



Community News Update

June 2023



President's Message

Dear Members of the DSCA Community,

For those of us still in town, as we enjoy the calm that summer typically brings, and to those who have ventured north or abroad, I hope your journeys are filled with adventure and experiences...but not at busy airports.

Despite the relative seasonal tranquility, rest assured that the Downtown Sarasota Condominium Association (DSCA) board and committees remain active, addressing a variety of important concerns within our Downtown Sarasota community. These areas of focus include:

- **Affordable Housing Zoning Text Amendment:** The City's Planning Department proposed a bonus density for new developments that incorporate affordable housing units in May. This complex proposal is scheduled for further discussion in a July workshop and city commission consideration in August. City attorneys are concurrently assessing the impact of new statewide affordable housing legislation on our local zoning decisions. Consideration by the city commission is anticipated during August.
- **Restaurant, Bar, and Nightclub Ordinances:** We're actively involved in updating local eatery and entertainment ordinances to align with current realities and state law. See below events list for information about the June 22nd 2:00pm resident input session with City staff.
- **Outdoor and "Parklet" Dining:** The City staff are reviewing regulations for outdoor and parklet dining – a key aspect of neighborhood life. However, expanding these areas might mean a trade-off - the loss of some parking spots. The City is looking for your input on this issue. Details about an upcoming informational meeting on this topic are in the Events info below.
- **New Residential Projects:** DSCA is working on a meaningful neighborhood input process for reviewing proposed residential projects, with a goal of stimulating greater community engagement. The City's Planning Board has recommended that Community Workshops be held in advance of projects being submitted with bonus density. DSCA is actively working on this important Community Workshop initiative.
- **Specific Residential Developments:** We monitor new projects, such as the proposed 'Obsidian' condominium at 1260 N. Palm Avenue. Concerns from member condominium boards and residents have led DSCA to send a letter to city staff (see article below). While DSCA refrains from commenting on individual projects, an exception was made in this case due to amongst other concerns the adjustments being requested by the developer for a waiver of requirements. I am pleased to report the Coalition of City Neighborhood

Associations (CCNA) with over 30 city neighborhoods as members supports the DSCA position regarding the Obsidian (letters of DSCA and CCNA are below).

Your DSCA board and committees, which meet year-round, remain committed to actively addressing these issues, representing your interests, and advocating for the ongoing improvement of our neighborhood. I invite you to join us on one of our committees.

Thank you for your continued support to our community. We look forward to sharing more updates soon and always value your input and participation.

Best regards,

David Lough

DSCA President

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DowntownSarasotaCondoAssoc.com

DSCA 2023 Community Association Survey

On June 5th, the **DSCA 2023 Community Association Survey** was sent to our condo/townhouse Member Representatives and their Property Manager. This comprehensive survey is an essential initiative that aims to gather data, insights and plans on critical matters affecting our Downtown Sarasota Condominium Association community. This year's survey holds particular significance as we have updated our survey from two years ago. This valuable information, when combined and compared with other similar associations, will enable participating association boards to make better informed decisions and take proactive measures to address the evolving needs of your residential community. In light of increasingly important matters such as insurance rate hikes, managing maintenance in line with state regulations, controlling expenses in an inflationary environment, and the importance of record-keeping; input from all member associations on all applicable questions is essential.

The survey remains open through the month of June. Several members have already submitted their completed surveys; and we encourage all members to complete their survey. Only those DSCA member associations participating in the survey will receive a copy of the resulting comprehensive report. The individual survey answers will remain confidential and accessible solely to other DSCA condo/townhouse members and their boards. As we did in 2021, a summary report will be made publicly available.

Sarasota Living



BEAUTIFUL Mural - Downtown Main Street / Pineapple Ave

Enjoy this BEAUTIFUL mural when exploring downtown Main Street and Pineapple Avenue which serves as a happy reminder that we are blessed to live in Sarasota. Mural: BEAUTIFUL, by Morgan Summers. [Click here](#) to view more downtown street art.

Arts and Cultural



Sarasota Performing Arts Center - NEW Architect Selected

After seven months of meetings, international travel, and debate to narrow the field of 43 candidate architecture firms to one. Three finalist firms made in-person presentations, and after less than 24 hours, the SPAC Architect Selection Task Force reconvened last Thursday to select Genoa, Italy-based Renzo Piano Building Workshop as its preferred architect to design the new Sarasota Performing Arts Center.

Key takeaways:

- The city's procurement team will engage in negotiations with the architecture firm to design the Sarasota Performing Arts Center.
- Firms were selected in order of preference in the event negotiations with the first choice are unsuccessful.
- Selection of the architect is a critical step toward developing the implementation agreement for the facility between the city and the SPAC Foundation.

[READ FULL ARTICLE](#)

Van Wezel - Purple Ribbon Task Force

The City Commission is creating a **Van Wezel Purple Ribbon Task Force** to develop recommendations for the continuing use of the Van Wezel building. The work of the task force will be in parallel with consideration being given for designs and plans of a new Sarasota Performing Arts Center covered above. The City has asked for applicants to populate the Task Force by June 15th which has passed. Thus far an overwhelming number of people, at least 19 people, have applied for the two citizen members of the Task Force. A handful have applied for the individual with expertise in architecture and design of the performing arts halls, expertise in historical preservation, financial expertise in the field of performing arts, and expertise in climate adaptation. At the time of this writing no applicant has applied for the one civil, structural engineering position on the Task Force. Interviews by City Commissioners with applicants is on-going. The Commission is expected to appoint Task Force members at an early July Commission meeting.

Getting Around

New Downtown to Airport Trolley Service Approved



Sarasota County is to launch a trolley based shuttle service — between the Sarasota Bradenton International Airport (SRQ) and downtown Sarasota.

Named the “Breeze” the service is expected to launch late this year with targeted hours of service from 8:00 A.M. to 9 P.M. with a number of stops in the downtown area. Trolley’s are anticipated to run every 30 minutes at a planned cost of \$2 per ride.

[READ THE ENTIRE ARTICLE HERE](#)



Gulfstream Roundabout

Intermittent work on the roundabout area continues. This work is a moving target. Week by week things are improving. For those interested, you can watch progress live on a webcam.

[Marina Tower Roof \(Marina Tower Roof\)| Nest](#)

NOTE - once the link loads, hover over the image and click on the play (>) button.

[READ.MORE.on.the.Project.Overview.](#)

Allegiant to Operate all 5 Gates at the New Sarasota Bradenton Airport Terminal



Courtesy of Bradenton.com

Allegiant Air, the low-cost airline that's played a leading role in making Sarasota Bradenton International the fastest-growing airport in the United States, will be taking all five gates in the new terminal now under construction. The planned terminal doesn't look like much now. It's basically just a dirt construction site where underground utilities are being installed on the east side of the ticket counter. But by December 2024, when construction is scheduled to be completed, the new ground-level terminal will have 970 seats —630 with power for phones and other electronic devices — five gates, a four-lane security checkpoint, nursing rooms, a pet relief area and restrooms. [READ MORE.](#)

Residential Development Impacts Palm Avenue



About 50 people braved the early summer heat in downtown Sarasota on Tuesday, as Bay Plaza Resident, Ron Shapiro laid out the case against a proposal for what would be the tallest building in Sarasota.

[READ FULL STORY](#)

[ADDITIONAL COVERAGE - Herald Tribune Article](#)

[Download DSCA letter to the City HERE - Obsidian 1260 Palm Avenue](#)

[Coalition of City Neighbor Association \(CCNA\), letter to Director of Development Services - L Panica re 1260 N. Palm](#)

Rosemary District

Rosemary District Community Meeting Update

Rosemary District Community Meeting was held on Thursday, June 15. The topic of the meeting focused on Parking with special guest Broxton Harvey, Parking Division General Manager.

Informative updates were provided to around 100 residents at the Rosemary District Association's June 15 Community Meeting.... These included the latest news on the Rosemary park, parking, FP&L pole hardening efforts and on updated zoning text amendments to more clearly define restaurants, bars and nightclubs.

The biggest new news of the evening was the announcement by Parks & Recreation General Manager, Candie Pedersen, the long-awaited, first Rosemary District park is currently planned to be opened during December.

Check out the latest news and events happening in the Rosemary District, a blend of modern culture, food and activities you can schedule your whole day around.

[Click here to view Rosemary District Events](#)

City Parklets - Outdoor Dining Information Meeting



PARKLETS Information Meeting



MEETING INFORMATION
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023
Time: 5:00PM - 6:30PM
City Commission Chambers
City Hall
1565 1st St, Sarasota, FL 34236

The City of Sarasota welcomes the public to attend a Parklets Information Meeting where City of Sarasota staff will be discussing parklets standards, parking criteria, aesthetics guide, permit process and fees. The purpose of this Information Meeting is to update the public on new standards and guidance for the Parklets being implemented after the September 30, 2023, extension sunsets.

The Parklets Information Meeting will showcase location and design standards, operations and maintenance, materials, parking criteria, furniture guidance, application process, and next steps. The public will have an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask questions and provide comments.

MEETING SCHEDULE
5:00 PM to 5:15 PM - Welcome and Introductions
5:15 PM to 6:00 PM - Presentation
6:00 PM to 6:30 PM - Moderated Q&A

**AT A GLANCE
MEETING AGENDA**

- Parklets Overview
- Engineering Standards
- Parking Criteria
- Aesthetics Guide
- Permit and Fees
- Next Steps
- Questions and Answers

For questions or more information contact:

Nik Patel
City Engineer
Nikesh.Patel@SarasotaFL.gov

Alvimarie Corales
Chief Transportation Planner
Alvimarie.Corales@SarasotaFL.gov

www.SarasotaFL.gov

Wednesday, June 21, 5:00-6:30 pm City Commission Chambers

The City of Sarasota welcomes the public to attend a Parklets Information Meeting where City of Sarasota staff will be discussing parklets standards, parking criteria, aesthetics guide, permit process and fees. The purpose of this Information Meeting is to update the public on new standards and guidance for the Parklets being implemented after the September 30, 2023, extension sunsets. [Click here for MORE INFO](#)

Public Input Session - City Restaurants, Bars, and Nightclubs



Photo courtesy: C'est La Vie!

The City of Sarasota held a virtual session on Thursday, June 8 to gather input on the drafting of future zoning text amendments regarding regulations for restaurants, bars and nightclubs.

Topics discussed, but were not limited to:

- The city's zoning code related to intensity, such as live sound, amplification and operating hours.
- Challenges with the existing zoning code language, such as establishments classified as restaurants being operated as nightclubs late into the evening, and those classified as nightclubs that do not operate as them.
- Regulating outdoor bars
- Suitable zoning districts
- Permitting processes
- Note: Sarasota noise ordinances will be considered separately from zoning

[READ MORE](#) from the Observer

DSCA Board June Wrap Up

As has been the recent practice, the 6/7 DSCA Board meeting was held in hybrid fashion, both in person at the Broadway Promenade Club Room and via Zoom. Following are links to the full Board meeting and guest speaker presentation.

Guest Speaker: Jake Hartvigsen, Associate Director of Marketing & Community Partnerships, WEDU PBS

- View Meeting Video [HERE](#) - DSCA Board Meeting 2023-06-07
- View Presentation Slides [HERE](#)
- View The Sarasota Experience Sizzle [HERE](#)
- View WEDU Sizzle [HERE](#)

DSCA Upcoming Events

DSCA Workshop and Input Session: Restaurants, Bars, and Nightclubs

DSCA is co-hosting this important Workshop and Input session with the City of Sarasota Planning staff.

This is an outreach meeting to discuss zoning text amendments related to amendment definitions and regulations of restaurants, bars, and nightclubs. This important meeting will focus on seeking primarily downtown and near downtown residents and other stakeholder input.

After a presentation by City staff there will be ample time for questions and resident comments.

[DSCA Workshop and Input Session](#) | Thursday, June 22 | 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Gulf Coast Community Foundation Meeting Room | 1549 State Street, Sarasota

Parking: Available in the State Street Garage

DSCA Board Meeting

Register

DSCA Board Meeting | July 5, 2023 | 4:00 PM – 5:30 p.m. held via Zoom & Broadway Promenade, 1064 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236

DSCA Board Meetings are for Board Directors, with designated Condo Member Representatives, Liaison Association Representatives and invited Guests attending as observers. Contact President, David Lough (760) 497-9230, if you wish to be invited.

Associate Member Events

Associate Members - Post your event on our DSCA Calendar to share with the community!

CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

[CAMATHON 2023](#)

Tue, June 20, 2023, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM @ WEBINAR | Get 8 hours of CEU credits for free from the comfort of your home or office! Event Organizer: Kristin Fourie

[SAFETY AND SIRS: RESERVES TO THE RESCUE](#)

Tue, June 20, 2023, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM @ Marina Jacks
CONTACT: mcolburn@tlhlegal.com | ORGANIZATION: Community Educators

Upcoming Community Events



VAN WEZEL FRIDAY FEST | July 21 - Friday Fest, the free, outdoor summertime concert series at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall returns this year with an exciting lineup of bands who will bring the audience to their feet! The events run from 5-9 p.m. and are located on the lawn of the Van Wezel.

Music Lineup:

- July 21: One Night Rodeo
- August 11: TEN-76
- September 22: Jah Movement

Bring blankets or lawn chairs, take in the music and sunset, and enjoy food and beverage from local vendors. Bringing in food, drinks and coolers from outside Friday Fest is prohibited. For additional information, visit VanWezel.org.



SUNCOAST SUMMER FEST | June 23 – July 4

The 3rd Annual Suncoast Summer Fest kicks off the summer season on June 23 with a series of special event fundraisers, organized by Suncoast Charities for Children, to raise money for local children, teens, and adults with special needs and their families. Events include the 7th Annual Bob Rizi Memorial Golf Classic, Charity Poker Tournament, July 4th Bayfront Fireworks, and a “Waves & Wheels” Summer Fest Party. For more information and updates visit suncoastsummerfest.org

BOB RIZI MEMORIAL 7th ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

June 23, 2023 at the Meadows Country Club The 7th Annual Bob Rizi Memorial Golf Classic is held on the Meadows Course and is limited to 36 foursomes on a first come first served basis. Two carts will be provided to each foursome. Foursome registration includes breakfast, lunch, a tee sign sponsorship, and goodie bag for each player. [LEARN MORE](#)

“WAVES & WHEELS” KICKOFF PARTY & FUN RUN

Kickoff Party | Friday – June 30 | Joyland | 5pm til 9pm

Fun Run | Saturday – July 1 | Marina Jack | Registration 10am til 11am

[LEARN MORE](#)

JULY 4 BAYFRONT FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR Celebrate the **July 4th** holiday along the Sarasota bayfront by watching one of the best fireworks displays in Southwest Florida. This fireworks display over Sarasota Bay is organized by Suncoast Charities for Children in partnership with Marina Jack and produced by Pyrotecnico. Best viewing is from Bayfront Park near Marina Jack. For more information or to make your dinner reservation, contact Marina Jack at (941) 365-4232

AN AMERICAN SALUTE | July 7th, 6-9 p.m. | Palm Avenue hosts a monthly Art Walk. Browse the fine art galleries, jewelers, and restaurants of Palm Avenue while enjoying dancing, live music, and refreshments. This has been one of the traditional ongoing monthly events in Sarasota for many years. Visit [Palm Avenue in Downtown Sarasota for more details.](#)

The Bay Park | Calendar of Events

Sarasota's bayfront is an iconic, public destination that welcomes the diversity of Sarasota, enhances our status as a cultural capital and serves as a venue for multi-generational, inter-neighborhood, broad-based enjoyment of our bayfront.

[View the updates from The Bay Park Conservancy](#)

[View The Bay Park - Calendar of Events](#)

If you missed any of our newsletters [Click here](#) to view past issues to share with your condo community

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