

City of Venice

Special Events / Use of Public Space Application

Date Submitted: March 13, 2019

Organization's Legal Name: Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County

Contact Person: Bill Ahern, CEO and Executive Director, 941-493-6606 ext. 222

Organization's Nonprofit Status: 501C3 Nonprofit

Organization's Mission Statement: The purpose of Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County (HFHSSC) is to build and refurbish decent dwellings in South Sarasota County, Florida in order to sell them to those in need. We bring people together to build homes, communities, and hope with our vision being a world where everyone has a decent place to live. The beneficiaries of this event will be low-income residents of South Sarasota County seeking an affordable home and are willing to partner with us to turn a vision into a reality. We provide families with a hand up, not a hand out in that they must work over 300 hours toward the building of Habitat Homes, be financially stable, and repay the costs of construction through an affordable mortgage with Habitat for Humanity.

Date of Event: July 27, 2019 and the last Saturday in July in future years.

Event Name: Habitat's 3B Bike Boat & Beach Relay

Event Location: The Island of Venice

Event Description: This is will be an annual event to take place during the summer (last Saturday in July) meant to engage residents, communities, and businesses in a fun, invigorating, and slightly competitive activity that raises funds for building a Habitat for Humanity Home in South Sarasota County. It will be a relay race going around the periphery of the island of Venice and will highlight a number of Venice's incredible outdoor attributes – its beaches, bike trails, and waterways. The relay race will begin at Sharky's/Maxine Barrett Park and end at the Venice Pier (Exhibit #1) with post-event activities being held at Sharky's and Maxine Barrett Park as well. The total distance of the relay race is approximately 10 miles around the island of Venice

Bike Relay - The first segment of the race will be the bike relay and will begin at Sharky's and Maxine Barrett Park at approximately 10 am. Bikers will head south on Harbor Drive (where traffic control may be required - Exhibit #2) and proceed to Caspersen Beach Parking Area where they will pick up the Venetian Waterway Park Trail. They will then head north until arriving in the parking area under the South/Circus Bridge (distance = 3.25 miles). From the South/Circus Bridge parking area, a new bike relay person will go under the bridge and head north. Traffic control may be required in front of Marine Mx and the Car Dealership (Exhibit #3). Bikers will continue along the Venetian Waterway Park Trail until arriving at the parking area under the Venice Avenue Bridge (distance = 3 miles). Once arriving at the Venice Avenue Bridge (Exhibit #4), an event coordinator will notify (via cellphone or walkie-talkie) another event coordinator at the Marina Boat Ramp next to the Train Depot where the boat relay person will be staged and ready to go.

Boat Relay – The second segment of the race will be the boat relay and begin at the Marina Boat Ramp. Only motor-less boats such kayaks, paddleboards, and canoes that have to be paddled for propulsion will be allowed. The boat relay person will head northeast up the intracoastal waterway going under the North/KMI Bridge and paddle across Roberts Bay until reaching the boat ramp at Higel Marine Park (distance = 1.4 miles).

Beach Run Relay – The third segment of the race will be the Beach Run Relay consisting of three legs. The first leg (Exhibit #5) will begin at Higel Park/Venice Yacht Club with the first relay runner heading south on Tarpon Center Drive and then turning south onto The Esplanade and ending at Venice Beach (distance = .6 miles). Traffic assistance may be required for the this first leg. The second leg (Exhibit #6) will begin at Venice Beach with participants running on the beach nearest the tide and ending at the Golden Beach Easement Gazebo (distance = 1 mile). The final leg (Exhibit #7) of the beach run will begin at Golden Beach Easement and end at the Pier at Sharky's (distance = 1 mile).

Final Challenge – the final segment of the relay will be a team challenge involving at least 3 teammates that must work together through a series of tasks to complete the race. Details have not been finalized but it is envisioned that the challenge will include sand pails, Frisbees, and beach balls. The location of this will be the beach area (Exhibit #8) just before the pier on the north side and where it is expected to draw the largest crowd of supporters and spectators.

Post Event Celebration: Post Event Award Ceremonies and Celebrations are being planned for Sharky's, and Maxine Barrett Park.

Event Viewing – It is envisioned that a multimedia company would be engaged to set up cameras at each relay point to broadcast and announce the race. Viewing areas would be set up at Sharky's and/or Maxine Barrett Park for supporters to watch the race and cheer on their team.

Benefit and Intent: Besides raising money for building a Habitat Home, the intent of this event is to engage local residents, communities, and businesses in a signature event during the slowest and most inactive time of the year.