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Moves to Make Bicyclist Feel Safe Downtown

The Board of Directors of the Downtown Sarasota Condominium Association (DSCA) has enthusiastically endorsed the construction of the Ringling Bicycle Trail from the Legacy Trail to Pineapple Avenue in downtown Sarasota. Thousands of people are currently using the Legacy Trail and with its completion to Fruitville Road significant additional numbers of people will have access to the trail.

Many downtown condominium residents have bicycles and seek a safe place to ride. The Ringling Bicycle Trail would provide easy and safe access to the Legacy Trail. Additionally, bicyclists using the Legacy Trail would find downtown Sarasota as a safe and interesting destination enhancing downtown businesses.

The Ringling Bicycle Trail would help connect the Legacy Trail to the Bay Front and to the MURT which leads to St. Armand's and the barrier Islands.

A safe downtown bicycling trail will encourage the use of bicycles for citizen health and recreation in addition to reducing the number of vehicles on the road. The major complaint about not using our bicycles is there are few places bicyclists feel safe. A safe connection from downtown to the Legacy Trail will enthusiastically be received.

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Rosemary District residents and stakeholders have been lobbying for a centrally-located neighborhood park since 2015.

After years of searching and negotiating, land for a park is under contract to purchase in a public-private partnership. The City of Sarasota is contributing \$890,000 from accumulated Park Impact Fees and Rosemary District residents, stakeholders and friends have contributed over \$120,000.

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DSCA Takes Action

Asks Governor to override part of the Sunshine Law to allow City Boards to meet virtually.

[click to download letter](#)

Directors of the Downtown Sarasota Condo Association voted to send a letter to Governor DeSantis asking him to sign an executive order overriding the requirement in the Sunshine Law that government boards have a quorum physically present at every meeting.

The DSCA Board also voted to recommend that the City Commission send the same request to the Governor.

When the pandemic was first recognized as dangerous last year, Governor DeSantis signed an executive order which allowed municipal boards to meet virtually. Despite the fact that virtual meetings were unfamiliar, they were enormously successful and business was conducted efficiently and on time.

That executive order has expired. Presently, with Covid-19 cases spiking alarmingly, advisory boards are being required to have a physical quorum present (with other members online) and if that is not possible, the meeting cannot proceed. [Read More](#)

[DSCA in the news](#)

US41-Gulfstream Roundabout Project Phases

The FDOT Temporary Traffic Control Plan (TTCP) is to build temporary diversions through a portion of existing parking along Bayfront Park Drive and a portion east of US 41 at Gulfstream Avenue to handle traffic while the roundabout is under construction. This should reduce delays and shorten the overall construction time of the project. Included, please find descriptions and images of the various phases of the TTCP.



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