



Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) expresses its support for the proposed new modern ballpark in downtown St. Petersburg, which includes a transformative development project in partnership with Hines Historic Gas Plant and the Tampa Bay Rays.

We are excited about the possibility of a new modern ballpark located in downtown St. Petersburg and the transformational development project it brings. This project aligns with our mission to protect marine life and promote sustainable practices.

CMA recognizes the significance of tourism that will be attracted to the area due to the new ballpark. The organization is pleased to see that the project emphasizes sustainability and the environment, with a commitment to using responsible materials and implementing environmentally friendly actions. The inclusion of walking paths and gathering spaces in the landscaping further enhances the project's appeal.

Moreover, CMA is delighted to learn that the project has dedicated \$50 million to intentional equity initiatives in the South St. Pete community. This commitment includes a focus on supporting minority and women-owned businesses in South St. Pete, ensuring 30% supplier diversity, and the construction of a new Woodson African American Museum.

We believe in the power of intentional equity initiatives, and we commend the project for its commitment to uplifting the South St. Pete community. This investment will create opportunities and foster inclusivity, making a positive impact on the lives of many.

CMA sees the vibrant mixed-use destination envisioned by the project as an exciting opportunity to contribute to the economic growth of the city and county, providing visitors with yet another reason to explore and support the thriving local economy.

Clearwater Marine Aquarium recently unveiled its own expansion project, 'Rising Tides.' This comprehensive campaign embodies collective efforts to elevate conservation, education, guest experience, and community engagement initiatives. 'Rising Tides' symbolizes hope, momentum, and shared responsibility in protecting marine life for future generations.

Our 'Rising Tides' expansion is not only an investment in marine life but also in the economic prosperity of our community. We are committed to creating a sustainable future for both our marine residents and the people who call this area home."

Sincerely,

Joe Handy
CEO, Clearwater Marine Aquarium