

SOUTH FLORIDA MUSEUM AND BISHOP PLANETARIUM NORTH EDUCATION COMPLEX ■ BRADENTON



The South Florida Museum and Bishop Planetarium is the largest natural and cultural history museum in Southwest Florida, serving 10 counties. With NMTC financing, the Museum will build the North Education Complex, a new 23,000 sq-ft addition with classroom and exhibit space specifically designed to break down barriers to STEM education – science, technology, engineering and math – in nearby disadvantaged neighborhoods and area schools and expand the facility’s capability to reach more low-income students.

The Museum has a priority goal of targeting schools in Bradenton’s low-income urban core, serving 11,350 Title I students each year after expansion – a 77% increase. Low-income visitors to the Museum are also expected to more than double, from 15,626 in 2016 to a projected 37,000 annually after expansion. All school programs are based on Florida Standards for STEM and arts and are created with the input of local educators from both public and private schools.

Professional development is another important part of the South Florida Museum’s current and future work. This includes training for teachers, undergraduate coursework for university students, and internship programs. The NMTC expansion will allow the Museum to reach an estimated 300 educators per year.

Founded in the 1940s by residents who wanted to preserve local history, South Florida Museum offers a diversity of programs and delivery systems from which to learn and explore in the areas of environmental science, astronomy, archaeology, paleontology, geology, math, local and global history, and the arts as they relate to the natural sciences.

Florida Community Loan Fund (FCLF) provided \$12 million in federal NMTCs for the South Florida Museum. The investor on the project is PNC Bank. Whitney Hancock Bank provided additional financing.

As a major factor in long-term plans for area redevelopment, the project has been planned in close collaboration with the Bradenton CRA, Manatee County Chamber of Commerce, and the Manatee County Neighborhood Services Department. This expansion is Phase I of a long-range plan for the Museum’s future, as well as a catalyst for future development.

www.fclf.org

www.southfloridamuseum.org

NMTC ALLOCATEE

Florida Community Loan Fund
Orlando, Florida
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COMMUNITY PROFILE

- Bradenton, FL - Bradenton CRA District
- 18.2% Unemployment Rate - 2.3x National Average
- Brownfield, TIF District

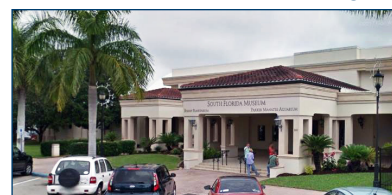
PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Expansion of existing facility and new construction designed to target disadvantaged youth with STEM education
- \$23 million Total Project Cost
- \$12 million FCLF Federal NMTC
- Investor: PNC Bank
- 245 jobs created or retained: 200 temporary (estimated construction jobs) + 45 permanent

“We are grateful to FCLF for helping make this transformative expansion possible and bring a new learning resource to our community. Our partnership with FCLF has enabled us to benefit from the New Markets Tax Credits program, taking us over the finish line in making the North Education Complex a reality.”

– Brynne Anne Besio, CEO, South Florida Museum and Bishop Planetarium

Pictured above: architectural rendering of the South Florida Museum and Bishop Planetarium after the addition. Below, current museum building.



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