

Marina Civic Center

Historical Background

The City's Civic Center has been a hub for cultural activity and gatherings for many years. Like many other City-owned buildings near the Panama City Marina, the Civic Center has been closed since Hurricane Michael, which inflicted severe damage on the building.

Before closing, the Marina Civic Center (or MCC) was a live entertainment venue and served as the setting for numerous national competitions, art shows, conferences, and touring entertainers. It boasted a 2,509-seat theater, box office ticketing center, and three meeting rooms.



The Marina Civic Center was damaged in Hurricane Michael. The City plans to build a new Civic Center that is more environmentally efficient, less costly to maintain, and in a more central location. Photo credit: WJHG News

The MCC's location on the edge of St. Andrews Bay situates it near many City buildings – and also placed it in the path of Hurricane Michael. The building suffered major structural and cosmetic damage during the hurricane and is in the process of being inspected.

Recovery Progress

The construction of a new Civic Center will be one of the City's biggest recovery projects. In addition to being damaged by Hurricane Michael, the old Civic Center was costly to maintain. The extent of damage to the old Civic Center made it eligible for replacement funding, and the City is currently pursuing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance to fund new construction.

One of the most important steps of applying for FEMA Public Assistance funding is compiling information about the damage caused by a disaster, called the Damage Description and Dimensions (DDD). The City is in the process of collecting the DDD for the old Civic Center now, which will be incorporated into its application for Public Assistance funding.

The City's vision for a new a Civic Center is one that is more environmentally efficient, less costly to maintain, and in a more central location. The new Civic Center would provide and attractive and convenient venue for conferences, concerts, and other activities that will support the local economy and provide entertainment and educational opportunities for the community.