



## NEWS RELEASE

TODAY'S DATE: November 10, 2016

RELEASE DATE: IMMEDIATE

CONTACT: Thondra Lanese

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### ***Riverwalk Extension Officially Opens With Stuart Main Street Ribbon Cutting New Extension Continues City Waterfront Boardwalk to Colorado Avenue***

STUART, FL – November 19, 2015 – Some 70 local residents, business owners, dignitaries and others braved the rain as Stuart Main Street hosted a special Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the newly completed Riverwalk Extension on November 19. City of Stuart Vice Mayor, Jeffrey Krauskopf did the honors, joined by fellow City Commissioners, staff, and representatives from Stuart Main Street. The rain stopped briefly and Krauskopf cut the ribbon just in time to allow two early morning joggers to continue their run on the popular boardwalk along the downtown waterfront to Colorado Avenue.

The almost \$500,000 project was completed by Brothers' Construction under the supervision of the City of Stuart Public Works Department. Designed by local firm, CAPTEC Engineering, the project includes a 10 foot wide pedestrian boardwalk extending 455 feet along the downtown waterfront from the Riverwalk Stage to a mini park at the foot of Colorado Avenue. The boardwalk and two access walkways are located in the landward extent of the St. Lucie River, a Class III waterway, and underwent rigorous review and permitting by Evergreen Engineering, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the Army Corps of



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Engineers. The \$464,668 final cost was funded equally by the City of Stuart and the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND), which previously helped fund construction of the original boardwalk and stage.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was hosted by Stuart Main Street as part of its bi-monthly *Mornings on Main Street* breakfast series. The local Florida Main Street program helped to secure riparian rights from property owners on Seminole Street to allow construction of the boardwalk extension. Property owners may connect to the boardwalk from their properties, helping to build connectivity along the waterfront and from both ends of the Historic Downtown. As part of the project, properties on the waterfront side of Seminole Street between St. Lucie and Colorado Avenues were also brought into the Old Downtown parking and alcoholic beverage district. This change is expected to facilitate use of the historic buildings on Seminole Street for commercial use. Historic preservation and adaptive reuse are goals of Stuart Main Street as part of the national Main Street program. The event was sponsored by HJA Design Studios with a light breakfast provided by Stuart Coffee Company.

*Mornings on Main Street* is a bi-monthly FREE networking event held the fourth Thursday in January, March, May, July, and September and the third Thursday in November.



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This “must attend” event focuses on Downtown Stuart with real information on current topics and an opportunity to meet like-minded people with a shared concern for Downtown Stuart.

Stuart Main Street is a 501(c)3 historic preservation-based program dedicated to building a vital downtown through community self-reliance and a focus on traditional assets: personal service, local ownership, unique architecture, and sense of community. Formed in 1987, the group follows the Main Street Four-Point Approach® as established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s National Main Street Center and practiced in over 1600 communities across the country. Recent projects include the Downtown Outdoor Dining Platforms, expansion of the Riverwalk to Colorado Avenue, the *Shop Local | Shop Smart* program, and the *Rock’n Riverwalk* free weekly concerts. Stuart Main Street meets the second Tuesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Chambers at 121 SW Flagler Avenue, Stuart. For more information, call 772-286-2848 or visit [stuartmainstreet.org](http://stuartmainstreet.org).

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Stuart City Manager, Paul Nicoletti; Development Director, Terry O'Neil; Vice Mayor, Jeffrey Krauskopf; Commissioner, Eula Clarke; Commissioner, Tom Campenni; Commissioner, Troy McDonald; and Stuart Main Street Board President, Terry McCarthy cut the ribbon opening the new Riverwalk Extension in Downtown Stuart Thursday, November 19, 2015. (Photo Credit, Liz McKinley)



Attendees at Stuart Main Street's *Mornings on Main Street* get a chance to try out the new Riverwalk



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Extension in Downtown Stuart after the official ribbon cutting ceremony Thursday, November 19, 2015.  
(Photo Credit, Liz McKinley)