

### August 21 Community Meetings Q&A

Question	Topic	Answers - One Answer Based on Grouped Subject Matter Questions
Will there be walking access to the Bay from Tamiami? We can't walk to the Van Wezel now - have to drive because we can't cross back over Tamiami.	Access / Overpass	The approved master plan includes multiple pedestrian overpasses over 41. They are not included in Phase 1. The intent is to evaluate the safety of crossings once the 10th St., 14th St. and Fruitville roundabouts are complete and in operation. We will then determine where and how many overpasses will be installed. In addition, we have done a preliminary study to know where the overpasses will fit, but have not yet determined the alignment.
Are pedestrian overpasses over US 41 feasible? It looks like they are now listed as future.	Access / Overpass	See answer above.
What is the ETA for completion of the roundabout or pedestrian bridge, or both? Has a decision been made regarding the pedestrian bridge?	Access / Overpass	The ETA of the 10th St. and 14th St. roundabouts is the spring of 2020, and the Fruitville roundabout is the 4th quarter of 2020. BPC continues to recommend the pedestrian bridges over US 41, as FDOT would likely cost-share on those bridges. FDOT is at least 5 years away.
Does Phase 1 include transportation to The Bay such as a water taxi from Siesta Key and Lido Beach to and from the Bay?	Access / Transportation	The City is ready to kick-off a water taxi study that will evaluate potential water taxi routes throughout Sarasota. Our site will certainly accommodate any water taxi in the future, but its location will likely be on the north end of the park in the canal district.
Will the city be identifying safe bike connections to the future Legacy Trail (terminus) at Payne Park?	Bicycle Trails	BPC and the City are working together to evaluate safe connections from our park site to the Legacy Trail extension to Payne Park. BPC believes that connection will be important to connect the trail to our site.
Are you dividing the paths with lanes for bikes and pedestrians?	Bicycle Trails / Car Traffic	At build-out, we will have several miles of shared paths and sidewalks throughout the park. We are just beginning to think about more detailed designs for paths in the park, and our design consultant will be making sign and striping plans along the paths and trails.
The members of the 888 and 988 Condo on the Bay community are concerned about the southern end of the boardwalk in that 1) it is quite close to the property line, 2) it will impact access for boats on the northern dock.	Boardwalk - Neighbors	BPC has been in close coordination with both the City and the Condo on the Bay Liason Committee over the past several months. In terms of setback from the property line, state statutes and the City dock code require a minimum setback of 25'. We anticipate exceeding that setback so that at its closest point to the Condo on the Bay existing dock, there will be 100' of separation between our boardwalk and the adjacent dock to the south. In addition, we have had discussions with several marine contractors, including Sarasota Dock & Davit, the company that is installing boat lifts on the existing Condo on the Bay docks. They stated that the 25' minimum is more than enough room to provide access for any boats or maintenance barges that would be required to access the docks; and that any distance greater than the 25' minimum setback is not necessary but provides an extra buffer.
How far is the southern edge of the proposed circular pier from the north breakwater of Condo on the Bay? Is it a safe distance?	Boardwalk / COTB	See answer above.
How high off the water is the Sunset Boardwalk - can kayaks/paddleboards pass through/under?	Boardwalk / Height	The sunset boardwalk height is expected to be approximately 8' (subject to permit agency requirements), leaving room for kayaks and paddleboards to pass underneath. This elevation will also be low enough to not disrupt views of the bay.
Does the plan for height above the water account for future sea level rise due to climate change?	Boardwalk / Height	Yes. Every phase of the park is being designed to cover the potential of sea level rise.

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Love the idea of a boardwalk and protecting the seagrass. How do you anticipate installing this boardwalk without disturbing this protected area?	Boardwalk / Installation	The shape of the boardwalk was revised from the master plan to minimize the impact on the seagrass.
Why is the boardwalk not placed up north where there are less mangroves and less ecological issues?	Boardwalk / Location	The City and Van Wezel management are opposed to moving the boardwalk any further north. In addition, we have a larger second boardwalk proposed for the canal district in a future phase.
Will the sunset boardwalk impact the realization of the piers on the "main" park?	Boardwalk / Other Piers	See answer above.
The south end of the proposed pier location is located on a parcel of land that is not included within the 53-acre scope of the Conservancy. It has deed restrictions and easements and is zoned differently from the 53-acres.	Boardwalk / Parcel	The 15,000 sq. ft. parcel that is adjacent to the south end of BOTA has always been included in the master plan, and its zoning accommodates a park use. The general description of the boundaries of the Bay Park has been adjusted to clarify this fact.
Have you considered approaching the Sarasota Garden Club to have planters with greenery along the boardwalk? This is done on other boardwalks across the country.	Boardwalk / Plantings	We continue to be in close coordination with the Sarasota Garden Club. Although we have not yet discussed this idea, thank you for the suggestion!
Will there be any seating on the sunset boardwalk?	Boardwalk / Seating	Yes - the amount and type will be designed later this year.
Will the boardwalk be covered? What will stop the homeless from taking over and sleeping on the boardwalk?	Boardwalk / Shade	We anticipate a few limited shade areas on the boardwalk to allow users to get out of the hot sun in the summer. As we have mentioned previously, as we open phases of the park, BPC will be providing enhanced security to address any security issues.
Please confirm if there is an 8 foot shading structure on top of the boardwalk, which would be even more obstructive of the bay view?	Boardwalk / Shade	We are evaluating the possibility of a limited amount of shade structures that would be designed to allow people to get out of the hot sun in the summer while maintaining views of the bay. The majority of the boardwalk will be uncovered.
Why must the circular walk be so disproportionately large?	Boardwalk / Size	The sunset boardwalk has been designed to be of an appropriate scale for the first phase. In reality, its footprint is smaller than the size of the two adjacent docks on Condo on the Bay.
If the boardwalk is in the current plan location, why not a half curve design of a pier - will lessen the interference with environmental issues and greater bay view.	Boardwalk / Size	See answer above.
Can there be handicap parking and/or senior minibus drop-off along BOTA?	BOTA	We are anticipating that the majority of the drop offs for the park occur on the east end or north side of the Phase 1 park, with drop off at the west end of BOTA limited to those with disabilities and the elderly.
Are you using recycled materials from the local area to build the boardwalk or "pop-up" food kiosks?	Building Materials	We have not yet started selecting materials for the final design, but will always consider the use of recycled or sustainable materials.
Has the Conservancy spoken to the Commissioners about using Bonds to finance "The Bay"?	Finance	Yes, we have discussed using bonds to finance The Bay Park. Currently, we anticipate constructing Phase 1 with cash. Bonding will be considered for future phases as an option.
If financing was not an issue, how much sooner could The Bay be completed?	Finance	If financing was not an issue, the Bay could be completed much more quickly.
Where will you relocate the utilities at the end of current purple fishing pier?	Fishing	The City has long-term plans to decommission the utility function of the purple fishing pier; our current thinking is to maintain and enhance that location for fishing into the future.

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We would like times posted for fishing on Sunset Boardwalk.	Fishing	Our current thinking is there will be no fishing allowed on the sunset boardwalk.
We live in an historic property on N. Palm Avenue. With the new building having taken place around, we have suffered tremendously from flooding. Can you tell us how the Bay project will impact us?	Flooding	As previously mentioned, the existing 53-acre site has little or no stormwater treatment. We will be providing stormwater pre-treatment as we build each phase, and expect to improve any flooding conditions both on our site and any that exist immediately adjacent to, and drain onto, our site.
Where are the food and restrooms in relation to the Hyatt and Beau Ciel?	Food / Restrooms	The food service and restrooms are located at the east end of our Phase 1 park, across the street from the Hyatt.
What is the seating plan near food service?	Food / Seating	Seating will be provided at the park concession area, but those details have not yet been designed. They will be discussed in the coming months.
Please dispel the rumors - will there be food trucks on BOA? If not, where will they be?	Food Trucks	As previously noted, we anticipate occasional food truck accommodations on the site. Current thinking is any periodic use of food trucks would be included on the east end of Phase 1 off VW Way.
Do you and the City have a plan to deal with the homeless gathering and sleeping in this area given you will be providing them seating, hammocks, a beach, etc.	Homeless	As experience has shown on the dozens of parks our team has designed and implemented, the multi-tiered approach of effective physical design of the park, deployment of park ambassadors as well as additional police presence will address the situation.
What can actually be done if the homeless decide to "adopt" the new park as their home? (i.e. LA and San Francisco)	Homeless	See answer above.
Where will those with kayaks and paddleboards unload?	Kayaks - Unloading	An area for kayak and paddleboard unloading will be provided in the parking lot at the east end of Phase 1.
Are you using LEED for site development guidelines? Any plans to submit it for LEED rating?	LEED	We are definitely using several sustainability standards as a part of our Phase 1 design. We have not decided whether we will pursue LEED certification at this point.
Will the north/south crossing of the spiral pier require the elimination of mangroves?	Mangroves	No - the one spiral boardwalk connection across the bayou replaces the two bridges originally planned on the master plan to minimize the impact on the mangroves. The crossing from the boardwalk is planned to snake through existing vegetation.
Will bike paths off MURT be pedestrian and wheelchair friendly?	MURT	Absolutely!
Where is the connection for the MURT crossing Blvd. of the Arts from the Quay Ave B northward onto Garden Club property and then across Van Wezel Drive to connect with the MURT continuing behind the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall?	MURT	We are recommending the MURT cross BOTA just west of US 41 to allow it to enter the park as soon as possible. In addition, there will be multiple crossing points provided further west on BOTA.
How will the MURT work along 41? There is no space to even walk there now.	MURT	In the future, the existing parking lot in the historic district will be redesigned to be more efficient and provide a dedicated corridor for the MURT.
How will we get into underground parking lot? Where will stairway for it be, and how many? What will you do to ensure rising waters don't eventually flood out parking spaces? Will all of it be raised up?	Parking	While underground parking has not yet been designed, it will be at an elevation appropriate to accommodate future sea level rise. Specific details on the parking design will be determined at a later date.

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Are leashed dogs allowed in the park?	Pets	We are envisioning the entire park will be pet-friendly on leashes. We will likely also provide a dedicated off-leash dog park area in the future as well.
Exactly what work will be done after City Commission approval of Phase 1 Implementation Plan, and before approval of Site Plan?	Planning	After approval of the Phase 1 Implementation Plan we will begin the 6-8 month site plan application process, culminating in City Commission approval in the spring of 2020.
Why so many concessions to those in bayfront high rise condos? We all pay taxes and live here!	Planning	Thank you for sharing. We believe it is important to continue to listen to our entire community and reflect the majority consensus of the community to the City for approval.
Since there will be piers to walk on in later phases, why put a boardwalk in Phase 1?	Planning	The approved master plan reflected multiple piers in Phase 1 and a large arc pier in the canal district. As previously discussed, the two piers in Phase 1 were combined into one sunset boardwalk to minimize the impact.
What is the plan going forward if your Phase 1 plans are not successful?	Planning	We anticipate approval and implementation of Phase 1 of The Bay Park.
What is next to the resilient ecological shoreline?	Resilient, Ecological Shoreline	The 1.5 acre lawn area will be immediately adjacent to the ecological shoreline.
Public restrooms are an attraction for unfortunate and homeless. Any thoughts?	Restrooms	As previously addressed, our park design and operations plan will address any security issues in the park.
Is the roundabout at 41 and Blvd. of the Arts part of Phase 1? Will the roundabout construction include a pedestrian bridge?	Roundabout	The roundabout has been included in the MPO 5-year plan. Therefore, its construction will be out approximately 5 years. The pedestrian bridge has not yet been planned; the BPC continues to recommend the pedestrian bridges over US 41, as FDOT would likely cost-share on those bridges. FDOT is at least 5 years away.
The proposed pier location would have to "pass over" and/or "fill" a portion of the designated seagrass (True or False?)	Seagrass	As previously noted, the revised sunset boardwalk evolved out of an understanding of the existing environmental conditions, and to minimize the environmental impact on those existing conditions. The conceptual boardwalk design is still being refined, but in its most recent form, the only impact is a small area on the south end, and translucent materials will be utilized to minimize any impact. The City and Van Wezel do not support moving the boardwalk further to the north.
Transportation study congestion - how will it be handled with all the new apartment buildings going up? Sarasota is not good in addressing congestion.	Traffic	Our project will not be addressing traffic impact from adjacent developments. Phase 1 of our park is reducing on-site parking by about 60 spaces, and we anticipate encouraging more users to walk or bike into the site. That said, there will continue to be 1,100 parking spaces available on our site over the next 4 to 6 years.
What kinds of trees are being planted?	Trees	We have not determined the final species of trees but we will be utilizing Florida-friendly design principles as a part of our design.
I hope that the trees you plant will contribute to our urban forest. Palm trees don't count.	Trees	We will be providing hundreds, if not thousands, of canopy and palm trees as we implement all phases of the park.
From the bay view at the end of BOTA where many weddings take place, would the pilings and deck of the pier ruin this favorite view of the bay and the sunset?	View	We believe the sunset boardwalk will enhance the ability to have family gatherings and weddings along the waterfront. Also as previously mentioned, the elevation will not obstruct views of our beautiful bay.

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Are you currently working with any scientists who study water quality to avoid the problems of red tide / other bacteria from infiltrating the shoreline?	Water Quality	Absolutely! We have an environmental working group, as well as experts on our team, that are focused on designing the park in a way that pre-treats all storm water for pollutants prior to entering the bay.
To what extent are you preparing for predicted rising water levels?	Water Rise	As previously mentioned, we are designing the park to adopt the city's climate adaptation plan.