



**Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center
Home Port of Tall Ship *Providence***

Presentation to Waterfront Commission, April 2023

Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center



Executive Summary



- ▶ Tall Ship Providence Foundation (TSPF) is a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit
- ▶ Serve as a floating classroom to educate guests on the role *Providence* and the Continental Navy played in the American Revolution
- ▶ Acquired *Providence* in 2017 & conducted 30-month “keel to masthead” restoration
- ▶ Business model is to be a profitable, self-sustaining non-profit organization, modeled after a successful for-profit business operated by Historic Tours of America
- ▶ In 2020, Senator John Warner signed on to lend his name to new Maritime Heritage Center
- ▶ Advisory Committee of eight former Secretaries of the Navy
- ▶ Started construction on the Maritime Heritage Center in November 2022

Why a Tall Ship?

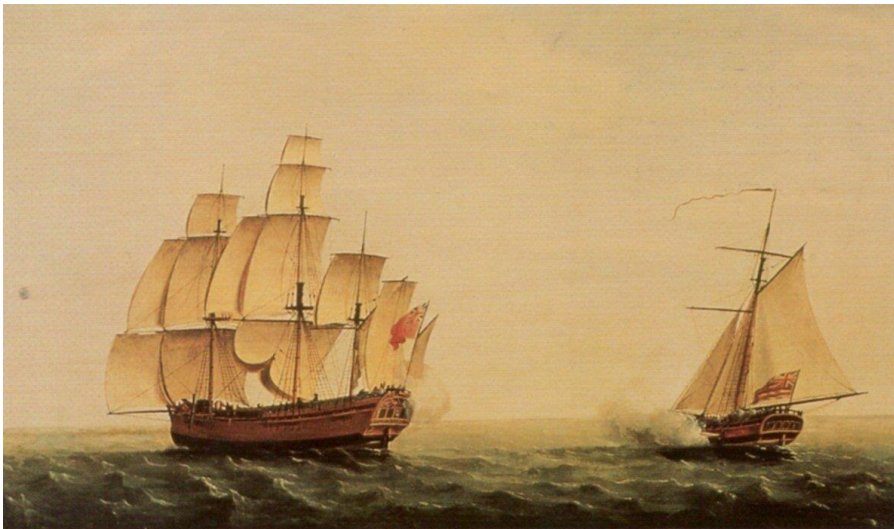


- ▶ **Signature attraction** – Alexandria is known as a “Port City” but there is no ship
- ▶ **Create educational opportunities** – learn about colonial maritime history and experience life aboard an 18th century sailing ship
- ▶ **Host learning programs** – through partnerships with the Alexandria Seaport Foundation and others
- ▶ **Contribute to local economy** – serve as a proven draw for the region and around the world
- ▶ **Serve as a catalyst** – for future investment in our maritime history

Why *Providence*?

Historically Significant

- ▶ First ship authorized by the Continental Congress
- ▶ First American command of John Paul Jones
- ▶ Captured more than 40 prizes
- ▶ First ship to bring American Marines to foreign soil



Sloop Providence attacking an English vessel - by Francis Holman (1777)



Attractive Financials

- ▶ Fiberglass hull reduces maintenance costs
- ▶ Low break-even costs with multiple revenue streams
- ▶ U.S. naval history creates links to other organizations and will help with fundraising efforts

“Small” Tall Ship

- ▶ Big enough to create dynamic visitor experience and be a key attraction
- ▶ Small enough to navigate the Potomac River (9' draft)
- ▶ Lower operating expenses than larger ships
- ▶ 102' length overall, 65' on deck

Our Inspiration — Boston Tea Party Museum



- ▶ One of the top visitor attractions in Boston
- ▶ Interactive visitor experience
- ▶ Leading example of living history
- ▶ For-profit enterprise with \$8M+ revenues



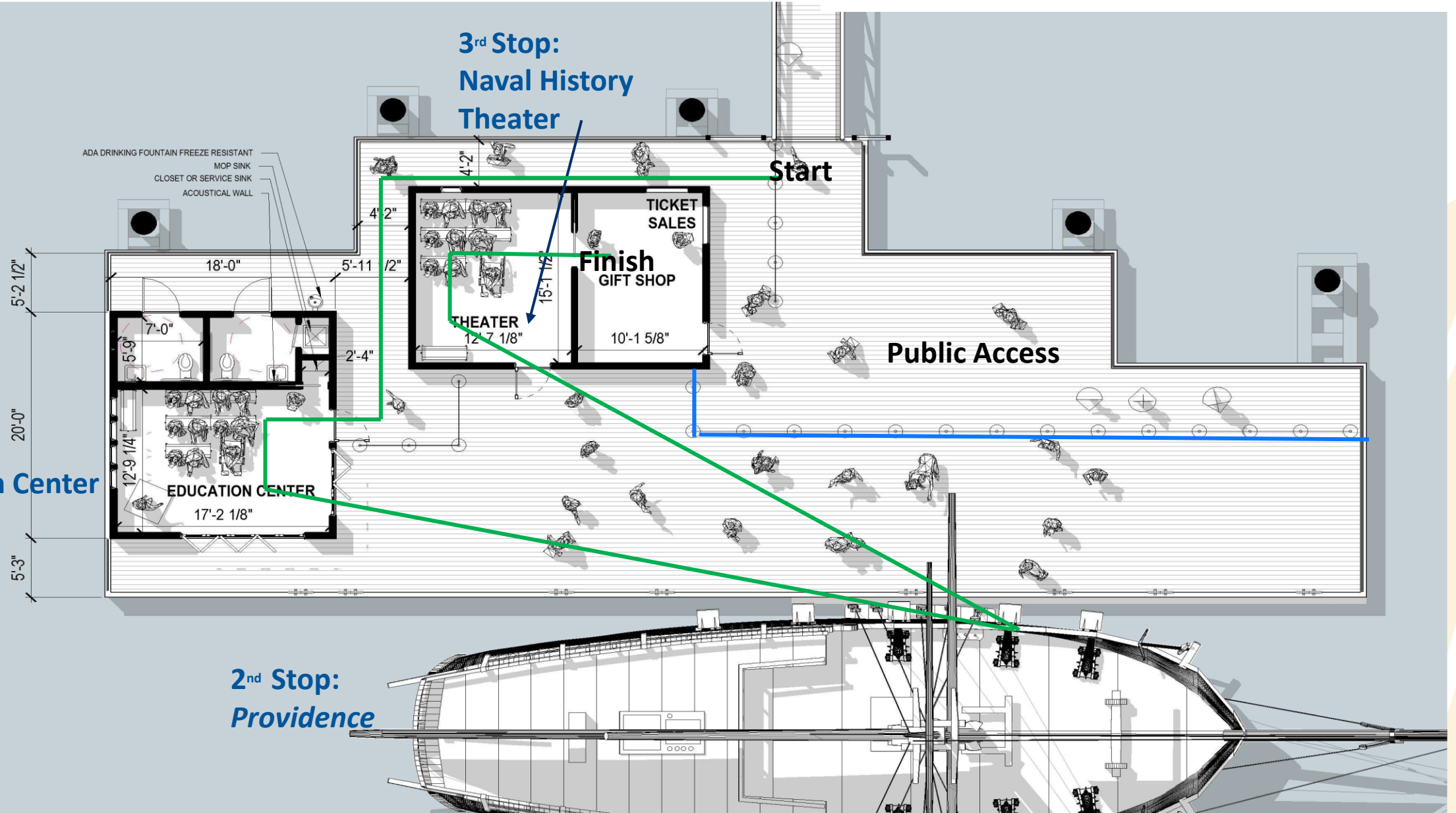
“Loved this...one of the highlights from my trip to Boston. Talk about history coming to life! Definitely an interactive experience.”

Program Tours

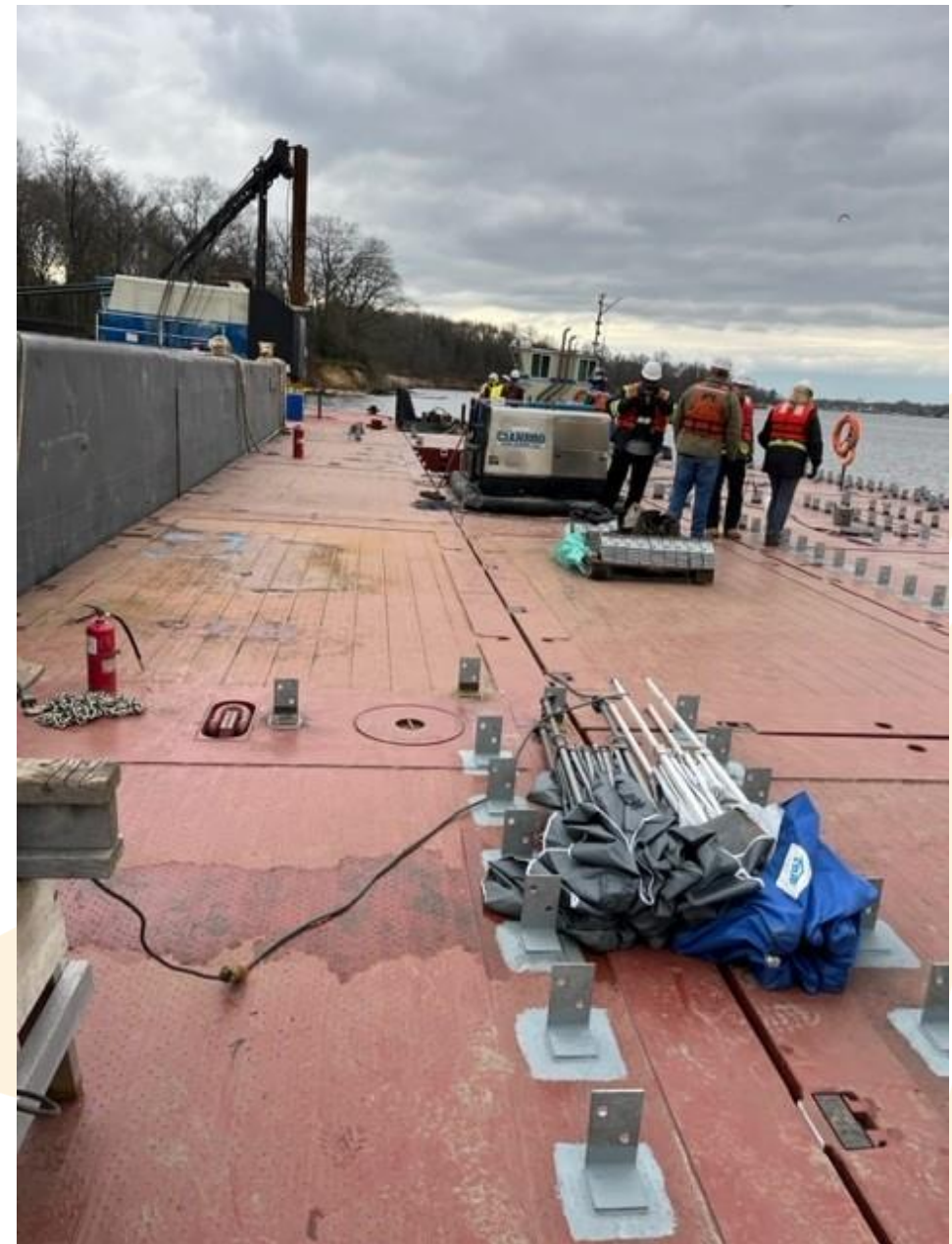
3rd Stop:
Naval History
Theater

1st Stop:
Education Center

2nd Stop:
Providence



Construction Update, Dec. 2022



Barges Connected; hole is for the sewage pump

Construction Update, Jan. 2023



Bathroom "Doors"



Education Center



Education Center & Naval History Theater

Construction Update, early March 2023



Education Center Doors & Windows; Naval History Theater Door



Gift Shop Door

Construction Update, late March 2023



Gift Shop
Shingles & Roof



Side of Education Center

Naval History Theater

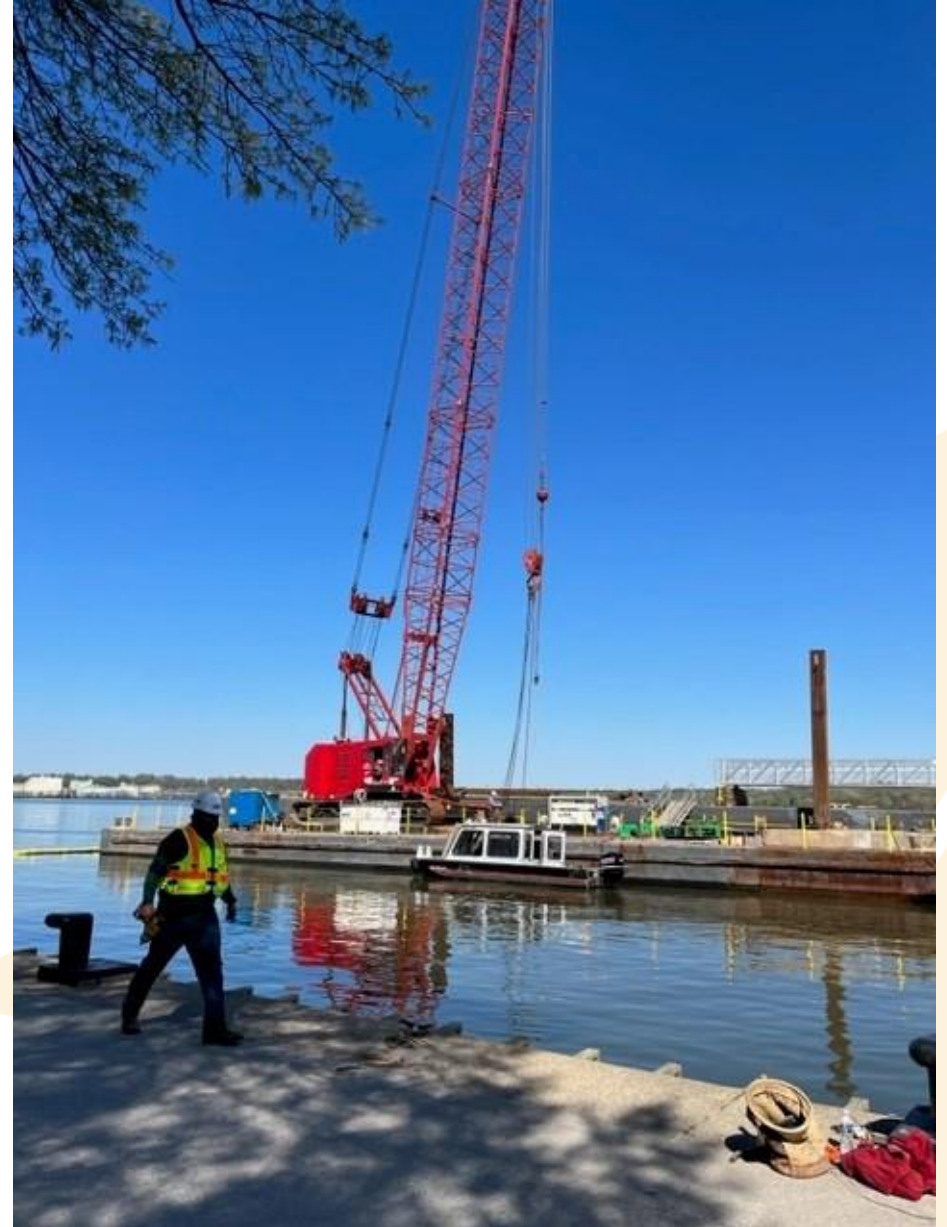


Decking

Waterfront Park Construction



Brackets for utilities



Crane for demolition & pilings

Construction Update, April 17, 2023



**Side of Education Center
(south looking north)**



**View of Maritime Heritage Center
(north looking south)**

Timeframe & Grand Opening



- **High Level Schedule**

- **April**

- Demolition of old pilings, drive piles for timber landing & connect brackets for utilities
 - Haul out, maintenance, paint
 - Float dock down from Baltimore , gangway & land utilities

- **May**

- Annual USCG inspection
 - Bring utilities to the Center
 - A-V installation, code inspections, rehearsal, photographs & move in

- **June**

- Rehearsals continue & punch list continue
 - Open for tours for Alexandria's Portside Festival 6/17

- **Grand Opening**

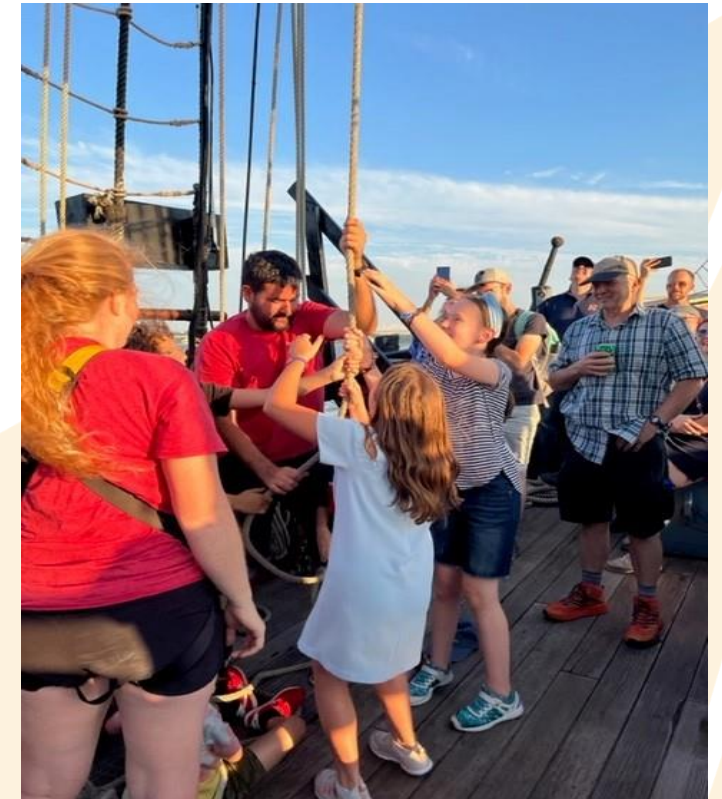
- **June 21 or June 28**
 - **Location: Waterfront Park & Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center**

Feedback from Guests



Myself, my wife and my 10 yr old had an awesome time aboard the Tall Ship Providence! The crew was friendly and knowledgeable. My son thoroughly enjoyed getting to steer the ship as well as getting to assist pulling ropes for the sails...we will be doing this cruise again next time we are in the area!

This ship and crew were lovely and amazing! They had an excellent knowledge of the ship and gave a wonderful tour and were able to field our detailed questions as well...It was a wonderful experience and I'd really like to try one of their sailing excursions next.



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