



# Town Hall – A vibrant, sustainable Downtown

April 4, 2023



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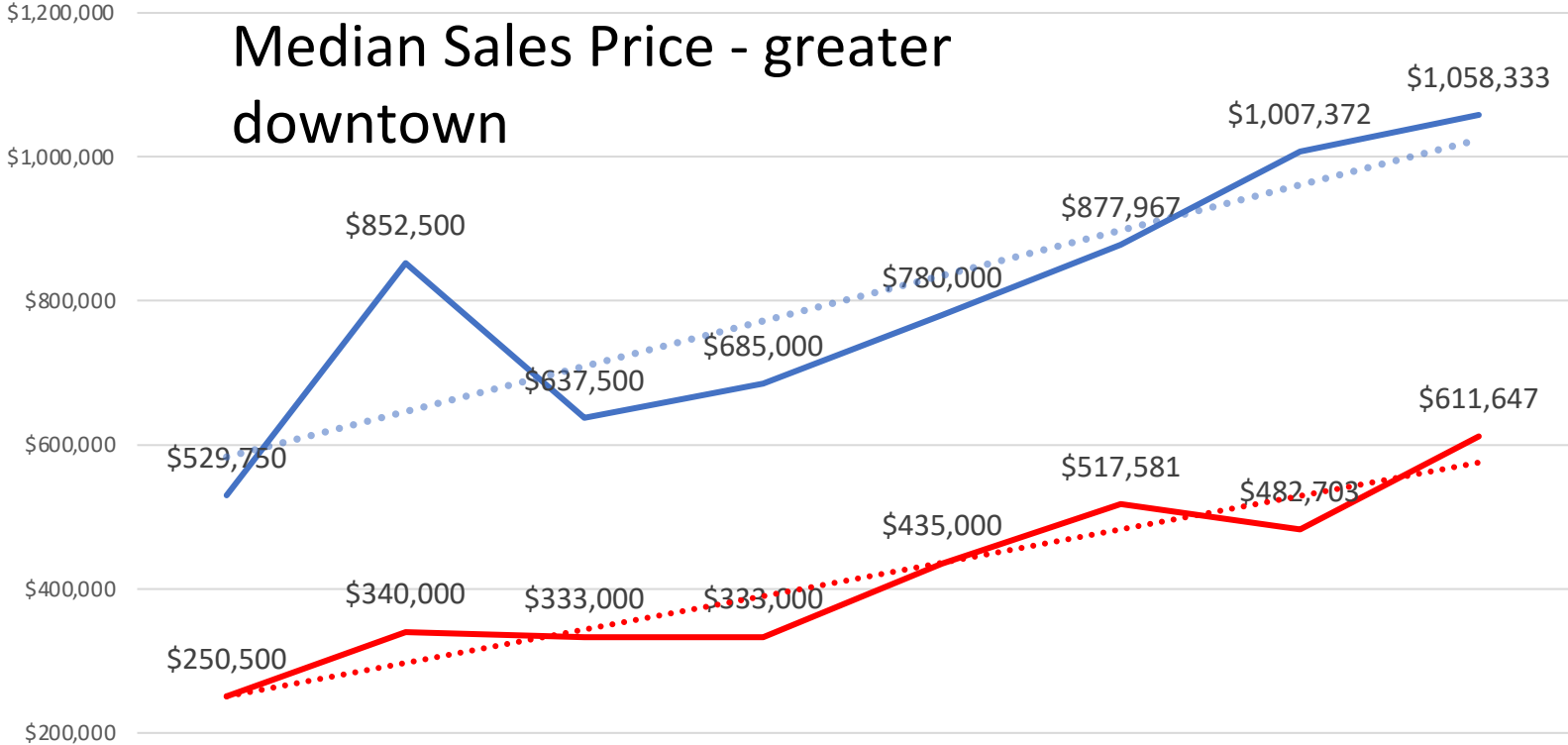
# Downtown Fast facts

- About 1.8 sq miles
- Population:
  - 12,000 (in season)
    - 60%+ of entire city's population growth...
      - Last 5 years...and, likely next 5 years
- New Construction
  - Over 1,200 new dwelling units under construction
  - Plus another 1200 planned
- Population in 2030 = 15,000+....25%+ from today

# Downtown Fast facts

- Real Estate trends...downtown
  - Sales have slowed
  - Prices holding
  - Median Sales price = \$1,050,000 – Jan-Mar 23
    - Increase of 5% over CY22 and X% above CY21

# Median Sales Price - greater downtown



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Jan-Mar 2023
Series1	\$250,500	\$340,000	\$333,000	\$333,000	\$435,000	\$517,581	\$482,703	\$611,647
Series2	\$529,750	\$852,500	\$637,500	\$685,000	\$780,000	\$877,967	\$1,007,372	\$1,058,333

# Backdrop for questions

- Increasing new construction
  - New, taller buildings
  - Likely higher building density...e.g. 200 vs. 50/acre
  - Construction staging challenges
- 25% more people
- More restaurants and retail?
- Related traffic and parking implications
- How to maintain enhance pedestrian experiences and safety?

# Now to frequently asked questions

- Some answers----- Not all
- Goal...help us all hone in of key areas of interest and concern
  - Acknowledge when progress is made
  - FY24 budget are under preparation
  - City staff with us today
- Goal...about 1 hour of preassembled...plus 30 minutes from questions you've raised
- Jon Thaxton

What steps are being taken by the city to address the concerns of residents and tourists about the cleanliness of downtown city streets and alleys?

What is being done to balance the desire for a vibrant and economically sustainable downtown with the need for limitations and controls on amplified music in order to maintain the livability and quality of life for all residents in the surrounding areas?

Can panel members help us understand the status of this topic?



How can we improve pedestrian safety at key intersections, such as 41/BotA,

How can community engagement be increased for new development projects, particularly for those that are administratively approved, to ensure that the community's input and concerns taken into account during the decision-making process?

CCNA has a "Meaningful Neighborhood Input" that has been working with the city staff. Do you have an update on this?

- The Downtown Improvement District (DID) has done some great things to improve the downtown experience.... Julie, can you give us an update on some of your key initiatives you have active?

There are over 1000 new dwelling units currently under construction and about another 2000 in the pipeline just in the downtown area.

The city defines rules for construction staging areas. Is enough being done to ensure that sidewalks remain open and accessible to pedestrians ?

There are real concerns about areas such as the Quay...What is your understanding on what is being done?

Can you give us a brief update on the homeless and vagrancy situation, focusing on downtown?

We don't have a member of enforcement on panel...with that said, do you feel Sarasota's ordinances provide law enforcement with the necessary tools to enforce regulations regarding the blocking of sidewalks, camping out in public areas, and aggressive panhandling activities in order to maintain public safety

Dede, can you please provide information on the best resources available for residents:

- Who to call
- Listing of resources available to the unsheltered?
- Do's and don't

A year ago, Police Chief Troche proposed, and the City Commission approved an increased budget to fund ten additional foot patrol officers, with eight of them dedicated to patrols of downtown and the Rosemary District.

Do any of you on the panel have a status report on this?

In light of the reality of climate change and the need to provide better transportation options for people (especially pedestrians), how can we increase the number of canopy trees in our city streets in order to provide shade and reduce the urban heat island effect?



What measures are being taken to address the traffic flow, pedestrian safety and the overall street experience along Fruitville Road (between 41 and 301), particularly in light of two new condominium developments being planned?

Should plans be considered for revisiting the proposal to redesign Fruitville Road?

Attainable housing issue – this can be a question Jon drafts....then, on this question acts as a 'panelist'.....note, he has a guest editorial in the Herald Tribune on inclusionary zoning....

What are you hearing from residents in your association or area about parking in the downtown and near downtown area?

Build off success of trolley... bring back iRide or Circulator vans/buses?

Questions from 3 x 5 cards  
.....completed by attendees



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