

Purpose and Need

Population Growth

- City records show the population grew at an average annual growth rate of 5% between 1995 and 2003 and 7.5% annual growth rate between 2002 and 2004.
- Population grew almost 60% in the 90s to reach 89,000 in 2000 making Port St. Lucie the largest and fastest-growing city of the Treasure Coast.
- ULI panel in 2003 quoted the City is experiencing a “firestorm of growth” and it is expected to double in the next decade.
- According to the Census Bureau, Port St. Lucie was the nation’s sixth fastest growing city among those with more than 100,000 people between years 2000 and 2003.
- The City’s April 2004 population is 115,000 with anticipated growth to 150,000 in less than five years and nearly 350,000 by 2025.

CITY of
**PORT
ST. LUCIE**



Population News

Port St. Lucie marks 100,000

Extolling virtues of a bona fide city

I am here to praise Port St. Lucie, not belittle it.

No. Seriously. I am positively gushing over the place I once called home where, during my eight years there, nothing ever happened.

Since I moved out into the county in 1995, a week can't go by without an announcement of some new, massive, unprecedented, first-time, state-of-the-art, really cool project that's coming to town.

And as the major population of 100,000, Port St. Lucie



Glenn Henderson

become:

A real city.

Gush. Gush.

You can trace the turnaround for the cow pasture-turned-residential-project-turned-municipal-wanna-be to the creation of St. Lucie West, which over

Coast has The Indian College, Bafry u Village.

The huge big-chai the cour first Hor opened t

More And are plan alley — but one v packed v

Housing starts go through the roof

New home construction outpaces 2001 by 40%

By Robb Pollock

New home construction along the Treasure Coast continues to outpace last year's activity by a whopping 40 percent — a trend expected to keep gaining steam.

For the past 12 months ending Sept. 30, the number of single-family homes that builders broke ground on in subdivisions in Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties jumped to 2,564 from 1,833 the previous year.

U.S. 1 development

Major new projects along U.S. 1 from Port St. Lucie to Stuart focused additional attention on the area's traffic problems.

Construction began on Pineapple Commons at the intersection of U.S. 1 and Britt Road, a development that will add 250,000 square feet of commercial space and 260 housing units to the bustling highway.

The number of chain restaurants along U.S. 1 also increased with the construction of Cracker Barrel.

Infrastructure struggles to keep up with influx

than impose a moratorium on new construction.

The Stuart City Commission also balked at a proposal to allow U.S. 1 to be widened to eight lanes north of the Roosevelt Bridge because of public outcry that it would ruin the city's small-town character.

But in December the County Commission voted to speed construction

Working families behind boom

PSL can no longer attribute most of its growth to retirees

By Jennifer Sorentrus

PORT ST. LUCIE — Booming job growth and attractive housing are influencing some St. Lucie County residents to uproot and relocate into the city, while the number of retirees migrating from northern states has declined, new U.S. census numbers indicate.

The census report released Thursday — which also covered "how we live" statistics on education, jobs, income and housing — provides a better understanding of the area's growth.

CITY of
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Purpose and Need (continued)

- Population and Traffic Growth
- Emergency Response to Hospital
- Fire/Police Response Time
- Hurricane Evacuation
- Hutchinson Island Nuclear Powerplant

CITY of
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