

Bayshore Gardens Park and Recreation District "Jewel of the Gulf Coast"

Proposed Projects for Bayshore Gardens Park & Recreation District

Covered Exercise Area

The proposed covered exercise area would be approximately 50'x50' area (or smaller) with a poured concrete floor and sailcloth overhead for protection from the sun. The area would be equipped with approximately 10-12 commercial grade outdoor exercise machines. No location has yet to be determined for the proposed area.

Fitness and Nature Trail

Instead of a single exercise area that requires a poured concrete floor and a covering system, similar commercial-grade outdoor exercise and isometric equipment will be placed along a trail that wraps around the ballfield and the canal front, down to the beach area. A shell walking path will be laid down along the canal that will connect with the existing fishing dock, as well as 1-2 new observation decks. Proposed mangrove trimming will create more "windows" for expanded views of Sarasota Bay along the trail.

Beach Restoration

The beach restoration contains several proposed projects that currently include:

- Obtain a permit from the FDEP for the removal of 47' of mangroves in the center of the beach area.
- Trimming of remaining mangroves and additional landscaping
- Add beach sand extending from the parking area into the bay.
- Remove fencing and relocate the small craft storage area to the SW shoreline.
- Add beach volleyball court where the small craft storge currently sits.
- Add community firepit.
- New BBQ grills for pavilions.
- Add new benches near the shoreline
- Add pedestrian gate from pool area to beach area
- Add a bike rack

Restoration of the Ballfield

The ballfield restoration project includes the following proposals:

- A new chain-link backstop
- Increased bench seating capacity
- New infield clay
- Permanent bases and pitching mound rubber
- Leveling of the outfield to ensure an even running and playing surface
- Lighting

Add Soccer Goals to Ballfield

Soccer goals (with netting) will be added to the north end of the ballfield, beyond the outfield area. The goals will be facing each other in an East-West alignment and be permanently anchored.

72-hour Marina slip (short term docking)

A dock will be constructed along the canal front that will allow for short-term parking of boats (72-hours or less).

Increase dock capacity at the boat ramp

The existing dock adjacent to the boat ramp will be extended to accommodate 2-3 additional boats. This will allow for more boaters to utilize the ramp without having to keep their boat idling in the middle of the canal while they wait for space to open.

Add heating and cooling to the pool

This is a major expense that will require a referendum vote. A breakdown of the cost estimates for the installation of geothermal heating and cooling system, as well as a comparison with gas-powered heat pumps is provided below. One estimate shows the cost with a thermal blanketing system installed and the other estimate has none. Installation of either proposed system will allow for comfortable year-round use of the pool by residents. The annual energy savings on the geothermal system will also pay for the cost difference in installation in three years or less.

Toddler water sprinkle/play area

This proposed area will be inside the fenced pool area, located on the northeastern section of the pool deck. The splash area will include rubberized flooring and an assortment of different sprinklers designed for toddlers and young children.

Zero depth entrance kiddie pool

Instead of a sprinkle/play area, a proposed zero-depth entrance kiddie pool will is proposed for the same area of the pool deck.