



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Global Land Economics Society Lambda Alpha International Charters First In-State LAI Florida Suncoast Chapter**

**New Chapter Will Aid in Sharing Knowledge, Advancing Best Practices and Connecting Professionals in Land Economics-Related Activities from Tampa Bay to Naples with Initial Focus on Sarasota and Manatee Counties**

**SARASOTA, F.L., October 30, 2024** – Lambda Alpha International (LAI), a global land economics organization, has chartered its first in the state of Florida chapter, the *Florida Suncoast Chapter*. The new chapter charter was announced by LAI’s Global President Kathy King at the organization’s Annual Gathering in Phoenix earlier this month.

Formal chapter development efforts started in November 2023 with an inaugural meeting hosted at the Benderson Family Finish Tower at Nathan Benderson Park in Sarasota where 13 members have been inducted. The Florida Suncoast Chapter will work with the coastal communities on a variety of land economics projects ranging from management, ownership, regulation and conservation to development, redevelopment, and preservation of land.

“We are very excited to bring the value of LAI to our members and the community,” says Holly Elmore, president of Florida Suncoast Chapter.

“Currently, the Florida Suncoast Chapter boasts 22 active members including seven Board of Directors, with a long-term goal of 50 members for our local chapter.”

LAI membership is highly selective and happens through a nomination process initiated by a local chapter member. Nominees for LAI membership must demonstrate 10 or more years of experience in their fields, professional distinction, and outstanding contributions to the community in their field of endeavor.

The Florida Suncoast Chapter members benefit from regularly scheduled activities and events, where members have opportunities to learn about local initiatives, network with industry professionals, partake or advise on local projects and hear presentations from subject-matter experts.

The next LAI Florida Suncoast Chapter event is on November 21 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the [Hyatt Place](#) at 950 University Pkwy., Sarasota, FL 34202. Titled the *SRQ Update*, the event’s featured speaker is Rick Piccolo, [Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport](#) President & CEO, who will give a presentation about the airport’s \$100 million expansion project to add a new terminal and its local economic impact. The program is followed by a reception and is open to LAI members and the public with required registration. To register *online* visit, [www.lai.org/events/3019](http://www.lai.org/events/3019). For more information, please call the Florida Suncoast Chapter Secretary and board member Sylwia Majewski at 941-242-9511 ext. 101 or email [sylwia@adamusmedia.com](mailto:sylwia@adamusmedia.com).

### **About Lambda Alpha International (LAI)**

Founded in 1930, Lambda Alpha was established at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois to help foster the study of land economics. Today, LAI is the honorary global network for thought leaders in all fields related to the preservation and sustainable development of land with local chapters across the United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe and Asia. For more information about LAI visit, [www.lai.org](http://www.lai.org).

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