



Sarasota Bayfront 20:20 Stakeholders Agenda, February 17, 2015, 9:30 A.M.

Bayfront Community Center (rear of the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium) 803 N Tamiami Trail, Sarasota

Open to the Public (Three-minute time limit per person)

1. Report on the January 23 meeting with Dr. Michael Crosby of Mote Marine Laboratory.
2. Report on the kick-off event on Wednesday, January 28 at the Sarasota Orchestra for the cultural facility needs assessment.
3. Update on the Sarasota Bayfront 20:20 presentation to the Sarasota County Commission.
4. Review of the final draft of the Sarasota Bayfront 20:20 implementation principles.
5. Overview of the presentation at 6 pm at the City Commission meeting



Vision Statement:

We support the creation of a long-term master plan for the Sarasota bayfront area that will establish a cultural and economic legacy for the region while ensuring open, public access to the bayfront.

Draft Implementation Guiding Principles in Support of the Vision Statement (February 10, 2015):

Aspiration: 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.

Cultural Heritage: The bayfront's identity as a cultural, arts and educational destination will be strengthened, anchored by some of the region's most important institutions and rooted in Sarasota's diverse cultural legacy.

Bayfront/Natural Assets: Welcoming, attractive, publicly accessible, safe, fun and family-friendly open space celebrating the bayfront's natural heritage will be developed along the bayfront for future generations. Views of the Bay will be enhanced.

Activation: Outdoor cultural programming, aquatic and onshore recreational programming, educational programming, urban amenities, plentiful shade, adequate lighting and alternatives to surface parking will support the active and passive usage of the bayfront throughout the day and evening and in all seasons.

Connectivity: Greatly improved connectivity among the bayfront, adjacent neighborhoods and the wider region is necessary to achieve our aspirations. Improved connectivity will be accomplished via safe, convenient pedestrian, bicycle, and water transit connections to the north, south, east and across the Bay. Convenient automobile access to the site should be accommodated with the smallest practicable footprint.

Sustainability: Ecological, economic and financial sustainability are fundamental to the long-term success of Sarasota's bayfront and critical to the realization of our aspirations. Achieving a sustainable future for the bayfront will require continuous cooperation among the public, private and non-profit sectors.



Recommendations regarding the creation of a Technical Working Group to examine certain issues related to bayfront redevelopment (DRAFT 2.11.15)

I. Background

Over the past year, Bayfront 20:20 has promoted a public dialogue focused on developing and refining principles to guide implementation of a community vision for revitalization of the Sarasota bayfront. Members of the City Commission have suggested that, following adoption of the implementation principles, it may be useful for the City to appoint a Technical Working Group to examine certain issues that will shape implementation of the vision for the bayfront.

Bayfront 20:20 applauds this idea. We anticipate a Technical Working Group composed of staff and citizens with broad expertise in land use, resilience planning, and public and nonprofit management. The Technical Working Group's primary goal should be to develop and promulgate a common knowledge base that is broadly recognized by our community as having been acquired as a result of a technically rigorous process of the utmost integrity. Secondarily, the Group's initial work should evolve to include that of master planners and technical experts to be subsequently identified and engaged.

II. Issues for Consideration

A Technical Working Group will be most useful to the extent that it is able to shed light on the most complex issues that will need to overcome in order to redevelop the bayfront. Issues to study could include the following:

- **Use, density and height constraints:** What uses are possible under current zoning, easements and other agreements? Impermissible? What could the magnitude and nature of permissible development be under current regulations (e.g.: what range of massings for new facilities and buildings would be legally permissible)? Under what circumstances could any of the current restrictions be modified?
- **Lease considerations:** Which organizations have leases for bayfront parcels, and what are the terms of those leases? Under what conditions can lease terms be renegotiated? How does each lease treat the alteration or replacement of facilities, either at the same or at a different location?
- **Flood risks, current and future:** What are the implications of existing and future flood events on redevelopment possibilities? What is the impact of the new FEMA maps? What might be the impacts of increasingly frequent and severe hurricanes?

- **Precedents:** What precedents exist in Florida or other communities for simultaneous facility and site planning? What precedents exist regarding the oversight of complex public/private/non-profit redevelopment projects, from the planning stage to construction to long-term maintenance? What, if anything, would preclude importation of these models to Sarasota?
- **Connectivity:** What are the current corridor plans? What was the past plan for water taxi service? What is the current parking capacity of the site? What is the commercial and recreational use of the boat ramp parking? What are the considerations for improvements for pedestrian and bicycle access?

III. Participation and Responsibilities

- **Working Group Membership and Responsibilities:** The Group will be most useful if it is composed of individuals with expertise relevant to the issues cited above, potentially including zoning and land use, finance, architecture and urban site design/planning, coastal engineering, real estate, public administration, etc. Because the Working Group will be composed of skilled professionals with outside employment and limited time, its role will be primarily advisory.
- **Outside Assistance:** Assistance with research, the scheduling of expert testimony and the drafting of a final report could come from City staff to the extent possible, with additional assistance from outside experts as necessary. Input from relevant disciplines not represented in the Working Group as well as non-local experts will be helpful to accomplishing the Group's scope of work.

IV. Final Report

The Working Group's final technical report could describe the redevelopment considerations related to the issues it examined, along with a range of potential options for the City. The report should outline City policy options associated with the issues considered and be drafted in a form that permits easy usage by a future site planning team.

V. Timeframe

The cultural institutions located on the City's bayfront landholdings are currently conducting needs assessments to determine their facility and institutional needs over the coming decades. Preliminary results are expected in late spring or early summer. The Technical Working Group should undertake its preliminary investigations in the same timeframe, allowing a site planning process to become informed by the cultural facility needs assessments and Working Group findings to begin during the summer or fall.