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You don't know everything:

Collective decision making during the preparation of the next Fiscal Year's Budget

Jerome Fletcher, ICMA-MA, MPA

City Manager

Starting the process

North Port

Podcast
Network

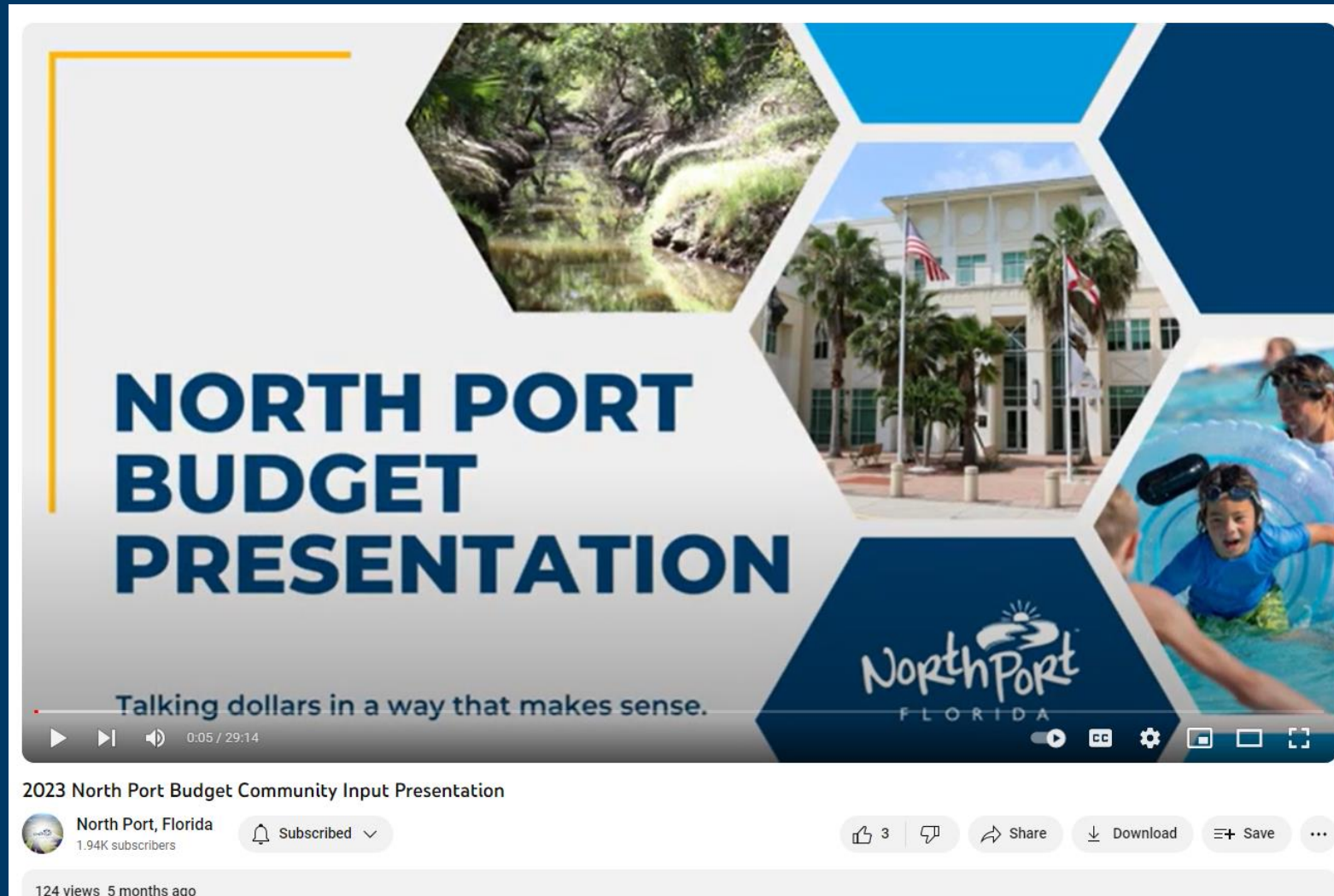
- Newsbreak podcast with City Manager
- Guest column in the North Port Sun on March 15 about the process and welcoming public involvement.
 - Followed by media release to kickoff budget season on March 20.

Community meetings

- Held four budget input meetings in April/May
- Various locations
- Streamed final meeting on YouTube from Chambers
- 100+ views



Public budget meetings




The video player features a collage of three images: a natural landscape with a stream and trees, the North Port City Hall building, and a child swimming in a pool. The title 'NORTH PORT BUDGET PRESENTATION' is prominently displayed in large blue letters. Below the title, the tagline 'Talking dollars in a way that makes sense.' is visible. The video player interface includes a progress bar at 0:05 / 29:14, standard playback controls, and a list of interaction buttons at the bottom.

**NORTH PORT
BUDGET
PRESENTATION**

Talking dollars in a way that makes sense.

0:05 / 29:14

2023 North Port Budget Community Input Presentation

 North Port, Florida
1.94K subscribers

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124 views 5 months ago

Budget input tool

Allocation of \$100 by strategic pillar (75 respondents) Launched online budget tool March 15, closed on May 12 – 75 budget allocations submitted

In priority order (highest first)

Infrastructure & Facilities Integrity Pillar - Develop and maintain the City's public facilities, roads, bridges, water control structures, stormwater drainage, waterways, potable water, wastewater collection & treatment (reclamation) systems, broadband opportunities, and promote multimodal transportation opportunities throughout the City to meet current and future needs. **\$26**

Disaster Relief and Recovery - Continue work on long-term recovery and resilience planning. Seeking innovative solutions for helping the community recover and be better prepared for future disasters. **\$14**

Safe Community Pillar - Create and sustain a safe community for residents, businesses, and visitors of North Port. **\$13**

Good Governance Pillar - Develop and promote transparent City governance where policy decisions are considered by the City Commission, that foster trust and community engagement, utilizing departmental strengths and innovative approaches to facilitate effective and efficient delivery of municipal services and programs. **\$13**

Economic Development & Growth Management Pillar - Promote sustainable growth, investment, and development to achieve a vibrant and diversified economy offering a mixture of services and local employment opportunities. **\$11**

Environmental Resiliency & Sustainability Pillar - North Port seeks to be the role model in the region as a community that values environmental resiliency and sustainability in the design and operation of its facilities, programs, services, and development through forward-thinking policies, ordinances, and education. **\$11**

Quality of Life Pillar - Protect and promote North Port's natural resources, recreational assets, cultural diversity, ethnic, and historical heritage, and overall community wellness. **\$11**

Samples of public feedback from budget tool

- “I love the way Jerome Fletcher has spent so much time and dedication to the citizens of this town. The staff also attends the meetings and are willing to answer questions. I think this attitude of openness gives the town a united feel to it. Way to go! I think we need to get on with widening Price and any other ride which has the potential of begging a quagmire. Traffic will get snarled if something isn’t done to relieve it.”
- “Police and Fire Department & safety of citizens should be top priority followed by disaster relief.”
- “I realize just how difficult it is to fund everything with a finite amount of tax dollars. Thank you for this exercise.”



Samples of public feedback from budget tool, cont.

- “Economic Development and Good Governance are both important, but don't require financial assistance. We need to limit spending in those areas, STOP this OUT OF CONTROL DEVELOPMENT and protect our natural resources and protect the safety of our residences. Let's not be the swamp pit of Sarasota County, but rather a safe and well managed community with good schools. That's my wish. Thank you to all of those who strive each day to make our community better!”
- “Quality of life should be by far the responsibility of the citizens themselves with only an observational role for the city government. Good governance should not be expensive to implement as it would seem that the tools already exist and changes to implementation could be cost neutral.”





Online performance dashboards

EXPLORE OUR PERFORMANCE

The City of North Port has made a commitment to be transparent with regards to the goals that it sets and the measurement of progress towards them.

The City uses an outcome-focused performance management framework to monitor, assess, and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of City services. Applying analytic skills and tools, the City leverages administrative and public data to help departments solve problems and develop targeted action plans and strategies to deliver results for our residents.

Please select any of the below-listed departments to view detailed performance metrics.



Working with the media

- Sent follow-up media releases in April/May.
- Utilized website to create calendar events and share the media releases.



Social Media

- Events on Facebook and Nextdoor
- 12+ posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Nextdoor
- North Report/SeeClickFix push notification
- Neighbors Public Safety Service





Questions?

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