

South Gate Community Center Site Work Plan

Site Location and Description:

This approximately 4.4-acre property is located at 3145 Southgate Circle along Phillippi Creek. It is accessed from S. Tuttle Avenue and is on the east side of Southgate Circle. The property is within the unincorporated county in a developed, single-family residential subdivision known as South Gate. There is a historically designated community building on the site that includes a large open communal hall, kitchen, office, small meeting room and restrooms. The community building is used for special events and meetings such as weddings and receptions, local community events, religious services, and memorial services. A swimming pool, pool deck, changing rooms, shuffleboard courts, paved and shell parking lots are also located onsite. The site has open greenspace with mature oaks, cedars and cabbage palms along with planted ornamentals, shrubs and maintained lawn. There is a mangrove shoreline along the creek.

The current zoning designation is RSF2 – Residential, Single Family.

Importance:

This site provides an opportunity to acquire a waterfront parcel along Phillippi Creek in an area of the creek that does not currently have public water access. Further, there is potential for collaboration with Sarasota County Public Works – Stormwater Environmental Utility for water quality improvement projects. The Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 2, Policy 1.1.6., states that *Sarasota County will continue, and whenever and wherever feasible, to expand its beach and waterfront acquisition efforts. Priority shall continue to be given to those parcels which will expand existing public beaches, increase the number of public access points to waterfront parks, and/or protect important native habitats.*

The existing historic structure known as the “South Gate Community House” was designed by Victor Lundy and is representative of the Sarasota School of Architecture. It was constructed in 1956, with improvements made in 2007. The Sarasota County Commission officially designated the structure to the Sarasota County Register of Historic Places in 2007.

This site meets the Neighborhood Parkland Acquisition Program’s (NPP) criteria related to broad community access, proximity and connectedness, natural features, cultural features, compatible community needs, and water access.

Potential Uses:

Public water access is a priority for Sarasota County. The proposed property has over 1,000 linear feet of shoreline along Phillippi Creek that could be used for public water access, fishing and wildlife observation. The existing historic community building could continue to be operated as a community center for events and meetings while also showcasing this historic resource. Park amenities could include a small playground, canoe/kayak launch, fishing pier, picnic shelters, benches and educational/interpretive signage. If acquired, a concept plan for the property will be developed with community input.

Management Goals/Challenges:

An analysis of the existing facilities and infrastructure will be required to determine their

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condition and maintenance requirements. This analysis would be performed as part of the due diligence investigations. Due to its condition, liability concerns and future operating expenses, the existing aging swimming pool would be demolished and filled. Preservation and maintenance of the existing historic building would be sought with collaboration and support from Sarasota County Historical Resources and local historical/preservation and architectural non-profits.

Status and Acquisition Strategy:

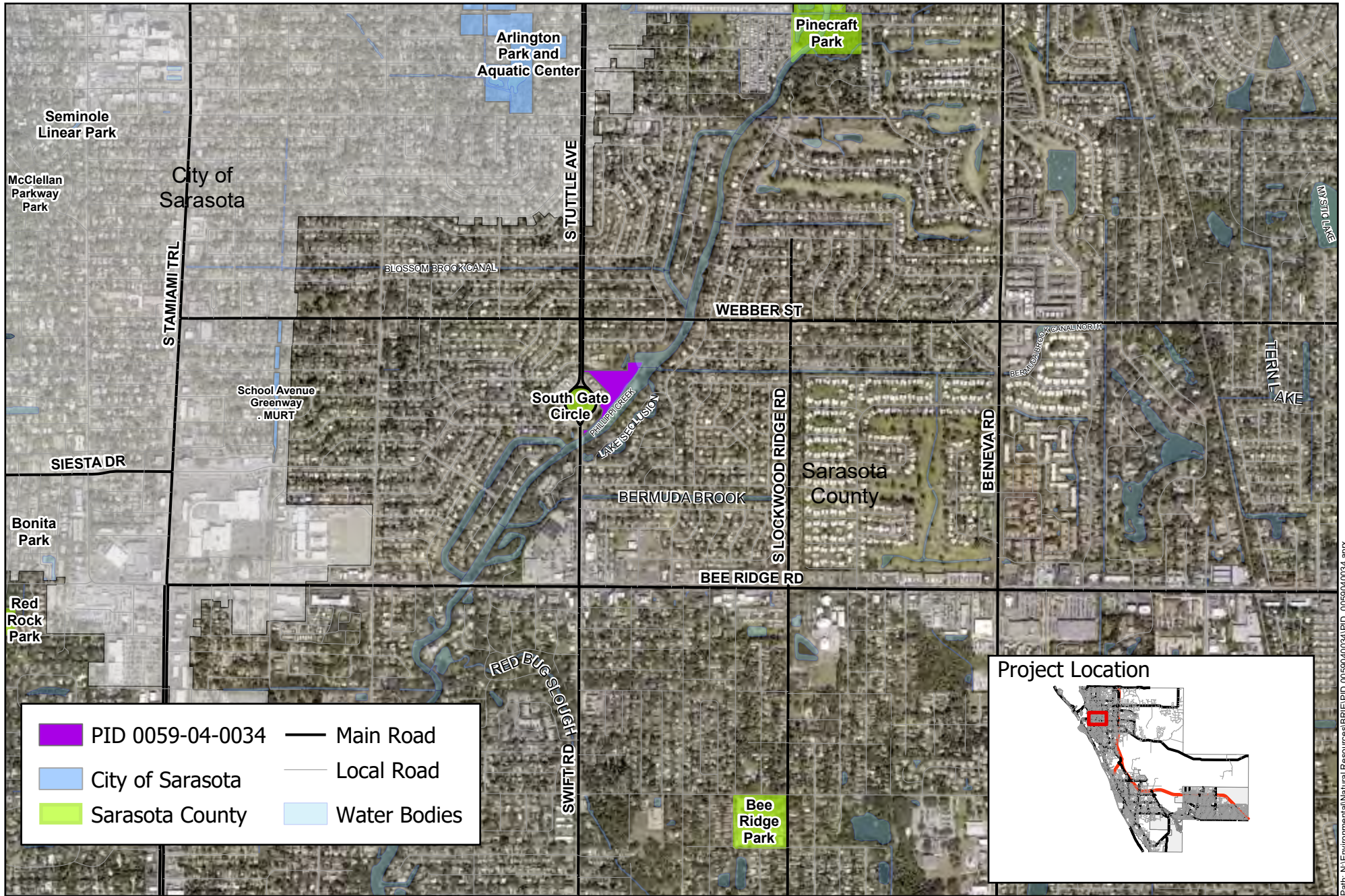
The parcel is owned by the South Gate Community Association. There are various acquisition options potentially available. Due diligence, including obtaining boundary surveys, environmental assessments, and cultural resource assessments, would be conducted as part of the acquisition process.

Possible Partner(s):

South Gate Community Association, Sarasota County Historical Resources, local historical/preservation and architectural non-profits.

Funding:

Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources - Neighborhood Parkland Acquisition Program

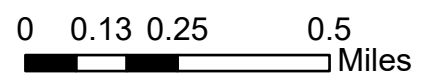


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Aerial Imagery Provided by Pictometry International:
 Sarasota County, FL
 January 2018 4" Resolution
 N.A.D. 1983 HARN State Plane Florida West FIPS 0902
 (U.S. Survey Feet)








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**PID
0059-04-0034**

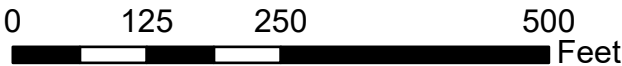
**South Gate
Circle**

	PID 0059-04-0034		Main Road
	County Owned Park		Local Road
			Water Bodies

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