

MISSION

The mission of DSCA is to actively advocate for the collective interests of its members. In doing so, it will seek to identify important community issues that will enhance the lives of the residents and property values of its member condominiums and townhouse associations.

PURPOSES

The purposes for which the Corporation is organized are as follows:

- A. To encourage beautification of the Downtown Sarasota area and of member condominiums and townhouses and to provide input and promote the preservation and maintenance of the Downtown Sarasota community including its marine and upland parks and open spaces.

- B. To provide input on matters relating to land use, zoning, traffic planning and control, pedestrian mobility, parking and safety or other issues that affect the Downtown Sarasota community.

- C. To work in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies on crime control, motor vehicle, boating and pedestrian safety issues in Downtown Sarasota.

- D. To promote the collective interests of its membership with regard to proposed state legislation, county or city ordinances or actions of governmental agencies that affect the Downtown Sarasota community.

- E. To initiate or participate in activities such as community surveys, traffic studies, fund raising, community and cultural events, and such other pursuits that the Board of Directors may have determined will enhance the experience of living in Downtown Sarasota

DSCA Goals & Actions

Executive Committee

GOAL #1: Build alliances with organizations that have missions to improve the experience of living downtown.

Homeless Committee

Goal #2: Identify and promote efforts to address and potentially reduce the impact of homelessness on downtown Sarasota.

Action 2.1:

- As appropriate, recommend the DSCA Board publicly support the efforts and actions of the City and County of Sarasota and those of other private agencies to implement policies, programs and strategies to reduce the impact of being homeless on the residents and businesses in downtown Sarasota.

Action 2.2:

- Establish communication strategies using social media platforms, DSCA newsletter and website to improve the accuracy of information, data and the knowledge base regarding homelessness issues that affect downtown Sarasota residents, businesses, tourists, visitors and workers.

Action 2.3:

- Provide educational programs and public forums focused on the many aspects of current activities that address the homeless issues occurring within the City and County of Sarasota. *These actions will be coordinated and scheduled in conjunction with the DSCA Events Committee unless otherwise directed by the Board of Directors.*

DSCA Goals & Actions

Greenspace Committee

GOAL #3: Monitor and promote the appropriate use of green space and shade trees for improved walkability in greater downtown Sarasota.

Action 3.1: DSCA will :

- Monitor the work of the City Parks, Recreation & Environmental Protection (PREP) Advisory Board, and the Public Art Committee; and advise the DSCA Board on relevant issues or opportunities, including updates to the City's Tree Protection Policy and Downtown Green Space Policies.
- Work with City, County, & State Administrations in their review and updating of policies, and ordinances that impact safe, comfortable walkable sidewalks, including Engineering Design Criteria Manual (EDCM) and the Primary Grid Streets definition and street designations.
- Work with City, County, State & Federal agencies to advocate for funding of local projects that improve or increase greenspace, tree canopy, walkable sidewalks and environmental protections.

Action 3.2: DSCA will:

- Work with City Administration and other organizations to improve pedestrian access to green spaces throughout the greater downtown Sarasota area.
- Work with City Administration to have our public benches re-installed throughout the greater downtown area to encourage walking and to further activate parks.

Action 3.3: DSCA will:

- Work with City Administration and other organizations to plan and produce educational workshops on the need for environmental protection and climate adaptation actions that include urban forest and street tree programs.

Action 3.4: DSCA will:

- Work with City Administration, including the Parks & Recreation Department, and other neighborhoods to support environmentally sustainable greenspace and street tree planting programs, including development of a Greater Downtown Tree Planting Plan that includes the Rosemary District.
- Work with City Administration on pilot projects toward implementation of an Urban Forest Program.

DSCA Goals & Actions

Transportation Committee

GOAL #4: Support transportation projects and programs that enhance the life and safety of downtown Sarasota residents.

Action 4.1: DSCA will:

- Support the US 41 Bayfront Connectivity and Multimodal Emphasis Corridor Plan.
- Support the City's implementation of "Sarasota in Motion," the Transportation Master Plan for the City of Sarasota including:
 - Implementation of an expanded trail network Bicycle/Pedestrian Connection Plans – including Legacy Trail expansion downtown and North.
 - Core Route Transit Improvements to connect downtown with New College, airport, St. Armand's trolley route, and hospital.
 - Construction of Coconut at 2nd Roundabout.
 - Fruitville Ave and Blvd of the Arts conversion to complete streets.
 - Redesign Main Street.

Action 4.2 DSCA will:

- Support improved pedestrian, bicycle and motor vehicle safety and walkability for downtown with shade trees, enhanced cross walks, complete streets and j-walking reduction.
- Support improved pedestrian access and safety from downtown to and from the Bayfront, "The Bay", the Rosemary District and other adjacent neighborhoods.
- Sponsor a roundabout education program with other organizations and the City of Sarasota.

Action 4.3: DSCA will:

- Monitor and support Barrier Island Traffic Congestion Reduction plans including water transportation, ferries and/or water taxis, Park and Ride transit.
- Monitor SR 789 (John Ringling and Coon Key) corridor bridges being enhanced with dedicated lanes for walking, biking, and transit vehicles.

DSCA Goals & Actions

Health & Safety Committee

Goal #5: Monitor and disseminate information in the public interest regarding the health and safety of downtown residents.

Action 5.1

- Work with the Sarasota Police Department as needed: 1) to resolve issues relevant to those living in downtown Sarasota and 2) to remain abreast of police department crime trends as they affect those living in downtown Sarasota.

Action 5.2

- Convey health-related information particularly as it involves the Covid-19 pandemic to DSCA members at each meeting and via email.

Action 5.3

- Encourage appearances at DSCA meetings of city leaders and others on the subject of safety and health-related protocols. Disseminate videos of those appearances to members via email.

DSCA Goals & Actions

Zoning Code Committee

GOAL #6: Monitor and make recommendations on zoning and development issues in the downtown.

Action 6.1: DSCA will:

- Review and make recommendations regarding Zoning Text and Comprehensive Plan Amendments submitted to the City Planning Board and City Commission affection the downtown.

Action 6.2: DSCA will:

- Support designating a City staff member to represent the interests of neighborhoods and residents at Development Review Committee meetings.
- Advocate for downtown residents to have an opportunity to participate in the development review decision process on a par with other city residents.

DSCA Goals & Actions

Associate and Event Committee

Goal #7 - Evaluate and manage the role of Associate Membership in relation to the DSCA. Organize events supporting the DSCA mission.

Action 7.1

- Coordinate the DSCA forums, workshops and events. Select venues (online for the duration of Covid-19). Determine cost of events and arrange services

Action 7.2

- Assist the Associate Member Liaison (at this time Kristin Fourie) with marketing materials, newsletters and other promotional support in the efforts to boost attendance and awareness of supporting associate member services.

Action 7.3

- Work with Associate Member Liaison to promote, support and retain sponsorship for all forums and workshops. Complete yearly review of Associate Membership levels.