

City of Palm Coast, Florida Agenda Item

Agenda Date: September 8, 2026

Agenda Item: E.4

Department CITY ATTORNEY Division	Amount Org/Account #
Subject: ORDINANCE 2026-XX PROHIBITING DIRECT POTABLE REUSE	
Presenter: Marcus Duffy, City Attorney	
Attachments: 1. Ordinance	
Background: City Council directed the City Attorney to draft an ordinance prohibiting direct potable reuse which is attached to this item for consideration and direction.	
Recommended Action: FOR PRESENTATION AND DIRECTION	

ORDINANCE 2026-__
PROHIBITING DIRECT POTABLE REUSE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM COAST, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 49, "UTILITIES," ARTICLE II, "REGULATION OF WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALM COAST, FLORIDA; AMENDING SECTION 49-32 (DEFINITIONS) TO ADD DEFINITION FOR DIRECT POTABLE REUSE, AMENDING SECTION 49-35 PROHIBITED ACTS TO EXPLICITLY PROHIBIT THE INTRODUCTION OF DIRECT POTABLE REUSE INTO THE PUBLIC POTABLE WATER SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Palm Coast ("City") owns and operates essential public utility systems that are vital to the health, safety, and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the City water utility system is dedicated to providing high-quality and reliable drinking water to its residents and utility customers; and

WHEREAS, the public trust of the citizens of Palm Coast depend upon maintaining strict quality standards, source reliability, and consumer confidence in the municipal potable water supply; and

WHEREAS, to meet water demands, the City Utility will plan to continue the utilization of reclaimed water exclusively for non-potable applications including landscape irrigation, zero liquid discharge, and in the near future brackish groundwater as alternative water supply sources; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to maintain focus on these current and planned water supply sources, calls for prohibiting Direct Potable Reuse within the City of Palm Coast Utility system; and

WHEREAS, words with double underlined type shall constitute additions to the original text and ~~strike-through~~ shall constitute deletions to the original text, and asterisks (* * *) indicate that text shall remain unchanged from the language existing prior to adoption of this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF PALM COAST, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS. The above recitals (whereas clauses) are hereby adopted as the legislative and administrative findings of the City Council.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 49, UTILITIES, ARTICLE II REGULATION OF WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES, SECTIONS 49-32 & 49-35 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES. That Chapter 49 Utilities, Article II Regulation of Water and Sewer Utilities, Section 49-32 & Section 49-35 of the *Code of Ordinances of the City of Palm Coast* are hereby amended to read as follow:

Sec. 49-32. – Definitions.

Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) shall mean the delivery of advanced treated water from an advanced treatment water facility to a drinking water treatment facility or directly into a potable water supply distribution system without an environmental buffer.

Sec. 49-35 – Prohibited Acts.

- (b) Prohibition of Direct Potable Reuse. The City Utility is strictly prohibited from constructing, operating, or funding any infrastructure, process, or facility designed for Direct Potable Reuse within municipal potable drinking water supply system.
- (c) Permitted Non-Potable Reuse. Nothing in this section shall restrict or prohibit the production, distribution, or utilization of reclaimed water treated in strict compliance with applicable Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) non-potable standards, provided such water is utilized exclusively for non-potable applications, including landscape irrigation, agricultural use, commercial cooling, or industrial processes, and provided no direct physical connection to the potable water supply network exists.

* * *

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. CODIFICATION. It is the intention of the City Council of the City of Palm Coast, Florida, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Palm Coast, Florida; that the Sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such intention; that the word, “Ordinance” may be changed to “Section,” “Article,” or other appropriate word.

SECTION 5. CONFLICTS. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

APPROVED on first reading this ____ day of September 2026.

ADOPTED on second reading after due public notice and hearing this ____ day of October 2026.

ATTEST:

CITY OF PALM COAST

KALEY COOK, CITY CLERK

MICHAEL NORRIS, MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

MARCUS DUFFY, CITY ATTORNEY