

Cultural Center of Charlotte County The Next Fifty Years



Project Proposal and Highlights

1. Purpose

The mission of the Cultural Center of Charlotte County, Inc. *“is to enhance the educational, recreational, physical and mental well-being of the citizens of Charlotte County and beyond.”* After 52 years of successfully serving Charlotte County, and with the **renewal and transformation of the Parkside district**, the Cultural Center’s Board believes it appropriate to **prepare the Center for another 50 years of service**. The Center’s Board has undertaken an assessment of its programs and an examination of its community partnerships to ensure that the Cultural Center offers the greatest opportunity and benefit for Charlotte County citizens.

Project Proposal and Highlights

2. Project

The Center originally housed a school, library and theater. We have evaluated these and many of our other successful programs to create the best program mix and partnerships to serve our community. We have reached out to community leaders and other partners and have found that the Center's central location to the County's population and its hospitals offers opportunities to provide new educational and training opportunities to our underserved population.

The Cultural Center has held over two years of discussions and surveys with its partners, and all agree that such a broad community partnership would be beneficial. The result would be a more dynamic Center that would be an economic engine and an intergenerational hub for Charlotte County. The committee's recommendation includes:

- **Retention of successful cultural activities** such as the library, theater, eatery programs (i.e., adult and children's programs)
- **Continued focus as a multi generational community center**

Project Proposal and Highlights

3. Scope of Proposal

The plans will include **replacing the buildings that are 40 and 50 years old** and updating the newer structures to better house our programs. **A new building will replace the existing Learning Place with a two story structure housing a new library, retail area, food service department and multi use rooms.** The second floor will contain our administration offices and rental space including the Florida Safety Council and Computer group. In addition, it will provide space for an accreditation program and expanded health service amenities. The new 15 million dollar project will provide a more efficient and convenient facility with improved parking and access for our clients.

The Cultural Center of Charlotte County, Inc. has served as a national pioneer in providing educational and cultural services, and it once again is working to position itself to lead in providing services and benefits to Charlotte County and beyond. The Cultural Center is in support of quality of life projects that touch everyone in the county.

Cultural Center of Charlotte County

1998 Sales Tax Project Highlights

- Providing life safety amenities to the buildings including a **sprinkler system** and emergency intercom system
- Providing an elevator for the library
- Building a new **conference center** to accommodate banquets, events and community gatherings
- Adding new **computer labs, community rooms and upgrades to the theater**
- Hardening the structure to withstand a **category 3 hurricane**

The following slides highlight some of these improvements.



**Cultural Center of Charlotte County
Improvements made from 1998 sales tax**



Improvements made from 1998 sales tax



Improvements made from 1998 sales tax



Improvements made from 1998 sales tax



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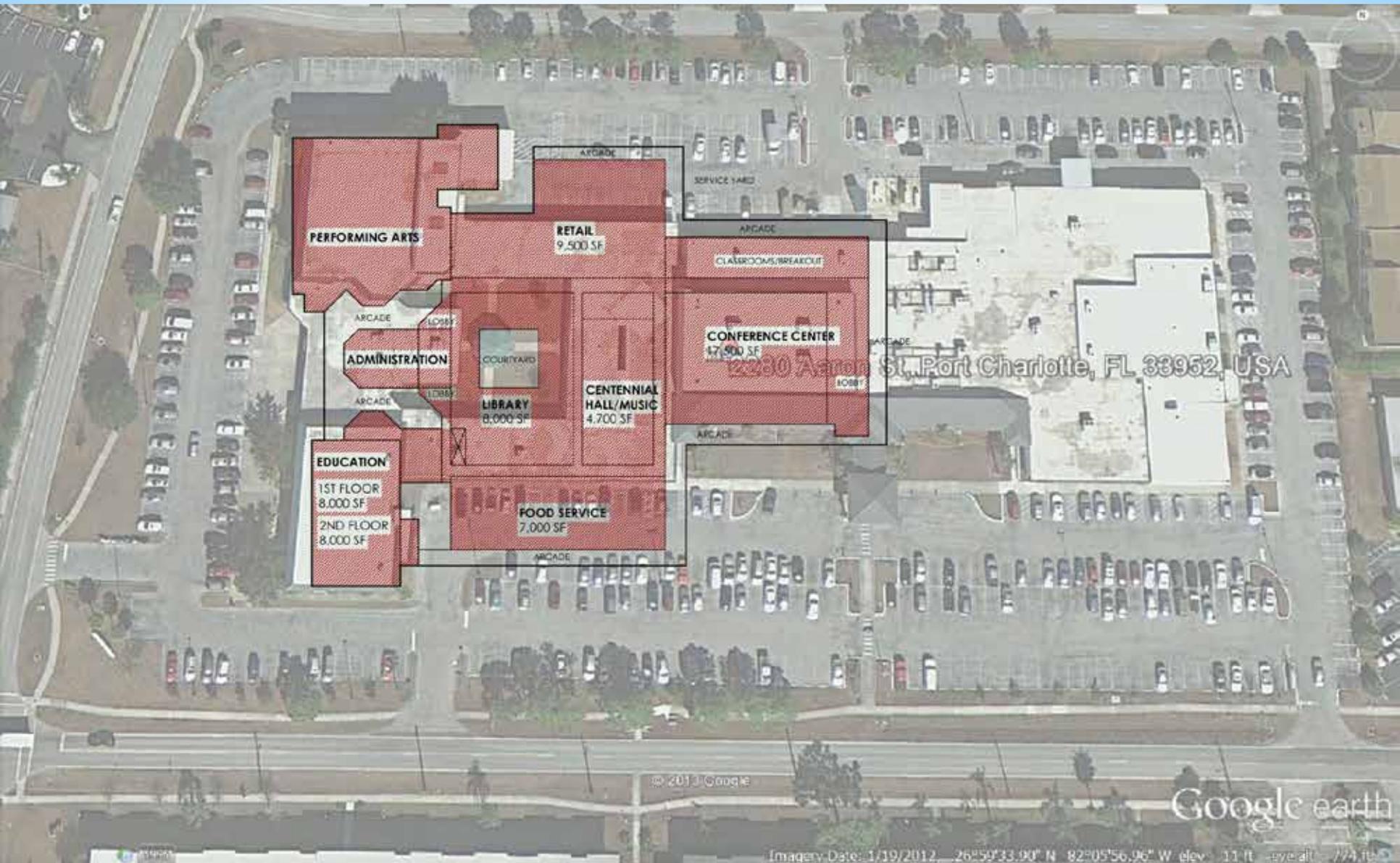
Improvements made from 1998 sales tax

The New Cultural Center

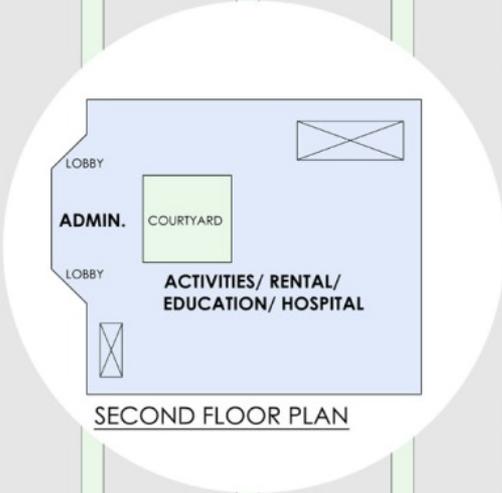
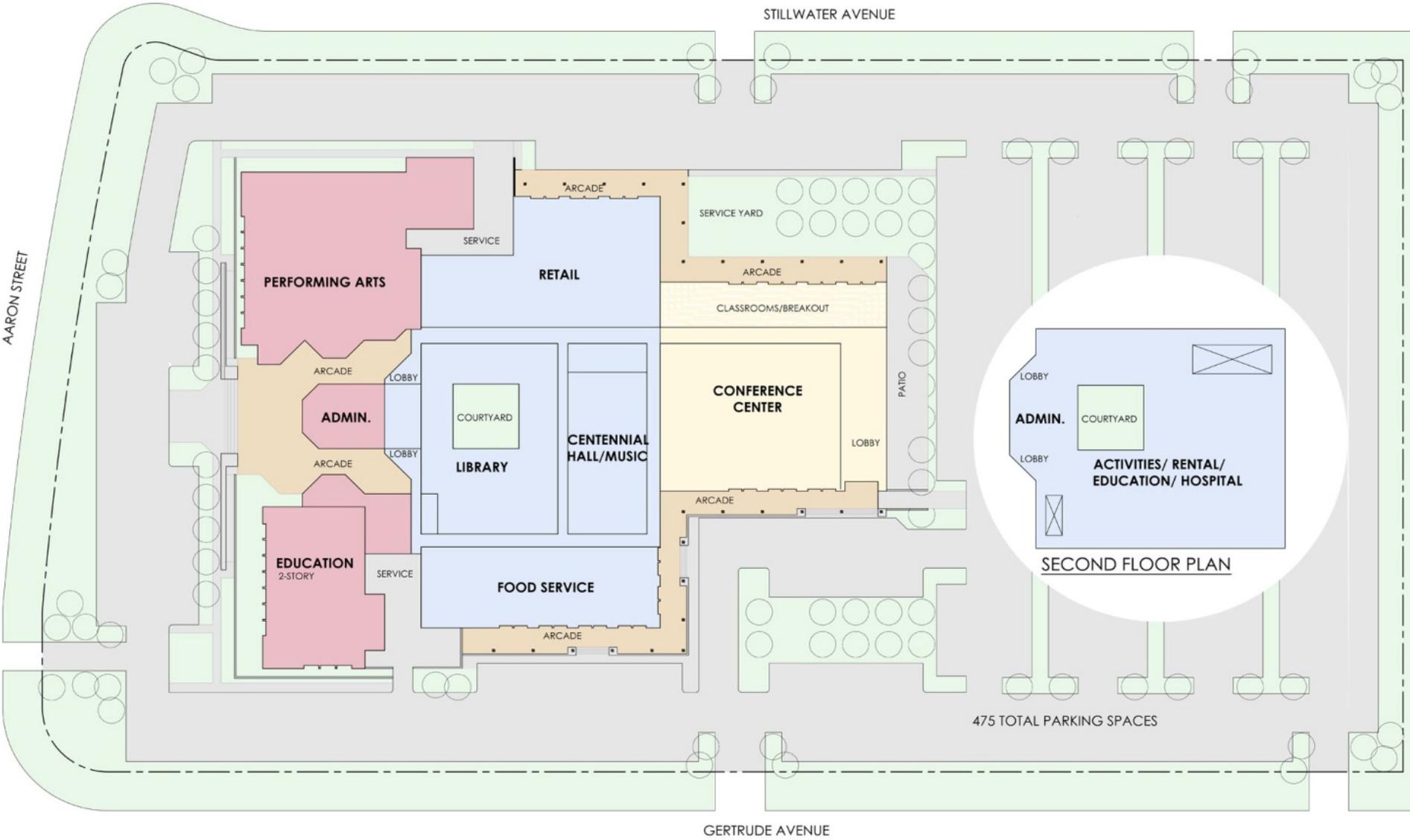
Currently, over one half million visitors go through our doors each year in the following areas:

Theater	44,000
Learning Place	36,000
Breakfast and lunch	130,000
Banquets, events	89,000
Bingo	13,000
Fitness Salon	30,000
Retail shops	125,000
Cards and games	25,000
Dances	10,200

With the help of the 1% sales tax initiative, this number will continue to grow during the next 50 years.



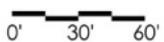
Aerial view - red denotes proposed facility



CULTURAL CENTER OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY

PARKER/MUDGETT/SMITH ARCHITECTS, INC.

SCALE: 1" = 30'-0"
06 MARCH 2014



New Cultural Center building plan

Over \$100,000 worth of free rooms are given each year to qualifying groups for events such as —

- Town hall meetings
- Elections
- School training
- Non-profit meetings

The Cultural Center presently provides —

- Employment for approximately 50 employees
- Income to approximately 100 independent contractors (teachers, banquet servers, etc.)
- Volunteer opportunities for up to 500 volunteers

The Cultural Center is a second home to many in the community. They come to —

- Learn new skills
- Enjoy shows and dances
- Play cards or games
- Exercise in fitness center
- Meet new friends
- Enjoy breakfast or lunch
- Attend a meeting or banquet

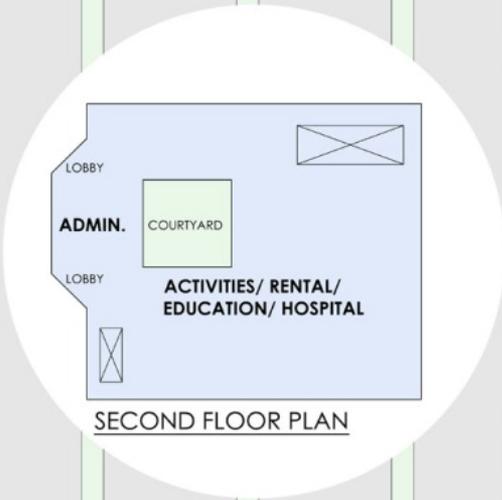
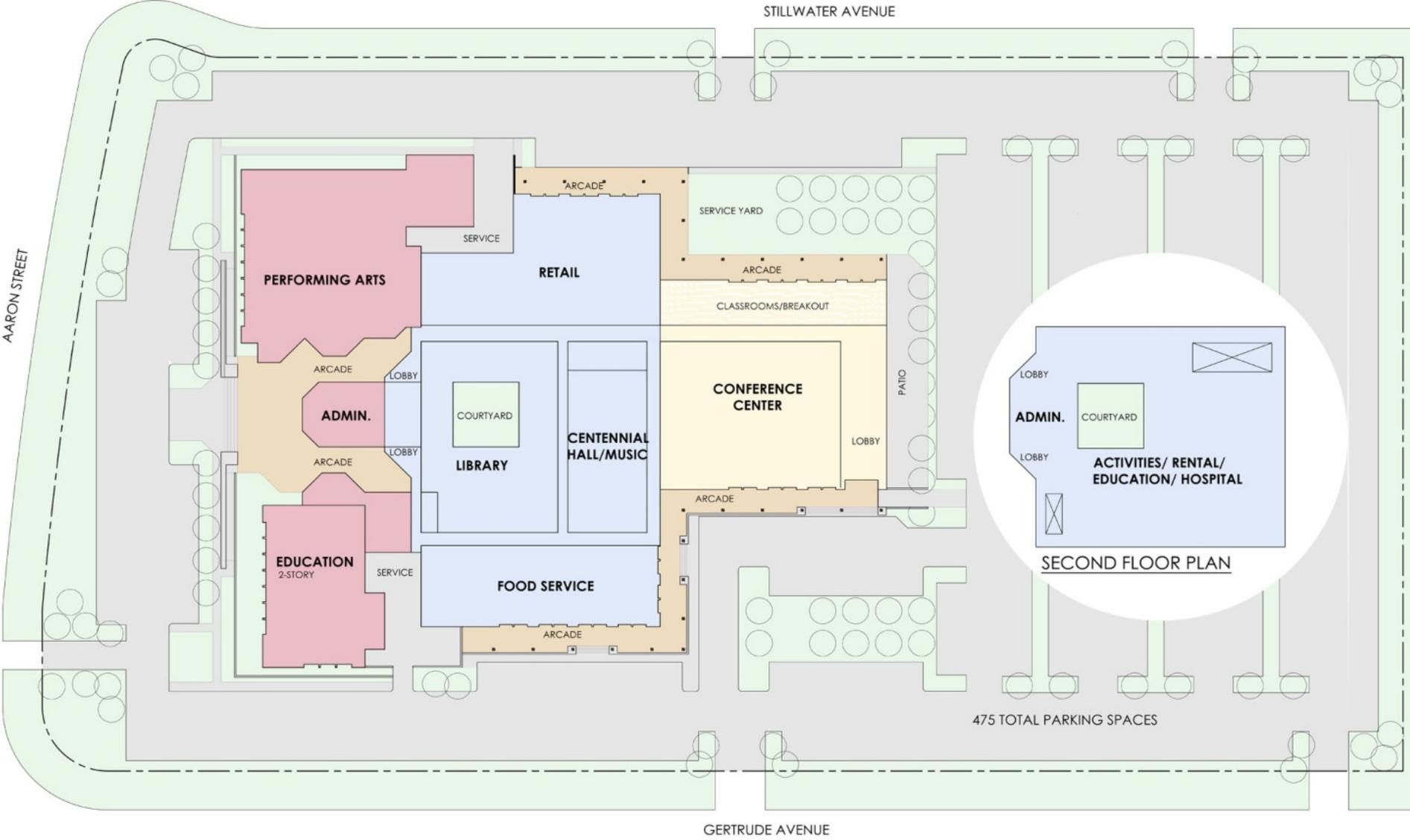
This project answers the question —

What will the sales tax do for me?

The Cultural Center will continue to offer something for everyone in the entire county.

- **Education**
- **Entertainment**
- **Activities**

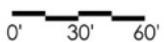




CULTURAL CENTER OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY

PARKER/MUDGETT/SMITH ARCHITECTS, INC.

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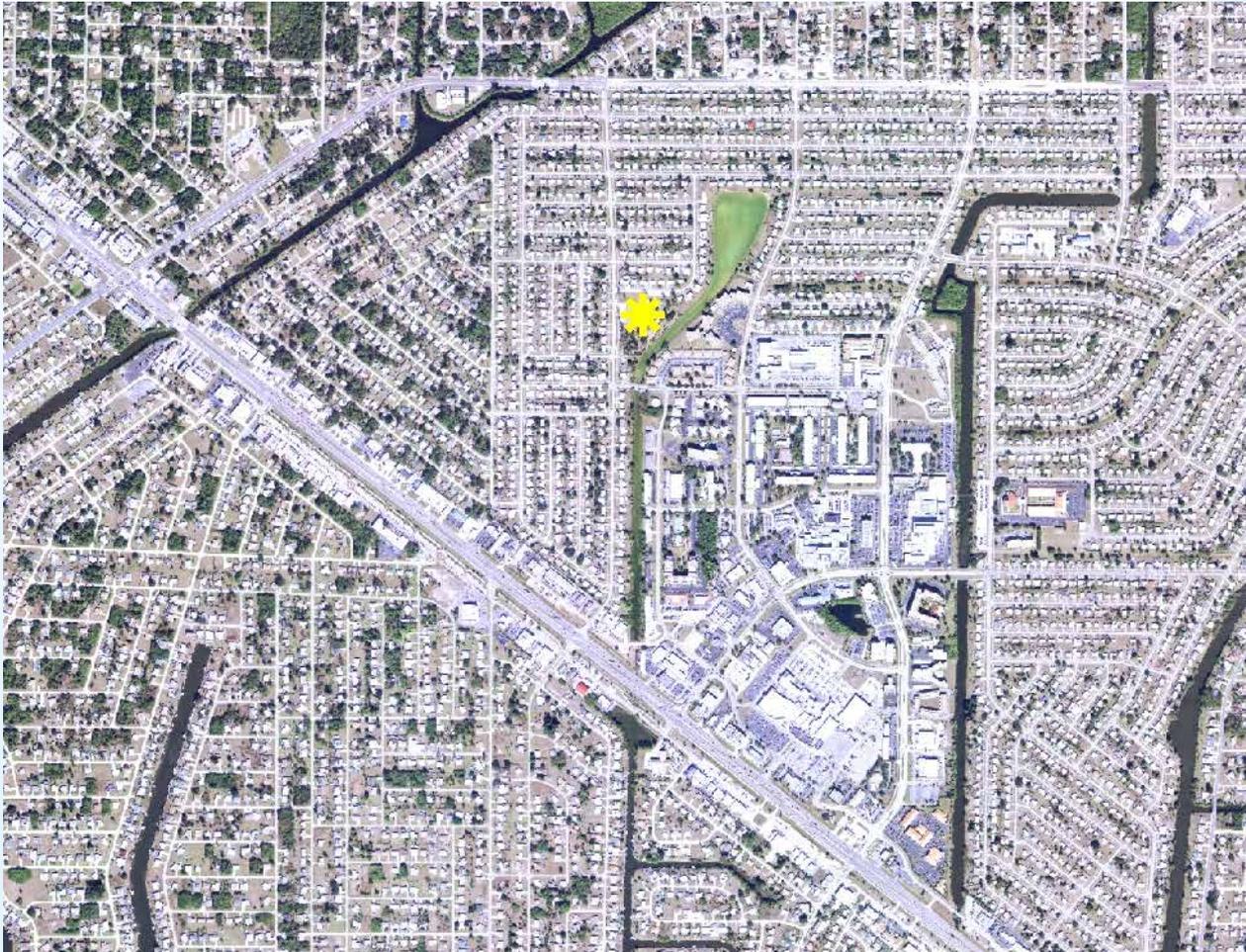
New Cultural Center building plan





McGuire Park

5-acre Neighborhood Park in Parkside CRA





McGuire Park



Current Characteristics

- Poor access
 - connectivity
 - visibility
 - accessibility
- No cohesive master plan
- Inappropriate facility mix for neighborhood park



McGuire Park

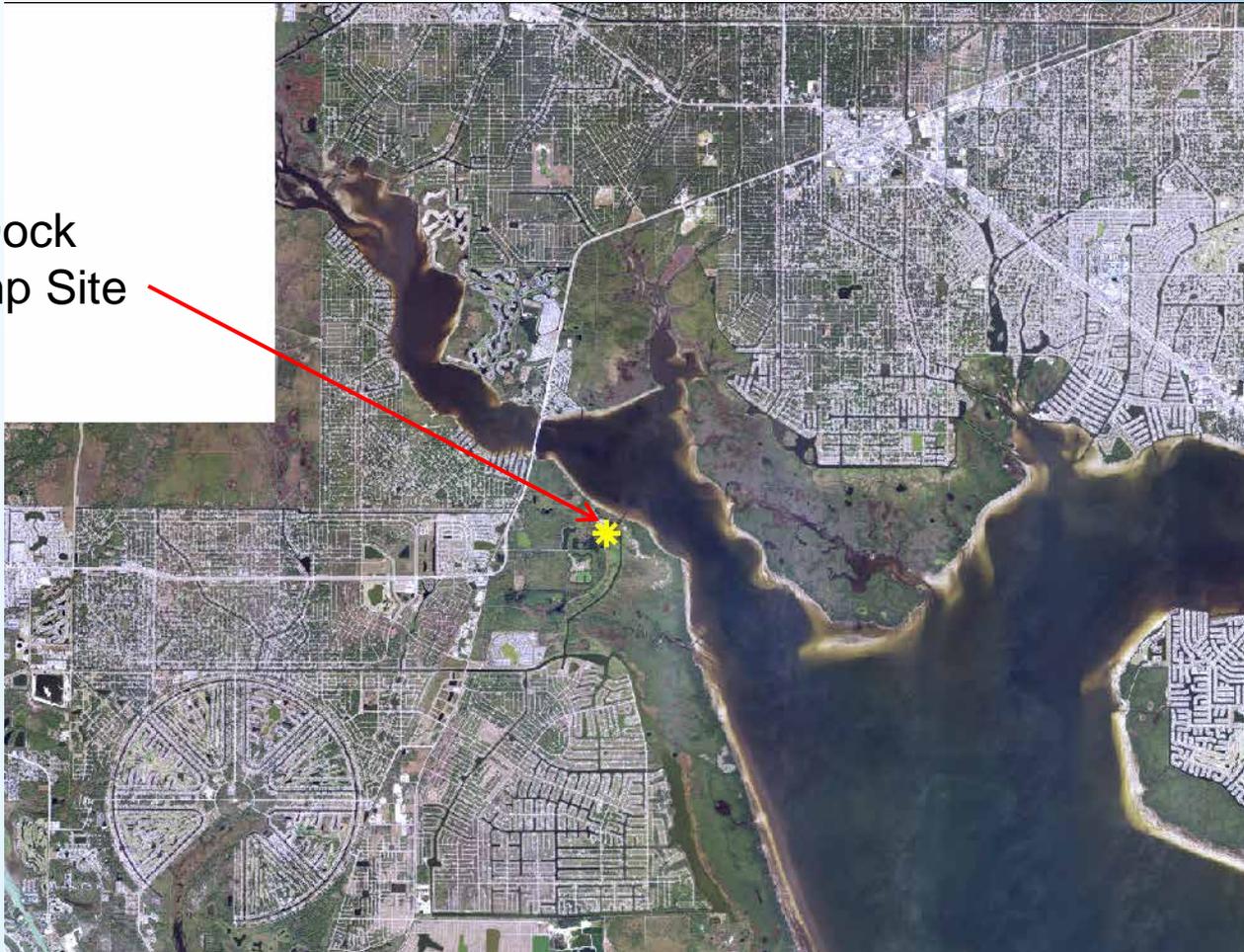


Deteriorating conditions



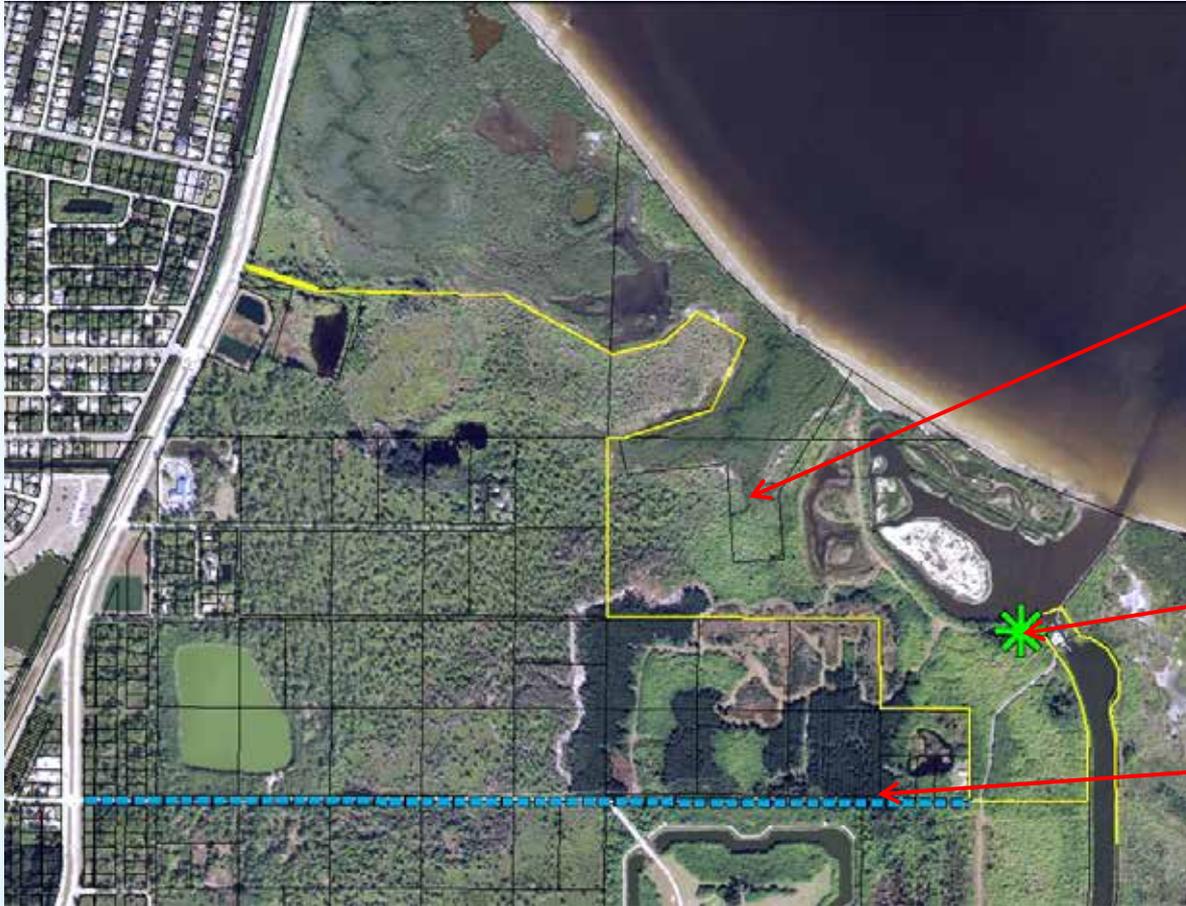
Cattle Dock Boat Ramp

Cattle Dock
Boat Ramp Site





Cattle Dock Boat Ramp



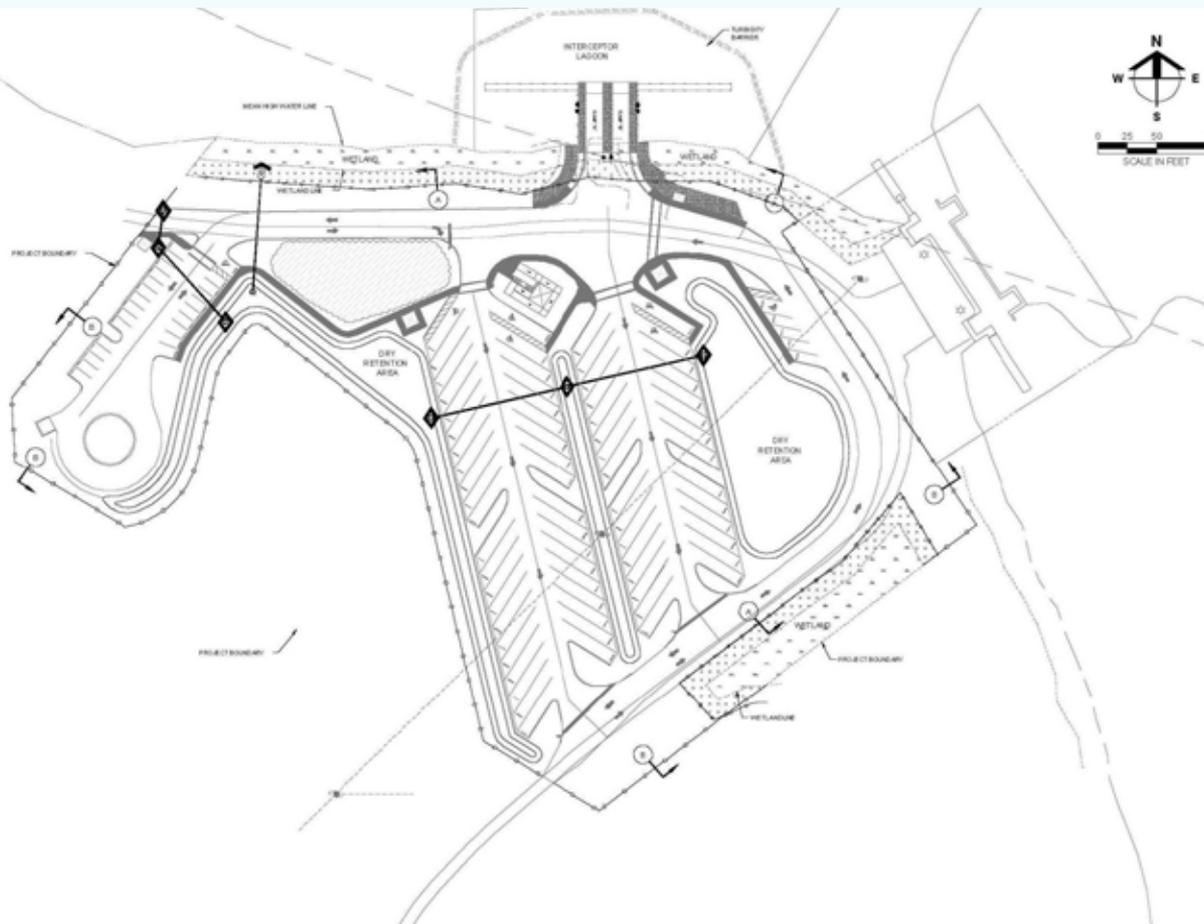
SWFWMD and
State lands

Boat ramp location

Cattle Dock Point Rd.



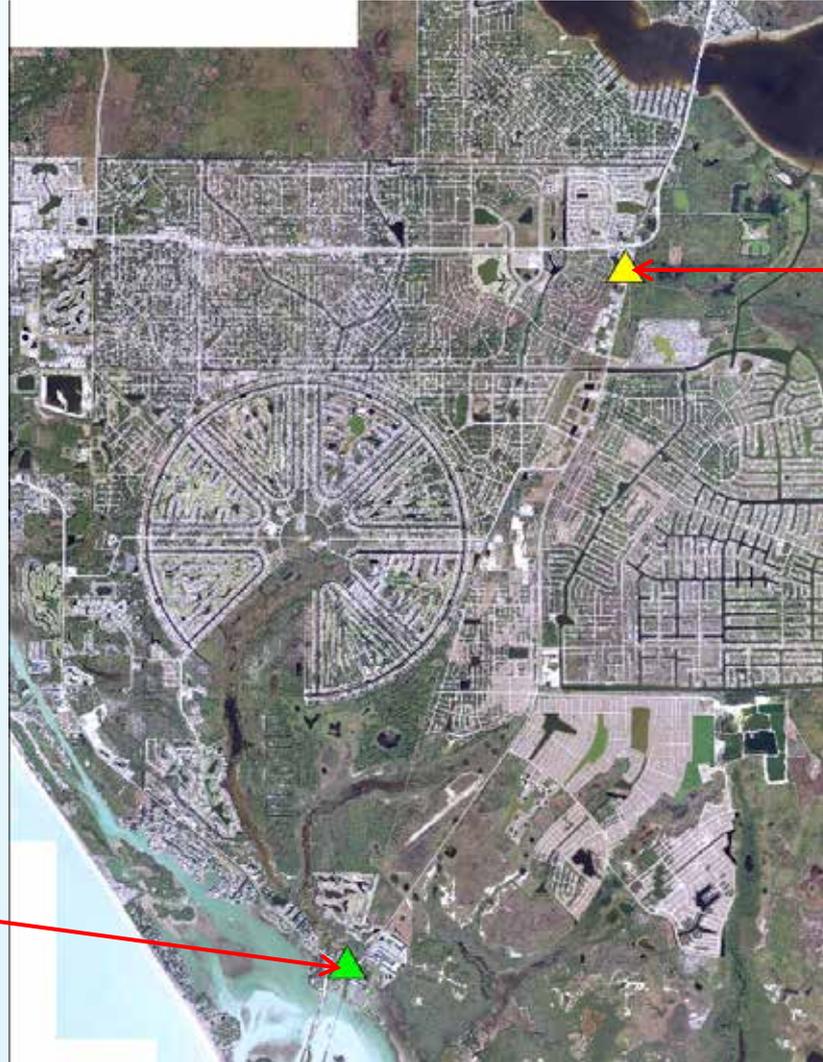
Cattle Dock Boat Ramp



- 2 lanes
- 70 trailer spaces
- 29 car spaces
- Restrooms
- Trailhead
- 1.4 mile road
- 3-party agreement
 - Charlotte County
 - SWFWMD
 - FDEP



Placida Bunk House Rehabilitation



current
Bunk House
location

original
Bunk House
location



Placida Bunk House Rehabilitation

restroom

Bunk House



picnic shelters



Placida Bunk House Rehabilitation

before stabilization



Historical Significance

- Professional analysis has been completed
- Built 1910 by Charlotte Harbor & Northern RR to house workers
- First local school, post office, church
- Listed on Florida Master Site File



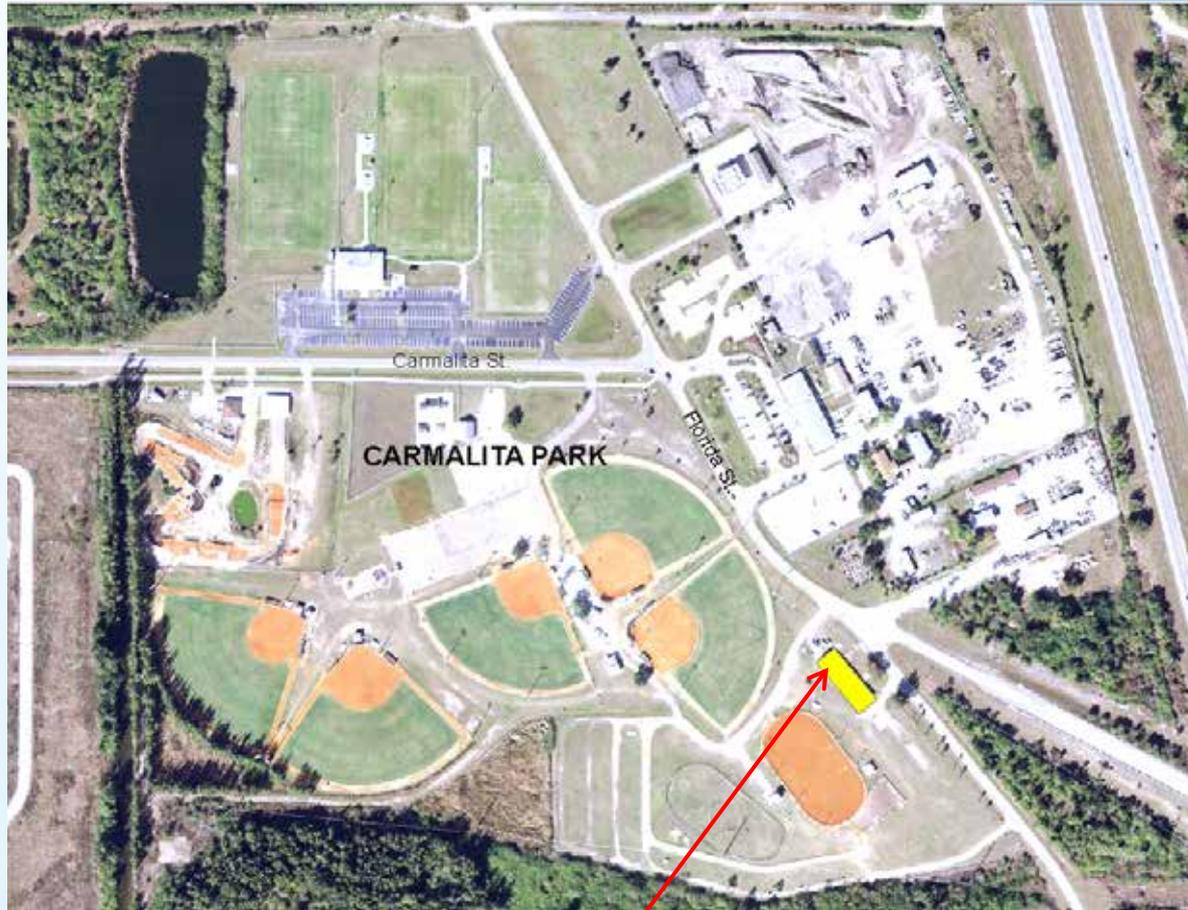
Placida Bunk House Rehabilitation

after stabilization





Carmalita Stockade Rehabilitation



Carmalita Stockade



Carmalita Stockade Rehabilitation



Historical Significance

- Professional analysis has been completed
- Built in 1941
- First Charlotte Co. jail outside the Historic Courthouse; used until 1947
- Nursing home, art studio, storage
- Structurally sound
- Potential for historical listing

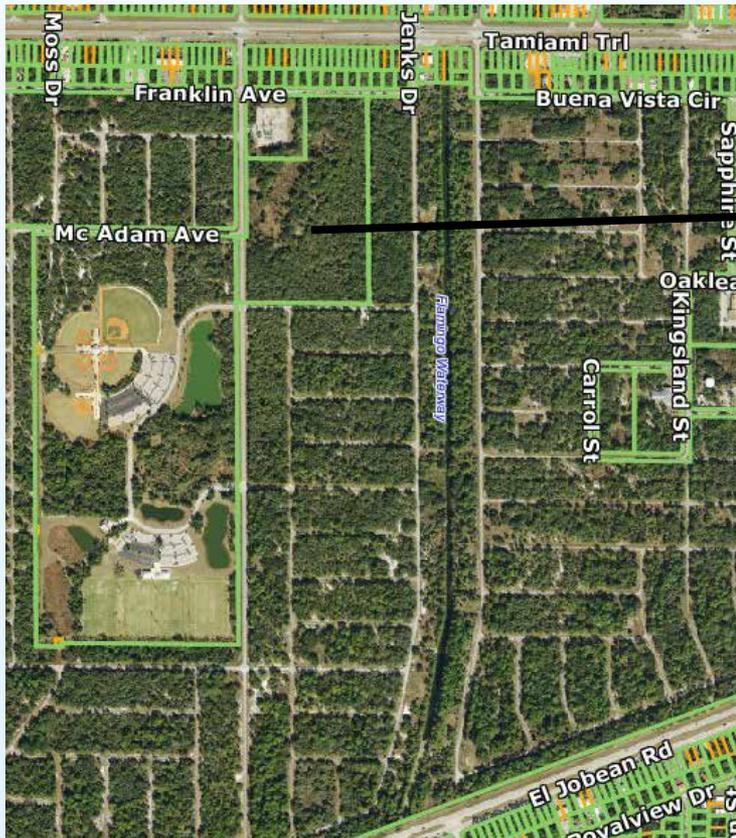


RECREATION CENTER NORTH CHARLOTTE REGIONAL PARK





RECREATION CENTER NORTH CHARLOTTE REGIONAL PARK





RECREATION CENTER NORTH CHARLOTTE REGIONAL PARK

Amenities

- Multi-purpose gymnasium
- 50 meter by 25 yard aquatic center
- Fitness center
- Multi-purpose classrooms
- Community Garden
- Administrative offices for Community Service Department



RECREATION CENTER ANN DEVER REGIONAL PARK





RECREATION CENTER ANN DEVER REGIONAL PARK





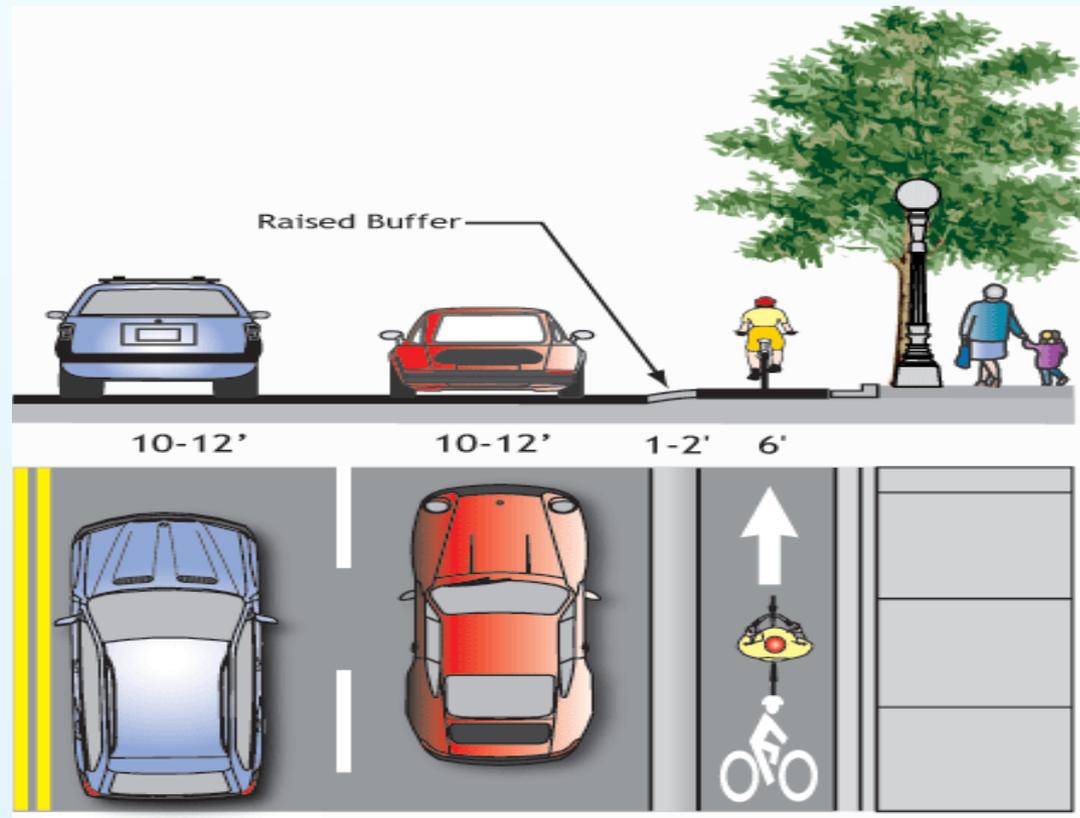
RECREATION CENTER ANN DEVER REGIONAL PARK

Amenities

- Multi-purpose gymnasium
- Fitness center
- Multi-purpose classrooms
- Community Garden



MULTI-USE TRAILS AND ON-ROAD BICYCLE LANES





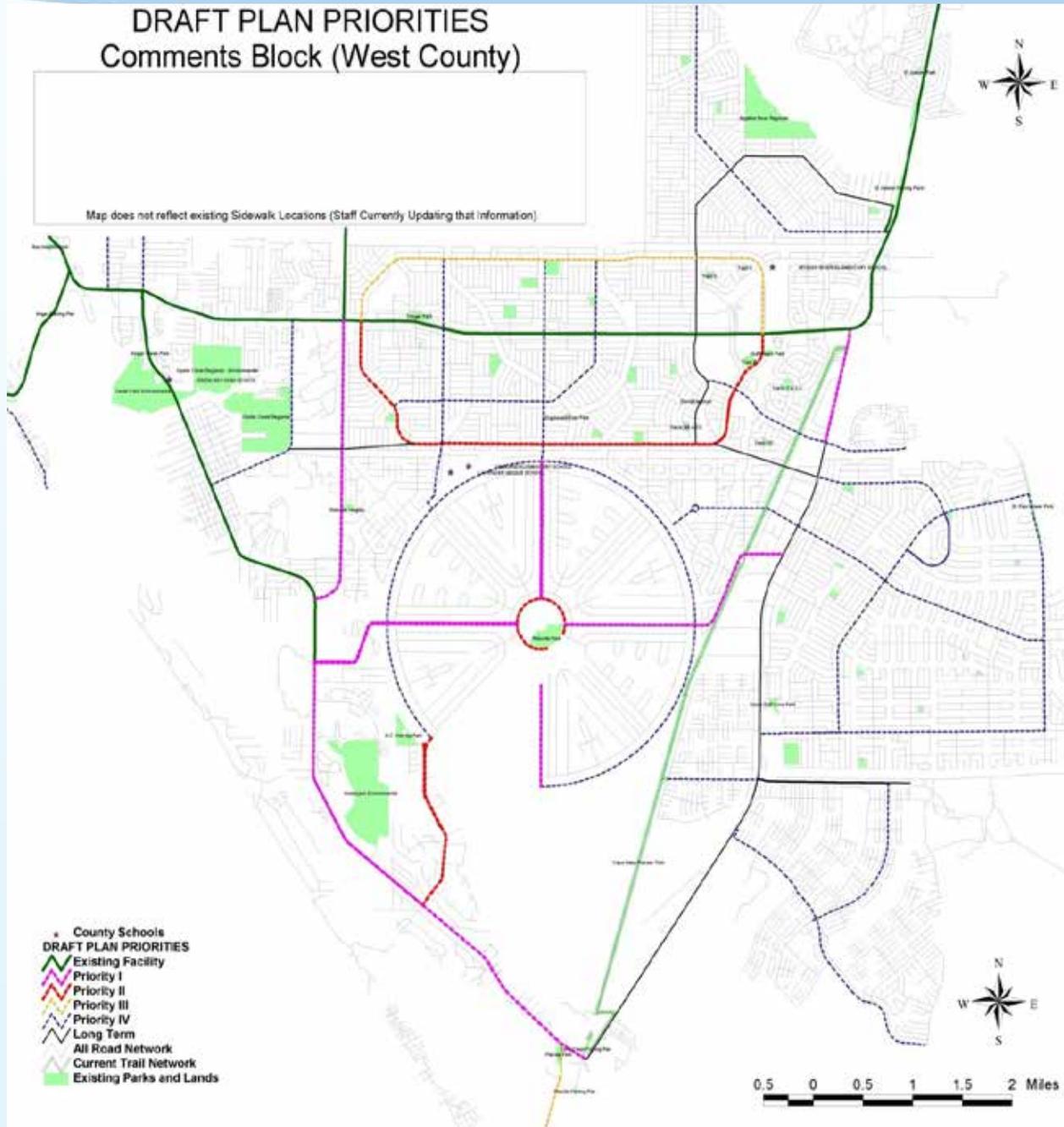
MULTI-USE TRAILS AND ON-ROAD BICYCLE LANES

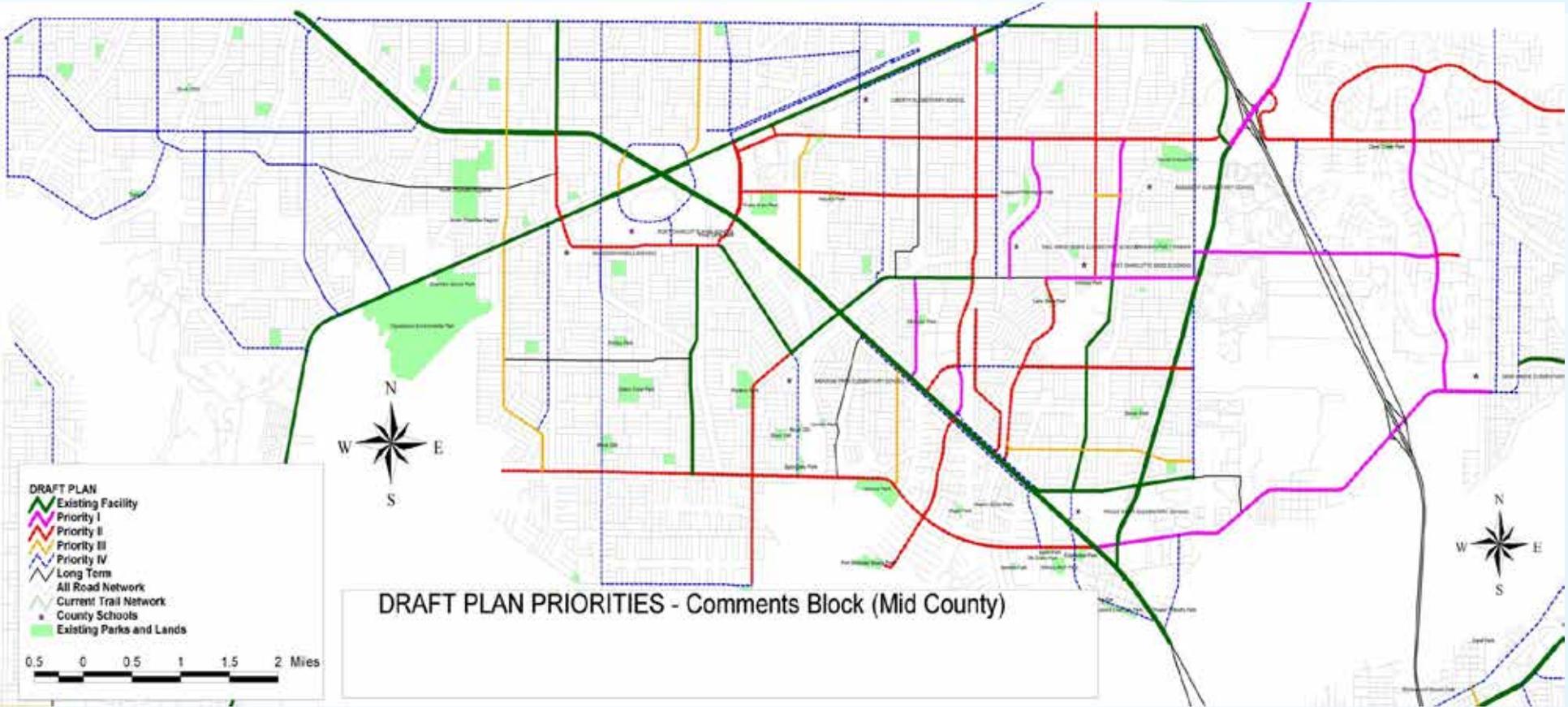
Amenities

- Construct 10 miles of sidewalks and/or bikeways
 - Connect collector and arterial streets for pedestrian/cycling use
 - Connect schools, commercial areas and parks



DRAFT PLAN PRIORITIES Comments Block (West County)





DRAFT PLAN PRIORITIES - Comments Block (Mid County)

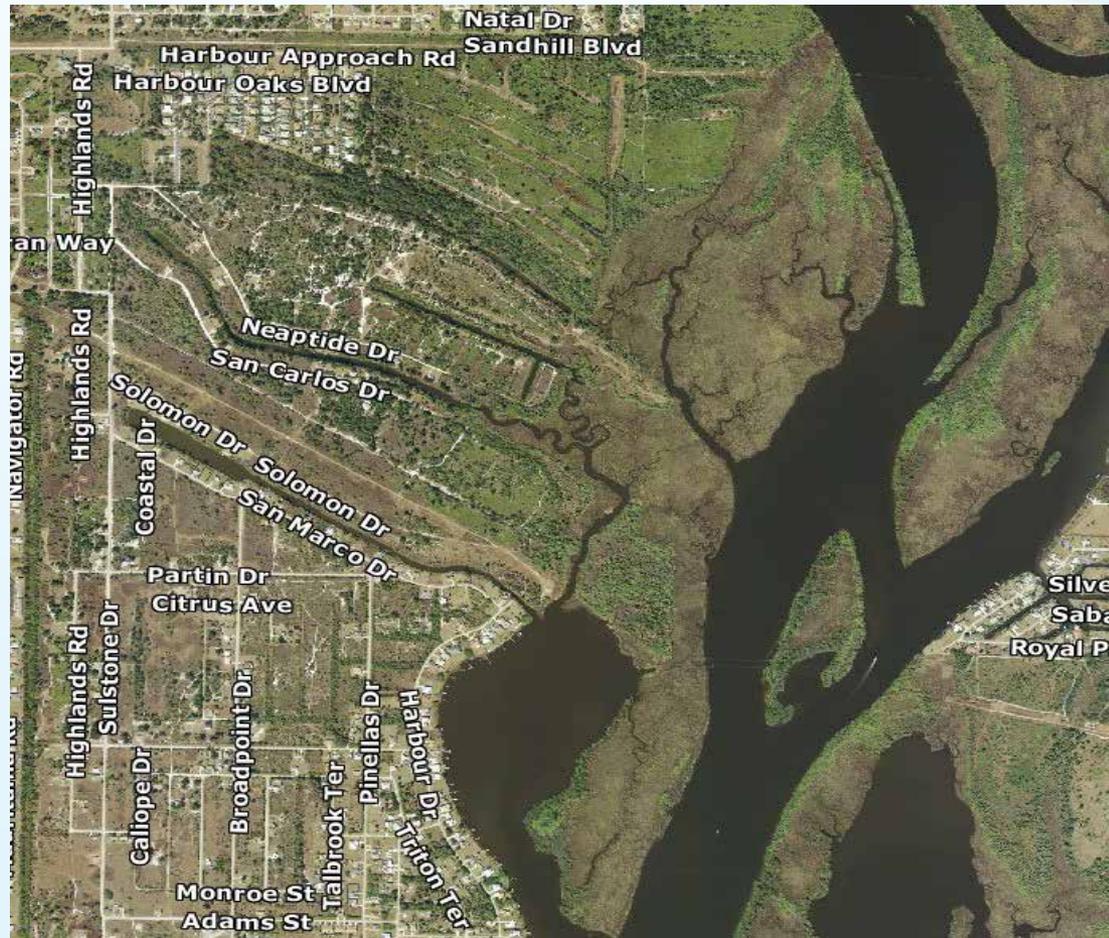


ENVIRONMENTAL PARK TRAIL HEAD





ENVIRONMENTAL PARK TRAIL HEAD





ENVIRONMENTAL PARK TRAIL HEAD

Amenities

- Construct park entryway
- Construct rustic parking
- Obtain required regulatory permitting
- Install interpretive signage and a kiosk