



Observer Corps Report

Port Orange City Council

Reported by Amy Legare

July 15, 2025

A Task Authorization was passed as part of the Consent Agenda to support gopher tortoise relocation activities.

A Resolution passed as part of the Consent Agenda to support the Volusia County Transform 386 Milton Homeowner Recovery Program. Subsequent public comment encouraged the City to approve purchase of a 4-acre flood prone property.

The City reported that Public Works crews survey flood prone areas after heavy storms looking to be proactive with stormwater management.

The first reading of Ordinance 2025-18 for improved incentives for development in Eastport passed. The City Council intends to continue protecting gopher tortoises while assisting development.

The council had a detailed presentation and discussion on the draft budget and maximum millage rate. Several public comments were presented on realigning priorities to put infrastructure (flood mitigation) before parks and recreation for funding. The Council explained that even if the millage rate is increased it didn't mean that there would be more funding for flood mitigation. The draft maximum millage rate was set at 5.0000mls/1000.

August 5, 2025

The council passed a resolution to support environmental improvements in Rose Bay.

The council discussed sidewalk lighting/safety concerns along Dunlawton Avenue west of I-95. FDOT, TPO and the city have responsibilities. City staff will work on maintenance/repair feasibility and a sustainable approach before the city embarks on a lighting project.

The Port Orange Environmental Advisory Board provided an update highlighting three projects. The "Adopt-a-Storm Drain" program has been approved and funded,

with a rollout planned for the fall. A plant giveaway is scheduled for October 11, during the Port Orange Family Days event. Additionally, the board is launching a pilot program to plant trees around local ponds.

August 19, 2025

Council members spoke in favor of several topics: returning FEMA purchased homesites to their natural state, amending SB 180, evaluating safety regulations regarding sidewalks and e-bikes.

An engineering firm presented on the City's vulnerability assessment. Highly vulnerable focus areas were identified, and next steps were discussed. The assessment was 100% funded through a FDEP grant.

September 1, 2025

Sen. Tom Wright presented the mayor with a check for \$4.4 million to support community resilience.

The city will be holding an event to engage the community on ideas for the redesign of White Place Park.

The council passed Ordinance No. 2025-21 to install and maintain uniform waterway markers to safely guide boaters to and from the Riverwalk day dock.

September 16, 2025

The Council deferred approval of the partial tree conservation easement release pending submission of redevelopment plans by the property owners. Port Orange has the designation of Tree City USA from the Arbor Day Foundation and does not want to jeopardize that status by removing trees.

The Council presented meteorological, maintenance, and engineering information on the 9/7-9/25 heavy rain and flooding events in the city. Information on \$53M in future projects was presented and how the city navigates the long process of securing funding from state and federal sources. The public was invited to express their concerns. The Council was aware of rumors and misinformation regarding the city's response to the flooding and encouraged citizens to refer to the stormwater information on the city's website. Citizens were informed that city representatives are willing to meet with people at their property to discuss flooding issues.

The mayor will sign a letter to the county council expressing support for amending SB 180.