



PLATINUM ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

We encourage you to support these area businesses who help support the DSCA through workshops, professional services and discounts.



Presidents Message

In a matter being widely followed by downtown residents, the Sarasota City Commission voted on May 16 to send a proposed City Comprehensive Plan Amendment to the State aimed at increasing affordable housing options. The proposal includes creation of new future land use zones along the city's major corridors, increased building density to encourage more affordable housing and a new overlay zoning district in the Park East neighborhood.

Importantly to downtown residents and as recommended by the DSCA board, the City's Planning Department's plan to remove building height limits from the City's Comprehensive Plan were not approved by the commission. The remaining elements of the proposal are now being sent to the state for review. The city commission vote ensures the current height limits for the 'downtown' zoning districts will remain unchanged for the time being.

Also important, the city commission voted unanimously to direct city staff to hold a formal Community Workshop focused on downtown building heights. Since April 2021, there have been no Community Workshops held related to building height recommendations that were included in the Planning Department's original proposal.

The DSCA Board of Directors will continue to advocate building height limits remaining in the Comprehensive Plan. DSCA's position to keep building heights in the Comp Plan was also supported by other neighborhood associations including the Rosemary District Association (RDA) and the Coalition of City Neighborhoods Association (CCNA). While supporting the widely recognized affordable housing crisis, I made the case that the downtown height restrictions in the Comprehensive Plan for over 20 years should not be removed. Such a change could result in re-zoning to modify downtown building heights being approved by a simple majority (3:2) city commission vote vs. the current supermajority 4:1 requirement. Making building heights more difficult to change was done so on purpose to protect the important downtown skyline and view corridors.

The actions at the May 16 commission meeting only send the proposals to state officials. State approval of the proposed changes is expected during the summer, with the revisions returning for city commission consideration and adoption by early fall. Please expect more information concerning a future Community Workshop on this important topic.

David Lough

DSCA President

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[DowntownSarasotaCondoAssoc.com](https://downtownsarasotacountycondoassoc.com)

DSCA Board May Wrap Up

As has been the recent practice the 5/4 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 presentation by Director of City Planning, Steve Cover

View (May 4, 2022) Board Meeting Video [HERE](#)

View video [HERE](#) Steve Cover, Planning Director, City of Sarasota

DSCA Workshop Wrap Up New Condo Association Technologies: Helpful or Hurtful?



David Lough, DSCA President with
Don Fitts, President, Cornerstone LifeCare

On May 10th, the DSCA was excited to host the workshop entitled “New Technologies for Condo Associations, Helpful or Hurtful” at the Art Ovation in downtown Sarasota.

The workshop covered energy audits and some tips for going green. The panelists discussed new information on electric vehicles including sales forecasts and steps on installing personal and common charging stations.

NaturZone Pest Control addressed what's new with pest control, what types of pest control are harmful and let the audience in on 7 secrets revealed by a thorough pest inspection. Audience members learned what key items an association must keep and what to include in a disaster plan. Patrons of the event were taught what associations need to know about applying for a loan and the key steps for an efficient lending process.

A special thanks to our Platinum Members who help make these educational events possible! Stay tuned for the next DSCA workshop scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2022.

View Workshop Video [HERE](#)

View Workshop Presentation Slides [HERE](#)

Rosemary District Park Update



Rosemary Park District Celebration
April 23rd, 2022



The Rosemary District held a celebration of its own April 23, with a major neighborhood party in open spaces surrounding the park site. Festivities included food, music, and a sampling of park activities — Lots of fun was had by all with a great turnout for this first Rosemary park party.

Tree Ordinance

City Updates Tree Protection

On March 21, 2022, the City Commission approved revisions to the Tree Protection zoning code regulations. Aside from several text changes for clarification, the major change reduces the tree mitigation (replacement trees) requirements when homeowners remove existing canopy trees on residential (single-family home) lots. However, the existing tree mitigation table for non-residential lots remains in the code; despite the Tree Advisory Committee's (TAC) recommended inch-for-inch mitigation on non-residential lots.

A new objective was added:

"Encouraging the planting and protection of shade trees benefiting pedestrians and allowing for a more walkable urban environment."

Downtown residents are hopeful that this new objective in the Zoning Code will produce more canopy trees for shaded sidewalks.

As part of the new **Urban Forestry Program** approved last year, city staff have engaged **ArborPro Urban Forest Management** to begin the tree inventory project approved by the commission in July 2021. The DSCA Greenspace Committee will be inviting city staff to review the impacts of these updates with downtown residents.

Arts and Culture Council Update

Cynthia Burnell, one of the three founders of the Art in Common Places (the others being Leslie Butterfield and Teresa Carson) joined DSCA's Arts and Cultural Committee on April 13, 2022 to discuss this 2 year old project.

The mission of the project is to place art in public places so that viewers are likely to encounter it in their daily lives. These places include nail salons, banks, laundromats, doctor's offices, retail stores as well as perhaps condo mail rooms, laundry rooms or other public places.

Professional visual artists and poets are brought together by the project and given 6 weeks to collaborate on a theme for the artwork and poetry. The painter then paints and the poet then writes and the result is printed on 18 X 12 inch high quality broadsides that are then mounted on walls on a rotating basis varying from one to two months. A group of project volunteers distributes and mounts the artwork using means that do not damage the walls where mounting occurs. All of the works are original and are displayed with free postcards for viewers to take away with them. 23 broadsides have been created thus far and are currently displayed in 85 locations around Sarasota.

Themes for the artwork have included everyday issues such as discomfort, storms, scars, survival, hope, Newtown, sidewalks and more. They are intended to get people to thinking about these issues and perhaps seeing them in a new way.

If any condo association is interested in participating in the program, they can contact the organization on its website www.artincommonplaces.com

If you are interested in donating to this 501(c)(3) group meaning the contribution is tax deductible, that can also be done on their website.

DSCA Upcoming Events

DSCA Board Meeting

DSCA Board Meeting | June 1, 2022 | 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. held via Zoom & at Broadway Promenade, 1064 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236

Guest Speaker: Alvimarie Corales, Chief Transportation Planner and Corinne Arriaga, Transportation Planner - City of Sarasota

Topics: Learn more about Boulevard of the Arts & 10th Residents Survey results and initial streetscape design status, the improved Blvd of the Art/41 intersection concept and more.

Register



Guest Speaker:

Alvimarie Corales,
Chief Transportation
Planner
City of Sarasota

Alvimarie has a Master of Urban and Regional Planning with a focus on Geographic Information Systems and Urban Design from the University of Florida and a BA in Sociology from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez. Alvimarie began her professional career as a Multi Modal Planner for the Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization and eventually led the planning team as their Planning Manager. She is currently the Chief Transportation Planner for the City of Sarasota and leads transportation efforts throughout the City. Alvimarie enjoys being part of the community and is a vendor at local Farmers' Markets around Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

**Guest Speaker:**

Corinne Arriaga,
Transportation Planner
City of Sarasota

Corinne Arriaga first received a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of South Florida, followed by Masters in Public Health from the University of South Florida. She has since worked within the public sector as a Public Involvement Coordinator and Multi Modal Planner for the Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization. Corinne currently works for the City of Sarasota as their Transportation Planner. She is responsible for key transportation initiatives including ADA accessibility, pedestrian connectivity, traffic calming, complete streets, and more!

Corinne is a member of Florida's American Planning Association (APA) Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee. She is the Co-Chair of the Communities and Partnerships subcommittee and serves as the Manatee County Area Director for the Sun Coast APA Board.

In her spare time, Corinne enjoys being outdoors, reading, and spending time with her family and two dogs.

DSCA Board Meetings are for Board Directors, with designated Condo & Associate Member Representatives, Liaison Association Representatives and invited Guests attending as observers. Contact President, David Lough at (760) 497-9230 or email DavidLough1@gmail.com, if you wish to be invited.

Associate Member Events

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW EVENTS OR SUBMIT YOUR EVENT](#)

Upcoming Community Events

Open House on the Complete Streets projects



Monday, May 23, 2022 | SRQ Media Studio, City Hall Annex Building – 1st fl,
1565 1st Street, Sarasota, FL 34236

Boulevard of the Arts - West of US 41 - 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Boulevard of the Arts & 10th Street- East of US 41 - Starts at 5:30 p.m.

The City of Sarasota received over 1,000 responses to a community survey conducted in February 2022. After incorporating the public vision into the conceptual design, the City invites community members to an open house on Monday, May 23rd at the SRQ Media Studio at City Hall to unveil the draft concepts.

This public / open house style meeting is intended to showcase the conceptual designs for the complete streets on Boulevard of the Arts and 10th Street and gather community feedback. A complete street is an Age-Friendly design that promotes safe travel to and from a destination, whether walking, biking, riding transit, or driving a vehicle. A complete street is also accessible to all who utilize it and provides a sense of place for the community. Each complete street is unique to the community and can include different features like enhanced sidewalks, street lighting, benches, street trees and landscaping, public art, and more. Please take this opportunity to share your feedback that will help transform these corridors. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

For questions, please contact the project manager: Corinne Arriaga, Transportation Planner at corinne.arriaga@sarasotafl.gov or call (941) 263-6362

Sarasota Shrimp & Music Festival

May 20th-22nd | 8th annual Sarasota Shrimp & Music Festival

Location: JD Hamel Park 4 PM – 10 p.m. | The fun, food, festivities and relaxation begin Friday evening with hours from 4pm-10pm. The fun and festivities continue Saturday 11am-10pm and finally come to a close Sunday 11am-6pm. The event is produced by Paragon Festivals, hosted by the Downtown Sarasota Enrichment Association. General admission is FREE. Click [HERE](#) for more info.

Fresh Fridays

First Friday Sip & Shop | Friday, June 3rd 5- 8 p.m.

Eat, drink and shop in historic downtown Sarasota! Attendees are invited to Sip & Shop through the downtown event area from 5 - 8 p.m. Participating merchants will have balloons outside their doors to welcome visitors. Enjoy live music and extended shopping hours!

Palm Avenue Art Walk | Friday, June 3rd 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: Palm Avenue in Downtown Sarasota

Jazz on Palm | Friday, June 3rd 7 - 10 p.m. The Downtown Improvement District presents a snazzy-jazzy block party on Palm Avenue coinciding with the first Friday Palm Avenue Art Walk and featuring music from live jazz ensemble, HOT TONIC ORCHESTRA. Expect our free signature giveaways, food and beverage offerings from downtown hospitality partners, and dance demos from Dynasty Dance Clubs.

The Bay Park Conservancy

Sarasota's bayfront will be 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.

[Click to view the updates from The Bay Park Conservancy](#)

[Click to view The Bay Park - Calendar of Events](#)

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