



San Carlos Maritime Park FAQ

What is San Carlos Maritime Park?

San Carlos Maritime Park is a 5.5-acre waterfront property owned and managed by Lee County Government. It was closed after damage from Hurricane Ian. It is being redeveloped to restore facilities for shrimping operations and to provide Lee County with a site for marine operations and use during disaster recovery (gray skies events).

Why is the site being rebuilt?

Hurricane Ian caused extensive damage to the site's grounds, buildings, and docking facilities in 2022. Full reconstruction is required to safely reopen and modernize the site, support the local shrimping industry along this historic working waterfront, and enable county emergency operations.

What improvements are planned?

The redevelopment will create a modern, multi-purpose waterfront facility with upgraded mooring, improved loading and unloading areas, enhanced official-use access, parking, and a strengthened seawall.

Will shrimp boats still be able to dock at the site?

The reconstruction plan includes mooring areas capable of accommodating commercial shrimping operations. The restored facilities are being designed to support this traditional working waterfront use, within the existing state easement.

What new features will support emergency management?

The facility will include an area for barge docking if needed for disaster recovery. A secured, gated area will be added to store supplies, materials, and equipment used by Lee County Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management.

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How will waterfront operations be improved?

Improvements will be delivered through phased site upgrades to support both the shrimping industry and County operations.

- Phase 1 will include all upland work, such as driveways, parking areas, and drainage improvements, along with the construction of a new seawall along the entire waterfront and the installation of a small dock.
- Phase 2 will focus on dredging along the seawall to support direct mooring and barge landings, as well as any necessary reconfiguration of the boat ramp, if required.

Will the public have access to the site?

No public access is planned.

How is the project funded?

The reconstruction is funded in full or in part through the State of Florida Job Growth Infrastructure Grant.

Will this project improve drainage in the area?

Yes, drainage for the existing site will be improved and is not expected to negatively impact the surrounding area or vegetation.

When will construction begin?

The start of construction will depend on permitting review times by various state and federal agencies.