



A Division of Fextel, Inc.

4514 Central Ave.
St. Petersburg, FL 33711
Phone: (727) 245-1962
Fax: (727) 577-7470

Email: info@stpetepolls.org
Website: www.stpetepolls.org
Matt Florell, President

Subject: Fort Myers, Florida survey conducted for FloridaPolitics.com

Date: January 19, 2025

Executive Summary:

This poll of 274 Fort Myers, Florida registered voters was conducted on January 18-19, 2025. This poll used the registered voter lists supplied by the state of Florida as of December 17, 2024. The sample of voters that were contacted included random samples of registered voters within the boundaries of the City of Fort Myers, Florida.

The issues surveyed included questions related to housing and redevelopment within the City of Fort Myers, Florida.

Methodology:

The poll was conducted through a combination of an automated phone call polling system and a manual P2P SMS polling system. The results were then weighted to account for proportional differences between the respondents' demographics and the demographics of the active voter population for Fort Myers, Florida. The weighting demographics used were: political party, race, age and gender.

The share of respondents by contact method: Phone call = 58% SMS texting = 42%

The scientific results shown for the questions below have a sample size of 274 and a 5.9% Margin of Error at a 95% confidence level.

Respondents' Demographics and Weighting Demographics:

Summary of the demographic breakdown of the registered voters who responded to this survey as well as the active voter demographics used to weight this survey, and the demographics for all registered voters in the city:

	RESPONDENTS	WEIGHTING	REGISTERED
Political Party:			
Democratic =	30.3%	34.0%	31.5%
Republican =	48.3%	39.3%	35.7%
Other =	21.5%	26.7%	32.8%
Race Breakdown:			
White, Not Hispanic =	75.9%	68.5%	62.8%
Black, Not Hispanic =	16.1%	15.5%	17.5%
Asian or Pacific Islander =	0.4%	1.9%	2.1%
Hispanic =	3.3%	9.8%	12.6%
Other or Unknown =	4.4%	4.3%	5.0%
Gender Breakdown:			
Female =	56.2%	54.4%	53.2%
Male =	43.1%	43.6%	44.6%
Age Breakdown:			
18 to 29 =	5.1%	10.0%	17.9%
30 to 49 =	16.1%	23.7%	27.5%
50 to 69 =	25.9%	34.0%	30.2%
70 and up =	52.9%	32.3%	24.4%

Summary of Scientific Results:

With apartment construction in Fort Myers at an all-time high, and with more on the way, even with an all-time high on apartment vacancy rates, do you believe that the City of Fort Myers needs more apartment complexes?

Yes:	24.0%
No:	76.0%

Should taxpayer funds be used to subsidize apartment complexes and guarantee profits to developers?

Yes:	10.7%
No:	89.3%

The City of Fort Myers has prioritized adding another 6800 apartment units to the city, in spite of water supply quality problems, yet the city's Economic Development Advisory board has no funding, no authority and only a single employee. To you, what is more important to the future of the City of Fort Myers: Economic opportunity, jobs, careers, and smart growth. Or bringing more rental apartment complexes to the City of Fort Myers?

More Economic Development:	89.7%
More Apartments:	10.3%

As for the former News Press site redevelopment, do you believe this project should be handed to an out-of-town developer chosen by City staff with minimal public engagement, OR should it be part of the larger redevelopment of the Midtown-Downtown area project?

Out-of-town Developer:	11.2%
Part of Midtown-Downtown project:	88.8%

Would you support the use of some of the taxpayer approved 100-million-dollar park and recreation bond to transform the former News Press site and nearby City owned land into a "Central Park" with recreation fields, lakes, green-space, and other amenities for the use and enjoyment of the Citizens of Fort Myers?

Yes:	67.1%
No:	32.9%

Detailed Results with Demographic Breakdowns for Each Question:

With apartment construction in Fort Myers at an all-time high, and with more on the way, even with an all-time high on apartment vacancy rates, do you believe that the City of Fort Myers needs more apartment complexes?

Yes: 24.0%
No: 76.0%

Non-Weighted Results and Demographic Breakdowns:

Yes: 24.1%
No: 75.9%

Political Party Breakdown:

Democratic Party 83 responses
Yes: 37.3% No: 62.7%
Republican Party 132 responses
Yes: 22.0% No: 78.0%
Independent Voter 59 responses
Yes: 10.2% No: 89.8%

Race Breakdown:

White, Not Hispanic 208 responses
Yes: 18.8% No: 81.2%
Black, Not Hispanic 44 responses
Yes: 47.7% No: 52.3%
Asian or Pacific Islander 1 responses
Yes: 0% No: 100.0%
Hispanic 9 responses
Yes: 22.2% No: 77.8%
Other or Unknown 12 responses
Yes: 33.3% No: 66.7%

Gender Breakdown:

Male 118 responses
Yes: 24.6% No: 75.4%
Female 154 responses
Yes: 24.0% No: 76.0%

Age Breakdown:

18 to 29 14 responses
Yes: 21.4% No: 78.6%
30 to 49 44 responses
Yes: 22.7% No: 77.3%
50 to 69 71 responses
Yes: 25.4% No: 74.6%
70 and up 145 responses
Yes: 24.1% No: 75.9%

Should taxpayer funds be used to subsidize apartment complexes and guarantee profits to developers?

Yes: 10.7%
No: 89.3%

Non-Weighted Results and Demographic Breakdowns:

Yes: 10.6%
No: 89.4%

Political Party Breakdown:

Democratic Party 83 responses
Yes: 19.3% No: 80.7%
Republican Party 132 responses
Yes: 6.1% No: 93.9%
Independent Voter 59 responses
Yes: 8.5% No: 91.5%

Race Breakdown:

White, Not Hispanic 208 responses
Yes: 6.2% No: 93.8%
Black, Not Hispanic 44 responses
Yes: 29.5% No: 70.5%
Asian or Pacific Islander 1 responses
Yes: 0% No: 100.0%
Hispanic 9 responses
Yes: 0% No: 100.0%
Other or Unknown 12 responses
Yes: 25.0% No: 75.0%

Gender Breakdown:

Male 118 responses
Yes: 11.0% No: 89.0%
Female 154 responses
Yes: 10.4% No: 89.6%

Age Breakdown:

18 to 29 14 responses
Yes: 14.3% No: 85.7%
30 to 49 44 responses
Yes: 9.1% No: 90.9%
50 to 69 71 responses
Yes: 14.1% No: 85.9%
70 and up 145 responses
Yes: 9.0% No: 91.0%

The City of Fort Myers has prioritized adding another 6800 apartment units to the city, in spite of water supply quality problems, yet the city's Economic Development Advisory board has no funding, no authority and only a single employee. To you, what is more important to the future of the City of Fort Myers: Economic opportunity, jobs, careers, and smart growth. Or bringing more rental apartment complexes to the City of Fort Myers?

More Economic Development: **89.7%**
 More Apartments: **10.3%**

Non-Weighted Results and Demographic Breakdowns:

More Economic Development: **89.8%**
 More Apartments: **10.2%**

Political Party Breakdown:

Democratic Party 83 responses			
More Economic Development:	84.3%	More Apartments:	15.7%
Republican Party 132 responses			
More Economic Development:	93.2%	More Apartments:	6.8%
Independent Voter 59 responses			
More Economic Development:	89.8%	More Apartments:	10.2%

Race Breakdown:

White, Not Hispanic 208 responses			
More Economic Development:	91.8%	More Apartments:	8.2%
Black, Not Hispanic 44 responses			
More Economic Development:	77.3%	More Apartments:	22.7%
Asian or Pacific Islander 1 responses			
More Economic Development:	100.0%	More Apartments:	0%
Hispanic 9 responses			
More Economic Development:	100.0%	More Apartments:	0%
Other or Unknown 12 responses			
More Economic Development:	91.7%	More Apartments:	8.3%

Gender Breakdown:

Male 118 responses			
More Economic Development:	86.4%	More Apartments:	13.6%
Female 154 responses			
More Economic Development:	92.2%	More Apartments:	7.8%

Age Breakdown:

18 to 29 14 responses			
More Economic Development:	85.7%	More Apartments:	14.3%
30 to 49 44 responses			
More Economic Development:	88.6%	More Apartments:	11.4%
50 to 69 71 responses			
More Economic Development:	90.1%	More Apartments:	9.9%
70 and up 145 responses			
More Economic Development:	90.3%	More Apartments:	9.7%

As for the former News Press site redevelopment, do you believe this project should be handed to an out-of-town developer chosen by City staff with minimal public engagement, OR should it be part of the larger redevelopment of the Midtown-Downtown area project?

Out-of-town Developer: 11.2%
 Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 88.8%

Non-Weighted Results and Demographic Breakdowns:

Out-of-town developer: 10.9%
 Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 89.1%

Political Party Breakdown:

Democratic Party 83 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 12.0% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 88.0%
 Republican Party 132 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 9.8% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 90.2%
 Independent Voter 59 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 11.9% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 88.1%

Race Breakdown:

White, Not Hispanic 208 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 9.1% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 90.9%
 Black, Not Hispanic 44 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 20.5% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 79.5%
 Asian or Pacific Islander 1 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 0% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 100.0%
 Hispanic 9 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 11.1% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 88.9%
 Other or Unknown 12 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 8.3% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 91.7%

Gender Breakdown:

Male 118 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 11.9% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 88.1%
 Female 154 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 10.4% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 89.6%

Age Breakdown:

18 to 29 14 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 14.3% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 85.7%
 30 to 49 44 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 9.1% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 90.9%
 50 to 69 71 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 15.5% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 84.5%
 70 and up 145 responses
 Out-of-town developer: 9.0% Part of Midtown-Downtown project: 91.0%

Would you support the use of some of the taxpayer approved 100-million-dollar park and recreation bond to transform the former News Press site and nearby City owned land into a “Central Park” with recreation fields, lakes, green-space, and other amenities for the use and enjoyment of the Citizens of Fort Myers?

Yes: 67.1%
No: 32.9%

Non-Weighted Results and Demographic Breakdowns:

Yes: 67.2%
No: 32.8%

Political Party Breakdown:

Democratic Party 83 responses
Yes: 74.7% No: 25.3%
Republican Party 132 responses
Yes: 65.2% No: 34.8%
Independent Voter 59 responses
Yes: 61.0% No: 39.0%

Race Breakdown:

White, Not Hispanic 208 responses
Yes: 65.4% No: 34.6%
Black, Not Hispanic 44 responses
Yes: 68.2% No: 31.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander 1 responses
Yes: 100.0% No: 0%
Hispanic 9 responses
Yes: 77.8% No: 22.2%
Other or Unknown 12 responses
Yes: 83.3% No: 16.7%

Gender Breakdown:

Male 118 responses
Yes: 66.1% No: 33.9%
Female 154 responses
Yes: 67.5% No: 32.5%

Age Breakdown:

18 to 29 14 responses
Yes: 50.0% No: 50.0%
30 to 49 44 responses
Yes: 68.2% No: 31.8%
50 to 69 71 responses
Yes: 64.8% No: 35.2%
70 and up 145 responses
Yes: 69.7% No: 30.3%