From: Steven Cover <Steven.Cover@sarasotaFL.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2026 2:03 PM
To: Karie Friling <Karie.Friling@sarasotaFL.gov>
Cc: Jennifer Jorgensen <Jennifer.Jorgensen@sarasotaFL.gov>
Subject: Planning Department Update- 11/20/26

Here is the summary for this week:

-Citizen's Academy- Planning and Communications will commence meetings with the various departments early next year. The two-day event will take place in the Spring of 2027.

-Economic Development Projects- Deidra and I met with representatives of a local business looking to expand on their site and keep their business on the North Trail. It was an impressive business operation, and we offered our assistance as they move forward with their project. In addition, staff met with another organization that's looking to locate here in Sarasota.

-Emerging Leaders- I attended the meeting and the staff did a really good job with their presentations.

-Habitat for Humanity Luncheon- I attended the luncheon with Cindy and it was quite a heartwarming event. The City and OHCD got recognized for playing a key role in their efforts, and their most significant projects were located in the City.

-McCown Towers Memorandum of Understanding with the Sarasota Housing Authority- The CC decided to not move forward with this, and to pursue other parking opportunities in Rosemary.

-National Coastal Resilience Fund- The City has applied for a $500,000 grant to advance the Bayfront Drive Living Shoreline Project to 60% design and permitting. A decision is expected in late November or early December and $400,000 has already been secured for the project.

-NCRAAB Meeting- I attended the meeting Wednesday evening, and they discussed many of their programs and initiatives that will begin or continue next year, including the MLK Visioning Project and future special events.

-North Sarasota Trail Alternatives- I met with transportation staff on a variety of bike trail options in North Sarasota, all with the intent of linking with the Legacy Trail.

-Plan and Permit Reviews- Planning staff continues to provide comments at DRC Meetings and attend field visits for historic preservation permits.

-Planning Website- Active Zoning Text Amendments scheduled for hearings for the PB and CC will be posted on the website so that citizens can get the latest on what is being proposed.

-Public Art Project- The new mural at North Water Park has been completed, and the postcard contest is now open.

-School Convocation Agenda Items- This was discussed at the CC Meeting on 11/16/26, and the letter from the City has been sent to the School Board. The School Convocation Meeting is scheduled for 1/15/27.

-1735 Central Avenue Purchase and Sales Agreement/Relocation of McAlpin House- This was approved at the CC Meeting on 11/16/26.

Project Update

-Bay Park ZTA- This was recommended for approval at PB Meeting on 10/14/26 and was approved at the CC Meeting on 11/16/26. The Second Public Hearing is scheduled for the **CC Meeting on 12/7.**

-**Composting ZTA**- This was recommended for approval at the PB Meeting on 10/14/26 and is scheduled to go to the **CC Meeting on 12/7/26** with the Second Public Hearing projected to be held at the **CC Meeting on 1/4/27.**

-Comprehensive Plan Update- The Transportation Chapter Update was approved with two amendments requested by the CC on 11/2/26. An informational presentation was given at the CC Meeting on 11/16/26 and a final vote is scheduled for the **CC Meeting on 12/7/26.**

-A public open house on the Inter-Governmental Coordination Chapter was held on 7/23/26. A meeting with the Argus Foundation was held on 6/5/26. Meetings were held with two CCNA Board members on 6/8/26 and the Chamber of Commerce on 6/12/26.

-Conceptual goals of the Historic Preservation Chapter were discussed at the HPB Meeting on 5/12/26 and were discussed again at the HPB Meeting on 10/13/26. An Open House is tentatively scheduled for 12/14/26.

-A meeting was held with CCNA Board members on the Recreation and Open Space Chapter on 8/18/26 and a presentation was given to the PREP Board on 8/20/26. An Open House Meeting was held on 11/5/26.

-Condo Hotels- A discussion on this topic was held at the CC Meeting on 7/20/26 and staff was directed to research this and look into preparing a ZTA. Research has continued on this topic.

-Elevated Structures Comp Plan Amendment and ZTA- Staff requested authorization to move forward with this Comp Plan Amendment and associated ZTA and that was granted at the CC Meeting on 11/16/26. This is projected to go to the **PB Meeting on 2/10/27.**

-Links Avenue Alley Vacation- This was recommended for approval at the PB Meeting on 11/17/26 and is projected to go to the **CC Meeting on 1/4/27.**

Hope you have a fun weekend!

Steve