

SINCE 1970

The Port Royal® Times

NAPLES, FLORIDA

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Andy Deane | President

I'd like to extend a welcome back to our residents who summer up north. Whether you have officially returned to your winter home in Naples or will be coming soon, it's always more fun when you're here.

You are all aware of the street congestion solution that has been making its way through the proper channels of government and I'm pleased to say I believe all our hard work is finally coming to fruition. We presented our initiative at the City Council Workshop meeting on October 15th. After some discussion, the City Staff was directed by Council to fine-tune some of the language in our proposed ordinance, and our final draft is to be presented for consideration at the November 7th City Council meeting.

After a busy spring spent organizing and finalizing the details of our initiative, Jenna Heiderman, our Executive Director, Assistant Manager Berkeley Shoemaker and I met with each City Council member over the summer to brief them thoroughly on our proposed ordinance. We informed them of the careful process we undertook to arrive at our proposed solution, stressing the importance of dealing with the dangerous street congestion in our neighborhood and the necessity of an on-street parking ban of commercial vehicles. We concluded by sharing the results of our polling efforts which reflected 86% resident support for the ordinance. Each Council member was favorably impressed with the ground work we had laid, and many offered their sentiments of support.

I want to thank those of you who answered our invitation last month to contact your City Council members expressing your support for the parking ban. The response was overwhelming and made quite an impression on our Council members. Now that we are scheduled for the necessary two meetings in front of City Council – the first on November 7th and the second on November 19th – where the critical vote will take place, I need to once again ask for your support. If you are going to be in Naples on those two dates, your presence at the meetings will

have a dramatic and positive impact on the successful passage of our ordinance. You don't need to make comments at the meeting although if you wish to, it will surely be valuable – even if only to say, "I support this ordinance."

The procedure for speaking during the 'public comments' phase of the discussion involves filling out a slip of blue colored paper you will find at the back of the Council chamber. You turn this slip in to either the stenographer or police officer to give to the City Attorney. If you feel earlier remarks make yours unnecessary, when your name is called you can simply decline, but it is important you get on the speaker's list.

Lastly, this ordinance will work concurrently with existing regulations that cover construction site management. This existing ordinance details the parking limitations in place for construction sites, in addition to a number of other restrictions, to minimize the impact of construction on our neighborhood. The importance of enforcement cannot be understated. If we have ordinances that are not enforced, due to poor verbiage in the code or lack of follow through on the part of officials tasked with their enforcement, then our efforts are wasted. We, as your Association, intend to keep pressure on the City to provide proper enforcement of these important ordinances. Maintaining the value of our properties depends on it. You can help us by reporting violations you observe in a timely manner to our office. Keep us on speed-dial!

I want to mention another initiative that says wonderful things about the generosity of Neapolitans and their civic-mindedness. In another part of this newsletter we are providing information on the Blair Foundation Tree Challenge. The Foundation, created in the memory of long-time Naples residents and philanthropists John and Dorothy Blair, has donated \$500,000 to help reforest the City after Hurricane Irma. The donation is provided in the form of a challenge or matching grant and can only be realized if other community members and organizations donate funds to plant trees. Please take the time to read about this and consider making a contribution.

2018
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*PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED...*In line with this subject of tree replacement, Dana Souza, Director of Community Services for the City of Naples, contacted your Association about the City's plan to replace the trees on Gordon Drive leading into our neighborhood. Unfortunately, the tall, stately Mahogany trees on the west side of the road that were lost in the hurricane cannot be replanted because of restrictions imposed by Florida Power and Light. Instead, they will be replaced with 'under-story' trees such as Ligustrum which will, at maturity, remain under over-head power lines, and will still provide an attractive canopy effect.

In our discussions with the City we learned that cost constraints would limit the size of the Mahogany trees to be planted on the east side of Gordon Drive to a gauge of 2.5". We realized that, for us older folks, we might never get to see those little saplings become big Mahogany trees. Your Association Board thought it appropriate to give them a boost so we approached the City to contribute to the cost of those trees on Gordon Drive. As a result, we will have larger trees planted along Gordon's east side and really enhance the entry into Port Royal.

Many of you may have been following the City's review of its Comprehensive Plan that takes place, by State law, approximately every seven years. Part of that review involves examining the Vision Document that sets the tone for the more detailed Comprehensive Plan. While the Comp Plan establishes a road-map for where the City wants to go, you can think of the Vision Document as being at its philosophical heart. In other words, what do we, as the citizens of Naples, think is important about our town and what do we think should be protected in order to take it successfully into the future.

A consulting firm, Stantec, has been hired by the City to collect input from various stake-holders within the City – including property owners, residents, and business owners – to determine their opinion about what the Vision Document should say. Is Naples primarily a tourist town that happens to have people living in it, as some inputs have suggested, or is it a resident's town that has unique qualities that draw visitors here to experience, if only briefly, what we have created through careful planning? I think all of us consider it the latter. Your Association Board will have the opportunity to meet with Stantec in December to ensure they receive our vision of what we think is important in regard to issues like density and traffic control. How do we ensure responsible growth in the City given the pressure from explosive growth in the County?

We have been in dialog with other HOA's in the City to realize where we have common interests and concerns. It turns out, not surprisingly, that there is broad agreement on most issues. We are all keenly interested in protecting the values and elements of Naples that have made it such a beautiful and desirable place to live. We have elected to speak individually but with a common message to stress to our City government the importance of quality of life over all else. All plans for the City should be considered through that litmus test.

Our membership drive for 2019 is underway. I urge you to support your Association by becoming a member in order to help us accomplish many very important tasks. The Association's endeavors support the improvement of Port Royal and protection of property values, but also matters that concern the City at large. As you are aware, we are in the midst of several important initiatives that should be of great interest to each of you as residents in Port Royal. These projects are driven by our membership and can only be influenced by a unified voice, and that comes from participation in our Association. We thank you for your continued support.

I'm excited to pass along information we learned at a recent meeting with Mr. Jay Newman of the Athens Group who is working with the Watkins family in developing the Naples Beach Club Hotel property. I don't have enough space in this submission to detail everything we learned but the most important things in my view are firstly, the golf course will remain nearly identical to what is there now. Secondly, not only will it continue to be a golf course but the plan is to deed restrict that property to 'golf course or open land' in perpetuity.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED... While plans are still in the infant stage, we learned that development will occur west of Gulf Shore Boulevard on the existing property and be comprised of a hotel to the south and condominiums to the north. The beachfront restaurant and the sunset bar will be retained and open, as now, to the public. There will be hotel rooms and condos on the east side of the road in the approximate location of the old driving range. There will be several restaurants near where they're currently located in the conference center. All structures will be either re-built or extensively renovated and will incorporate under-building parking to solve the existing parking problems. This will be a very 'upscale' development but should retain all the best features, in my view, of the current Beach Club Hotel. We will continue to stay privy to the development and share information as we receive it. You can take a look at other properties developed by the Athens Group at www.athensdevco.com.

While our Association, as a matter of policy, avoids taking a position on political issues not within our scope of interest, we, as a public service, inform our membership about issues of broad interest. Over the last several months, the Association had been sharing information about the efforts of an organization called Ethics Naples, a group that was established to promote a better ethics policy for the City of Naples. You may recall that

the committee collected the necessary number of signatures — at least 10 percent of the 15,000 registered voters in Naples — in April, which would add a referendum to the August 28th primary election ballot and give the voters the opportunity to decide whether to create a local ethics commission. At that time, the City Council voted 4-3 against placing the referendum on the ballot and filed for a declaratory judgment in circuit court. They had concerns that needed to be addressed, including whether parts of the proposal were in fact, legally valid.

Earlier this month, the Council chose not to appeal the circuit court judge's ruling that an ethics referendum would go before the voters. Instead, they met privately for nearly two hours and ultimately decided to schedule a special meeting for November with the Ethics Naples group to attempt to work out some of their grievances. This meeting is scheduled for November 5th.

As Thanksgiving draws near and we welcome our neighbors back to town, I reflect on the blessings we have received. It's hard to believe a little over a year ago we were struggling to dig out from a direct hit by a serious hurricane. Human resilience is a marvelous thing. Once again, I want to welcome everyone back. I know we are all looking forward to another wonderful season in our beautiful town.

CLEAN WATER INITIATIVE

Rachel Paz | Port Royal Resident

Hello, my name is Rachel Paz. I am a homeowner fortunate enough to live on our beautiful beach. We reside here during the school year, and as we returned during the month of August, more specifically the months following, the condition of our typically beautiful gulf has completely shocked and horrified me.

During those quiet months (August, September, October) normally, my children and I would enjoy going on the beach every day. But our new reality did not allow that. There had been so many dead fish and crustaceans that you could not even walk on the beach without gagging from the sites and smells. The water was brown, murky, and toxic. My children and I had watched as eels, crabs, and fish die. In fact, I had to bring them in one afternoon when we were watching what appeared to be a dolphin dying. This is not a natural occurrence. While in more recent days, it has appeared to have cleared, the underlying issue still exists and is not going away.

I have reached out to local and state politicians with no response, leaving me with no answers on what is being done to ensure our precious ocean is cared for, for many generations to come. In my opinion, it will take strong communities, and strong voices in those communities to make any lasting and meaningful changes. I feel now is the time to come together as a community before this problem continues into a direction of no return.

Please join me for a lunch forum held at the Port Royal Club at 11:30 am on Tuesday, December 11th, 2018 where we will welcome Eric Eikenberg, CEO of the Everglades Foundation and Julie Wraithmell, Executive Director of Audobon Florida to speak on the subject at hand.

I would greatly appreciate your ideas and support for keeping our home beautiful.



The invitation card features a background of a blue sky with white clouds transitioning into a greenish-blue water surface. At the top, there are three white wavy lines representing water. The text is centered and reads: "YOU ARE INVITED TO A CLEAN WATER LUNCHEON THE PORT ROYAL CLUB TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11 | 11:30 AM FEATURING SPEAKERS FROM THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION & AUDOBON FLORIDA RSVP BY NOV. 27TH TO RAQUELLITA25@YAHOO.COM".



2019 ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES NOTICES WILL BE MAILED THIS MONTH! THIS YEAR WE WILL BE ACCEPTING PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD - AN ELECTRONIC INVOICE WILL BE EMAILED TO THE EMAIL ADDRESS WE HAVE ON FILE. THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

ALLIGATOR SIGHTINGS

Residents please be aware of one or more ALLIGATORS observed in a number of canals in Port Royal. Especially keep an eye on children and pets and DO NOT FEED the gators. Contact the Alligator Hotline, 866-392-4286 to report a sighting or for more information.



RECLAIMED WATER UPDATE

Marvin L. Easton | Past PRPOA Utilities Director

With all of the discussion and finger pointing regarding the water problems in Collier and Lee Counties recently it may be interesting to review what happens when government and residents work together for their mutual benefit.

In 2008 an Integrated Water Resources Plan was initiated by the City of Naples because of a concern that future development could result in a shortage of potable water. At that time, the treated effluent (reclaimed water) from the City's wastewater treatment plant was only provided to local golf courses, city medians and schools as an alternative to using potable water for landscape irrigation.

The 2008 Integrated Water Resources Plan adopted by City Council directed the staff to expand the reclaimed water distribution system to residential areas based on the highest potable water demand for landscape irrigation and secure the freshwater supply from the Golden Gate Canal to supplement the reclaimed water system. This plan would indefinitely delay the costly expansion of the City's existing potable water plant and eliminate the discharge of treated effluent from the City's wastewater treatment plant to the Gordon River.

The City proposed initially to provide reclaimed irrigation water to the Port Royal area, charging \$1.89/1000 gallons and making connection mandatory.

The PRPOA did its own analysis and proposed to City Council that if the objective was to recoup the total cost of processing the reclaimed water, distributing the water, and billing for the service, the breakeven rate should be \$0.63/1000 gallons.

They also proposed that if the quality of the reclaimed water was as projected and the cost difference versus irrigating with potable water was appropriate, the residents would voluntarily connect, and it was not necessary to make connection mandatory. The City Council agreed with the Association on both counts.

Over the past 9 years the rate has increased to \$0.69/1000 gallons based on annual CPI increases. This compares very favorably to using potable water for irrigation. Depending on the quantity used by each property, the bi-monthly potable rates effective Oct. 1, 2018 are \$1.43/1000 gallons for Block 1 consumption, \$2.51 for Block 2, \$3.58 for Block 3, and \$4.28 for Block 4.

In addition, the City drilled Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells (ASR) to store processed reclaimed water and water from the Golden Gate Canal during the wet season and to recover and use the water during the dry season.

What has been the result? Over the past year, 601 million gallons of reclaimed water was used for irrigation in the Port Royal area, thus saving 601 million gallons of potable water. 87% or 636 of the 728 properties in Port Royal/Gordon Dr. have connected. Another 77 properties or 11% have meters installed and are pending connection (these are mostly homes under construction or empty lots). Thus 98% of all Port Royal/Gordon Drive properties are connected or pending connection.

The City has expanded the availability of reclaimed water to several other parts of the City. The result so far is 57% or 681 of those 1200 additional properties including 11 bulk users such as golf courses have connected and another 8% are pending for a total of 65% committed.

The total of reclaimed water used and potable water saved in the City amounted to 2.07 billion gallons over the past 12 months. Over the past few years no reclaimed water has been discharged into the bay, it has all gone into the ASR wells for potential future use.

Congratulations to the Naples City Council, City Manager Bill Moss, Bob Middleton and his Naples City Water Utility Department, and all of the residents who are saving potable water by connecting to reclaimed water for their irrigation needs.



ARCHITECTURE/BUILDING UPDATE

Jamie Gibbs | Architecture Review Chair

As the 2018/2019 season begins, I wanted to take a few moments to share with you the work of your Architectural Review Committee (the “ARC”). We had a busy summer in the office both reviewing new home submittals and closing out eight projects that had reached the completion stage.

YTD the ARC has reviewed 11 new build submittals, five of which are speculative homes. We currently are on track to surpass 2017’s numbers with a couple more submittals on the horizon before the end of the year.

The Association continues to work closely with the City’s Building and Code Enforcement departments to keep construction vehicles off of our streets. Please don’t hesitate to call the office at 239-261-6472 to report street/parking congestion issues.

Please keep in mind that any project involving exterior work must come through the Association office for approval. Some examples of these are depicted in the box to below. Our website - portroyalpoa.com hosts a wealth of information as well as necessary submittal forms for all projects.

ASSOCIATION APPROVAL REQUIRED

MAJOR & MINOR RENOVATIONS	LANDSCAPING
PAINT COLOR	WINDOWS/DOORS
FENCES, GATES & COLUMNS	MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT
ROOF REPLACEMENT	SOLAR PANELS
GUTTERS	DOCKS
PATIO/POOL	RIP RAP

THE BLAIR FOUNDATION TREE CHALLENGE

The Blair Foundation was created in memory of long-time Naples residents and philanthropists, John and Dorothy Blair. Concerned with the amount of damage Hurricane Irma inflicted upon the City’s stately trees, the Blair Foundation trustees donated \$500,000 to help reforest the City and have their gift serve as a catalyst for additional donations dedicated to planting trees in the City.

By donating the cost of a tree or multiple trees to the City of Naples, your tax-deductible gift will leverage a dollar-for-dollar match from the Blair Foundation Tree Challenge to plant trees within public spaces along your neighborhood street, along main roadways or in City parks.

THE NEED FOR TREES

The City of Naples has long been known as the “Green Jewel” of southwest Florida. The City has also received the “Tree City USA” designation by the National Arbor Day Foundation – for 21 years! The lush canopy trees and tropical palms that grace Naples’ streets and parks are important to residents and the quality of life in our community.

On September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma made landfall just south of the City of Naples. The storm caused considerable damage to the Naples area and 1,929 City trees were either destroyed or damaged to the extent that they were removed.

Before the storm, there were approximately 2,000 vacant tree locations in the City. This means there are now 4,000 trees that need to be replanted in Naples.

CITY OF NAPLES FUNDING

Yes! The City of Naples provides annual funding for tree replacement. For the past two fiscal years, the Naples City Council has provided \$300,000 per year for tree planting. Following Hurricane Irma, the City is focused on replanting main roadways first.

INDIVIDUALS

You may donate the cost to replace the tree in front of your home or on your street. This will fund another tree in a park or in one of Naples neighborhoods!

HOA’S AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

The Blair Foundation Tree Challenge provides your association the opportunity to solicit member donations and double the tree planting in your neighborhood. These donations, either large or small, can be combined to have a greater impact in your Naples neighborhood.

BUSINESSES AND CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

Make a donation that leverages funds from the Blair Foundation Tree Challenge to keep Naples “Green” for generations to come.

BENEFITS

The benefits of planting trees in Naples are numerous. Here are a few:

- *Trees increase property value*
- *Trees clean the air*
- *Trees cool the City*
- *Trees provide shade*
- *Trees support nature*

City staff will work with donors to identify tree planting locations that will benefit Naples. Sorry, no plaques will be installed.





PORT ROYAL®

PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

1020 EIGHT AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 3

NAPLES, FLORIDA 34102

(239) 261-6472

WWW.PORTROYALPOA.COM

IMPORTANT DATES & HAPPENINGS AROUND NAPLES

CHRISTMAS ON THIRD <i>third street south</i>	MON, NOV. 19 6-8P
SWFL RESTAURANT WEEK <i>various locations visit: swflrestaurantweek.com</i>	NOV. 29-DEC. 12
CHRISTMAS WALK ON FIFTH <i>fifth avenue south</i>	FRI, DEC. 7 5-8:30P
NAPLES BAY BOAT PARADE <i>along naples bay</i>	SAT, DEC. 8 6:30-8:30P
CLEAN WATER LUNCHEON <i>port royal club - *rsvp required</i>	TUE, DEC. 11 11:30A
CHRISTMAS PARADE <i>fifth avenue south</i>	TUE, DEC. 11 6-8P
NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS <i>naples beaches</i>	MON, DEC. 31 7:30P

PLEASE VISIT OUR
website

WWW.PORTROYALPOA.COM

FOR PRPOA UPDATES



ANNUAL MEETING

FEB. 26
2019

PORT ROYAL CLUB
9:30AM

SAVE
THE
DATE