



IMAGINE CLEARWATER

City Council Meeting

February 2017

An aerial photograph of a city park area, overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The image shows a mix of greenery, including trees and grassy areas, and urban infrastructure like roads and buildings. A prominent feature is a large, curved path or walkway that winds through the park. In the background, there are several tall buildings, including a very tall skyscraper on the right side. The overall scene suggests a blend of nature and urban development.

A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PLAN

IMAGINE CLEARWATER

Imagine Clearwater has been a 6-month community-focused process to re-envision the downtown waterfront.

VISIONING

HOW CAN WE DEVELOP A
SUCCESSFUL WATERFRONT
PLAN BUILDING ON LOCAL
AND REGIONAL STRENGTHS?



FRAMEWORK

HOW CAN WE BUILD ON
COMMUNITY GOALS FOR
THE WATERFRONT TO
CREATE A GREAT PLACE?



MASTER PLAN

WHAT WILL THE FUTURE
WATERFRONT LOOK LIKE,
AND HOW CAN WE GET
THERE?

7 PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

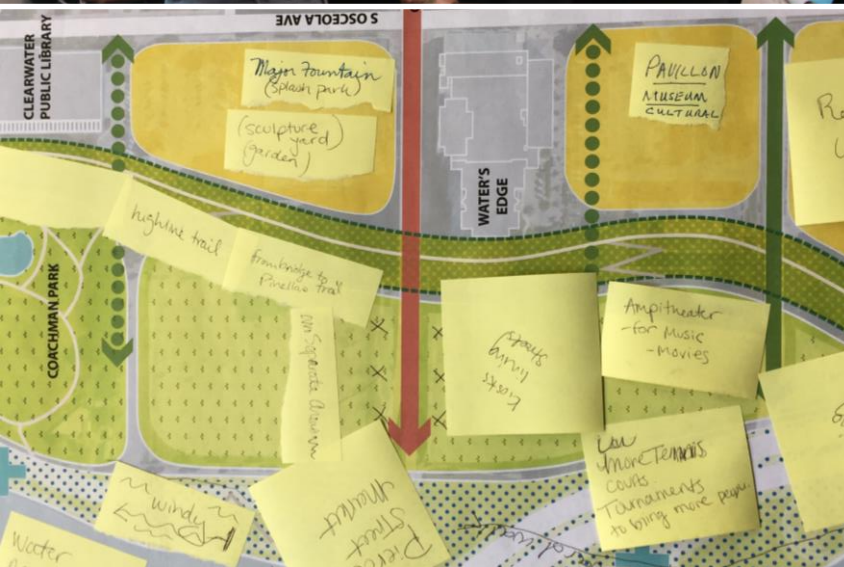
We have hosted 7 community workshops in various Clearwater neighborhoods, part of a robust resident-led process.



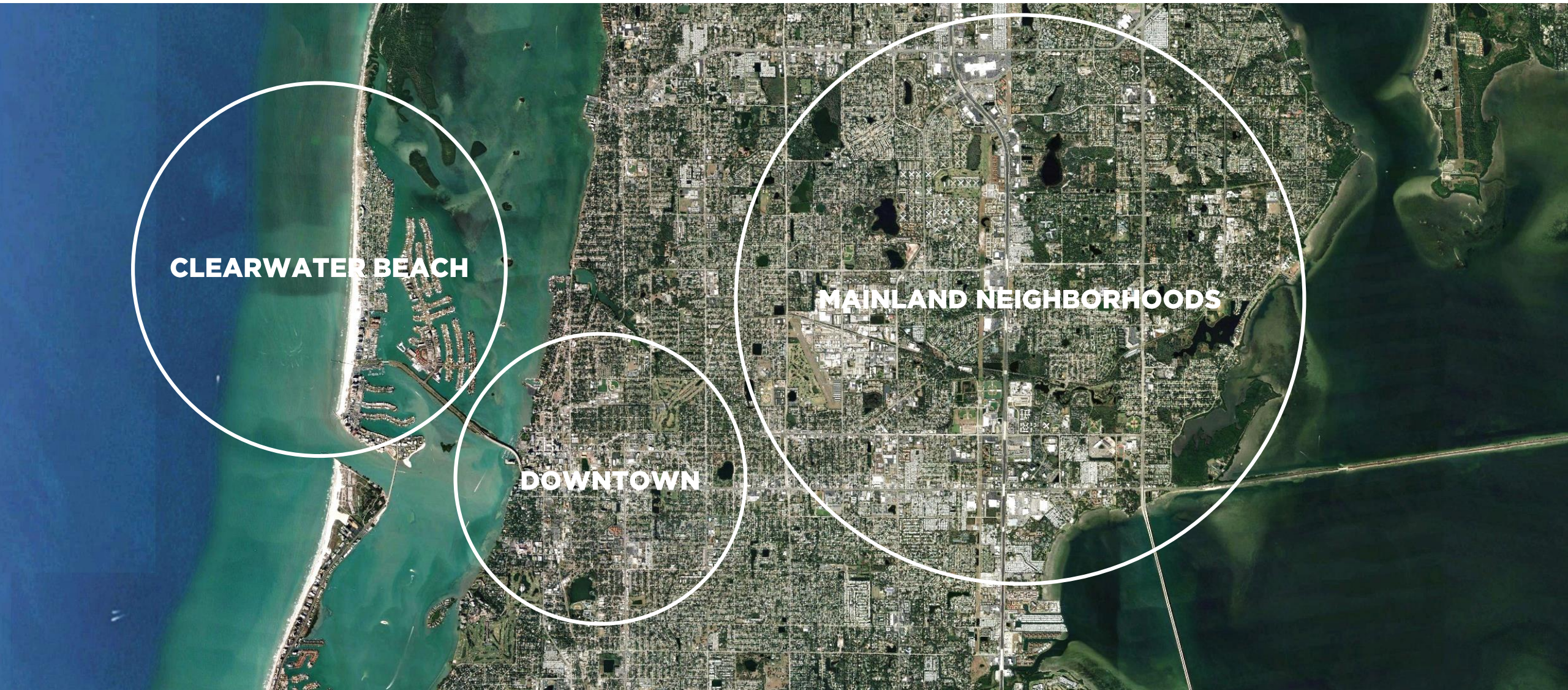
700 PEOPLE ATTENDED ONE OR MORE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

475 PEOPLE ON PLAN EMAIL LIST

250 COMMENTS RECEIVED ON
IMAGINE CLEARWATER

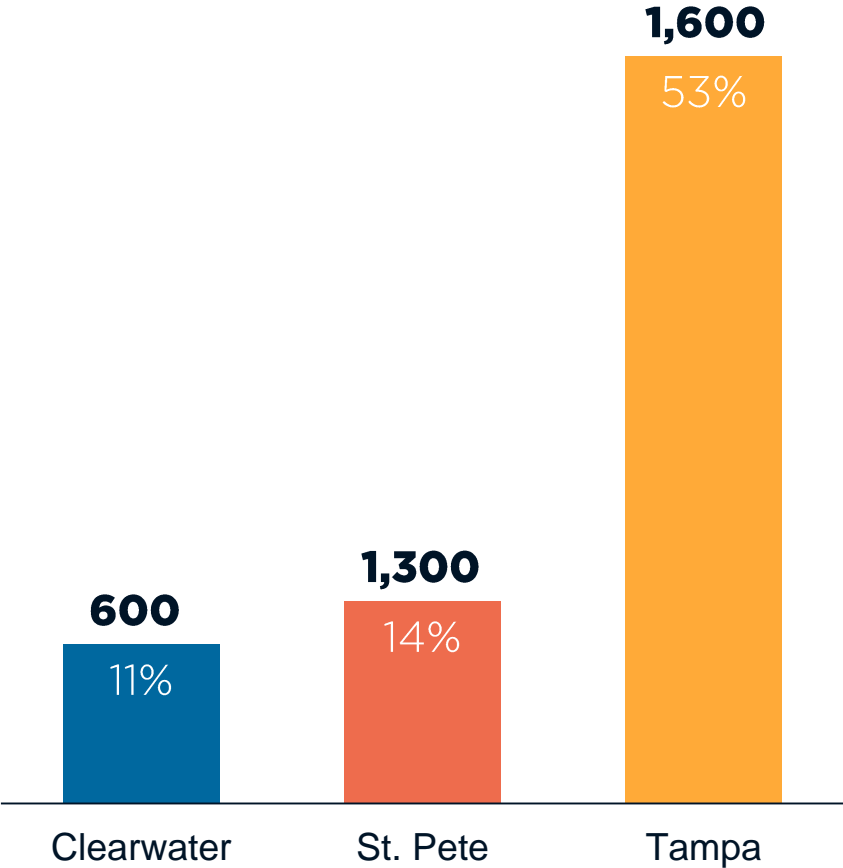


While Clearwater Beach is known worldwide, Downtown Clearwater is disconnected from it and insufficiently benefits from its proximity.

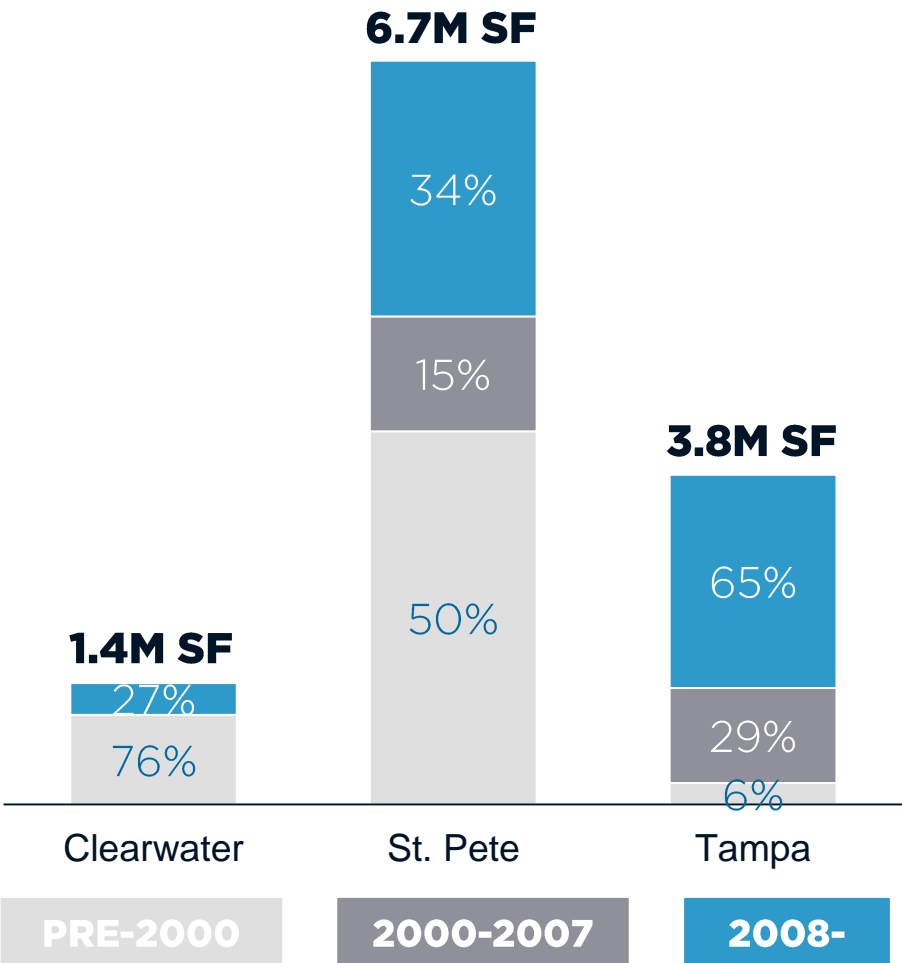


Tampa Bay area cities are growing, including Clearwater, but Downtown has not shared in the same level of growth as its peers.

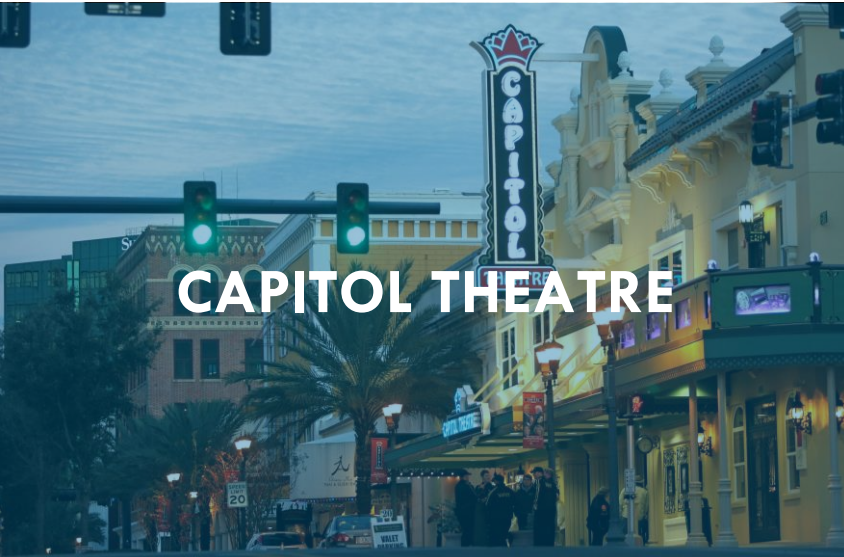
RESIDENTIAL POPULATION GROWTH
RATE, 2010-2016



MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL
DEVELOPMENT BY YEAR BUILT



Downtown, long a center for community events, is beginning to show signs of positive change with recent public and private investment.



Despite its positive qualities and role as a center for community events, the waterfront often feels empty and underutilized.



Four strategies underpin a successful future waterfront.



DYNAMIC OPEN SPACE



ACTIVE FRAME



IMPROVED OSCEOLA



ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY

Create a dynamic public waterfront open space.



- **A unique destination**
- **A variety of active and passive spaces**
- **Year-round community programming**

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Foster an active frame around the park



- **Attract park users**
- **Activate edges of the space and introduce new amenities**
- **Increase safety**
- **Financial support for park operations**

Foster an active frame around the park



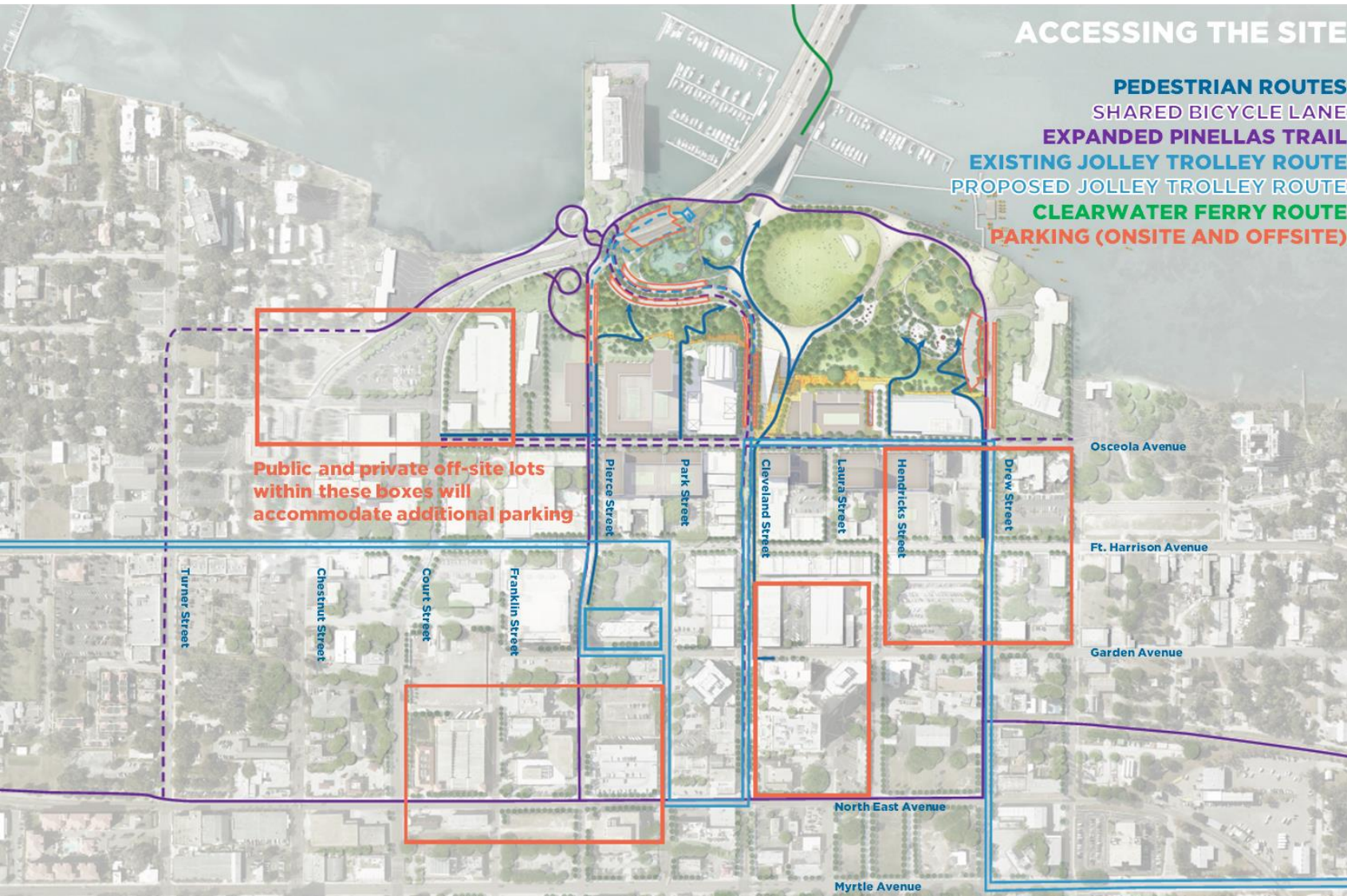
- **Attract park users**
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- **Increase safety**
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Strengthen Osceola to better knit the waterfront to downtown.



- **Unify the waterfront and downtown**
- **Create a park gateway**
- **Spur development and activity to bring more people downtown**

Promote access and connectivity to the waterfront.



- **Multimodal connections**
- **Strategic parking opportunities**
- **Pedestrian, bicycle, Pinellas Trail, ferry enhancements**

The plan envisions a Clearwater waterfront and downtown that are a cohesive district, filled with unique experiences 365 days a year.



An aerial photograph of a city park area, heavily overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The image shows a mix of greenery, including trees and palm trees, and urban infrastructure like roads and buildings. A prominent feature is a tall, modern skyscraper on the right side. In the center, there's a large open area with what appears to be a playground or sports field. The overall scene suggests a blend of nature and urban development.

UPDATES SINCE DRAFT MASTER PLAN

IMAGINE CLEARWATER

Clearwater residents and stakeholders shaped *Imagine Clearwater*, as evidenced by the positivity with which the draft plan was received.

MODIFICATIONS SINCE NOVEMBER DRAFT PLAN:

- 1. Additional parking spaces**
- 2. New water-based programming**
- 3. Additional new restroom facilities**
- 4. Bandshell modified to accommodate large-scale events**
- 5. Relocation of splash pad and addition of two water features**

A total of 282 spaces will be built on-site, a 36% increase from the 208 proposed in the draft November master plan.



74 ONSITE SPACES ADDED
SINCE FINAL COMMUNITY
WORKSHOP IN NOV. 2016

POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL PARKING
WITHIN ADJACENT BLUFF
DEVELOPMENT

UP TO
4,000 OFFSITE SPACES
SHOULD BE MADE
AVAILABLE FOR
PUBLIC USE

Access to the water is enhanced by design and programmatic features that embrace the marina as part of the experience of being on the site.



Steps to the water from the Intracoastal Edge promenade will allow people to sit facing the marina. **Kayak launch points** will enable waterfront visitors to travel safely between the Downtown and North marinas via the water, while **an enhanced fishing pier** will attract a set of new users to the park who will contribute to its diversity.

The park will feature three water features: a splash pad, a “rain catcher fountain”, and a children’s water feature.



Splash Pad

Relocated from the corner of Osceola and Cleveland further into the Civic Gateway to enhance safety.

Rain Catcher Fountain

Reflecting pool designed to catch rain that would otherwise collect above the pavilion.

Children's Water Feature

New play area located in a protected space within Coachman Garden.

Restrooms, concessions, and storage will be provided to service the entire park and to bring active uses further into the park itself.



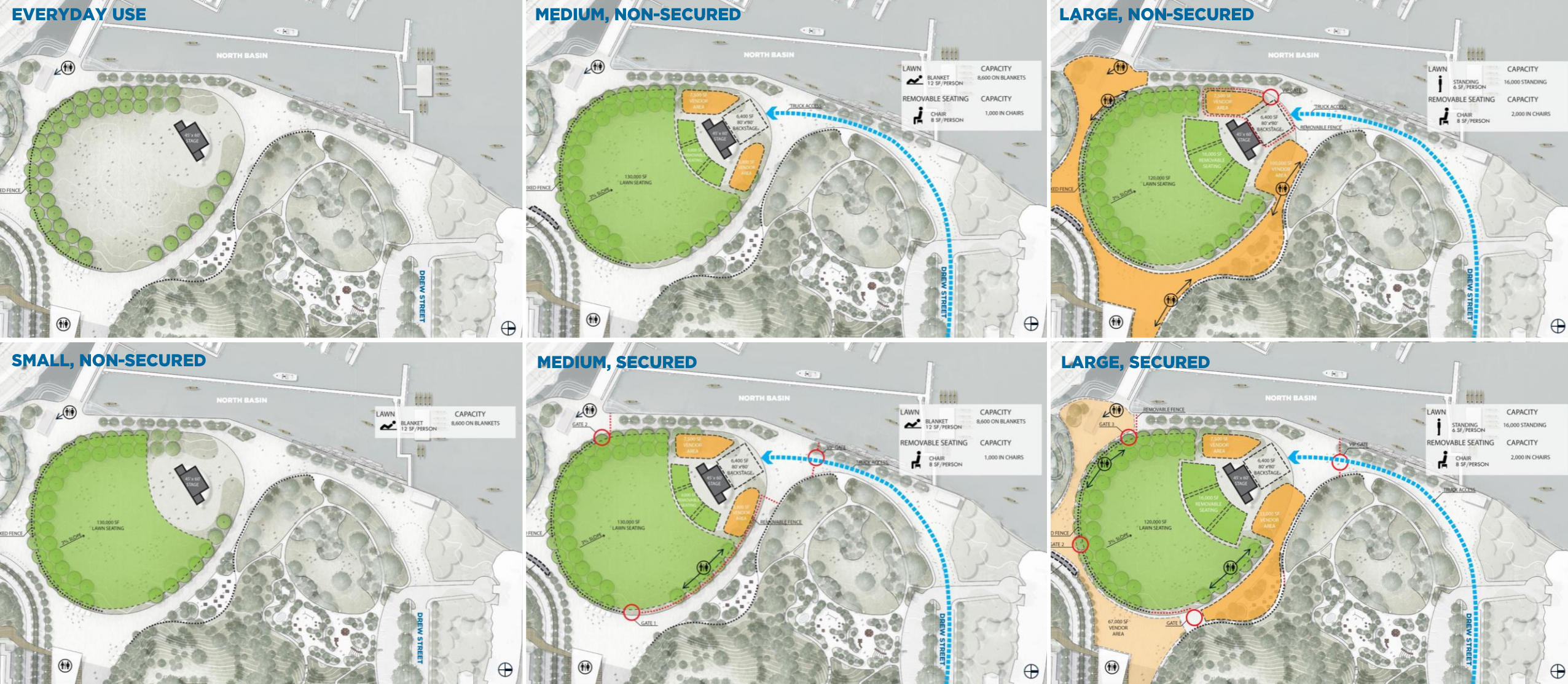
A redeveloped Coachman Park will include **substantially increased restroom facilities**, both within and directly adjacent to the performance area. As shown in the diagram at left, restrooms will be built in a **new 600 SF facility adjacent to the marina** and **within the pavilion** that will be built as part of the Grand Entry Plaza.

The location of the bandshell was adjusted...



An adjustment in the location and orientation of the bandshell will enable an: **increase** the seating area and restroom facilities; and **improvement of** the audience entry sequence, sight lines, event staging infrastructure, and event set-up and break-down.

...And the team tested a variety of scenarios to accommodate large-scale events.



A park gateway at Hendricks Street will be incorporated into future development on the Harborview site along the Main Library entrance.



Several outlook opportunities will provide visual interest as well as special moments along the walk. Access to lower levels of the park will be provided by **an entry court and parking area close to the front door of the Main Library.** Access to the Bluff Walk is possible from Cleveland and Drew Streets, as well as from this entry court.

An aerial photograph of a park area, overlaid with a blue tint. The park features a winding path, numerous trees, and a body of water in the background. A tall building is visible on the right side of the image.

THE ACTION PLAN

IMAGINE CLEARWATER

Phase 1 seeks to implement key investments north of Cleveland and along the waterfront to spark change along Osceola and into Downtown.



Phase 1 Elements:

- A. Removal of surface parking
- B. Design and construction of park elements north of Cleveland Street, including the northern portion of the Bluff Walk
- C. Demolition of Harborview Center and solicitation of redevelopment proposals
- D. Construction of Civic Gateway
- E. Planning and implementation of Library activation
- F. Encourage redevelopment of lots owned by other parties

The timing of some of these elements may be concurrent.

Phase 2 builds upon the success north of Cleveland Street and Phase 1, bringing redevelopment south.

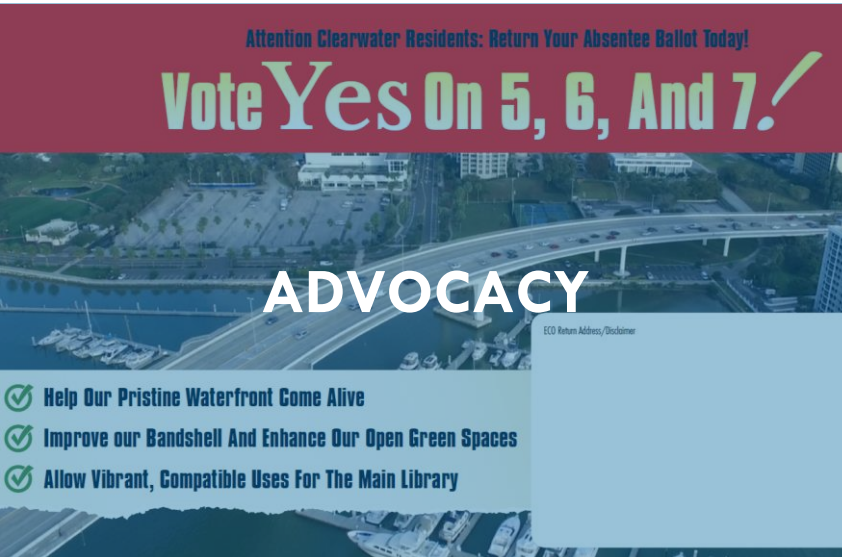


Phase 2 Elements:

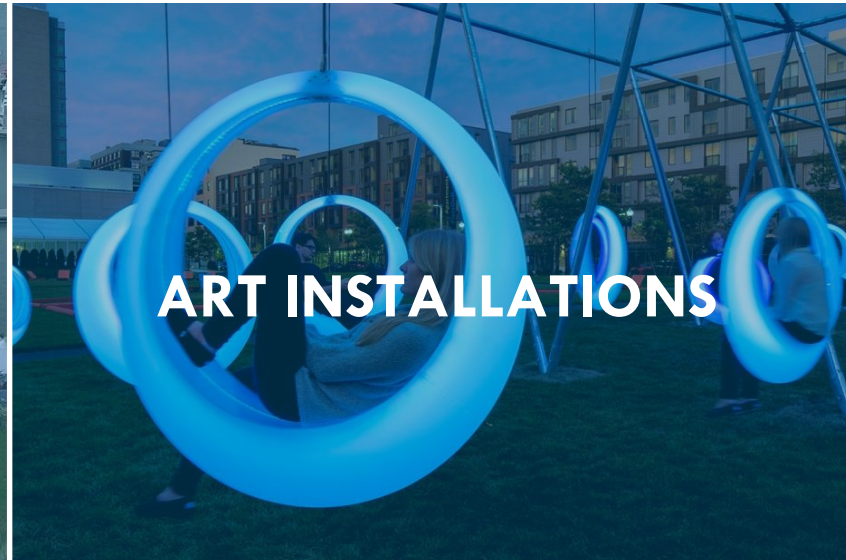
- A. Construction of park elements south of Cleveland Street
- B. Expansion of Bluff Walk to the south
- C. Relocation of City Hall to east Downtown site and solicitation of redevelopment proposals
- D. Determine optimal use of adjacent parcels owned by other parties

The timing of some of these elements may be concurrent.

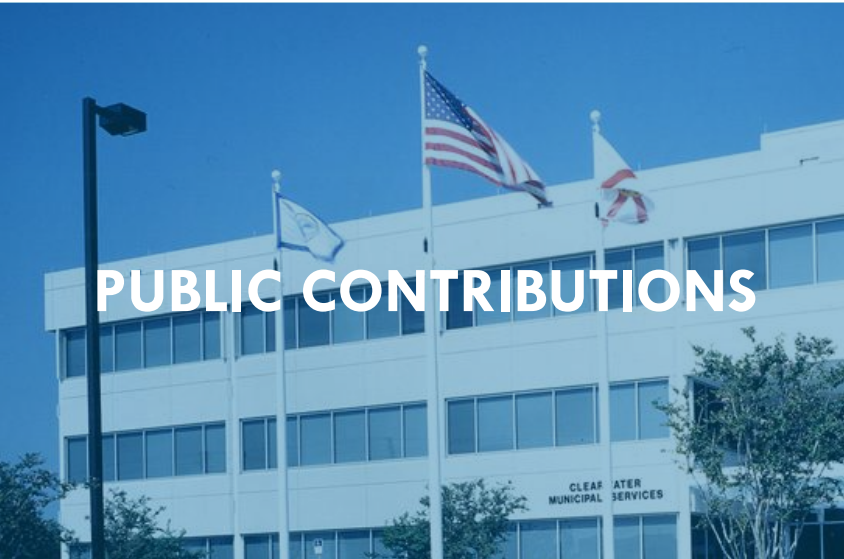
A conservancy group should be established to partner with the City in preparing for and executing the revitalization of the waterfront.



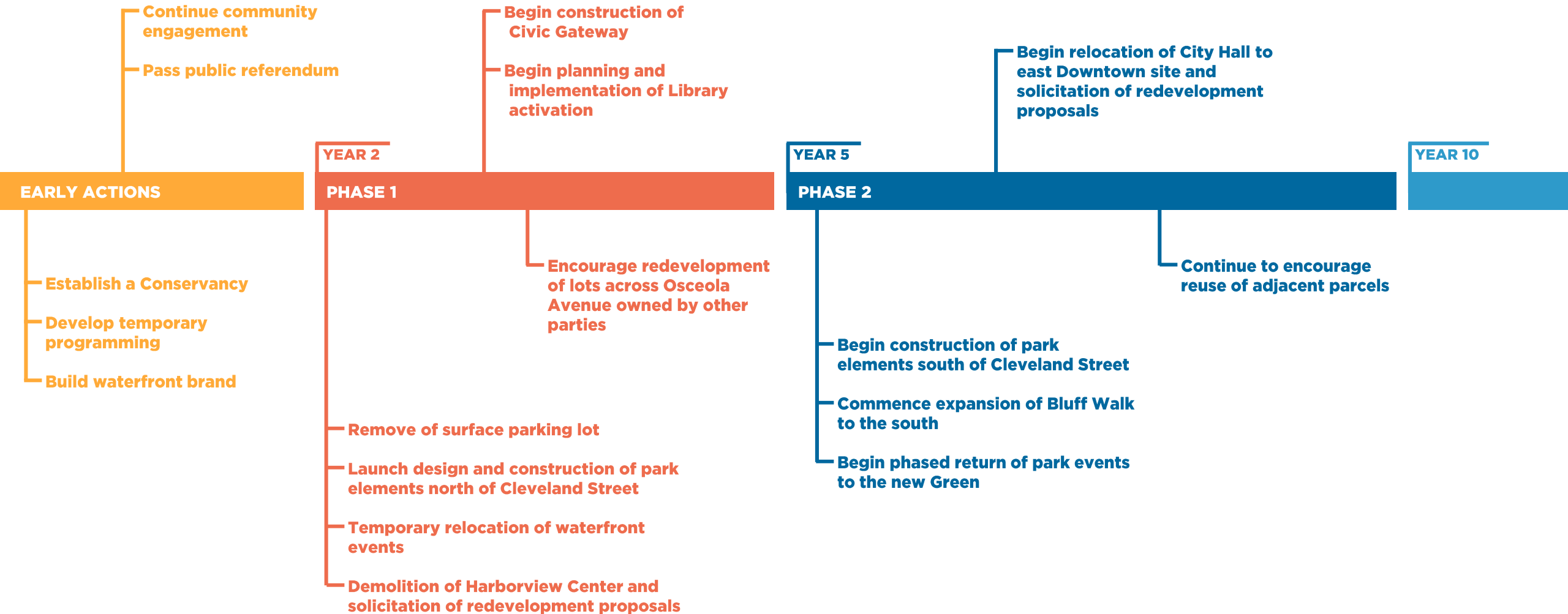
In addition to the physical design, frequent and varied programming is essential for creating an active, engaging waterfront destination.



The City should also work to create a long-term strategy that leverages a diverse set of funds for park construction and operations.



Preliminary preparation and approvals are likely to take 1-2 years from today, leading to a launch of Phase 1 in 2019.



In the short-term, there are three key steps that can help to move this process forward.



ESTABLISH A CONSERVANCY



BUILD A BRAND FOR THE WATERFRONT



PASS THE REFERENDUM ON KEY PLAN ELEMENTS









THE ESTUARY

THE GREEN

COACHMAN GARDEN

BLUFF WALK

BLUFF WALK

CIVIC GATEWAY

OSCEOLA AVENUE

INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

PIERCE STREET

CLEVELAND ST.

DREW STREET

