

PROJECT PROFILE

Van Wezel Performing Arts Center Observation Piers



Location: **Sarasota, FL**

Owner: **City of Sarasota**

Designer: **Atkins – Sarasota, FL**

Contractor: **Bayshore Construction**

Challenge

The Van Wezel Performing Arts Center is set on Sarasota's picturesque bay front and attracts locals and tourists to experience a variety of music, dance, theater, and comedy. Four viewing piers are on the grounds of this landmark, and they extend over the bay, making them vulnerable to harsh coastal conditions such as UV and salt water exposure. The existing timber platforms were constructed on concrete piles, but the wood decking was not holding up to the elements.

Solution

With the help of PermaTrak's engineering team, the Atkins design consultants prepared bid documents specifying a precast concrete system to replace the worn down timber platforms. Bayshore Construction was hired to remove the existing timber superstructure, then install the PermaTrak system and a sleek marine-grade aluminum railing. This retrofit solution on the existing concrete piles was possible with the PermaTrak system due to the design flexibility of its beam and tread components.

The newly finished PermaTrak viewing piers will ensure that Van Wezel visitors can enjoy bay front viewing for years to come.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

Boardwalk Lengths:
3 piers - 20 ft. x 20 ft.
1 pier - 32 ft. x 20 ft.

Tread Width:
Varies from 7 ft. to 10 ft.

Color: Adelaide Gray

Texture: Broom

Installation Date: August 2014