



PLATINUM ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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



Election News



Right-around-the-corner from this Newsletter is Primary Election Day, August 23. The two "At-Large" seats, of the 5 City Commission seats, are being contested by six candidates. DSCA has two asks of you:

- Vote....your vote this election cycle could have significant consequences on matters important to downtown residents....and, often elections this time of year have lower voter turnouts. Every vote counts.
- Plan to attend a DSCA co-sponsored 'Candidates Forum' discussion on 9/22. The three commission candidates gathering the highest votes on 8/23 will move forward to contend for two commission seats. DSCA and co-sponsor Downtown Sarasota Alliance are hosting an important 'conversation' with the final candidates. Details to follow.

Comprehensive Plan and Affordable Housing Update

Important, specific proposals by the City's Planning Department for new Comprehensive Plan changes and related Zoning Code changes first discussed in April are moving forward. As many as ten new ordinances, implementing the Comp Plan text amendments, are planned to be brought before the City Commission for First Reading on Sep 19.

Further, City Staff will be bringing forward proposals related to **Inclusionary Zoning** for the first time at the Oct 17 City Commission meeting, along with the Comp Plan Amendments to the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) for First Reading. The Oct 17 CC meeting will also be the 2nd Reading and final approval of the Comp Plan text amendments as scheduled. Staff is then planning to bring the CPA for FLUM and Inclusionary Zoning for 2nd Reading and final Approval on Nov 7 (Election Day = Nov 8).

Modifications to building height limits in the downtown zoning districts will not be proposed as part of Comprehensive Plan changes being brought forward by city staff at this time. DSCA previously went on record as opposing the removal of the building height restrictions that have been a long-standing element of the Comprehensive Plan. City staff have been directed by the City Commission to hold Community Workshops with downtown residents to present and receive input on any proposed changes to the Comp Plan. At this writing no Planning Department workshops have been scheduled.

Previously, after a presentation to the City Commission on Aug 1 led by City Commissioner Ahearn-Koch, the City Commission directed City Staff to propose an inclusionary zoning ordinance as one of the implementing ordinances to adopt the comprehensive plan amendments. DSCA is told City staff are not currently planning to hold any public engagement sessions to discuss their proposed edits, as they understand the direction of the CC is to complete this CPA process with the current members of the City Commission still in office. There will be Public Hearings at each of the 3 planned CC meetings on these changes (all within 7 weeks).

Inclusionary zoning is: [Inclusionary Zoning: Wikipedia summary](#)

View the video of the Aug. 1 CC meeting [HERE](#)

City Commissioners can be contacted:

via email: Commissioners@SarasotaFl.gov

via web: <https://www.sarasotafl.gov/government/city-commission>

Is the Crane the New Sarasota Bird?

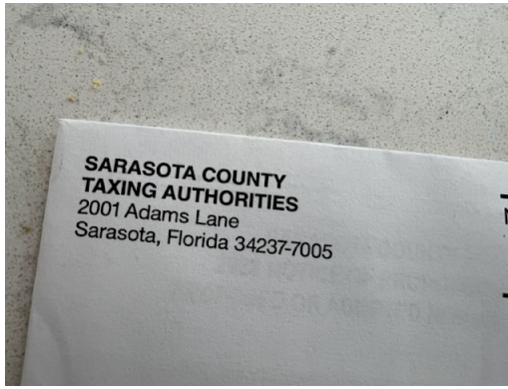


Bayso condos and new Lennar, “Cordelia” Apartments at Quay Commons

While you’ve been away or blinked, the state bird of Sarasota may have become the (construction) crane, or so a new saying might develop. Yes, Sarasota continues to undergo a boom in residential building with over 1,300 new dwelling units currently being constructed downtown and in the Rosemary District. This even as construction starts may have slowed in other areas...and, another 700+ dwelling units are in the pipeline.

The continuing growth of ‘greater downtown’ Sarasota will bring up to 3,000 new residents in season to our City. DSCA remains actively involved with City staff and our commissioners in advocating for smart growth that includes only wise amendments to the city’s Comprehensive Plan (covered above) and zoning requirements. DSCA supports plans and budgets for projects that also add to better pedestrian experiences through improved streetscape planning that includes more canopy trees. DSCA encourages its member condos and residents to remain engaged in important city and ‘downtown’ issues.

Taxing Matters



DSCA is suspecting many of you by now have received a notice from the Sarasota County Taxing Authority with your property tax assessment. Opening the envelope there will be some mixed news. On one-hand property owners will see an assessed value, on average, increase from last year in the area of 18%.

On the other-hand the city commission, partially due to the increased revenue generated by the assessed values is lowering the maximum millage rate by just over 5% to 3 mills. That is \$3 per/1000 of assessed value. Importantly included in the city's budget is its 5-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget that identifies long-term infrastructure and related investments that help support Sarasota's economic vitality and promote livable neighborhoods. DSCA committee members are actively engaging with city staff to advocate for budgeting that supports the implementation of agreed long-range plans such as the Sarasota In Motion transportation plan which includes important streetscape projects on Main, Boulevard of the Arts and 10th.

The city's budget is to be further discussed at a City Commission meeting on September 6th and is to be adopted at a special City Commission meeting, September 20.

[View the Your Observer article of 7/28 re prop taxes](#)

Gulfstream Roundabout Update



Work continues on the Gulfstream Roundabout with planned completion said to be on-track for near the end of the year. And, now for those interested you can watch progress live on a webcam [HERE](#)

STOP THE MUSIC (the very loud music!)



A new [Florida statute](#) that went into effect July 1 makes it unlawful for anyone in a vehicle to turn up their radio too loud. According to this law, audio coming from a vehicle that can be heard from a distance of 25 feet or more can result in a traffic infraction. " 'Plainly Audible' is defined to mean any sound produced by a radio, tape player, or other mechanical or electronic sound making device, or instrument, from within the interior or exterior of a motor vehicle, including sound produced by a portable sound making device, that can be clearly heard outside the vehicle by a person using his normal hearing faculties, at a distance of 25 feet or more from the motor vehicle."

The statute also specifies that sound louder than necessary near locations like a church, hospital, or school will be considered punishable as a non-moving violation.

The Florida Supreme Court overturned a law that would prevent drivers from playing their music too loud in the state about 10 years ago. That ruling called the wording of the previous statute "plainly vague." Legal experts feel the wording of the new statute may be a key reason the new statute passed.

According to Robert Armstrong, Patrol Captain of the Sarasota Patrol Division, the SPD has been trained on the new statute, [FSS 316.3045](#). The SPD police issued warnings for the first 30-days after the law became effective. Captain Armstrong reports the police will now be issuing citations. To-date there have been 3 warnings issued. These are written, documented and will be tracked.

Members of the public can call the non-emergency police number (941) 316-1199 to report what they feel to be a violation of the new statute. However, law enforcement is required to witness the violation.

[Click here to read more - WFLA News](#)

DSCA Board August Wrap Up

As has been the recent practice the 8/3 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, Kyle Battie, Vice Mayor, City of Sarasota.

[View Meeting Video HERE](#) - DSCA Board Meeting 2022-08-03

[View Speaker Video HERE](#) - Kyle Battie 2022-08-03

New Trees / Lofts on Lemon Apartments



Images of the pink tabebuias trees just planted are a welcome addition to streetscape along Cohen way and adjacent to the new Lofts on Lemon Apartments. Appreciation goes to the Sarasota Housing Authority and city staff for incorporating much needed shade producing, canopy trees to their project.

Move-in dates for Lofts on Lemon residents are planned for later this month. The 128-unit affordable and attainable housing apartments will be a welcome addition to the Rosemary District.

DSCA Upcoming Events

DSCA Board Meeting

DSCA Board Meeting | September 7, 2022 | 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. held via Zoom & at Broadway Promenade, 1064 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236



[Register](#)

Guest Speaker: Doug Jeffcoat, **Public Works Director, City of Sarasota**

Doug began his career with the City of Sarasota in 1995 as the City's Utility Billing Office Manager. During his 27 years with the City he has managed operations that include Solid Waste, Streets and Highways, Fleet Services, Engineering, Sustainability and Capital Projects. In August, 2010 he was promoted to his current position as the Director of Public Works. Prior to coming to the City, he spent 10 years in the banking industry.

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.

City Commission Candidate Debate



The Downtown Sarasota Condominium Association (DSCA) and Downtown Sarasota Alliance (DSA) are planning to host a City Commission 'Candidates Forum' on **Thursday, September 22, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** at the Senior Friendship Center, 1888 Brother Geenen Way, Sarasota. The event is open to the public and the exact format for the forum is under discussion and will be further defined in the coming weeks. We are planning for the remaining candidates after the **August 23 primary** participating in the DSCA/DSA forum. Thank you in advance for adding this event into your busy calendars.

[Download shareable flyer HERE](#)

DSCA Workshop



DSCA Workshop: Are Fines Coming to Your Condo? New Legislative Deadlines

October 20, 2022, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Goewey Hall (at Church of the Redeemer's Robinson Center)
222 S Palm Ave Ste B, Sarasota, FL 34236

New legislative deadlines for condos require reserve studies, milestone inspections and reserve funding that may lead to heavy fines if your association is not in compliance by 2024! Are you informed and prepared? Bring your questions and concerns as you join us for this comprehensive discussion!

[Register](#)

New legislative deadlines for condos require reserve studies, milestone inspections and reserve funding that may lead to heavy fines if your association is not in compliance by 2024! Are you informed and prepared? Bring your questions and concerns as you join us for this comprehensive discussion!

- Latest Insurance Reform
- Reserve studies, Milestone Inspections & Reserve Funding
- How We Got Here, Plans for 2023
- New Legislative Regulations
- Inspections, Fines & Governing Officials

[Download shareable flyer HERE](#)

Sarasota - City/County ELECTION

COMING ELECTIONS

August 23, 2022 Primary Election

Mon., July 25: **Voter Registration Deadline**

Sat., Aug 13 - Sun., Aug 21: [Early Voting](#)

Sat., Aug 13, 5 p.m.: Deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot be mailed
Tues., Aug 23, 7 p.m. (election night): Voted vote-by-mail ballots must be received in the elections office

Note: All registered voters, including those without party affiliation, are eligible to vote in nonpartisan school board races on the Aug. 23 primary ballot

[Click here to view the City of Sarasota Candidates](#)

[Click here for more information](#)

Associate Member Events

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

Upcoming Community Events

Fresh Friday's

AMERICAN ROUTES | Palm Avenue | Friday, September 2nd This month's event, American Routes, features Americana covers and originals from Southbound 75. Specializing in everything from blues and rock-n-roll to country and pop, this Bay Area band will bring a touch of twang to sophisticated downtown Sarasota.

Taking place on N. Palm Avenue adjacent to Art Ovation Hotel, this hybrid indoor/outdoor event will also include food + beverage offerings from downtown hospitality partners.

In addition, ample on-street parking is available on Gulf Stream Avenue, Palm Avenue, Pineapple Avenue, Main Street and First Street. [Click here to find out more.](#)

Rosemary District Park

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](#)

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](#)

We Are Downtown Sarasota Residents partnering with Businesses!

Are your neighbors receiving our emails? ***Help your neighbors stay connected and forward this email to downtown condo residents!*** Click here to [subscribe here](#).

SUBSCRIBE



FOLLOW



FOLLOW



This message was sent to you by {Organization_Name}.
If you no longer wish to receive these emails, you can [unsubscribe](#) at any time

PO Box 3136, Sarasota, FL 34230
1-941-357-6224, <https://downtownsarasotacondoassoc.com/>