

Scenic Watch



Special
Edition
February
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Special Edition - Scenic Intersections

Sarasota: "A City of Visionaries, Roundabouts, and the Arts"

"Sarasota, Florida is a city that has long proudly supported the arts.



The Jumping Fish sculpture stands 16 ft high by 12 ft wide in the center island of the modern roundabout at Coconut Avenue & Palm Avenue. The sculpture was selected from among 140 submissions and is the 84th piece in Sarasota's Public Art Collection. It was sculpted in 2019 by Jeff Laramore. Photo: Nate Ilardi for City of Sarasota.

The city's vibrant arts scene includes the Ringling College of Art and Design, the famous Ringling Museum, an opera house, a ballet company, and the Sarasota Art Museum. Thanks to visionaries, the City's Public Art Collection now includes downtown modern roundabouts graced with artworks.

Early on, then Sarasota City Engineer Dennis Daughters, then City Traffic Manager Sam Freija, and current City Engineer Alex Davis Shaw envisioned a downtown made more pedestrian friendly—and even more beautiful—with a collection of modern roundabouts. Today, their vision is coming to fruition.

"We're interested in the safety of walkability and connectivity to Sarasota Bay," Downtown Sarasota Condo Association Transportation Committee Chair and Urban Planning Professor Emeritus at the University of Cincinnati Roger Barry said. "The roundabouts help supply that and appear to be extremely successful. I think we're kind of proud of the fact Sarasota is an art-focused community and the roundabouts are an expression of that..."



Five Points Roundabout at Main Street & Pineapple Avenue. Photo: Ken Sides



Embracing Our Differences Roundabout at Main Street & Orange Avenue. Photo:

Nate Ilardi for City of Sarasota



Photo: Bravo! Roundabout at Ringling Boulevard & Orange Avenue. Photo: Ken Sides



To help a skeptical public understand what it would get in return for giving up the two travel lanes, Sarasota-based Hoyt Architects Lab created a rendering depicting how different the three intersections could look with marine-themed public art in the roundabout central islands for the Fruitville Road

roundabout. Image: Hoyt Architecture Lab.

-- Ken Sides, Roads and Bridges

[Read entire detailed article in Roads and Bridges](#)

[NEW! Scenic Florida's Section in the Bill Brinton Library devoted to Scenic Intersections](#)

Scenic Intersection Murals:
"City of Clearwater sponsoring paint the pavement placemaking project in the Skycrest neighborhood"



Artist and volunteers celebrating their new artwork in the City of Clearwater
Photo: Steven Hirschfield

"The City of Clearwater's Neighborhoods Division sponsored a placemaking event Sunday with the painting of an intersection mural in the Skycrest neighborhood at

Mars Avenue and Rainbow Drive.

The city has partnered with the Skycrest Neighborhood Association, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, artist Beth Warmath and local volunteers to paint the intersection throughout the day on Sunday, Feb. 21. The piece of community art below will promote togetherness and environmental stewardship, according to artist Beth Warmath.

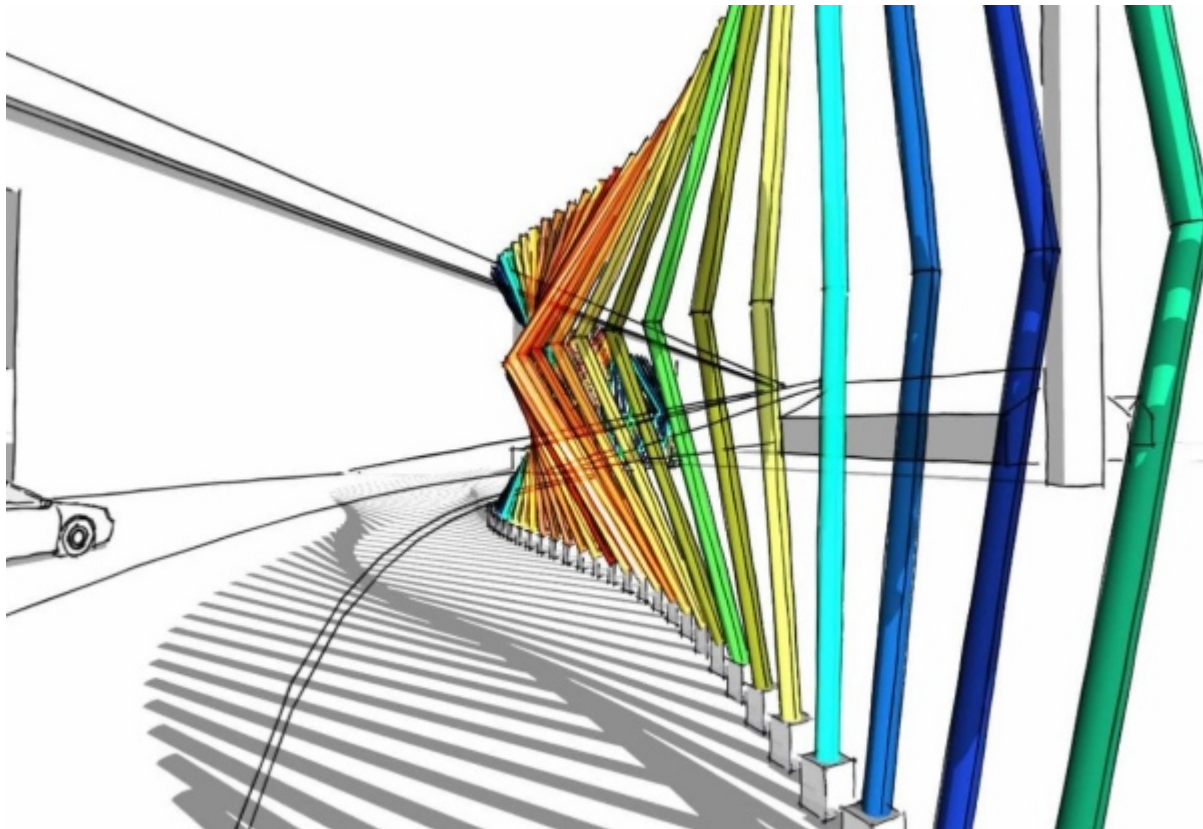
'I am honored to be a part of another wonderful project in bright and beautiful Clearwater,' she said..."

Those interested in starting a project of their own can visit <https://www.myclearwater.com/residents/placemaking-programs/paint-the-pavement> for more information..."

-- Steven Hirschfield, IONTB.com

[Read entire article](#)

Scenic Intersection Ramps:
"Winning design chosen for Winter Park I-4 Ultimate ramp"



Rendering: By RLF Architects

"Design selection by the Public Art Advisory Board was approved by the City Commission last month for a large-scale sculpture that will be installed at the new I-4 Ultimate on-ramp in Winter Park..."

The installation will feature a long row of interconnected, multi-colored 18-foot poles...

The initiative is part of the I-4 Ultimate Art Endowment Program, funded by the I-4 Mobility Partners to the tune of \$1.5 million. Six cities along the 21-mile stretch of the I-4 Ultimate corridor are responsible for choosing a winning design to be installed on their portion of the interstate..."

-- Brendan O'Connor, Bungalower

[Read entire article](#)

Scenic Intersections Library:

Scenic Florida

The Bill Brinton Library contains information on scenic subjects and their history. We have created an expert topic area about Scenic intersections in order to help our communities become aware of the wide variety of innovative projects being undertaken around our state, country and even the world so that we can make our own intersections more attractive and give residents a sense of place. Please visit us for many more photos, news about new projects and more ideas on what is possible for you to do in your own area.

[Visit Scenic Florida's Scenic Intersections Section](#)

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