earned for free?

What is CPM?

CPM (Cost Per Mille) is the advertising standard for the cost of reaching 1,000 people. It's what brands and agencies pay for the same audience we earn for free through great content.

The Math

2,200,000 views ÷ 1,000 = 2,200 units
× \$5 CPM = **\$11,000**
× \$8 CPM = **\$17,600**

Estimated Earned Media Value

\$11K – \$17.6K

Industry-standard Facebook CPM (\$5–\$8)

Zero cost to taxpayers

Every dollar of media value was earned through content creation, not ad budgets.

Professional-grade reach

2.2M views rivals paid campaigns run by large marketing agencies.

Recurring value

Our content compounds — old posts continue generating views and follows over time.

 FEATURED SERIES

Red Light Runner of the Week

~80,000

AVERAGE VIEWS PER EPISODE

If each viewer watched just 30 seconds:

**That's 40,000 hours of public safety awareness generated —
per episode.**

Why It Works

Public Safety

Drivers see real consequences — changing behavior without a single billboard.

Shareability

Community tags friends, pushing reach well beyond our follower base.

Accountability

Shows active enforcement — building trust through transparency.

Entertainment

Content people actually want to watch — not traditional 'police content.'

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our content doesn't just reach people — it moves them.

"Is there a recruitment email?"

Comment — unprompted recruitment inquiry

"Love to see this in our community! Thank you Bartow PD 🍪 🍪 🍪"

Comment — organic community support

"Give your social media guy a raise 🤪👏"

Comment — organic content amplification

What This Tells Us

✓ Residents trust us

Genuine goodwill, not passive scrolling.

✓ Passive recruiting

Job-seekers are self-selecting in at zero cost.

✓ Organic reach

Shares push our message beyond our followers.

✓ Brand loyalty

Followers feel connected to their department.

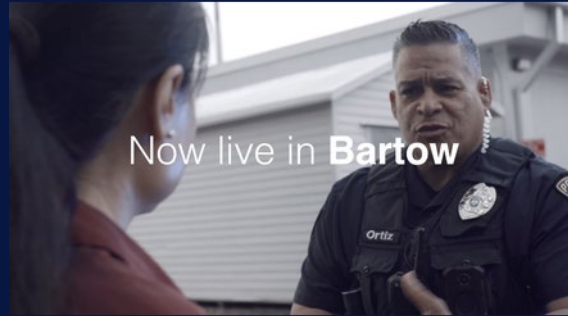
FEATURED CONTENT

A sample of the original content produced for Bartow PD's social presence



Range Day

Behind-the-scenes training content that shows off our state-of-the-art sidearms and exciting lifestyle



Axon Translate Demo

Showcasing cutting-edge technology that is live in Bartow and nowhere else in the county.



Real Reasons — Unreleased

Cinematic short-form content aimed at recruiting from the angle of unique job benefits. (beards, dogs, guns)

PLATFORM EXPANSION

If our content performs this well on one platform — imagine two more.

ACTIVE

Facebook

Total Views

2.2M+

Followers

10,000+

*Our proven foundation.
Engaged, growing audience.
Only downside is audience age.*

PROJECTED

Instagram

Projected Annual Views

1.5M – 2.5M

Projected Followers (Yr 1)

+6,000 – 12,000

*Reels re-purpose existing video content.
Algorithm favors law enforcement & public
safety — built-in discovery for new
audiences & recruits aged 18–34.*

PROJECTED

YouTube

Projected Annual Views

800K – 1.5M

Projected Subscribers (Yr 1)

+2,000 – 5,000

*Long-form content lives forever and is
searchable. Red Light Runner series
alone could drive 500K+ views. Recruits,
press & residents all use YouTube
research.*

Combined cross platform projection: 4.5M – 6.2M total annual views – A 100-180% reach increase at minimal additional cost

WHY FOLLOWERS MATTER

Every follow is a resident choosing to stay connected to their department.

Attracting Residents

Social media is now the #1 channel for local government communication.

Followers who see our content regularly are more likely to cooperate, report tips, and support the department.

Bigger audience = greater deterrence. Criminals know we are active and visible.

Our page is a direct line to 10,000+ community members — no middleman.

Attracting Recruits

73% of job seekers research employers on social media before applying.

Our content shows culture, values and mission — a job listing can't do that.

Comments like "how do I apply?" show candidates are self-selecting in at zero cost.

Agencies with strong social presence attract higher-quality, mission-aligned applicants.



Social Media isn't just nice-to-have. *It's a force multiplier.*

2.2M

Views Earned

\$11K–\$17.6K

Media Value

2,900+

New Followers

\$0

Ad Spend

Once an inactive page, now a high-performance asset for the city.

GUARDIANS OF BARTOW, FLORIDA



2.2M

Views Earned

\$11K–\$17.6K

Media Value

2,900+

New Followers

\$0

Ad Spend

Once an inactive page, now a high-performance asset for the city.

GUARDIANS OF BARTOW, FLORIDA

Recruiting Posters

BARTOW POLICE DEPARTMENT WE'RE HIRING

CERTIFIED POLICE OFFICERS AND THOSE ENROLLED IN THE POLICE ACADEMY OR EOT PROGRAM



Starting Salary
\$66,325.50 - \$75,066.90
DEPENDENT ON YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Additional Shift Differential for those assigned to night shifts

- 12 Paid Holidays
- 24hrs of Personal Leave
- 152hrs of Universal Leave
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Take Home Vehicle Program*
- Excellent Health Benefits
- Excellent Retirement Benefits**
- 8 year DROP Program



*Take Home Vehicle Program limited to 40 miles from City Limits
** Retirement Benefits, 6 yr vesting, 20 years of service, 3.15% multiplier, 2% COLA

The Bartow Police Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer and strongly encourages all qualified candidates to apply





City of Bartow

CITY OF BARTOW

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. (EST)

OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE

BARTOW CITY HALL – COMMISSION CHAMBERS

450 N. WILSON AVE, BARTOW, FL 33830

MINUTES

The City Commission of the City of Bartow met at a Regular Meeting on April 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Bartow City Hall, Commission Chambers, 450 N. Wilson Avenue, Bartow, FL 33830. Notice of this meeting was posted at City Hall, Bartow Public Library, and on the City's website www.cityofbartow.net and Facebook page on April 16, 2026.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

City Clerk Poole called the roll; attendance was as follows:

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Gary Ball, Commissioner Leo E. Longworth, Commissioner Trish Pfeiffer, Vice Mayor Laura Simpson and Mayor Tanya Tucker.

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Members Present: City Manager Mike Herr, City Attorney Sean Parker, Deputy City Manager Peter Lear, PRCA Director Jason Hargrove, Fire Chief Jay Robinson, Police Chief Stephen Walker, Customer Service Manager Shaun Gelissen, Communications Director Laurie Hayes, Asst. City Manager John Hall, Code Compliance & Neighborhood Services Director Tray Towles, Asst. PRCA Director Kyle Lasek, Electric Engineer Brent Fockle, Asst. Electric Director Tony McDuffie, Wastewater Plant Manager Wiley Pratt, Water Plant Manager Tony Martinez, CRA Director Howard Smith, Director of Electric Utilities Michael Poucher, Officer Paul, IT Director Frank Canovaca, City Clerk Jacqueline Poole.

2. **INVOCATION**

Pastor Missy Turbeville of First United Methodist Church gave invocation.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Commissioners and audience gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

4. **PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- a. **Issuance of a proclamation recognizing April 2026 as Water Conservation Month. Being accepted by Amanda Simat, Government Affairs Regional Manager, Southwest Florida Water Management District.**

City Attorney Parker read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mayor Tucker presented the proclamation.

Ms. Simat addressed the commission, explaining that Water Conservation Month provides an important opportunity to reinforce simple, practical actions that help protect water resources and support community resilience. She emphasized that by prioritizing water conservation, the community can ensure clean and accessible water for future generations. She extended sincere thanks to the City of Bartow for its continued leadership and partnership in promoting water conservation, noting that their efforts make a real difference in safeguarding shared resources.

- b. **Issuance of a proclamation recognizing April 22, 2026, as Linda Holcomb Day. Being accepted by Linda Holcomb, Bartow Main Street Executive Director.**

City Attorney Parker read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mayor Tucker presented the proclamation. She praised Ms. Holcomb as having been “a special part of this community for a very long time in a lot of different capacities,” noting that she had been a friend to many and saying that while she would be missed, Ms. Holcomb had assured her she was not going far and would still be around.

Ms. Holcomb gave an emotional farewell address, joking about whether Linda Holcomb Day would become a city holiday with employees getting time off. She said writing her final report was especially difficult because the role and the community meant so much to her as someone born and raised in Bartow. She expressed pride in keeping Main Street accredited and nationally recognized, emphasizing that success depended on community collaboration and people who care deeply about Bartow. She reported welcoming 13 new investors downtown from September through April, saying they brought new energy, ideas, and reasons for people to visit downtown both during the day and after hours, helping create a vibrant downtown atmosphere. She praised the design committee led by Trish Pfeiffer and highlighted improvements in signage, lighting, flowers, and holiday decorations, noting that these details help shape how people feel about downtown and create a sense of place. She also noted significant growth in social media reach and engagement in recent months and said she was especially proud of supporting businesses through marketing, design, technology assistance, and business classes. Ms. Holcomb reported hosting around 37 events that brought more than 115,000 people to downtown

Bartow, with plans for additional 5K runs and a future jazz festival. In her closing remarks, she said that “Main Street Bartow is more than just the buildings and businesses, it’s the people” the volunteers, business owners, city staff, and community members who support local businesses and believe in downtown. She thanked everyone for the trust placed in her and the relationships built and said she was leaving the program in good hands. She introduced Tara Davis as the new executive director, describing her as someone who would bring fresh energy and ideas to help take downtown to the next level.

Commissioner Pfeiffer then offered heartfelt comments as the Main Street liaison. She called Ms. Holcomb a good, sweet friend. She praised Ms. Holcomb’s phenomenal work over 10 years, knowing that it was not an easy job. She mentioned attending many state meetings and quarterlies together. She concluded that she would be sorely missed.

Mayor Tucker invited all commissioners, staff, and audience members who had worked with Ms. Holcomb to pose for a photo opportunity.

- c. **Issuance of a proclamation recognizing April 26, 2026, as Equal Shared Parenting Day. Being accepted by Danica Dockery of Kids Need Both, Inc. and Sierra Morris of Bridge the GAPP Foundation, Inc.**

City Attorney Parker read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mayor Tucker presented the proclamation.

Danica Dockery addressed the commission, sharing her personal story of finding herself in child custody conflict over 20 years ago and how coming to Bartow previously gave her heart palpitations. She expressed gratitude for being welcomed and noted that City Clerk Poole sends her an email each year asking if she's coming for the proclamation, which she prioritizes attending due to the city's generosity. She explained that Parental Alienation Awareness Day, created in 2005, preceded Equal Shared Parenting Day and was established for families who lost access to children due to being villainized to their children. She encouraged organizations to continue supporting parental equality, emphasizing the 2018 legislation in Kentucky and Florida's 2023 "Good Dad Act," both milestones in achieving shared parenting. She detailed how her organization and Sierra Morris' Bridge the Gap Foundation Inc. work in partnership to support shared parenting efforts globally. She described Sierra as a crucial partner who brings a wealth of knowledge and dedication to their mission of promoting healthy co-parenting and preventing parental alienation by ensuring both mothers and fathers are valued in their children's lives. She emphasized their shared vision and commitment to provide support and education both within the community and globally to improve outcomes for families and children.

- d. **Issuance of a proclamation recognizing April 20–24, 2026, as Home Visiting Week. Being accepted by Corey Clark and Austin Butler, the Fatherhood Team at Healthy Start Coalition of Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties.**

City Attorney Parker read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mayor Tucker presented the proclamation.

Mr. Austin Butler addressed the commission, introducing himself as one of the fatherhood coaches with the Healthy Start Coalition and thanking the city for the proclamation recognizing Home Visiting Week. He emphasized the coalition's mission and impact, noting that the organization was started in 1992 to specifically address infant mortality problems in the state. Healthy Start Coalition operates across Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties, with a particular focus on providing support and education to new parents, helping them meet the unique needs of their children, and promoting healthy development and strong family relationships. He encouraged those unfamiliar with Healthy Start to connect with them, expressing the coalition's eagerness to engage more extensively with the Bartow community. He highlighted exciting initiatives and statistics available on their website, which illustrate the significant progress and achievements made by the coalition in supporting parents and families. Recognizing the time constraints of the meeting, he expressed a desire to explore further opportunities to serve the Bartow community in the future, inviting those present to visit their office, reach out, and engage in conversations to brainstorm how the coalition can better serve fathers and families in Bartow. He said when fathers show up, communities thrive, and he stressed there was no better place to implement this vision than in Bartow.

- e. **Issuance of a proclamation recognizing April 24, 2026, as Tree City USA / Arbor Day. Being accepted by Kyle Lasek, Asst. PRCA Director, and Parks & Recreation staff.**

City Attorney Parker read the proclamation in its entirety.

Mayor Tucker presented the proclamation.

PRCA Assistant Director Lasek expressed gratitude to the mayor and commission for the recognition, highlighting the importance of Tree City USA designation and Arbor Day in reaffirming their commitment to both existing and newly planted trees. He explained that this recognition plays a crucial role in maintaining aesthetically pleasing parks that contribute to a healthier and stronger community. He emphasized the multifaceted benefits of trees, which include reducing soil erosion, lowering home energy costs, moderating temperature, cleaning the air, producing oxygen, providing homes for wildlife, and adding beauty, enhancing property values, and strengthening economic vitality in business areas. In acknowledging the support of his team, he introduced seven of the 38 parks and recreation staff members who were present, recognizing their dedication and contribution to the department's efforts. He named Martha Lewis, Tommy Wheeler, Tim Griner, Client Lycans, Jarod Brown, Jason Sparkman, and Nancie Lott. He appreciates his staff's commitment to the city's parks and the important work they do in fostering an environment

that not only meets ecological and aesthetic needs but also enriches the community. He recognized the broader impact of trees within the city, explaining that trees are a renewable resource providing essentials like paper and lumber while also contributing to the urban environment's joy and spiritual renewal. He reiterated the call for everyone to participate in the planting and care of trees, encouraging community involvement to ensure that present and future generations can enjoy the manifold benefits of an enriched environment.

f. **Opportunity Zone Update — Elle Withall, BEDC Executive Director and Howard Smith, CRA Director.**

BEDC Director Withall delivered a comprehensive presentation about Opportunity Zones, describing them as a federal capital gains tax incentive program designed to encourage long-term private investment in communities needing development. She explained how investors with capital gains from stocks, real estate, or business sales can reinvest through qualified opportunity funds into designated census tracts for local projects including real estate development, business expansion, infrastructure improvements, and redevelopment initiatives. She emphasized that Opportunity Zones are investor-driven rather than government-funded, with the Economic Innovation Group reporting over \$100 billion in qualifying reinvestment deployed since 2018. She detailed the program's three main investor incentives: deferral of capital gains taxes for up to five years, reduction in taxes owed after five years with a 10% step-up in basis (30% for rural designated funds), and permanent exemption from federal capital gains taxes for investments held at least 10 years. She outlined eligible project types including residential and mixed-use development, property rehabilitation, commercial and industrial redevelopment, local businesses and job creation, and infrastructure and energy projects. She stressed that the program requires either new construction or substantial improvement, ensuring economically productive investment rather than land speculation, and that 10-year holding periods align investors with long-term community development. Director Withall recommended two specific census tracts: 121050152000 (centrally located with boundaries along Main Street, Idlewood Avenue, Route 60, South Oak Avenue, East Clinton Street, Kissingen Avenue, East Main Road, Spessard Holland Parkway, and Kincaid Dairy Road) and 121050150000 (along Main Street with boundaries following Crown Avenue and Maple Avenue). Both tracts overlap significantly with the Bartow Community Redevelopment Area and demonstrate economic need with median household income of approximately \$37,957, poverty rates of 16.5-18.1%, and aging housing stock built around 1981. She explained the selection timeline, with applications due to the governor by May 1st, state nominations beginning July 1st, Treasury certification, and approved designations taking effect January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2036. She emphasized the strategic importance of aligning designations with existing CRA priorities and redevelopment plans, warning that without participation, capital would flow elsewhere.

Commissioner Pfeiffer thanked Director Withall for bringing this opportunity, noting the city had missed the previous opportunity zone designation eight years

ago despite attempts to obtain it later. She mentioned Polk County had distributed zones throughout the county to applicants, with Fort Meade receiving two and Lakeland receiving eight. She expressed appreciation for pursuing this opportunity, particularly for the Hwy. 17 corridor areas that need development and asked about the application timeline and potential need for recommendation letters.

Mayor Tucker and Commissioner Ball both asked whether there were any projects lined up.

Commissioner Ball asked if there were no projects lined up, what the reason is. He also asked whether this is a BEDC or CRA application, or a combined one.

Director Withall responded that it is a BEDC application.

CRA Director Smith clarified this was an EDC application covering areas mostly within CRA boundaries. He referenced the catalytic vision projects list from the \$18 million borrowing, noting he had provided property addresses to Director Withall showing potential acquisitions, developments, and highest uses for parcels if developed or acquired.

5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, the Commission received comments from the public regarding matters not appearing on this agenda.

City Attorney Parker reminded all speakers addressing the City Commission that while making comments during any time set aside for public comments or public hearings to refrain from making any personal attacks, derogatory comments, commenting on any items in litigation or under investigation, or any other matters that do not fall within the purview of the City Commission. Public speakers are limited to three minutes. Yielding of time is not customary during public comments. General public comment is the public's chance to speak and be heard and is not a time typically for questions and answers. Refer to the agenda to seek the appropriate time to make comments. Speaker cards are located on the tables to the left of the room and with the City Clerk. Fill out the speaker card and give it to the clerk when you come to the podium. Before you begin your remarks, state your name and address for the record.

Mayor Tucker opened the public comment period.

Becky Niles, 845 S. Oakwood Loop, Bartow. Ms. Niles stated that she had given each Commissioner a copy of her remarks, a copy of a Facebook post by Randy explaining why tone matters, and a copy of an email chain regarding her previous complaint about dismissiveness. She said she wanted to address some remarks made by City Manager Herr at the last Commission meeting. She said those comments were not on the agenda and did not relate to the business before the body. She said using taxpayer-funded time, especially on the eve of an election, to

deliver personal commentary raises serious concerns about professionalism and judgment. She said she anticipated his words would be downplayed as his intent was to defend city employees. She asked why political challengers were singled out and insulted, why residents who had spoken out were characterized negatively, and why insults were used at all. She said that she and election candidates Eric Wells and Randy Niles took personal offense to what was said. She pointed out that over the past several months, many residents have spoken about rising taxes, increased utility costs, and other concerns. She asked whether they were considered complainers, gripers, and bellyachers too, noting that those were the City Manager's words, not hers, or whether they were engaged citizens exercising their right to be heard. She said that when you call people those names, it is hard to misinterpret. She said this community has shown that it is informed, capable, and invested. She said citizens, including Mr. Wells and Mr. Niles, have taken the time to research issues, organize information, and present thoughtful concerns. She said dismissing that effort is not leadership. She said comments that mock candidates or residents shift the conversation away from policy and into personal attacks, and that tone is dismissive and unnecessary. She said this is not about disagreement; it is about defending the right to challenge the status quo, to speak out on issues that concern the community, and to be a voice for those too hesitant to speak or who feel they have no voice left at all. She said reasonable people can look at the same facts and come to different conclusions, solutions, and truths, but using a position of authority to belittle those perspectives is not acceptable. She said leadership sets the tone, and when that tone becomes dismissive, it erodes public trust, not just in an individual but in the entire Commission. She said running for office, speaking at meetings, and advocating for your community takes time, effort, and courage, and those actions deserve respect. She said accountability is not whining, griping, complaining, or bellyaching; it is a fundamental part of good government. Lastly, she said it was worth noting that no effort was made during the meeting to redirect the discussion back to official business. She said that silence speaks volumes. She hoped that moving forward she would see a higher standard of respect and responsiveness toward every person in the community.

Michael Jones, 2405 E. Washington St., Bartow. Mr. Jones addressed infrastructure concerns, questioning why projects aren't completed at one time when they start. He cited some pipes that busted in the road and where fire hydrant work and warning barriers had been up for about two months without completion of sidewalk work near Tee Circle. He also raised concerns about storm drains on the east side of town with trees growing out of them, questioning the city's commitment to beautification when not demonstrating it. He referenced his previous employment with the City of Mulberry, where directors encouraged reporting problems for discussion in morning meetings. Lastly, he mentioned a large pothole on Magnolia Street across from Coach McKinney's house.

Mayor Tucker asked Mr. Jones to fill out a comment card with contact information so the facilities director could follow up.

City Manager Herr thanked Mr. Jones for coming and noted he had made notes, promising to follow up via email the next morning with answers.

Austin Butler, Heartland for Children. Mr. Butler introduced the Healthy Start Coalition's Fatherhood initiative more fully, explaining their office location nearby and expressing shame that they don't do enough in Bartow despite their jurisdiction covering Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties. He sought opportunities for greater engagement in Bartow to better serve fathers in the community, emphasizing that when fathers show up, communities thrive, and said there is no better place to do that than Bartow. He offered to provide business cards and brainstorm ways to better serve fathers and families.

Mayor Tucker welcomed them and suggested opportunities including Liberty Link partnerships, downtown booth setups for information distribution, and other resource groups.

Commissioner Pfeiffer mentioned upcoming Parks and Recreation activities that would benefit from their involvement.

With no further comments, Mayor Tucker closed the public comment period.

6. **CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Tucker read a letter she received from the Daughters of the American Revolution, Regent Kellie Sage thanking her for being a guest speaker at the dedication ceremony for Spessard L. Holland. It also acknowledged PRCA staff who worked diligently to make the ceremony a success.

Commissioner Pfeiffer reported that the Mayor's Art Club Selection Committee met last week which consisted of representatives from the school board, city staff, mayor, Polk Arts Alliance, and CRA. She invited commissioners to attend May 4th at 5:30 PM reception for the reveal of the new art at City Hall, noting all current art would be replaced. She mentioned the hospital's incorporation of the art program into their new two-floor wing.

Commissioner Pfeiffer reported that the upcoming Great American Bartow cleanup was maxed out with 150 people signed up to help clean the community, with all commissioners assigned to different zones.

Commissioner Pfeiffer thanked Deputy City Manager Lear for the new commission chairs, noting they were the first new chairs in 35 years and were very comfortable.

Commissioner Pfeiffer confessed to watching the police department's "red light runner of the week videos" at least 10-12 times, praising the department's efforts and noting the popularity of "mystery Henry's" videos with red light runners, generating many fan comments on social media.

Vice Mayor Simpson thanked Deputy City Manager Lear for the chairs and Administrative Assistant Ruse for assembling them, noting that she took on the challenge as an unassigned duty.

Vice Mayor Simpson reported participating in the Great American Cleanup early since she would be out of town, cleaning behind Walmart and collecting seven bags of trash, four tires, a bread tray, a recliner, and encountering an alligator. She noted one person drove by and tossed a water bottle for them to throw away, expressing appreciation for that individual's participation. She thanked Solid Waste for assigning her an area.

Commissioner Ball thanked voters and strongly encouraged participation in November elections for increased momentum and support, and thanked candidates Randy Niles and Eric Wells for their participation in the democratic process.

Commissioner Longworth announced the Bartow Fellowship and Ministers Alliance revival begun today and would go through Thursday, it is at 7 PM at Mount Gilboa Missionary Baptist Church, where Reverend TJ Sanders is pastor, with the alliance president being Pastor Dontavia Sanders.

Mayor Tucker mentioned Mr. Dixon's golf tournament was a sellout success, thanking the committee and Bartow Stewart and Deacons Alliance for their excellent work.

7. **REPORT OF CHARTER OFFICERS**

a. **CITY MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS**

1. **Update on Power Cost Adjustment Limits — Peter Lear, Deputy City Manager**

Deputy City Manager Peter Lear provided an update on power cost adjustments, apologizing for discussing money "and not in a good way." He reminded commissioners of the February meeting when he requested permission to raise the power cost adjustment ceiling from \$60 to \$75 due to skyrocketing fuel costs from cold waves and November rises. He reported that February power costs exceeded \$60, reaching \$66, continued rising in March to \$71, and April estimates suggested costs would drop to just under \$69 but remain above the previous \$60 limit. He noted that without the increased limit, costs likely wouldn't fall below \$60 anytime this year. He recommended maintaining the \$75 ceiling despite never quite reaching that level and promised to return in June for reevaluation. He clarified that while Middle East situations haven't directly affected US natural gas prices (since most US natural gas is domestic), international price increases due to that situation couldn't be completely ruled out as indirect factors.

There was CONSENSUS from the Commission to maintain the \$75 ceiling rate until it is reevaluated in June.

2. **Parks Master Plan Update and Community Meeting — Jason Hargrove, PRCA Director**

PRCA Director Hargrove presented the master plan update, introducing Tim Salka from Catalyst Design Group, who was selected through the CCNA for design services with extensive master planning experience. Director Hargrove explained the master plan's purpose as guiding how the city's park system would grow and improve over time, with goals including planning for future growth, identifying needs, incorporating community input, and creating a 10–20-year blueprint for improved quality of life. He detailed the April 28th community meeting from 5-7 PM at the Civic Center, to be conducted by Catalyst Design Group. The meeting would include city welcoming and introductions, Catalyst reviewing current park locations and explaining an online survey about park usage and desired improvements, and a red-green dot exercise where red dots indicate dislikes, and green dots show strengths and opportunities. He explained that feedback would be compiled into a report, guide design and programming decisions, result in conceptual designs for city review, and inform priority determinations and future grant applications. Next steps include monitoring online public input, conducting a second public meeting to discuss conceptual drawings based on all input, and finalizing conceptual drawings.

Mayor Tucker asked if there would be opportunities for public comment if unable to attend the meeting.

Director Hargrove confirmed both a webpage and online survey were available, with QR codes on posters located at every park, on library postings and elsewhere.

3. **Library Story Trail Update — Jason Hargrove, PRCA Director**

PRCA Director Hargrove provided updates on the quarter-mile, one-way story trail behind the public library, featuring storytelling placements where visitors read stories while walking, sensory equipment, main entrance trail sign, climbing apparatus, benches, swings, trees, and lights. High Standard Construction was selected through invitation to bid from six vendors with a low bid of \$690,000. The project budget was \$565,000, with public facility impact fees covering the additional amount to complete everything at once rather than in phases. Director Hargrove announced a May 11th projected start date with a November 17th completion date, totaling 190 days.

Mayor Tucker asked for map clarification to distinguish the story trail area from Mr. Steve Githens cleaning project location for the bridge.

PRCA Hargrove confirmed that location was further southeast. He noted Parks Department assistance with the bridge project, mentioning the recreational trail program grant had closed but reopened the previous Friday. He reported that Asst. Director Lasek would be the project manager and would be working with Hale Innovation on the RTP grant for trail extension funding, noting it was part of the CIP plan. Director Hargrove observed

increased fishing usage in the cleaned area and mentioned plans for an art sculpture at that location.

City Manager Herr suggested making a presentation to the school board about the literacy-focused story trail project, asking if commissioners would be interested in participating. Commissioners expressed support with the Mayor noting she would be at the May 5th school board meeting and could inquire about scheduling.

4. **Status of Cleaner Safer Neighborhoods Initiative — Tray Towles, Director, Office of Code Compliance & Neighborhood Services.**

Director Towles presented the comprehensive Cleaner Safer Neighborhoods model, explaining that City Manager Herr challenged him in November to create an innovative program different from traditional approaches. He described developing what he believed could become a national model usable by any jurisdiction. Director Towles outlined current challenges including aging infrastructure, blighted corridors, chronic nuisance properties, decreasing property values, environmental crime attractors, illegal dumping, fire hazards, inconsistent neighborhood conditions, and disconnected internal processes limiting information sharing between departments. He explained why change was needed: current systems were fragmented with departments operating independently, problems were being treated rather than solved, operations were largely reactive rather than proactive, coordination gaps reduced effectiveness between police, code, and other services, and neighborhood conditions directly impacted public safety through blight, poor lighting, and general neglect. He described the model as a modern unified approach to neighborhood revitalization and public safety, potentially the first of its kind in Florida and among the first nationally. The model brings neighborhood-facing disciplines under one coordinated command with three pillars: Clean (cleanup and revitalization, blight removal, code enforcement, environmental stabilization), Safe (community policing, hazard mitigation, crime prevention and enforcement), and Smart (economic development, infrastructure, long-term community investment). The mission involves stabilizing neighborhoods by addressing conditions, behaviors, and environmental issues together; reducing repeat problems and calls by solving root causes rather than symptoms; coordinating city departments into one unified response system; delivering visible, measurable improvements; and strengthening community trust through following through on commitments. He highlighted unique aspects including fully integrated civil-criminal-fire safety enforcement, dedicated neighborhood planner embedded in code compliance, rapid response team with 24-hour correction capability, redevelopment action plan team for larger projects, crime prevention through environmental design strategies, redevelopment alignment, and future technology use including drones, AI, and vehicle-mounted street scanning. He explained the identification-action-resolution process: conditions identified through field operations, data, and routine patrols from police, code compliance, solid waste, and Parks and Recreation; rapid correction where

possible with coordinated long-term solutions where needed; and measured, meaningful outcomes with reporting to citizens and commission. Key components include code compliance and neighborhood services with embedded neighborhood planner and investigators; police department's neighborhood/downtown/CRA officer and future neighborhood liaison unit plus crime analyst; rapid response team; redevelopment action plan team; and CRA director for redevelopment responsibilities. Director Towles detailed rapid response team activation triggers: immediate public safety hazards, significant environmental or visual blight, illegal dumping, significant right-of-way obstructions, business cleanliness issues, visitor safety concerns, cross-department coordination needs, and lighting safety, walkability, or fire hazards requiring stabilization during long-term planning. The redevelopment action plan team includes decision-making positions: police chief or deputy chief, code compliance director, public works director, solid waste manager, electric department, parks and recreation director or assistant director, fire department representative, planning director, and CRA director.

City Manager Herr interjected about the neighborhood planner role, explaining they chose not to budget for a full position, instead using consultant Chandra Frederick. He noted while most cities place neighborhood planners in planning departments, they felt embedding the role in a smaller unit focused on action and policy implementation would be more effective.

Director Towles outlined the rollout plan beginning mid-May with training, pilot neighborhood selection, organizational alignment, public announcement, materials launch, and CRA planning integration. Existing programs including code compliance assistance grant (Angel Fund), capital city cleanup, and anti-littering program would integrate into the model. He emphasized grant funding opportunities requiring organized programs and mentioned potential for monthly dashboard reporting to the community with before-and-after documentation and CRA-specific return on investment metrics. The model would provide clear priorities and direction, transparent outcomes, and defensible data-based decisions for city leadership.

Commissioner Longworth called the program promising for improving communities aesthetically and building community pride, praising enhanced cross-departmental communication framework. He asked about community buy-in strategies, emphasizing community policing's importance for earning citizen trust.

Director Towles explained buy-in would primarily come through Chandra Frederick's neighborhood planner role, working with Pam Sams to build community leader lists, creating neighborhood coalitions, and potentially fund coalitions or helping them become self-funding. He emphasized building community pride and noted communities with pride typically maintain themselves better. The process involves reaching out through churches and organizations, building coalitions, and letting communities create their own visions and expectations since government works for the people. He

described Chief Walker's Park-Walk-Talk initiative as already ongoing, providing kinder, gentler law enforcement engagement until circumstances require otherwise, similar to code enforcement approaches. This builds trust and provides information about neighborhood issues otherwise unknown.

Commissioner Longworth suggested having the Chief present on Park-Walk-Talk implementation at future meetings, noting it as the glue binding the three pillars together for establishing community trust.

Director Towles explained pilot neighborhood selection through department head meetings examining crime data, code enforcement data, and heat maps, while ensuring community buy-in from neighborhoods willing to participate, avoiding half-hearted forced implementation.

Commissioner Pfeiffer praised the program as bold and aggressive, noting Bartow's model city status with snipe signs generating statewide calls for information. She thanked Director Towles and City Manager Herr for bringing in Ms. Fredrick, whom she knew from Main Street board service and planning commission work. Commissioner Pfeiffer suggested including the See Click Fix component.

Director Towles confirmed technology integration plans for internal and community reporting, including See Click Fix integration through IT department for automatic routing of certain complaint types to program email addresses for immediate rapid response team deployment.

Commissioner Pfeiffer suggested a See Click Fix demonstration during the Government Week program. She praised the Code's badge design incorporating the oak tree, azaleas, and courthouse.

5. **Update on Code Compliance Enforcement Actions — Tray Towles, Director, Office of Code Compliance & Neighborhood Services.**

Director Towles reported that this update was intended to bring everyone up to speed on what Code Compliance has been doing on some of the larger projects they are working on. He noted that the list is by no means everything they are doing, since in addition to those projects, they are also handling the day-to-day code compliance work. Director Towles introduced his team, beginning with the newest investigator, Aaron Wilson, who has over 25 years of safety, compliance, and operations experience, most recently as a school safety guardian supervisor with Polk County School District. His background includes leadership of security personnel, emergency response protocol management, law enforcement partnerships, and extensive community coaching, mentoring, and volunteer service. He will serve as solid waste investigator, handling stormwater enforcement alongside regular compliance duties. He introduced Administrative Assistant Barbara Banks, who is the organizational backbone, with experience from past employment with Polk County's Housing & Neighborhood Services division and a background in

grants and community programs. He introduced Delilah Tate, who is the east side investigator (Main Street eastward). Unfortunately, Investigator Tate will be leaving for police academy after excellent work since September. Lastly, he introduced LaPorchia Hodge as west side investigator, who also started in September and has been performing excellent work. Director Towles outlined strategic focus transitioning from reactive enforcement to proactive neighborhood strategy, aligning code compliance with public safety redevelopment, leveraging cross-department and community partnerships, and achieving measurable improvements. The solid waste code compliance investigator addition expanded ability to work on litter enforcement programs and storm water issues while increasing field presence for faster response times with two investigators solely in neighborhoods and one handling code compliance, storm water, and solid waste. He reported programs gaining regional and statewide recognition, particularly the snipe sign program recognized as a model across Polk County with calls from statewide jurisdictions seeking implementation information. An April 30th meeting with County Manager Bill Beasley was scheduled to discuss city citation and snipe sign ordinance program adoption by the county, potentially eliminating jurisdictional line blurring in daily sign collection and citation writing. The litter enforcement initiative had strengthened ordinances nearing final adoption, hopefully returning in May after additional polishing and public advertising. This sets clear expectations for commercial property owners maintaining clean, tidy businesses during operational and after hours, creating shared responsibility with business community for keeping Bartow beautiful. He reported targeting problem areas with active enforcement across commercial and institutional properties citywide, completing inspections of three highest-offending mobile home parks with enforcement plans and long-term compliance strategies developed. Multi-year nuisance properties had been brought into compliance, exemplified by the South Oak Avenue burned house property finally resolved after years through leverage and property owner cooperation. The property now showed a for-sale sign, potentially leading to development making it a beautiful South Oak Avenue addition. A meeting with pawn shop owners was scheduled for that week (rescheduled due to attorney scheduling conflicts) to discuss property violations and resolution approaches. CSX meetings occurred the previous month with very good conversations resulting in cleanup of targeted vacant lots on East Main Street, West Main Street, and West Parker Street, plus mowing along rail lines by Crown Avenue and Baker Street. The city was working on potential beautification and maintenance agreements allowing limited city upkeep activities on CSX properties and evaluating parcels for potential land swaps with the city for properties adjacent to tracks more beneficial to CSX. He mentioned the upcoming April 22nd-23rd Development Review Committee retreat bringing together all departments involved in development processes to evaluate and improve development review and new construction permitting, reducing inefficiencies and improving customer experience for residents, contractors, and developers through better notifications and process understanding.

6. **Process improvements for improving customer service — Tray Towles, Director, Office of Code Compliance & Neighborhood Services.**

Director Towles reported this item was covered within the broader code compliance update, focusing on the development review retreat aimed at simplifying processes, breaking down silos, and improving customer experience through enhanced coordination and communication across all departments involved in development review and new construction permitting.

City Manager Herr praised the exceptional reporting, noting it demonstrated the city's commitment to providing positive results for community improvement. He gave special recognition to code compliance officers present, looking forward to meeting the new officer as part of onboarding processes. He emphasized this was a small team producing solid results through teamwork, vision from leadership, and dedication from staff who wanted to make a difference in their served community.

b. **CITY ATTORNEY COMMUNICATIONS**

1. **Presentation of Election Results as certified by the City of Bartow Canvassing Board.**

City Attorney Parker provided comprehensive election updates beginning with April 7th Election Day, which seemed long ago but was the day after the last commission meeting. He enjoyed participating in canvassing activities at the Supervisor of Elections Office as always. He reported disappointing voter turnout of less than 10%, expressing hope that upcoming changes might increase participation. He congratulated all candidates for running great races, noting Commissioner Ball's victory in Seat 4 with nearly 64% of the vote and all four charter amendments passing with approximately 3-to-1 margins. He reported the canvassing board met a couple days later to certify results with no changes from election night numbers. He thanked the Polk County Supervisor of Election office staff for their accommodation and help navigating the process. He described the annual ballot audit participation on April 14th, an aspect not widely known publicly. The canvassing board selected one ballot item (the commission race in this instance) for manual review, with staff retrieving all ballots from secure locked areas for hand counting and comparison to computer tallies. The hand count matched exactly, which he noted was typical in his many years of canvassing participation, with only one instance of a single-vote difference (possibly due to an incomplete bubble). This gave him significant faith in the process and local election accuracy, especially important with low turnout where every vote matters greatly.

City Attorney Parker explained charter amendment results establishing November election cycles in odd-numbered years, changing from 3-year to 4-year terms, allowing potential December runoffs, and setting January for swearing-in new officers and annual mayoral selection (moved from traditional

May timing). Addressing questions about mayoral selection timing and amendment implementation, he clarified that election challenges must be filed within 10 days following canvassing board certification per Florida Statute 102.168 (not the 30 days he initially thought), making the city near or past that point. Based on Amendment 3 setting January mayoral selection requirements, he recommended that the May 4th City Commission agenda include swearing in Commissioner Ball and Commissioner Longworth to new terms without mandatory mayoral selection, rolling that to January of the following year. He said later in May he would bring an ordinance pursuant to different election statutes allowing term extensions for necessary alignment with new election cycles. The cycles of Mayor Tucker and Vice Mayor Simpson, whose terms would normally end in April 2027 would extend about seven months to November 2027 and take office in January 2028. In 2029, Commissioner Pfeiffer, Commissioner Longworth, and Commissioner Ball current terms would align with the November 2029 election cycle. He noted this information had been mentioned during charter amendment ordinance development and would appear in staff reports for term extension ordinances, which could be accomplished by ordinance without requiring additional public votes since people had spoken on ballot amendments setting the process in motion.

City Attorney Parker briefly mentioned Emilie legal proceedings, noting engagement of Ralph DeMeo and his team for assistance. While not providing extensive litigation updates, he mentioned conversations with developer counsel about streamlining three parallel tracks running simultaneously for more efficient use of time and money. The first step would involve mutual agreement on a special magistrate, with names being discussed. He noted potential need for shade meetings to discuss litigation strategy privately, something not done for a long time. He didn't anticipate scheduling for that evening due to timing, and the May 4th meeting was already busy with swearing-in ceremonies and Mayor's Art Club events but would provide advance notice when needed for commission input and decision-making guidance.

City Attorney Parker spoke about Planning Director Bob Wieggers' retirement celebration that morning, expressing pleasure working with Bob over the years, learning from him, and congratulating him on a great City of Bartow career while looking forward to seeing him again since he wasn't going far away.

c. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

Commissioner Pfeiffer provided a brief update on the legislative session returning April 28th through May 1st, with topics including redistricting, artificial intelligence, property tax relief, budgetary deadlock, and vaccine mandates.

8. **AGENDA MODIFICATION / APPROVAL**

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Vice Mayor Simpson to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE TO THE MOTION WAS AS FOLLOWS:

AYE: Ball, Longworth, Pfeiffer, Simpson, Tucker

NAY: None

Motion carried.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

At this time, the Commission received comments from the public regarding matters appearing on this agenda, not otherwise scheduled for a separate public hearing.

Mayor Tucker opened the public hearing.

With no comments, Mayor Tucker closed the public comment period.

10. **HEARINGS – FIRST AND SECOND READINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

a. **Public hearing and consideration of Resolution No. 26-4261-R - A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF BARTOW.**

City Attorney Parker read the resolution by title only:

“A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF BARTOW.”

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Vice Mayor Simpson to adopt Resolution No. 26-4261-R, a resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Budget of the City of Bartow.

Deputy City Manager Lear explained this simple budget amendment related to the Angel Fund discussed previously, funding the \$50,000 recommended at the last meeting and discussed by Director Towles as part of the Angel Fund plan. This was the only item in the budget amendment.

Mayor Tucker opened and closed the public hearing. There were no comments.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO THE MOTION WAS AS FOLLOWS:

AYE: Ball, Longworth, Pfeiffer, Simpson, Tucker

NAY: None

Motion carried.

11. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **Approval of April 6, 2026, City Commission Regular Meeting minutes.**
- b. **Approval of February 11, 2026, Recreation Advisory Board and City Commission Joint Meeting minutes.**
- c. **Approval of reappointing Board Member Michael Bryant to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a three-year term ending February 2029.**
- d. **Approval and Acceptance of Drainage Easements (2) for J.K. Stuart Boulevard/Stuart Crossing Development.**
- e. **Approval of Commissioner absence(s) for April 6, 2026: None**

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Vice Mayor Simpson to approve Consent Agenda as presented.

VOTE TO THE MOTION WAS AS FOLLOWS:

AYE: Ball, Longworth, Pfeiffer, Simpson, Tucker

NAY: None

Motion carried.

12. **OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- a. **OLD BUSINESS – NONE**
- b. **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Determination of procedure to appoint two (2) new members the Beautification Advisory Board for three-year terms ending in June 2029.

Commissioners discussed the departure of previous board member Wilma Till in February noting they had one application from Reynaldo Lopez currently left on file from that time.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ball, seconded by Vice Mayor Simpson to appoint Reinaldo Lopez to fill a vacancy on the Beautification Advisory Committee for a three-year term ending June 2029.

VOTE TO THE MOTION WAS AS FOLLOWS:

AYE: Ball, Longworth, Pfeiffer, Simpson, Tucker

NAY: None

Motion carried

Commissioners were assigned to bring a recommendation to fill the remaining vacancy.

13. **RESOLUTIONS – NONE**

14. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

a. **GARY BALL**

Commissioner Ball thanked voters who participated in last week's election and strongly encouraged participation, hoping changes moving to November elections would help gain momentum and support. He thanked challenging candidates Randy Niles and Eric Wells for their participation in the democratic process.

b. **LEO E. LONGWORTH**

Commissioner Longworth extended best wishes to Planning Director Wieggers and his family and expressing enjoyment working with him through many years, noting he did a "yeoman's job."

c. **TRISH PFEIFFER**

Commissioner Pfeiffer also commented on Planning Director, expressing regret for missing the morning reception but calling him the "Jack Benny of this team" and wishing him well.

Commissioner Pfeiffer reported that Bartow Main Street's Annual Meeting is Thursday from 5-7 PM, with Director Holcomb making announcements at 6 PM. She invited commissioners, the city attorney, and city manager to attend.

Commissioner Pfeiffer also reported that Director Holcomb's retirement party is April 30th at Mulligan's starting at 5 PM, inviting everyone to attend.

d. **LAURA SIMPSON**

Vice Mayor Simpson echoed comments on Planning Director Wieggers comments, appreciating his service and wealth of information during her Main Street Bartow work, bringing her up to speed on Bartow matters while continuing as a resource. She expressed appreciation for his service and looked forward to continued work in other capacities.

e. **TANYA TUCKER**

Mayor Tucker had no additional comments.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Tucker adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m. 8:21

Mayor Tanya Tucker

ATTEST:

City Clerk Jacqueline Poole

(City Seal)

ITEM NO. 12.b

CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA

TO: Mike Herr, City Manager
FROM: Michael Poucher, P.E., Director of Electric Utility
DATE: April 30, 2026
SUBJECT: Renewal of Duke Energy Franchise Agreement

SUMMARY

The current franchise agreement with Duke Energy expires on June 19, 2026. Renewal will extend the contract ten years until June 19, 2036. There are no changes to the terms and conditions of the agreement.

The franchise agreement gives permission for Duke Energy to use the City right-of-way to serve Duke customers. Currently, Duke only has one customer inside the City Limits: Peace River Citrus on Hwy 17. The agreement requires Duke Energy to pay a 6% franchise fee on any customers they serve within the City limits.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City collects approximately \$127,000 per year in franchise fees from Duke Energy.

NEXT STEPS

On approval, the franchise agreement will be renewed for an additional 10 years to June 19, 2036.

ATTACHMENTS

- Auto-Renewal Letter
- Copy of Ordinance 2016-11



Melissa Seixas
State President - Florida

Duke Energy Florida:
299 First Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Melissa.Seixas@duke-energy.com

April 30, 2026

City of Bartow
ATTN: Mike Herr, City Manager
450 N. Wilson Avenue
Bartow, FL 33830
(863) 534-0100

VIA Certified Mail

RE: Renewal of City of Bartow, Florida Ordinance No. 2016-11 (the "Franchise Ordinance")

Dear City of Bartow:

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Franchise Ordinance, the initial ten-year term of the Franchise Ordinance continues through June 19, 2026 ("Initial Term") and provides the option to renew the Franchise Ordinance for an additional ten-year term upon the written approval of the parties. Upon execution of this letter agreement (referred to herein as the "Franchise Renewal"), Duke Energy Florida, LLC ("Duke Energy") and the City of Bartow, Florida ("City") hereby mutually agree to the renewal of the Franchise Ordinance on the same terms for an additional ten-year term, which shall begin immediately upon the expiration of the Initial Term and commence on June 20, 2026 continuing through June 19, 2036 ("Renewal Term", which together with the Initial Term shall be the "Term"). Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meaning assigned in the Franchise Ordinance.

For the avoidance of doubt, no other modifications of the Franchise Ordinance are contemplated or effected by this Franchise Renewal, and the parties hereby affirm the binding and continuing nature of their obligations under the Franchise Ordinance as amended herein both with respect to the remainder of the Initial Term and the Renewal Term including, without limitation, Duke Energy's obligation to collect and pay the Franchise Fees to the City and Duke Energy's right to be the sole electricity utility allowed to use and occupy the Rights of Way within the Franchise Area during the Term. This Franchise Renewal is the full and complete agreement between the parties and supersedes and replaces all prior oral or written agreements between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. Each party represents and warrants that the execution, delivery and performance by each of Duke Energy and City of this Franchise Renewal and the consummation of the renewal contemplated herein have been duly authorized by all necessary limited liability company action or governmental action, as applicable, on the part of each of Duke Energy and City respectively. Upon execution, this Franchise Renewal shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

Pursuant to Section 16 of the Franchise Ordinance, Duke Energy shall send and City shall return executed versions of this Franchise Renewal by United States Mail, Certified Mail return receipt requested or by recognized commercial delivery; provided, however, Duke Energy is hereby updating its notice address under the Franchise Ordinance and requesting that the executed copy of the Franchise Renewal be returned to the following address:

Duke Energy
Attn: Kym Graves - Government & Community Relations Dept.
299 1st Avenue North – FL-163
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Please also retain a copy of the fully executed Franchise Renewal in the official record of the City so that it may be a matter of record along with the original Franchise Ordinance passed and adopted on June 20, 2016.

On behalf of the entire Duke Energy team, I commend everyone that has been involved in finalizing this franchise renewal. We at Duke Energy are proud of our many years of service to the Bartow community. We look forward to our ongoing partnership with the City of Bartow for the next ten years.

Respectfully,

Melissa Seixas
State President Florida
Duke Energy

ACCEPTED AND AGREED:

CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA

Jacqueline Poole, City Clerk
Date: _____

Tanya Tucker, City Mayor
Date: _____

Approved as to form and legality
for the use and reliance of the
City of Bartow, Florida

Sean Parker, City Attorney
Date: _____

cc: Nancy Dodd
Sharon Arroyo
Kym Graves
Kathryn Christian
Jeff James

ORDINANCE NO: 2016-11

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA, LLC d/b/a DUKE ENERGY, A NON-EXCLUSIVE ELECTRIC UTILITY RIGHTS OF WAY UTILIZATION FRANCHISE; PRESCRIBING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATED TO THE OCCUPANCY OF MUNICIPAL STREETS AND RIGHTS OF WAY IN THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ELECTRIC SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA:

WHEREAS, the City Commission has previously approved and granted franchise rights to Duke Energy, and/or its predecessors in interest (see City of Bartow Ordinance 2005-06), and the City Commission deems that a continued franchise relationship with Duke Energy is in the best interests of its citizens;

NOW THEREFORE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF BARTOW

SECTION 1. Findings

The City deems it necessary, desirable and in the best interests of its citizens to establish by ordinance a Rights of Way utilization franchise (sometimes referred to herein as the "Franchise") granting the Company permission to occupy the Rights of Way in the City of Bartow, Florida, for the purpose of providing electric services.

SECTION 2. Short Title

This ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Duke Energy Rights of Way Utilization Franchise."

SECTION 3. Definitions

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivatives shall have the meaning given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely permissive.

- (A) "Adversely Affected" means for the Company, a loss of one percent (1%) of Base Revenues within the corporate City limits due to Retail Wheeling. For the City, a loss of one percent (1%) of franchise fees due to Retail Wheeling.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT
COPY OF RECORDS ON FILE IN THE
BARTOW CITY CLERK'S OFFICE.

1

Jacqueline Peeler
CITY CLERK
6/29/2016
DATE

- (B) "Base Revenues" means all Company's revenues from the retail sale of electricity, net of customer credits, to residential, commercial, and industrial customers and City sponsored street lighting all within the corporate limits of the City.
- (C) "City" or "Grantor" means the City of Bartow, Florida.
- (D) "Company" or "Grantee" means Duke Energy Florida, LLC d/b/a Duke Energy, its successors and assigns.
- (E) "Electric Energy Provider" means every legal entity or association of any kind (including their lessees, trustees or receivers), including any unit of state, federal or local government (including City herein), which owns, maintains, or operates an electric generation, transmission, or distribution system or facilities, or which otherwise provides, arranges for, or supplies electricity or electric energy to the public, or which supplies electricity to itself utilizing Company's distribution or other facilities. Without limitation of the foregoing, "Electric Energy Provider" shall also include every electric utility, electric power marketer, or electric power aggregator. It shall also include every entity providing such services as metering, customer billing, payment collection and processing, and customer information and data processing.
- (F) "Electric Utility" shall have the meaning set out in Section 366.02(2), *Florida Statutes* (2010), and shall also include every electric "Public Utility" as defined in Section 366.02(1), *Florida Statutes* (2010). "Electric Utility" shall further include every investor owned, municipally or governmentally owned, or cooperatively owned electric utility (including their lessees, trustees or receivers), which owns, maintains, or operates an electric generation, transmission, or distribution system in any state or country.
- (G) "Electric Utility System" means an electric power system installed and operated in the Franchise Area in accordance with the provisions of the Florida Public Service Commission establishing technical standards, service areas, tariffs and operating standards, which shall include but not be limited to electric light, heat, power, and energy facilities, and a generation, transmission, and distribution system, with such extensions thereof and additions thereto as shall hereafter be made.
- (H) "Facilities" has the meaning as set forth in Section 4.
- (I) "Franchise Area" means that area for which Company provides electric utility service within the corporate City limits.
- (J) "Person" means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind.
- (K) "Public Service Commission" means the Florida Public Service Commission.

- (L) "Retail Wheeling" means a customer/supplier arrangement whereby an Electric Energy Provider utilizes transmission and/or distribution facilities of Company to make energy sales directly to an end use customer located within the Franchise Area.
- (M) "Rights of Way" means all of the public streets, alleys, highways, waterways, bridges, sidewalks and parks, and any other public ways or places owned by the City, as they now exist or may be hereafter constructed, opened, laid out or extended within the present limits of the City, or in such territory as may hereafter be added to, consolidated or annexed to the City.

SECTION 4. Grant of Authority

(A) This grant of authority is limited to the provision by Company to place its Facilities within the Rights of Way for its electric utility services. Accordingly, the City hereby grants to the Company, its successors and assigns, the non-exclusive right, authority, and franchise to lay, erect, construct, maintain, repair and operate its Facilities in, under, upon, over and across the present and future Rights of Way, as they now exist or may be hereafter constructed, opened, laid out or extended within the present limits of the City, including but not limited to conduits, cables, poles, wires, supports and such other structures or appurtenances as may be reasonably necessary for the construction, maintenance and operation of an electric generation, transmission and distribution system, including information, telecommunication, and video transmission used solely for the provision of electric service (collectively the "Facilities"), provided that all portions of the same shall conform to accepted industry standards, including but not limited to the National Electrical Safety Code. Nothing in this Ordinance shall require Company to remove, de-energize, or cease using any poles, wires, or other things or Facilities identified hereinabove that were in place under previous ordinances or permits prior to the Effective Date of this Ordinance, regardless of whether such poles, wires or other Facilities are located outside "Rights of Ways" as defined herein. Nor shall anything in this Ordinance prohibit Company from performing upgrades, replacements, maintenance or servicing of such poles, wires, or other Facilities after the Effective Date of this Ordinance. Rather, all such preexisting poles, wires, or other Facilities shall be authorized under this Ordinance. Because this Franchise is intended to grant Company the non-exclusive, but unrestricted right to place its Facilities within the Rights of Ways, the City expressly acknowledges and agrees that Company shall not be required to pull or pay for permits to perform any work maintenance activities on or related to its Facilities within the Rights of Ways.

(B) Annexation or Contraction. City and Company agree that the Franchise Area is subject to expansion or reduction by annexation and contraction of municipal boundaries. If City approves any Franchise Area expansion or reduction by annexation or contraction, City will provide written notice to Company's Annexation Coordinator, at the address provided below, within sixty (60) days of such approval and this Franchise shall automatically extend to include any such annexed areas.

Additionally, within sixty (60) days of any such annexation or contraction, City shall provide to Company an updated list containing the new or removed street names, known street name aliases, street addresses, and zip codes associated with each street name. All notices of annexation or contraction and address listings shall be addressed to the Annexation Coordinator as follows with the address subject to change:

Duke Energy
Annexation Coordinator
P. O. Box 33199
St. Petersburg, FL 33733-8199
Or by email to: TaxTeam@duke-energy.com

Company must revise its payments due to any expansion or reduction by annexation within a reasonable time after Company has received such notice and updated list from City, but no later than sixty (60) days after receipt of notice and the list. City understands and affirmatively acknowledges that the Company will exclusively rely upon the City to provide timely and accurate information to the Company regarding any such annexations or contractions, and that failure to do so will impair, inhibit, and/or preclude the Company's ability to revise any payments due to the City that are impacted by such annexations or contractions. Further, City acknowledges that if such information is not timely furnished to Company as required herein, any related obligation to collect payments shall be suspended during the period of delay.

(C) Non-Exclusive Use. The Company's right to use and occupy Rights of Way for the purposes herein set forth shall be non-exclusive as to entities not engaged in the provision of electric energy and service, and the City reserves the right to grant to others the right to utilize the Rights of Way, to any person at any time during the period of this Franchise so long as such grant does not create an unsafe condition or unreasonably conflict with the rights granted to Company herein.

SECTION 5. Notice of Acceptance and Term of Franchise

This ordinance shall become effective upon being legally passed and adopted ("Effective Date") by the City Commission; and it is further agreed that Company shall accept this Franchise as of the date of the passage and adoption by the City Commission and shall signify its acceptance in writing within thirty (30) days after the City Commission's approval of this ordinance by filing its written acceptance with the City Clerk. If Company fails to accept this franchise within thirty (30) days of its date of passage, then this Ordinance shall be null and void, and of no force and effect of any kind. Commencing on the Effective Date, the term of the Franchise granted herein shall be for a period of ten (10) years with an option to renew for an additional ten (10) years with the prior written approval of the parties.

SECTION 6. Payment to City

(A) Effective the first day of the second month beginning after the Effective Date of this ordinance, City shall be entitled to receive from Company a monthly franchise amount that will equal six percent (6%) of Company's Base Revenues (the "Franchise Fee") for the

preceding month, which amount shall be the total compensation due City for any and all rights, authority and privileges granted by this Franchise, including compensation for any required permits, parking fees, or any other fee or cost related to the rights granted hereunder or to do business within the Franchise Area. Any franchise amounts that will be paid to the City will be collected by the Company from Company's customers in the Franchise Area and passed through to the City in the manner described herein. The City expressly acknowledges that no additional or other amounts shall be due or remitted by Company for the exercise of its rights granted hereunder.

Payment shall be made to City for each month no later than the twentieth (20th) day of the following month. The monthly payment shall be made by wire transfer. Any monthly payment or any portion thereof made twenty (20) days after the due date without good cause shall be subject to interest calculated for each month of the underpayment period using the average monthly interest rate based on thirty (30) day commercial paper.

(B) Only disputed amounts shall be allowed to be withheld by Company, and any such amounts shall not accrue any interest during the pendency of any such dispute.

(C) The City acknowledges that all classifications and categories of customers of Company shall be subject to the payment of the Franchise Fee due hereunder.

SECTION 7. Favored Nations

(A) In the event Company shall hereafter accept an electric utility franchise ordinance from any municipality providing for the payment of a franchise fee in excess of that provided for in Section 6 above, Company shall notify Grantor, and City reserves the right to amend this Franchise to increase the franchise fee payable under this ordinance to no more than the greater franchise fee that Company has agreed to pay to such other municipality. Grantee's obligation to pay such greater franchise fee to City shall apply prospectively beginning with the next monthly franchisee fee payment following Grantor's timely notice of its exercise of its amendment right to which Company may collect such increased fee from its customers. Grantee's failure to notify City of such additional payments does not limit Grantor's right to amend to require such additional franchise fees.

(B) It is the intent and agreement of City and Company that Company shall not be required to pay City a franchise fee under Section 6 of a percentage greater than that paid to City by any other Electric Utility or Electric Energy Provider utilizing Grantor's Rights of Way on such Electric Utility's or Electric Energy Provider's revenues attributable to services that are the same or substantially the same as those performed by Grantee. It is further the intent and agreement of City and Company that Company should not be placed at a competitive disadvantage by the payments required by Section 6 of this Ordinance in the event other Electric Utilities or Electric Energy Providers provide services in competition with Company without utilizing Grantor's Rights of Way.

(C) If City imposes a lesser fee, or no fee, or is unable to impose a fee on another Electric Utility or Electric Energy Provider providing or seeking to provide services in competition with Company to customers within Grantor's municipal boundaries, whether utilizing Grantor's Rights of Way or not utilizing Grantor's Rights of Way, Grantee's fee under Section 6 for such services shall be automatically reduced to the lesser fee charged the other

Electric Utility or Electric Energy Provider, or to zero (0), if no fee is charged such other Electric Utility or Electric Energy Provider. In all events, City shall not grant more favorable treatment to other Electric Energy Providers than is granted to Company under this ordinance, it being the intent of the parties that no future provider of electric service, be it generation, transmission or distribution service, to customers within the corporate limits of City shall be given a competitive advantage over Company.

SECTION 8. City Rights

The right is hereby reserved to the City to adopt such regulations as it shall find necessary in the exercise of its police power, provided that such regulations, by ordinance or otherwise, shall be reasonable, and shall not be in conflict with the laws of the State of Florida or the lawful regulations of any state agency possessing the power to regulate the activities of the Company, or conflict with or otherwise interfere with the benefits conferred on the Company hereunder. In the event of a conflict between this Franchise Agreement and any other ordinance or regulation adopted by the City relating to Company's rights to perform work in and/or occupancy of the Rights of Way as permitted hereunder, the rights under this Franchise Agreement shall govern and control.

SECTION 9. Work In Rights of Way

The Company is hereby granted the right, authority and privilege to perform all necessary work and excavations in said Rights of Way of the City related to its Facilities and necessary or incidental to carrying out such rights and obligations as permitted hereunder. The Company shall have the right to fasten and to stretch and lay along the lines of said poles, conduits, pipes and cables necessary for transmitting and conveying the electric current to be used in the Company's business, together with all the rights and privileges necessary or convenient for the full use including the right to trim, cut and keep clear all trees and limbs near or along Company's Facilities that may in any way endanger the proper operation of same. Moreover, the Company shall have the right to construct, erect, operate and maintain within the City an electric system consisting of its Facilities for carrying on the Company's business; provided that, in accomplishing these purposes, the streets of said City shall not be unnecessarily obstructed for an unreasonable amount of time and work in connection therewith shall be done and carried on in conformity with such reasonable rules, standards, regulations and local ordinances with reference thereto as may be adopted by the City for the protection of the public and which are not in conflict with or otherwise interfere with the benefits conferred on the Company hereunder.

SECTION 10. Indemnification

(A) The acceptance of this Franchise by Company shall be deemed an agreement on the part of Company to indemnify City and hold it harmless against any and all direct damages, claims, expenses, reasonable attorneys' fees (including appellate fees) and costs that City may incur to the extent arising out of or resulting from the negligence, default, or misconduct of Company, its contractors and agents in the construction, repair, operation, or maintenance of its electric utility Facilities hereunder. In no event shall Company be liable to City for any consequential, incidental, punitive, exemplary, multiple, or indirect damages, lost profits or other

business interruption damages, by statute, in tort (including negligence or strict liability), in contract, or under any indemnity provision or otherwise.

(B) Company shall maintain throughout the term of this Franchise sufficient financial resources to provide self-insurance insuring City and Company with regard to all damages set forth in Section 8(A) in the minimum amounts of:

- (i) \$1,000,000 for bodily injury or death to a person;
\$3,000,000 for bodily injury or death resulting from any one accident.
- (ii) \$50,000 for property damage resulting from any one accident.
- (iii) \$1,000,000 for all other types of liability.

(C) City acknowledges that Company provides its own liability insurance (self-insured).

SECTION 11. Records and Reports

(A) Company Rules and Regulations. The following records and reports shall be available to City upon City's reasonable request: copies of rules, regulations, terms and conditions adopted by Company that relate to Company's use of City's Rights of Way.

(B) Accounting. Company shall use the system of accounts and the form of books, accounts, records, and memoranda prescribed by the Florida Public Service Commission or such other applicable governing agency having jurisdiction over Company.

(C) Reports. Company will submit monthly a statement of its estimated Base Revenues for the period on which such payment is based. The acceptance of any statement or payment shall not prevent the City from asserting that the amount paid is not the amount due, or from recovering any deficit by any lawful proceeding, including interest to be applied at the rate set forth in Section 6(A).

(D) Availability of Records and Reports. Company shall supply information that City or its representatives may from time to time reasonably request relative to the calculation of franchise fees. Such records shall, on written request of City, be open for examination and audit by City and City's representatives at Company's headquarters in St. Petersburg, Florida, during ordinary business hours and such records shall be retained by Company for a period of three (3) years.

(E) Audit. City may require, upon prior written notice and during Company's normal business hours, an audit of Company's books related to this Agreement not more than once every five (5) years and then only for the preceding three (3) years. Company will reimburse City's audit costs if the audit identifies errors in Company's franchise Base Revenues of five percent (5%) or more for the period audited. If an underpayment of franchise fees has occurred due to the Company's error, interest will be calculated for each month of the underpayment period using the average monthly interest rate based on thirty (30) day commercial paper.

Both the underpayment and interest shall be paid within ninety (90) days from completion of the audit.

(F) Customer Report. In addition to City's obligations in Section 4(B), within ninety (90) days of the Effective Date of this Agreement, City shall provide to Company a report in a format acceptable to Company setting forth a listing of all addresses within the corporate limits of the City and annually thereafter a report identifying any changes to the address listing provided the previous year.

SECTION 12. Retail Wheeling

In the event the appropriate governmental authorities authorize Retail Wheeling, then either party, if Adversely Affected thereby, may reopen this ordinance upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other for the sole purpose of addressing the Franchise Fee payments between The Company and The City. If the parties are unable to agree within ninety (90) days of reopening, either party may declare an impasse and may file an action in the Circuit Court in Polk County, Florida for declaratory relief as to the proper Franchise Fee in light of Retail Wheeling.

SECTION 13. Severability

Should any section or provision of this Franchise ordinance or any portion thereof, the deletion of which would not adversely affect the receipt of any material benefits or, substantially increase the burden of any party hereunder, be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder, as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part declared to be invalid. In the event of any such partial invalidity, City and Company shall meet and negotiate in good faith to obtain a replacement provision that is in compliance with the judicial authority's decision.

SECTION 14. Governing Law and Venue

(A) This Franchise ordinance shall be construed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of Florida.

(B) In the event that any legal proceeding is brought to enforce the terms of this Franchise, the same shall be brought in Polk County, Florida, or, if a federal claim, in the U.S. District Court in and for the Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division.

SECTION 15. Merger

This Franchise agreement is the full, complete and entire understanding and agreement of the parties as to its subject matter, and the written terms supersede all prior or contemporaneous representations, discussions, negotiations, understanding and agreements relating to the subject matter of this agreement. The parties shall not be bound or liable for any statement, prior negotiations, correspondence, representation, promise, draft agreements, inducements, or other understanding of any kind or nature not set forth or provided herein.

SECTION 16. Notices

Except in exigent circumstances, all notices by either City or Company to the other shall be made by depositing such notice in the United States Mail, Certified Mail return receipt requested or by recognized commercial delivery, e.g. FedEx, UPS or DHL or facsimile. Any notice served by certified mail return receipt shall be deemed delivered five (5) days after the date of such deposit in the United States mail unless otherwise provided. Any notice given by facsimile is deemed received by next Business Day. "Business Day" for purposes of this section shall mean Monday through Friday, with Saturday, Sunday and City and Company observed holidays excepted. All notices shall be addressed as follows:

To City:

City Manager
450 N. Wilson Ave.
Bartow, FL 33830
Phone: (863) 534-0100
Facsimile: (863) 534-0114

To Company:

External Relations Department
Duke Energy Florida
P.O. Box 14042
St. Petersburg, FL 33733-4042
Phone: (727) 820-5141
Facsimile: (727) 820-5715

SECTION 17. Non-Waiver Provision

The failure of either party to insist in any one or more instances upon the strict performance of any one or more of the terms or provisions of this Franchise shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment for the future of any such term or provision, and the same shall continue in full force and effect. No waiver or relinquishment shall be deemed to have been made by either party unless said waiver or relinquishment is in writing and signed by the parties.

SECTION 18. Repealer And Superseding Provision

This ordinance shall supersede, as to the rights, privileges and obligations between City and Company, all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with the terms of this ordinance. Ordinance Documentary No. 2005-06, dated February 21, 2005, and any amendments thereto, are hereby deemed null and void and/or repealed upon the effective date of this ordinance and none of the provisions of such repealed Ordinance Documentary No. 2005-06 and any amendments thereto shall have any further force and effect.

SECTION 19. Dispute Resolution

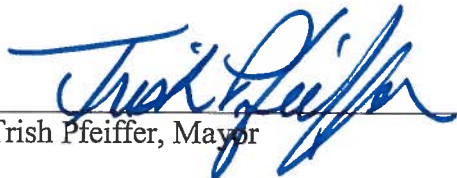
The parties to this Franchise agree that it is in each of their respective best interests to avoid costly litigation as a means of resolving disputes which may arise hereunder. Accordingly, the parties agree that prior to pursuing their available legal remedies, they will meet in an attempt to resolve any differences. If such informal effort is unsuccessful, then the Parties may exercise any of their available legal remedies.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED on first reading at the Regular meeting of the City of Bartow City Commission held this 6th day of June, 2016.

PUBLISHED in the Polk County Democrat on the 8th day of June, 2016.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on second reading at the Regular meeting of the City of Bartow City Commission held this 20th day of June, 2016.


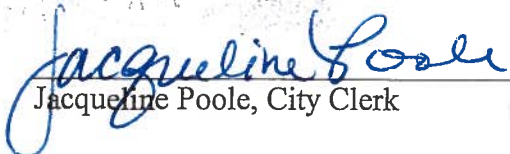
CITY OF BARTOW


Trish Pfeiffer, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:


George A. Long, City Manager

ATTEST:



Jacqueline Poole, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Sean R. Parker, City Attorney

PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA

TO: City of Bartow Commission

THROUGH: Mike Herr, City Manager

FROM: Jacki Poole, City Clerk

DATE: May 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Appointment of new Committee Member to the Beautification Advisory Board.

SUMMARY

The request is for the Commission to consider appointing Yolanda Floyd to fill a vacancy on the Beautification Advisory Board. The vacancy was created by the resignation of Committee Member Chase Stevens. The term will expire May 2029. Appointment is being recommended by Commissioner Pfeiffer.

BACKGROUND

The Beautification Advisory Committee, created under Section 82-26 of the Code of Ordinances, is composed of five city residents serving staggered three-year terms. The Committee meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at City Hall. Its responsibilities include providing recommendations on landscaping and beautification projects on city property and rights-of-way, and performing additional duties as assigned by the Commission. Members are not required to meet educational criteria or file a Statement of Financial Interests.

STAFF ANALYSIS

On April 10, 2026, Committee Member Chase Stevens informed the City Clerk's Office that he did not wish to be reappointed. During the April 20, 2026 Regular Meeting of the City Commission, the Commissioners were assigned to bring a recommendation. There are no other applications on file. The vacancy has been publicly advertised on bulletin boards, the City's website, Facebook page and in the Lakeland Sun Newspaper.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approves Commissioner Pfeiffer's recommendation to appoint Yolanda Floyd to the Beautification Advisory Board.

NEXT STEPS

If approved, the City Clerk's Office notifies the applicant and mail the new board member a board handbook and a copy of the Florida Commission on Ethics Guide to the Sunshine Amendment & Code of Ethics for Public Officers and contact information for the board administrator.

The Board Administrator and City Attorney will conduct an orientation session with the board member to review Sunshine Law and public records requirements, as well as the member's roles, duties, and responsibilities on the board.

ATTACHMENTS

- Email from Asst. City Clerk Fussell regarding Chase Stevens.
- Application for Yolanda Floyd

Jacki Poole

From: Kaylee Fussell
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 8:05 AM
To: Jason Hargrove; Kyle Lasek
Cc: Jacki Poole
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]Re: Beautification Advisory Board Reappointment

Please see email below from Chase.

Kaylee Fussell | Assistant City Clerk | City of Bartow
450 N. Wilson Avenue | Ph. 863-534-0100 ext. 1255 | Fax 863-534-0409
P.O. Box 1069 | Bartow, FL 33831-1069 | kfussell@cityofbartow.net

From: Chase Stevens <chase.evolve@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2026 9:23 AM
To: Kaylee Fussell <kfussell@cityofbartow.net>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Re: Beautification Advisory Board Reappointment

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

I think now is a good time for me to step down and let others join. Hope things go well! Appreciate all you do!

On Wed, Apr 1, 2026 at 8:39 AM Kaylee Fussell <kfussell@cityofbartow.net> wrote:

Hi Chase,

Your term on the Beautification Advisory Board expires in May. If you would like to be reappointed submit the attached application.

Have a great Wednesday!

Thank you,

Kaylee Fussell | Assistant City Clerk | City of Bartow



CITY OF BARTOW BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

APPLICATION

Send by Email Print

For office use only
RECEIVED BY
APR 28 2026
BARTOW CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Thank you for your interest in serving on a Bartow board or committee!

Before You Begin.

Please read this form carefully. Fully complete all sections. Applications remain active for one year from submittal date.

Return completed application to:

City Clerk's Office, Bartow City Hall, 450 N. Wilson Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830; or FAX to: 863-534-0409; or email to: jpoole.clerks@cityofbartow.net

Choice of Board or Committee.

Please review the attached descriptions & qualifications for the board or committee that interested in joining.

List the name of the board/committee for which you are applying
Note: that you may only belong to one board or committee at a time.

Contact Information: Please print legibly.
Note: this application, and all information you provide, may be viewed by the public upon request.

Yolanda Floyd		Yolanda Floyd Real Estate Group	
Name	1080 S. Oak Ave	Business/Organization Name (if applicable)	Bartow FL 33830
Mailing Address	8635779369	City	Yolandafloydrealtor@gmail.com
Home Phone Number	Cell Phone Number	Email Address	

Why are you interested in serving as a member of your selected board or committee?

I would like to serve on the Beautification Board because I value the pride, care, and sense of community that comes from maintaining beautiful homes and businesses. Recognizing those who invest time and effort into their properties encourages others to do the same and helps create a more welcoming and attractive city for everyone.

I believe I would bring a strong perspective through my experience working in the community and seeing firsthand how curb appeal, landscaping, and property upkeep can positively impact neighborhoods, local businesses, and overall community pride.

Most importantly, I want to stay involved in helping our city continue to grow and shine. Supporting beautification efforts is a meaningful way to celebrate those who take pride in their properties while inspiring continued care and investment throughout the community.

Briefly describe prior board or committee service and/or special qualifications:

Top Buttons Board, Hope House Board, Bartow Chamber Board, BHS Booster Club Board

Section 760.80, Florida Statutes, requires certain reporting of minority representation on statutorily created boards to be filed on an annual basis. Please complete the following:

Race: Native American African American Hispanic Asian Caucasian Other

Gender: Male Female Physically Disabled: Yes No

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Yes No
If yes, please explain:

I do hereby acknowledge the following:

1. This application, when complete and filed with the Office of the City Clerk, is a Public Record under Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, and is open to public inspection.
2. I am responsible for keeping the information on this form current and that any changes or updates will be provided to the Office of the City Clerk
3. I consent to filing the Statement of Financial Interests (FORM 1) if required for this board/committee.
4. If appointed, I acknowledge that it is my obligation and duty to comply with the following:
 - a. Code of Ethics for Public Officials (F.S. Chapter 112, Part III)
 - b. Florida Sunshine Law (F.S. Chapter 286)
 - c. Florida Statutes www.flsenate.gov/Laws/Statutes/
5. I understand the responsibilities associated with being a board or committee member, and I will have adequate time to serve on the board or committee I have selected.

Bartow Residency. Bartow residency is a requirement for Bartow boards and committees.

I attest that I reside within the incorporated limits of Bartow.

Home Address: 1080 S. Oak Ave. Bartow, FL 33830

Home Address is required and will be used to verify Bartow residency

Truth and Accuracy.

I certify that the information contained on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Yolanda Floyd

4/24/202

Signature

Date

Important Public Records Information. Please note that the city receives requests from the public to review documents, such as this form, provided to the city and the city is obligated to release these public records, including all information contained on the form, upon request. Please call the City Clerk at 863-534-0100, if you have questions or concerns about the disclosure of specific information.

CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners, City of Bartow City Commission
THROUGH: Mike Herr, City Manager
FROM: Sean R. Parker, City Attorney
DATE: May 4, 2026
SUBJECT: Resolution No. 26-4262-R – Appointing Primary and Alternate Directors to the Polk Regional Water Cooperative

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

This resolution appoints a primary director and alternate director from the City Commission to serve on the Polk Regional Water Cooperative (PRWC) Board of Directors, establishes the one-year term, and directs distribution of the resolution to PRWC.

PRWC was formed via an interlocal agreement on March 21, 2016, among Polk County municipalities to proactively manage sustainable regional water resources, including alternative sources and projects. City of Bartow is a member government, with its mailing address listed at PRWC's office in Bartow (330 W. Church Street). Per Section 2.02 of the interlocal agreement, each member must submit a resolution identifying appointments within 45 days of the agreement's effective date (annually refreshed)

Key provisions:

- Section I: Appoints [Commissioner Name] as primary director.
- Section II: Appoints [Commissioner Name] as alternate director.
- Section III: Term is one year, aligned with City commission liaison terms for boards/committees.
- Section IV: City Clerk to distribute certified copy to PRWC executive director and general counsel.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

RECOMMENDATION

City Staff recommends the City Commission appoint a Primary Director and an Alternate Director to the PRWC for one-year terms.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution 26-4262-R

RESOLUTION NO. 26-4262-R

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BARTOW, FLORIDA, APPOINTING PRIMARY AND ALTERNATE DIRECTORS TO THE POLK REGIONAL WATER COOPERATIVE (PRWC) BOARD OF DIRECTORS; ESTABLISHING THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT; PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THIS RESOLUTION TO PRWC; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2016 the City of Bartow (“City”) entered into an interlocal agreement providing for the establishment of PRWC; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.02 of said interlocal agreement provides that, within forty-five (45) days of its effective date, each Member Government shall provide PRWC with a Resolution identifying the appointment and term(s) of its primary and alternate Directors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Commission of the City of Bartow:

SECTION I

Commissioner _____ is hereby appointed as primary Director to the PRWC Board of Directors.

SECTION II

Commissioner _____ is hereby appointed as alternate Director to the PRWC Board of Directors.

SECTION III

The term of appointments to the PRWC Board of Directors shall be one (1) year, concurrent with the term of commission liaison appointments to City boards and committees.

SECTION IV

The City Clerk is hereby directed to distribute a certified copy of this Resolution to the PRWC executive director and general counsel electronically or by mail.

The appropriate municipal officers are hereby authorized to certify said form on behalf of the City of Bartow.

PASSED on this 4th day of May 2026.

ATTEST:

CITY OF BARTOW

By: _____
Jacqueline Poole, City Clerk

By: _____
Mayor

(seal)

Approved as to correctness and form:

Approved as to substance:

By: _____
Sean Parker, City Attorney

By: _____
Mike Herr, City Manager