

**The  
Environmental  
Protection and  
Coastal Islands  
Plan**



# INTENT AND PURPOSE

The City of Sarasota has an abundance of natural resources, including Sarasota Bay, and a diversity of associated habitats and species. Since the early 1970's, there has been increasing interest both nationally and locally about preserving and protecting the environment. The intent of the Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Chapter is to maintain and enhance the environment in the City of Sarasota, seek a balance between man-made and natural systems, and provide adequate measures to protect life and property from natural disasters. The foundation for this Chapter is **Sarasota's Strategic Plan** and Florida statutory requirements.

## **Sarasota's Strategic Plan Goals**

In 2004, the City Commission adopted "Sarasota's Approach to Strategic Planning", which provides the foundation for the Strategic Plan and six Strategic Goals that have particular relevance to this Chapter:

*"An attractive, environmentally-friendly community that is safe and livable and provides an array of cultural and aesthetic enjoyments."*

*Viable, safe and diverse neighborhoods and businesses that work together*

The natural environment is one of the City's greatest assets and its protection is vitally important. In the short and medium-term the section in this chapter on Hurricane Vulnerability and Disaster Preparedness has relevance to City residents' safety. From a long-term, global perspective, all of the issues of this chapter may be the most important to our safety and survival.

It is the intent of the Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Plan to pursue actions that further **Sarasota's Strategic Plan**.

## **Florida Statutory Requirements**

The Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Chapter is also intended to meet the requirements as outlined in Chapter 9J-5 of the State of Florida Administrative Code. This chapter addresses the issues and recommendations contained in the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR), in accordance with State requirements, and which was adopted by the City Commission on October 11, 2005.

## **Organization of the Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Plan**

Since the coastal and inland environmental systems are closely related, the City has combined the Coastal Management Chapter and Conservation Chapter, both required by the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act, into this Chapter titled “Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands”. This Chapter addresses those State planning requirements and also focuses on specific issues relative to the City’s coastal islands. The Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Plan consists of two goals followed by objectives and action strategies pursuant to these goals.

The Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Plan is organized around objectives addressing the following topics:

- Objective 1. Compliance with Existing Regulations;
- Objective 2. Historic and Archeological Resources in the Coastal Area;
- Objective 3. Land Uses Compatible with Coastal Resources;
- Objective 4. Reduction of Exposure to Natural Disasters; and,
- Objective 5. Safe Evacuation and Adequate Shelter during Natural Disasters.

The Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Plan is one of the eleven plans which collectively represent the Sarasota City Plan. This Plan can neither stand alone nor be interpreted independent of the others.

## **Implementation of the Sarasota City Plan**

Implementation of the Sarasota City Plan will require actions by both the public and private sectors. In this regard many of the plan components speak to “the City” pursuing certain actions to:

promote, provide, consider, identify, enhance, create, maintain, conserve, support, reduce discourage, coordinate, and employ.

While these actions may be initiated by City government itself, City government will also be expecting applicants seeking development approvals to pursue these same type of actions as part of their applications.

# GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION STRATEGIES

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## Goal 1

It shall be the goal of the City of Sarasota to protect, maintain, enhance, and, where appropriate, restore its natural environment.

### Objective 1 - Compliance with Existing Regulations

The City shall continue the administration, enforcement, and compliance with existing regulations and policies.

#### Action Strategies

1.1 **Requests for Development Approval:** During the review of requests for both public and private development approval, the City shall ensure that applications are consistent with the relevant environmental components of this comprehensive plan, and the most recently adopted and applicable local, regional, state, and federal plans and regulations. These shall include, but are not limited to, the City's Land Development Regulations including:

- Tree Protection regulations in Article VII, Division 3.1 of the Zoning Code;
- Engineering Design Criteria Manual;
- Storm Water Basin Master Plan (1987);
- Sarasota County Sea Turtle Protection Ordinance;
- Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan that is applicable within the City;
- the City Code; and,
- other plans and regulations, such as:
  - ◇ Sarasota Bay Estuary Program's "Comprehensive Conservation and Management Program for Sarasota Bay" (1995);
  - ◇ Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program;
  - ◇ Tampa Bay National Estuary Program;

- ◇ Southwest Florida Water Management District’s “Water Shortage Plan.” (Chapter 40D-21, Florida Administrative Code); and
- ◇ Environmental Resource Permitting of Surface Water Management Systems, administered by the Southwest Florida Water Management District, (Chapters 40D-4, 40D-40, 40D-45 and 40D-400, Florida Administrative Code). These permitting requirements address but are not limited to construction, alteration, or operation of surface water management systems, including tidal and freshwater wetlands.

This Plan recognizes that each request for development approval is unique in terms of location, use, intensity and, therefore, its potential impact upon natural resources. Since approval of some required permits occurs at various stages a finding of consistency with some regulations may occur after site and/or subdivision planning is complete. However, in no instance shall an occupancy permit be issued until all relevant environmental permits and approvals have been granted.

“Development approval” means approval of rezonings, conditional uses, site plans, and subdivision plats.

1.2 **Coordination with Public Agencies:** The City shall coordinate its activities with other relevant public agencies in the protection, enhancement, and restoration of natural resources.

1.3 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives - Water:**

In addition to regulations listed in this action strategy, the City will continue to support and comply with all applicable county, state and federal laws to protect water.

**Water Resources:** The quality of water resources shall continue to be protected in accordance with the Sarasota City Code.

**Wellfield Protection:** All development shall demonstrate that it will not pose a pollution hazard to potable water well fields pursuant to any applicable federal, state, county or city regulations.

**Potable Water Protection:** The City shall coordinate with Sarasota and Manatee Counties to ensure protection of the City’s potable water sources and groundwater recharge areas pursuant to the Sarasota County Wellhead Protection Ordinance #92-079, or Manatee County Zoning Ordinance Section 738 (Groundwater/ Wellhead Protection), and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Rule 62-521 that became effective in July of 1995. The purpose of these regulations includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Establishment of wellhead protection areas around the wellheads; and
- Restriction and regulation of activities within the wellhead protection areas which could contaminate the wellfield such as:
  - ◇ wastewater treatment facilities,
  - ◇ phosphate mining,
  - ◇ solid waste facilities,
  - ◇ uses that generate or store hazardous materials, and
  - ◇ uses which employ chemical storage tanks above or below ground.

**Bay Restoration:** The City shall continue to conserve and protect the quality of water resources including the restoration of Sarasota Bay and its tributaries to comply with applicable state and federal water quality standards by 2010. This will be accomplished through the application and enforcement of the local, state and federal plans and regulations listed in Action Strategy 1.1 of this Chapter and compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. FLS000004. The provisions of this permit address but are not limited to the following:

- litter control and disposal;
- street sweeping;
- construction, operations and maintenance of storm water facilities;
- operations and maintenance of solid waste transfer facilities;
- employee training and licensing programs related to herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers;
- inspections for illegal dumping;
- programs related to oil recycling and the proper disposal of hazardous waste; and
- public education.

The City shall also comply with the Environmental Resource Permitting of Surface Water Management Systems, administered by the Southwest Florida Water Management District, (Chapters 40D-4, 40D-40, 40D-45 and 40D-400, Florida Administrative Code). These permitting requirements address but are not limited to construction, alteration, or operation of surface water management systems.

**Reclaimed Water:** The City shall continue to pursue urban and agricultural reuse of reclaimed domestic wastewater as the City's primary method of wastewater disposal.

**Wastewater Discharge:** The City shall operate the City Wastewater Treatment Plant in accordance with any permits required for its operation.

**Stormwater Runoff:** The quality and quantity of storm water runoff shall continue to be regulated in accordance with the “Engineering Design Criteria Manual” in order to protect the quality of receiving water bodies.

**Water Conservation:** The City shall cooperate with the Southwest Florida Water Management District in water conservation programs developed through the water use permit process.

**Water Shortage Plan:** The City shall support the Southwest Florida Water Management District Water Shortage Plan pursuant to Chapter 40D-21, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), as may be amended, in the event a water shortage is declared.

**Water Planning Alliance:** The City will coordinate its water supply planning efforts with the Water Planning Alliance, which has been formed in the four county area of the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority.

**National Estuary Program:** The City shall continue to support the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program and the implementation of the Sarasota Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

**Stormwater Utility:** The City shall continue to participate in the Sarasota County Stormwater and Environmental Utility.

**Charlotte Harbor:** The City shall support the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program and the Charlotte Harbor Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

**Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan:** The City shall enforce the provisions of the Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan (dated September 24, 2003) that are applicable within the City in order to protect water resources.

#### 1.4 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives - Vegetation:**

**Tree Protection:** Trees, including mangrove stands, shall be protected with the exception of certain exotic pest species identified pursuant to the Tree Protection regulations contained within Article VII, Division 3.1 of the Zoning Code.

**Nuisance Trees and Vegetation:** The City will continue to identify nuisance trees and vegetation and will describe criteria and measures for their removal. The City will pursue a program of removing nuisance trees and vegetation from



City-owned public lands and encourages their removal from other public and private property.

**Tree Protection Ordinance:** The City shall periodically review the Tree Protection ordinance and make necessary revisions to insure it is achieving the intended purpose. Reviews shall consider best management practices for tree protection.

**Green Canopy Program:** To support the “Green Canopy Program” as a means of urban beautification, the Public Works Department shall:

- Inventory the need for urban trees;
- Prepare a guide for selection, planting procedures, and care for urban trees; and,
- Allow for the private contribution of funds into a program that increases the number of trees in public spaces.

The City shall work toward achieving and maintaining Sarasota County’s tree canopy coverage goal of 40%.

**Florida Friendly Landscapes Program:** The City shall promote the Florida Friendly Landscapes Program and shall utilize Florida Friendly Landscape techniques and plants for city-owned property. Florida friendly landscapes use native vegetation that require low levels of irrigation and fertilization.

**Fertilizer Ordinance:** In accordance with Ordinance 07R-1973, the City shall regulate the application of fertilizer consistent with Sarasota County Ordinance No. 2007-053.

**Mangrove Protection:** The protection of mangroves shall comply with the Mangrove Trimming and Preservation Act, Sections 403.9321 through 403.93333, Florida Statutes.

**Native Habitat Restoration and Management:** The City will explore the creation of a native habitat restoration and management strategy. This strategy may include coordination with Sarasota County’s Environmentally Sensitive Lands Protection Program, development of a habitat and natural resources inventory, and acquisition of property through various methods, including the use of Florida Forever funds, to restore damaged environmental systems, manage and protect natural resources, and to increase public access to natural resources.

- 1.5 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives - Wetlands:** The City will continue to support and comply with applicable regulations which protect wetlands. The applicable regulations shall include, but not be limited to, the most recently adopted and applicable documents, as may be amended, listed in Action Strategy 1.1 of this Environmental Protection Plan; Chapter 373, Florida Statutes;

and Chapters 62-4, 62-40, 62-302, 62-340, and 62-342, Florida Administrative Code.

1.6 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives - Wildlife/Wildlife Habitats:** The City will continue to support and comply with applicable regulations which protect fisheries, wildlife and wildlife habitats.

1.7 **Sea Turtle Protection:** The City shall continue to coordinate with Sarasota County in regards to enforcement of the “Sarasota County Sea Turtle Protection Ordinance” within the City limits.

1.8 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives - Hazardous Wastes:**

**Hazardous Wastes:** The City will continue to support and comply with regulations applicable to the collection and disposal of hazardous waste.

**Hazardous Wastes:** The City will cooperate with Sarasota County in the Amnesty Days program to collect and safely dispose of hazardous wastes.

**Underground Storage Tanks:** The City will cooperate with Sarasota County in the Underground Storage Tank Program, which provides for annual inspections of regulated storage tanks and provides technical and fiscal oversight of site assessment and cleanup.

1.9 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives - Air:** Activities which generate air contaminants shall be regulated pursuant to the Sarasota City Code. The City shall continue to support and comply with all applicable county, state and federal laws to protect air quality. This City will also support Sarasota County’s efforts to monitor ambient air quality.

1.10 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives - Aircraft Noise:** The City shall continue to coordinate with and monitor the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport Noise Compatibility Program and its recommended land use strategies. The City will support the establishment of a new noise monitoring station in Newtown if, in the future, the Newtown community becomes included in the airport’s 65+ DNL noise contour. In that event, the City and Airport Authority will jointly develop a noise mitigation strategy.

1.11 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives - Dredging:**

**Dredge Spoil Sites within the City:** The City will allow the disposal of dredge material within the City limits for the renourishment of Lido Beach, subject to approval by the City.

**Dredge Spoil Sites Outside the City:** The City shall coordinate with appropriate state and federal agencies, nearby local governments and counties, and the public in identifying dredge spoil disposal sites.

**Whitaker Bayou Dredging:** To mitigate potential environmental impacts and prevent the dispersion of existing sediments and any possible deposits of heavy metals in Whitaker Bayou, the City or other applying agency will secure all required permits prior to any potential dredging for navigation or flood control purposes.

1.12 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives – Manatees:**

**Manatee Protection Plan:** The City hereby adopts the **Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan**, dated September 24, 2003, as a component of the Sarasota City Plan in order to reduce human-related threats to manatees and their habitat. The City shall follow and implement the resource protection strategies in the **Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan** aimed at protecting manatees. The City shall amend its land development regulations to include a requirement that development proposals be consistent with and further the **Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan**.

**Boat Facility Siting Plan:** The development of new and/or expansion of existing boat facilities of five or more wet or dry marine slips shall be consistent with the Boat Facility Siting Plan component of the **Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan**. The City shall amend its land development regulations to include a requirement that the location of all boat facility development proposals be consistent with the Boat Facility Siting Plan.

The **Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan** shall not be interpreted or applied within the City exclusive of other provisions of the Sarasota City Plan and the City Land Development Regulations which identify and determine allowable land uses.

1.13 **Specific Natural Resource Protection Initiatives – Bayfront Mooring Field:**

A bayfront mooring field shall be developed and maintained in the vicinity of Bayfront Park in an environmentally responsible manner in accordance with permits issued by the State of Florida and Federal agencies.

1.14 **City Coordination with County Environmental Programs:**

The City shall review and coordinate with Sarasota County regarding programs and policies that protect the environment, and will consider adopting County environmental protection ordinances on a case-by-case basis.

## **Objective 2 - Historical and Archeological Resources in the Coastal Area**

The City's Historic Preservation program shall continue to identify historic and archeological resources in the coastal area and to promote the conservation and restoration of said resources through site plan review.

## **Objective 3 - Land Uses Compatible with Coastal Resources**

The City shall continue to provide for land uses that are compatible with coastal resources.

### **Action Strategies**

- 3.1 **Water-Dependent Uses:** Water-dependent uses which are consistent with the Future Land Use Map shall be given priority in the development/redevelopment of land adjacent to the coastline. The maintaining of existing waterfront land for water-dependent land uses shall be a priority for the City.
- 3.2 **Shorelines:** The City shall coordinate with the appropriate federal, state, and county agencies to retain primary authority over private docks, seawalls, and shoreline alteration, pursuant to the Land Development Regulations. Appropriate members of City staff will communicate as necessary with officials from federal, state, and local agencies as needed to determine whether Land Development Regulations should be revised in order to retain the primary authority.
- 3.3 **Shoreline Land Use:** Recognizing that the City of Sarasota is a nearly built-out city and that it is not a port city, the Future Land Use Map, related Future Land Use Plan action strategies, and other relevant action strategies contained in this *Sarasota City Plan* will guide shoreline land use decisions.
- 3.4 **Pedestrian Access Along Shoreline:** The City encourages property owners to provide for public, pedestrian access parallel to the shore (through easements and appropriate walkway structures), in the event that shore hardening is permitted and constructed along the shore. In the event that public access is not provided, the City may consider acquisition of property(s) or easement(s) in order to provide access.
- 3.5 **Beach Protection:** The City shall continue to protect beaches, dunes, and coastal vegetation from vehicular traffic and dunes and coastal vegetation from pedestrian traffic. The City shall continue to prohibit the operation and parking of motor

vehicles upon public beaches except in locations specifically designated for such driving and by government employees on official business. Dune walkover structures shall be required at all beaches to prevent impacts to native vegetation and dune systems.

- 3.6 **Impervious Surface Area:** The City shall continue to explore reducing the amount of existing impervious surface in the Sarasota Bay watershed and seek alternatives for reducing impervious surface area in future development.
- 3.7 **Coastal Islands Maximum Impervious Surface Overlay Map:** The maximum impervious surface coverage for parcels located on the coastal islands are displayed on Illustration EP-16, Coastal Islands Maximum Impervious Surface Overlay Map.
- 3.8 **Impervious Surfaces on Coastal Islands:** The City shall further evaluate the reduction of impervious surfaces for sites located on the coastal islands. Impervious surfaces shall be minimized to the maximum extent feasible, especially for parking surfaces.
- 3.9 **Resource Preservation:** The City will continue to preserve and protect naturally occurring habitats, such as beaches, dunes, seagrass beds and coastal vegetation.
- 3.10 **Coastal Islands Design Guidelines:** The City will evaluate the development and use of design guidelines for structures located on the coastal islands in order to protect the coastal islands historical legacy, integrity of the environment, and character of its neighborhoods. The focal point of the design guidelines, if pursued, shall be on compatibility of infill development with existing structures.
- 3.11 **Traffic Calming:** The City will develop and maintain a traffic calming program for the coastal islands that will reduce vehicle speeds, improve safety, and enhance the quality of life.
- 3.12 **No Expansion of Resort Residential Classification:** In order to promote neighborhood compatibility, the Resort Residential Future Land Use Map classification shall not be expanded on Lido Key.
- 3.13 **Coastal Islands Maximum Building Height Overlay Map:** The maximum building height for parcels located on the coastal islands are displayed on Illustration EP-15, Coastal Islands Maximum Building Height Overlay Map.
- 3.14 **Variances:** Due to the dynamic and fragile environment of coastal islands, variances from minimum zoning lot size requirements and from maximum building coverage limitations shall be prohibited on coastal islands

- 3.15 **Locations where a Marina or Mooring Field shall be Excluded:** No marina or boat mooring field shall be developed in the waters in the vicinity of southern Lido Key, Otter Key, or St. Armands Key.
- 3.16 **Prohibition of Shoreline Hardening:** Except in the case of emergency as provided in Chapter 161, Florida Statutes, the construction of new artificial shoreline hardening structures shall be prohibited. This action strategy does not preclude the maintenance or replacement of existing shoreline hardening structures.

## Goal 2

It shall be the goal of the City of Sarasota to protect life and property in the coastal area from destruction by natural disasters.

### Objective 4 - Reduction of Exposure to Natural Disasters

The City, working in cooperation with the Sarasota County Department of Emergency Management, shall continue to reduce the exposure of life and property to natural disasters and discourage population concentrations in the coastal high hazard area.

#### Action Strategies

- 4.1 **Development and Evacuation:** The City shall ensure that future development within the Coastal High Hazard Area does not occur in amounts, types, or locations that would cause total evacuation time to exceed those established by the City's "Peacetime Emergency Plan" which shall not exceed more than 16 hours.
- 4.2 **Storm Damage Minimization:** The potential for storm damage shall be minimized through compliance with applicable Land Development Regulations including but not limited to:
- Florida Building Code (2004);
  - Coastal Construction Code;
  - Sarasota Zoning Code, which:
    - ◇ regulates construction in the high wind areas using the standard for hurricane resistant construction SSTD 10-93;
    - ◇ regulates areas of special flood hazard;

- ◇ regulates properties in the Marine Park zone, by requiring special approvals for any use which could have any negative impact or cause erosion or environmental damage, such as flooding; protects beach and dune alteration through regulations requiring special permitting procedures for properties within the 150 foot gulf-front setback. These regulations require property owners to establish that proposed changes:

- ⇒ will not endanger the stability of the beach-dune system;
- ⇒ will not accelerate erosion;
- ⇒ obtain advance approval from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection;

- ◇ encourages the use of dune walk-over systems to preserve vegetation and the dunes;

- ◇ uses conservation districts as overlay zones to protect land uses in certain environmentally sensitive areas including coastal areas, beaches, dunes and marshes;

- Engineering Design Criteria Manual, which mandates stormwater attenuation and requires that external drainage systems shall be built to the 25-year/24-hour storm event; and,
- Operational provisions to recover from damage caused to the sanitary sewer system caused by severe storms.

4.3 **Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA):** The City will continue to participate in the Federal Emergency Management Act Community Rating Systems (CRS) Program, which involves meeting higher than minimum FEMA standards. The CRS program includes but is not limited to:

- the City's adopted flood plain management program which deals with strategies to lessen flooding and respond to emergencies; and
- annual reports to the CRS Program on the City's progress, and effects of any storms.

4.4 **Neighborhood and Development Services Department Procedures:** The City shall consider procedures recommended by the Insurance Service Organization, which reviews and rates Neighborhood and Development Services Department procedures. If recommendations are found to be feasible, the Neighborhood and Development Services Department will develop strategies for implementation.

4.5 **Peacetime Emergency Plan:** The City shall employ the hazard mitigation annex of the Peacetime Emergency Plan, the purpose of which includes, but is not limited to:

- assigning responsibilities and establishing procedures for governmental agencies, volunteer agencies, and individuals, in preparing for and executing evacuation of designated areas of Sarasota;
- relocation of coastal residents, residents of mobile home parks, and residents of low-lying areas subject to flooding; and
- providing maximum warning time possible to residents of those areas which are deemed to be in danger.

4.6 **Coastal Property Acquisition:** The City will consider measures, including the acquisition of coastal property subject to frequent damage during natural disasters, to reduce the exposure of life and property to future disasters.

4.7 **Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan:** Immediately following each major disaster, the City shall evaluate the Damage Assessment Team and Damage Survey Team reports (as required by the Peacetime Emergency Plan) and develop a specific post-disaster redevelopment plan in coordination with the Sarasota County Department of Emergency Management. The intent of the post-disaster redevelopment plan will be to repair damaged infrastructure needed for health and safety; to coordinate long term recovery operations to City infrastructure and public structures; and aid the City's economy to return to pre-disaster competitive status. The plan will include funding and staffing estimates, set priorities for post disaster efforts, and develop criteria for deciding the order of importance in which the elements of the City's economy are to be aided.

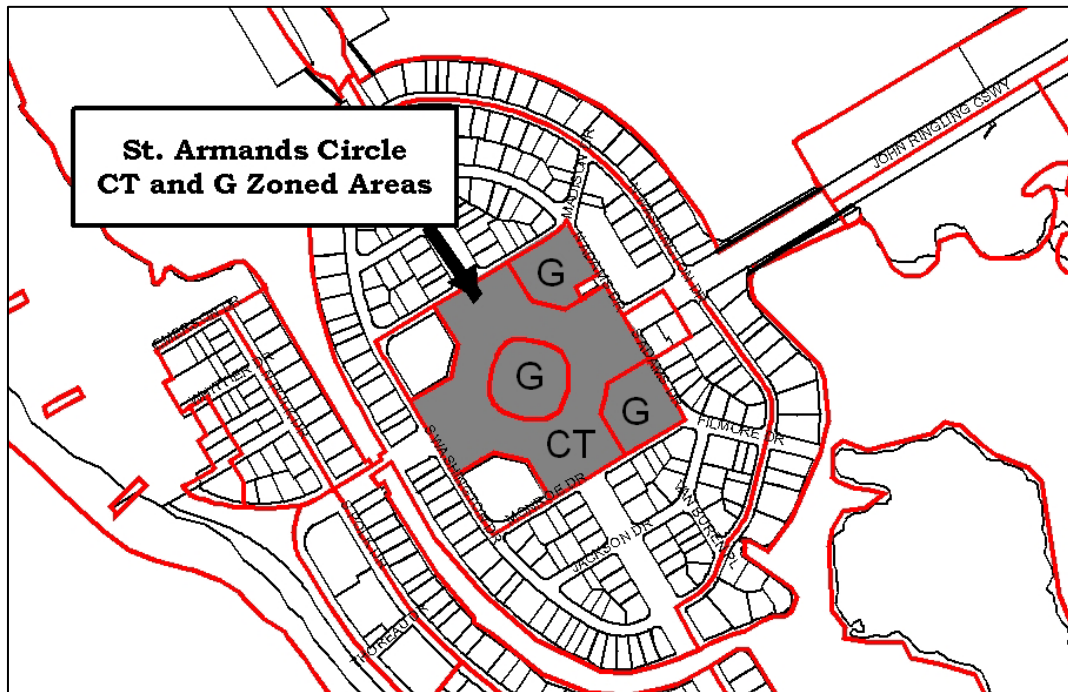
4.8 **Public Fund Expenditures in Coastal High Hazard Area:** Prior to locating new public facilities or public infrastructure in the coastal high hazard area (CHHA), alternative locations outside of the CHHA shall be explored and evaluated. The expenditure of public funds on infrastructure in the CHHA shall be limited to:

- New public facilities and public infrastructure which can not feasibly be located outside of the CHHA;
- Restoration, maintenance, enhancement, relocation, mitigation, or replacement of the following;
  - ◇ Natural resources;
  - ◇ Passive recreation facilities;
  - ◇ Facilities and uses which further the land uses on the Future Land Use Map;
  - ◇ Facilities necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the public or sustain the financial integrity of the City. Examples of such facilities include, but are



not limited to: Police stations, fire stations, medical facilities, bridges, roads, public rest rooms, performing arts centers, and auditoriums.

- 4.9 **Limitations on Rebuilding:** The City will define in the Land Development Regulations provisions that limit and/or prohibit the reconstruction of certain non-conforming structures or nonconforming portions of structures in the event that they are destroyed to an extent of more than seventy-five percent of their replacement value at the time of destruction.
- 4.10 **Minimizing the Risks of Natural Disasters:** The City will coordinate with Sarasota County in utilizing the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) for the purpose of minimizing the risks of natural disasters. The LMS includes an assessment of vulnerabilities to natural disasters and mitigate initiatives to minimize risks.
- 4.11 **Renourishment of the City's Beaches:** The City shall continue its program of periodic beach renourishment in order to protect upland property and to support the economic benefits of tourism. The City shall pursue grants and other funding sources to assist in the renourishment of the City's beaches for the protection of public and private property.
- 4.12 **Passive Recreation:** The City encourages that recreational activities on and adjacent to beaches minimize impacts to natural resources and the environment.
- 4.13 **Coastal Construction Control Line:** The City shall not issue permits for structures seaward of the Coastal Construction Control Line (CCCL) that do not have the appropriate permit(s) issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection unless the structure is exempt from the requirements of Chapter 62B-33, Florida Administrative Code.
- 4.14 **No Increase in Future Land Use Map or Zoning Density:** The City shall not approve amendments to the Future Land Use Map (LU-6), Zoning Atlas, or zoning text that increase residential density on the coastal islands as identified on Illustration EP-14. However, as an exception to this action strategy, the City may allow for an increase in residential density within the CT or G zoned sites located within the St. Armands Circle commercial shopping area for the purpose of creating residential liner buildings that screen non-residential uses from residential uses as determined through a master planning process. The CT and G zoned areas are delineated in the illustration below.



## Objective 5 - Safe Evacuation and Adequate Shelter during Natural Disasters

The City shall continue to provide for safe evacuation and adequate shelter during natural disasters.

### Action Strategies

5.1 **Evacuation:** The City shall coordinate with Sarasota County through the Peacetime Emergency Plan to:

- ensure orderly evacuation of coastal areas in the event of a natural disaster consistent with evacuation orders issued by the Office of Emergency Management;
- reduce evacuation times in conjunction with the Sarasota County comprehensive plan; and
- increase the amount of shelter space available;
- periodically review the city-wide Emergency Plan.

5.2 **Law Enforcement After Storm Events:** After passage of a storm event, the City's Police Department shall provide sufficient law enforcement patrols to safeguard property in evacuated locations.

## Goal 3

It shall be the goal of the City of Sarasota to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by implementing more sustainable practices, including green building technologies.

### Objective 6 - Sustainability

The City shall implement policies and programs that further sustainable development practices.

#### Action Strategies

- 6.1 **Kyoto Protocol:** The City will work toward achieving the Kyoto Protocol targets for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Actions pursued by the city shall include, but not be limited to, anti-sprawl land-use policies, urban forest restoration projects, public information campaigns, energy efficient building designs, recycling programs, and environmentally friendly procurement.
- 6.2 **Florida Green Local Government:** The City will pursue steps toward becoming a Florida Green Local Government using the Green Local Government Standard developed by the Florida Green Building Coalition, Inc.
- 6.3 **Sustainable Building:** To achieve more sustainable building practices, the City shall use sustainable building measures for new buildings and major renovation projects for City facilities as outlined in the U.S. Green Building Council's document "LEED-NC: Green Building Rating System for New Construction and Major Renovations."
- 6.4 **Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emission:** The City encourages the State and Federal Governments to enact policies and programs for achieving the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol – a 7% reduction from 1990 levels by 2012.
- 6.5 **Greenhouse Gas Legislation:** The City encourages the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation, which would establish a national emission trading system.
- 6.6 **LEED or FGBC Certified Development:** To encourage reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the City shall develop and implement incentives for LEED or Florida Green Building Coalition, Inc. certified development proposals. Such incentives may include a formal expedited review process or a fee reduction schedule.

- 6.7 **Coordination with Sarasota County:** The City shall coordinate with the Sarasota County Sustainability Office to better realize and implement efficiencies and coordination in environmental legislation throughout Sarasota County.
- 6.8 **Water Conserving and Energy Efficient Appliances:** The City encourages the use of water conserving appliances and cisterns in order to reduce the per capita consumption of potable water and the increased use of energy efficient appliances to reduce energy consumption and the carbon footprint of the city.

# ATTACHMENT 1

## Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Illustrations

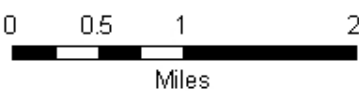
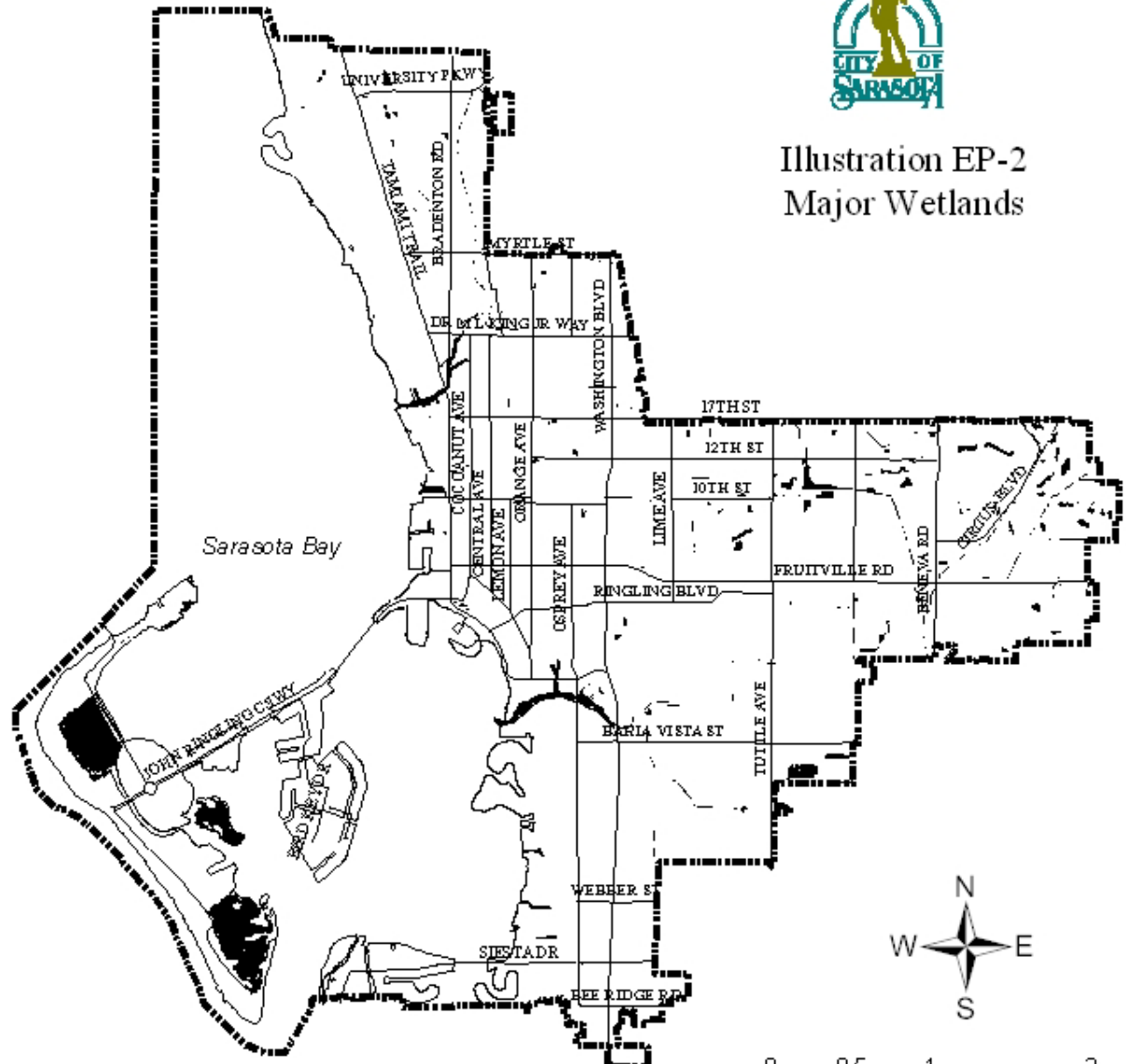
The following Environmental Protection and Coastal Islands Illustrations, which may be consolidated or reformatted by resolution of the City Commission, are part of the Future Land Use Map Series:


- EP-2 Major Wetlands Map;
- EP-3 Soil Map;
- EP-4 Floodplains Map;
- EP-5 Natural Habitats and Systems Map;
- EP-6 Threatened and Endangered Species (table);
- EP-7 Important Seagrasses, Green Algae and Endangered Plants (table);
- EP-10 Shoreline Conditions;
- EP-11 Hurricane Storm Categories;
- EP-14 Coastal Islands Map;
- EP-15 Coastal Islands Maximum Building Height Overlay Map; and
- EP-16 Coastal Islands Maximum Impervious Surface Overlay Map.





## Illustration EP-2 Major Wetlands

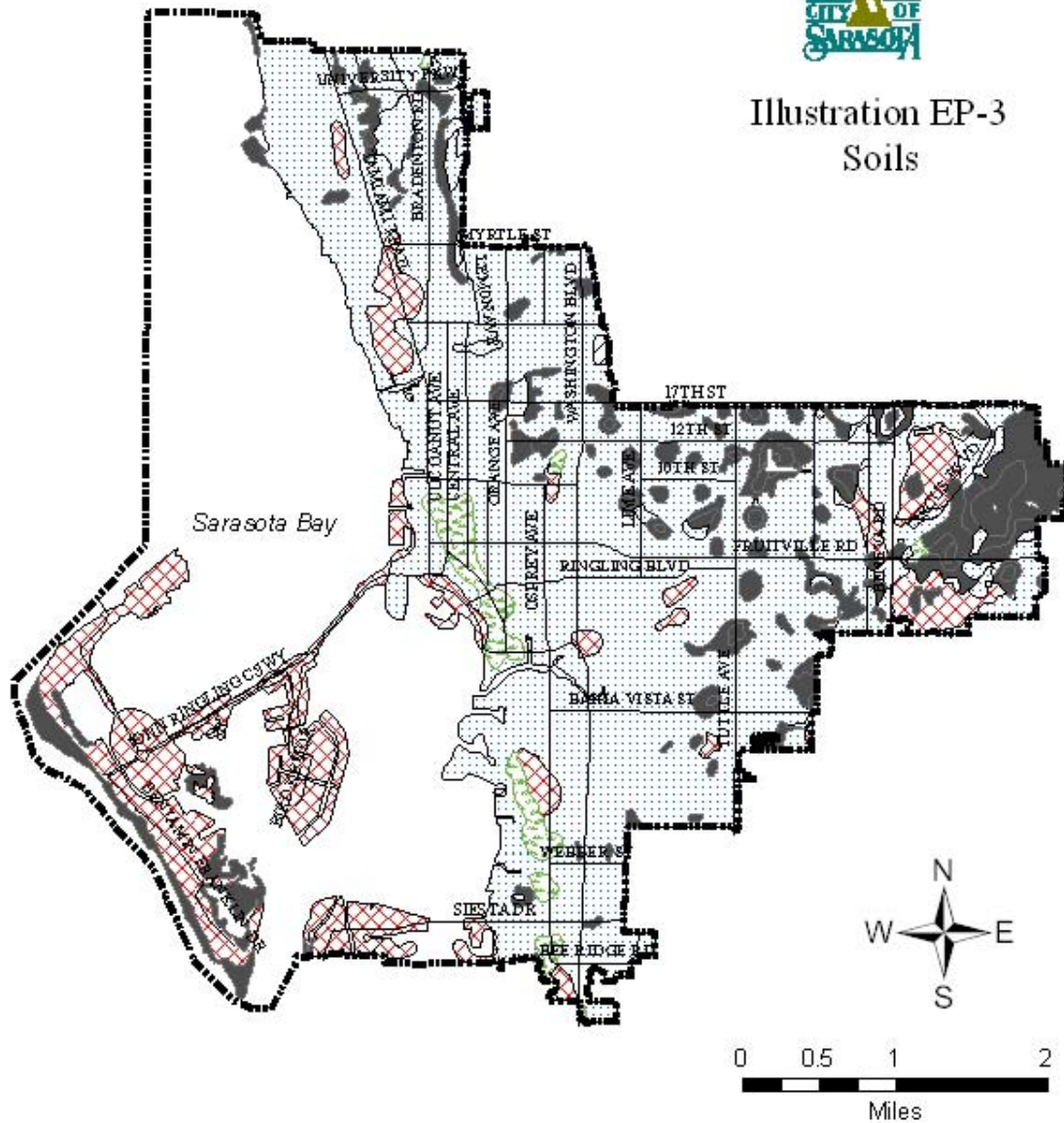


 Major Wetland Areas

Source: Sarasota County GIS Data, 2007



## Illustration EP-3 Soils



### Soil Hydrologic Classification Group



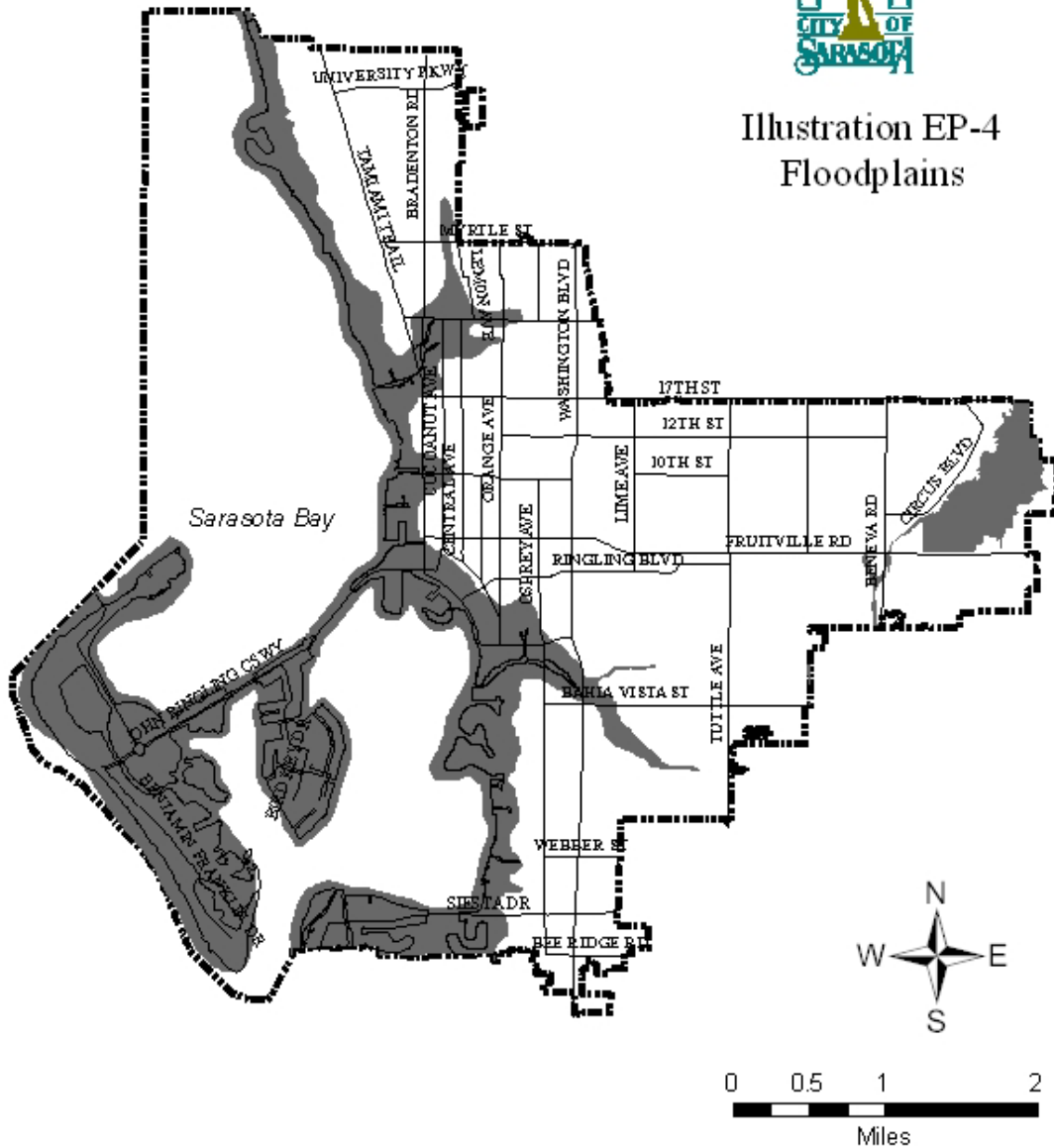
Note: See Soil Hydrologic Group descriptions on page EP-35

Source: Southwest Florida Water Management District data from the US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service






## Illustration EP-4 Floodplains



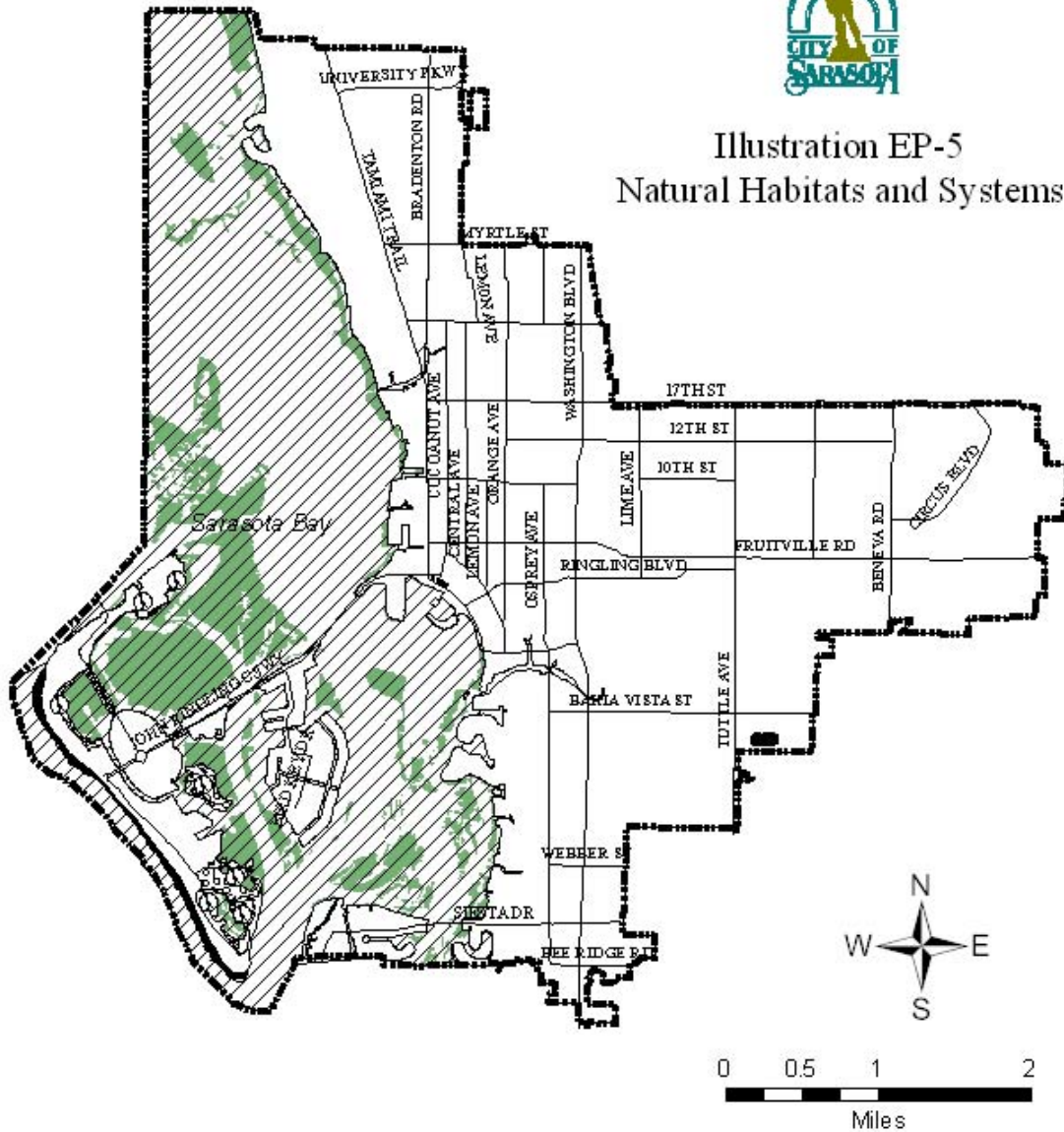
### Floodplains

 A and V Zones

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Flood Insurance Rate Maps, 1996



## Illustration EP-5 Natural Habitats and Systems



- Bird Habitats
- Sea Turtle Nesting Beach
- Mangroves
- Potential Manatee Siting Area
- Seagrass

Note: Detailed manatee sighting data is located in the Sarasota County Manatee Protection Plan.

Sources: City of Sarasota Planning and Redevelopment Department and Southwest Florida Water Management District.

## Illustration EP-6. Threatened and Endangered Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS Status	FGFWFC Status
West Indian manatee	Trichechus manatus	E	E
Arctic peregrine falcon	Falco peregrinus tundrius		E
Wood stork	Mycteria americana	E	E
American alligator	Alligator mississippiensis	TSA	SSC
Atlantic Loggerhead turtle	Caretta caretta	T	T
Eastern indigo snake	Drymarchon corais couperi	T	T
Piping plover	Charadrius melodus	T	T
Bachman's warbler	Vermivora bachmanii	E	E
Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	T	T
Florida scrub jay	Aphelocoma coerulescens coerulescens	T	T
Green turtle	Chelonia mydas mydas	E	E
Atlantic ridley turtle	Lepidochelys kempi	E	E
Gopher Tortoise	Gopherus polyphemus		SSC

Notes:

USFWS = United States Fish and Wildlife Service

FGFWFC = Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission

E = endangered

T = Threatened

TSA = Threatened due to similarity in appearance

SSC = Species of special concern

Source: Florida's Endangered Species, Threatened Species and Species of Special Concern, Official Lists. Published by the Bureau of Nongame Wildlife, Division of Wildlife, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. April 1996.

## Illustration EP-7. Important Seagrasses, Green Algae, and Endangered Plants

	Scientific Name	Common Name
Seagrasses:	<i>Thalassia testudinum</i>	turtle-grass
	<i>Syringodium filiforme</i>	manatee-grass
	<i>Ruppia maritima</i>	widgeon-grass
	<i>Halophila engelmannii</i>	star-grass
	<i>Halophila decipiens</i>	paddle-grass
	<i>Halophila wrightii</i>	shoal-grass
Green Algae:	<i>Caulerpa prolifera</i>	
	<i>Caulerpa ashmeadii</i>	
	<i>Caulerpa mexicana</i>	
	<i>Caulerpa racemosa</i>	
	<i>Caulerpa cupressoides</i>	
	<i>Halimeda opuntia</i>	
Endangered Plants:	<i>Suriana maritima</i>	bay cedar, thatch leaf; a beach shrub
	<i>Ernodea littoralis</i>	beachcreeper, common ernodea
	<i>Opuntia stricta</i>	shell mound prickly-pear, common prickly-pear
	<i>Scaevola plumieri</i>	inkberry

Source: Mote Marine Laboratory, 1997, which also referenced the following publications:

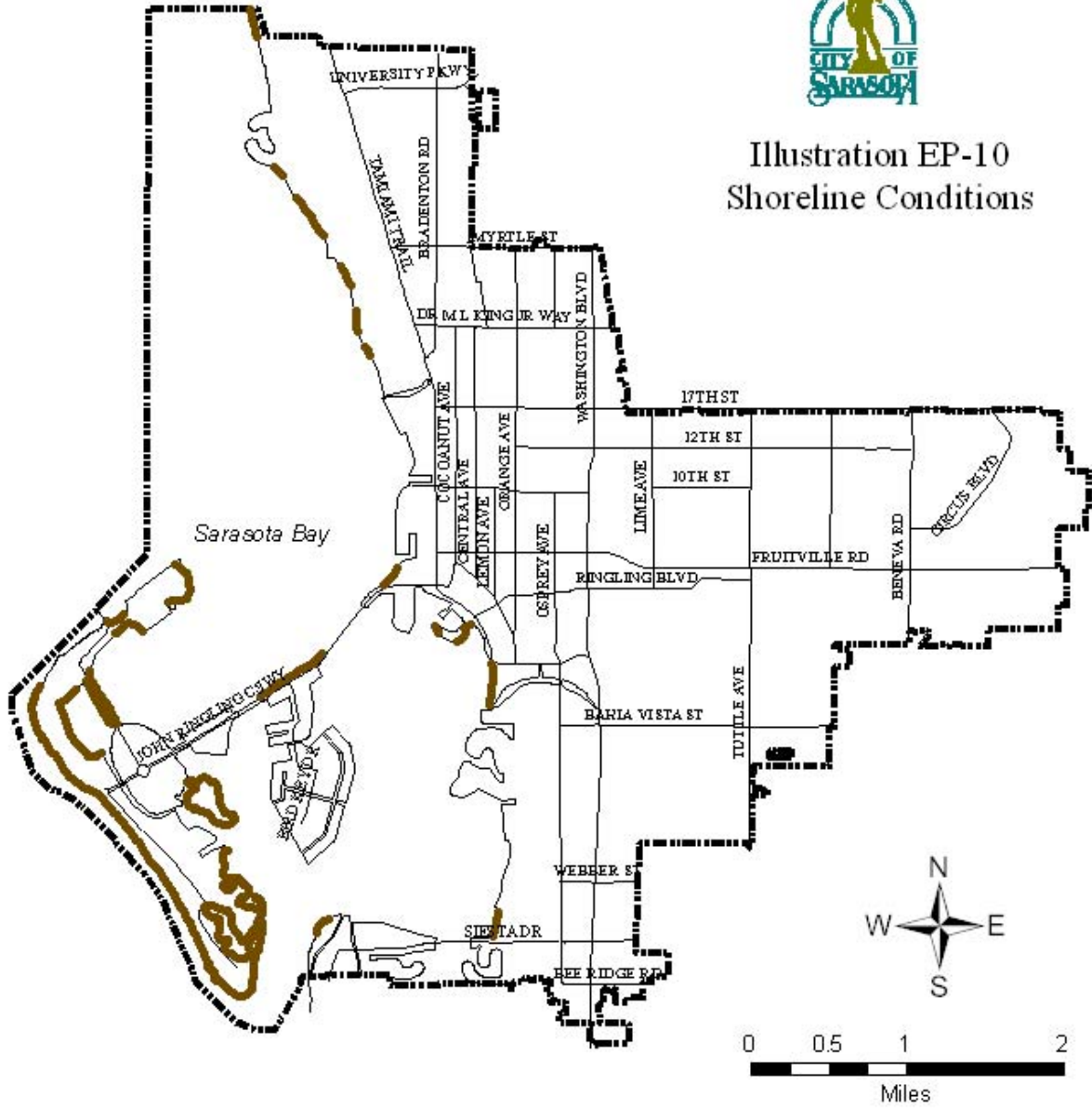
Rare and Endangered Biota of Florida, multiple volumes published by the University Press of Florida.

Florida's Endangered Species, Threatened Species and Species of Special Concern, Bureau of Nongame Wildlife, Division of Wildlife, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (FGFWFC).

Notes on Florida's Endangered and Threatened Plants, Bureau of Entomology, Nematology and Plant Pathology-Botany Section, Contribution No. 39. Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.



### Illustration EP-10 Shoreline Conditions



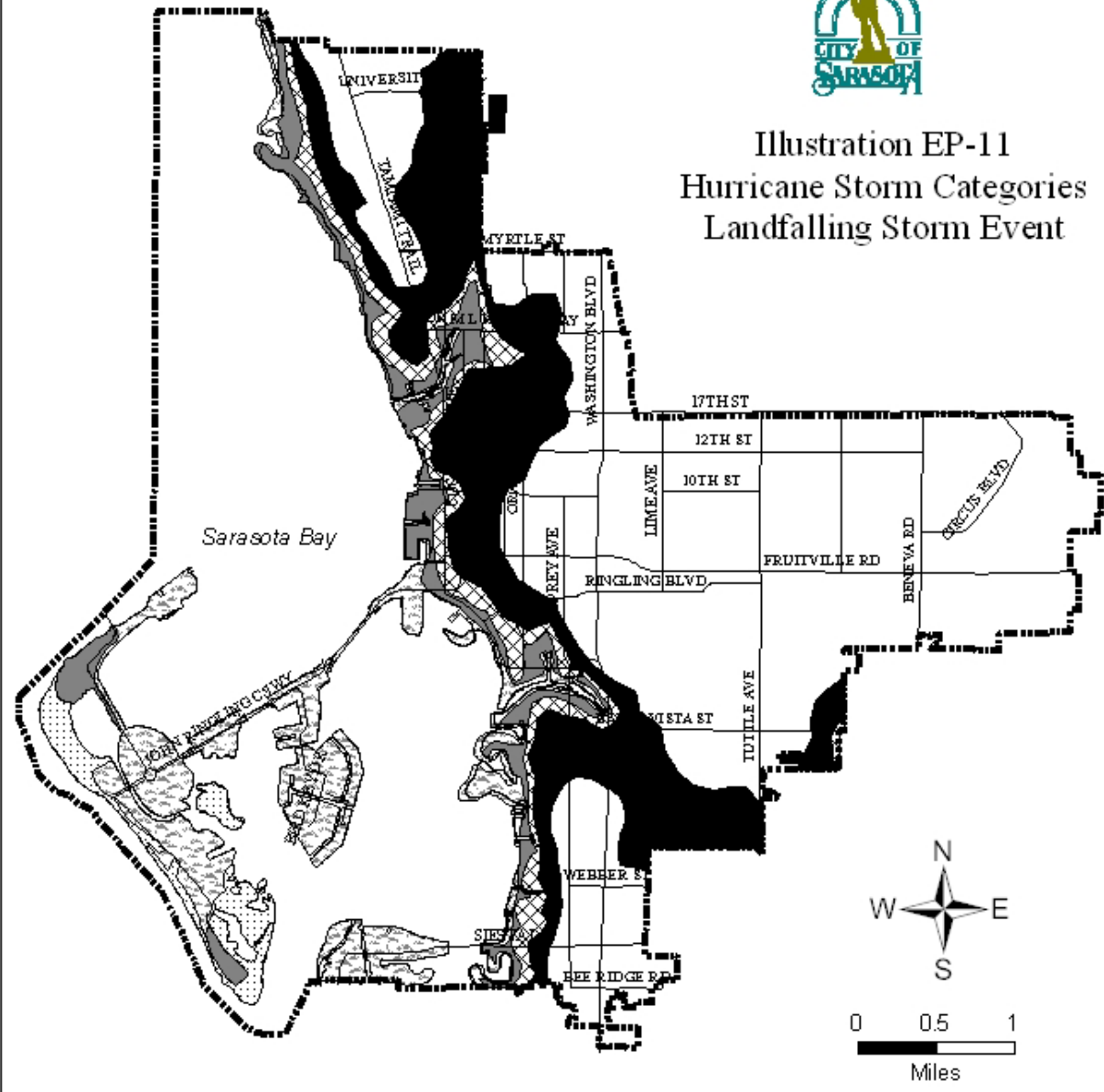
#### Shoreline Conditions

- Natural Shoreline
- Hardened Shoreline






Source: City of Sarasota Engineering Department, 2008.



## Illustration EP-11 Hurricane Storm Categories Landfalling Storm Event

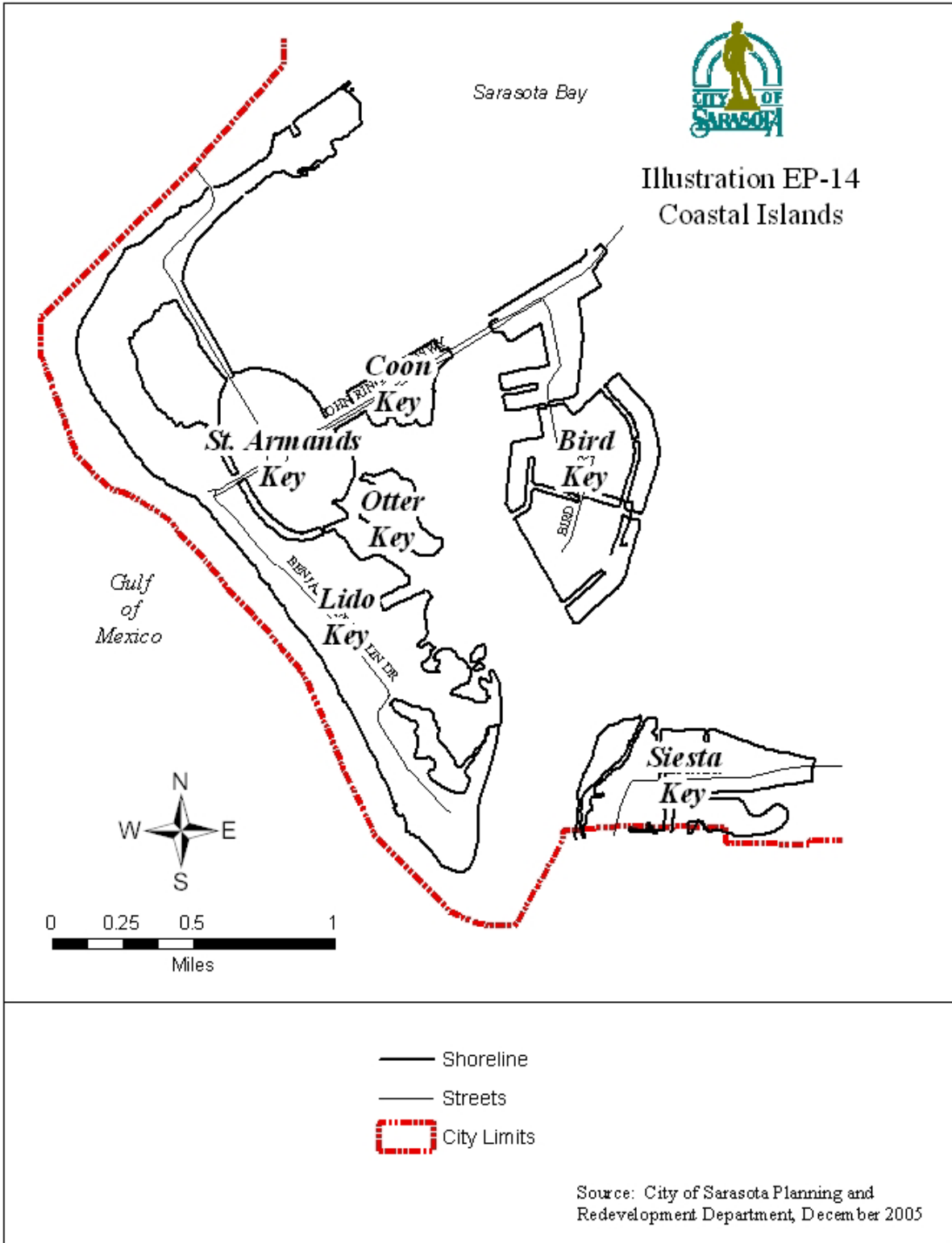


### Storm Category

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  Tropical Storm |  Category 3   |
|  Category 1     |  Category 4/5 |
|  Category 2     |  |

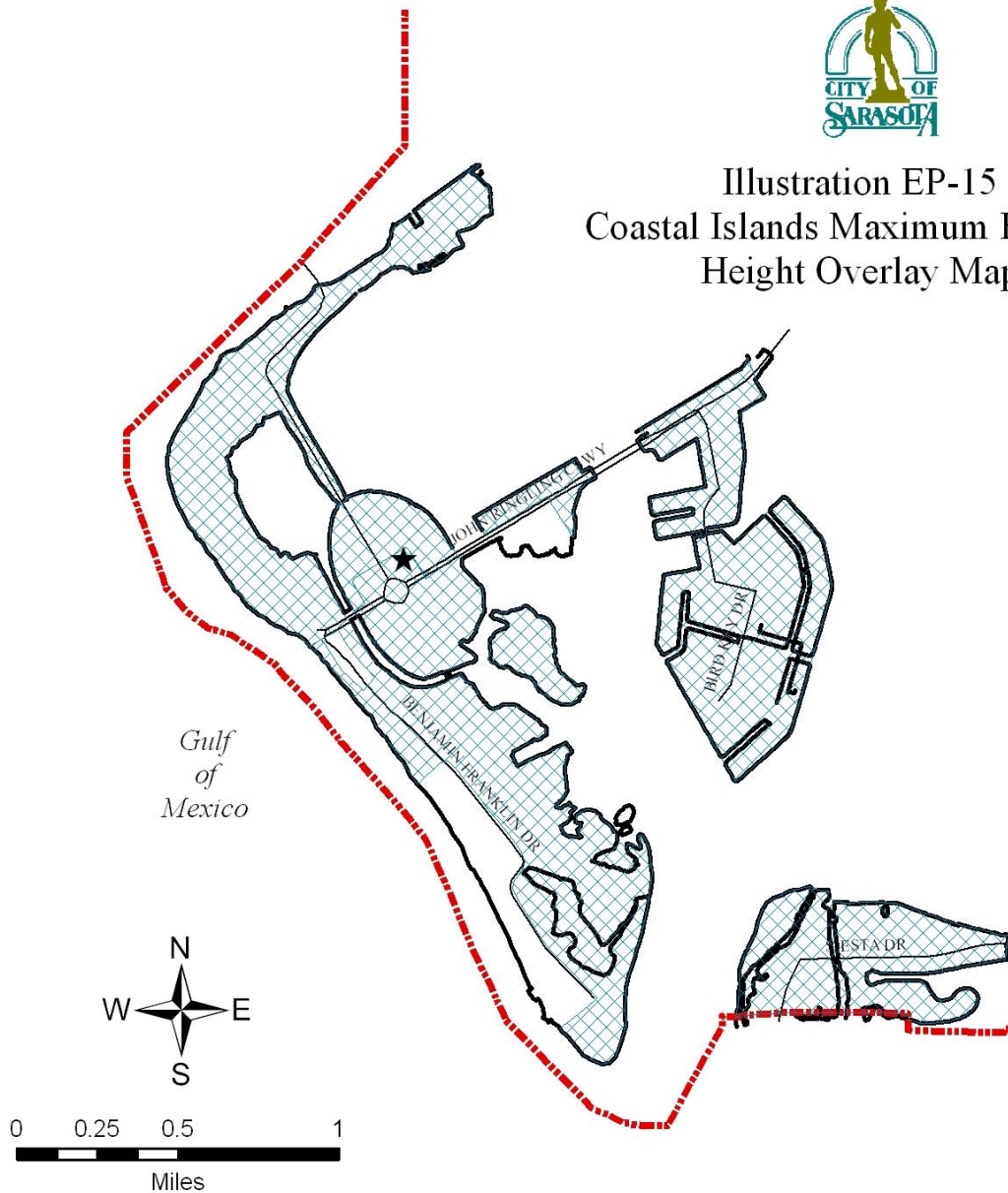
**Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA)**  
The Coastal High Hazard Area consists of the Tropical Storm and Category 1 Areas.

Source: Sarasota County GIS (2005) and Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council and (1991)









## Illustration EP-15 Coastal Islands Maximum Building Height Overlay Map



### Area with Maximum Building Height Limitation

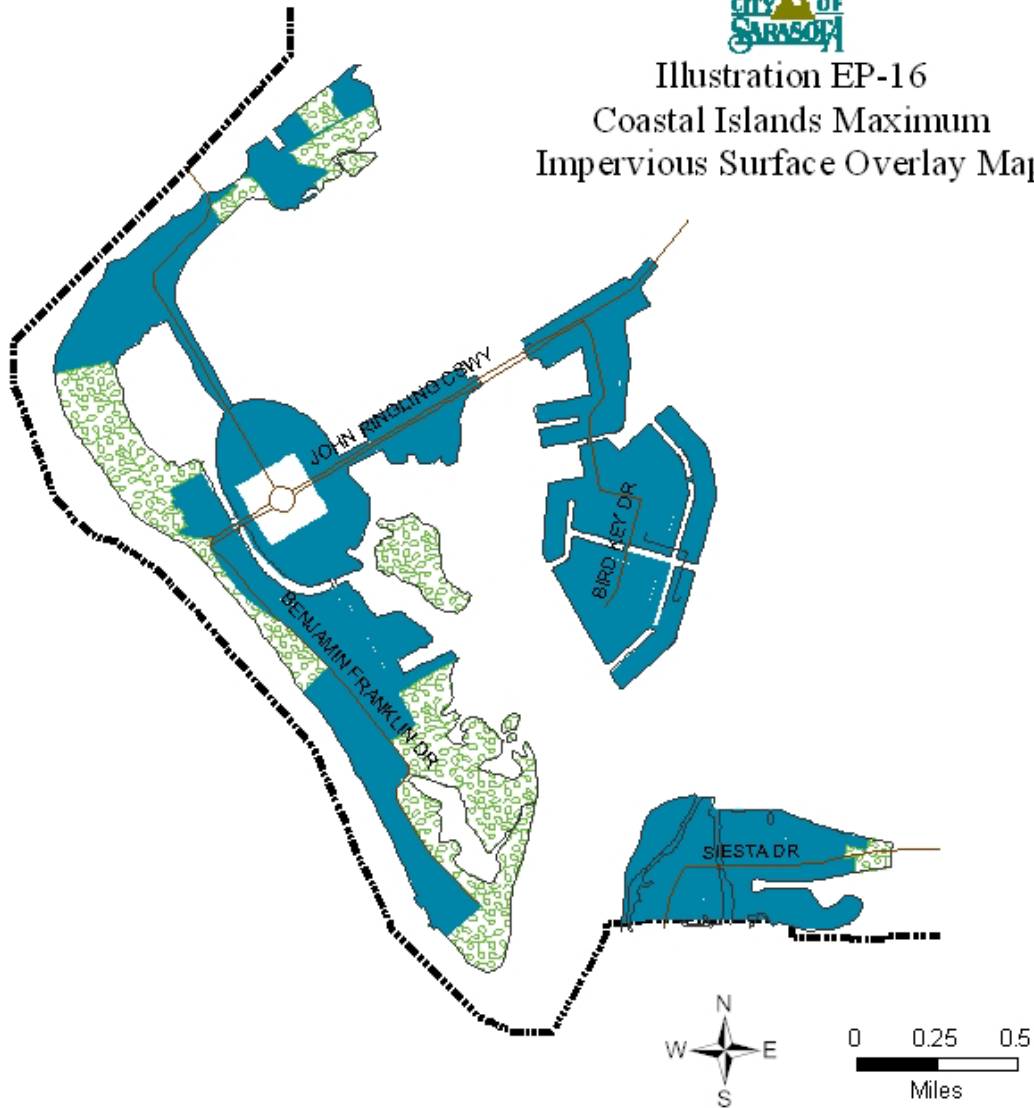
-  Area Limited to Maximum of 35 Feet in Height (as measured from the minimum FEMA elevation)
-  City-Owned Parcel (2014-05-0084) has a Maximum Height Limit of 40 Feet (as measured from the minimum FEMA elevation)
-  City Limits
-  Streets

Source: City of Sarasota Neighborhood and Development Services Department, December 2008

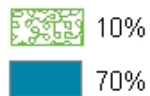




Illustration EP-16  
Coastal Islands Maximum  
Impervious Surface Overlay Map



**Maximum Impervious Surface Area**



Source: City of Sarasota Planning and  
Redevelopment Department, February 2007

