



City of Port St. Lucie



Re: An invitation from the City Council to participate in the City's first Forum on Race Relations & Inclusion

Dear Citizens of Port St. Lucie,

Since our founding fathers declared independence, our citizens' safety and prosperity have been the primary mission of American governments at all levels, including cities. Here in the City of Port St. Lucie, we have much to be proud of in this regard. We are the safest large City in Florida and a growing City for all ages and all people, not just in words but in statistical facts. However, if we are to maintain and enhance these high standards, we must be prepared to proactively address one of the great challenges of our day.

Across our country, acts of violence stemming from racial tensions, terrorism, intolerance and hate, among other things, are resulting in deaths, loss, fear and civil unrest. In an effort to avoid these negative outcomes here and to continue to deliver on our promise of being a safe and prosperous community for ALL people, the City will be holding its first Forum on Race Relations and Inclusion on November 5 at the Civic Center.

The Forum will feature dynamic speakers and break-out sessions meant to inspire and open participants' minds to the lifestyles of all of those who call Port St. Lucie "home." Please join us for engaging sessions that include the topics of: race and ethnicity; fair and impartial policing; the ACLU's model traffic stop; LGBTQ+: A Personal Journey; disabilities; immigration and inclusion; religious tolerance; and enhancing the relationship between the community and the police. Additionally, attendees can participate in a question and answer session with community leaders, experience an interactive police training simulator and enjoy the art of the renowned Florida Highwaymen. For the full program, sponsorship and other information, please visit:

<http://www.cityofpsl.com/frri>

The City Council and I hope that you will accept this invitation and that our community will come together to listen, share concerns, learn, plan, act and report our progress in maintaining and enhancing our promise of being a City for ALL people.

With hope, gratitude and determination, I am

Very truly yours,

Gregory J. Oravec
Mayor

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." -- Martin Luther King, Jr.