

SONY OPEN UNVEILS PLANS FOR UPGRADES TO COMPLEX



Sony Open tennis tournament chairman Adam B. Barrett, left, talks about plans for the Crandon Park Tennis Center renovations as former tennis player Mary Joe Fernandez, right, looks on Wednesday, March 27, 2013, in Key Biscayne, Fla., (AP Photo/Luis M. Alvarez)

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP) -- Sony Open officials have unveiled plans for a \$50 million project to improve the tournament site, with work scheduled to begin after next year's event.

The plans include three new stadiums, upgrading the current stadium and adding an acre of green space. The new stadiums would seat 3,000 to 6,000.

The project will be paid for by IMG, which owns and operates the tournament. A Miami-Dade County park has been the site of the event since 1987, and the project received approval in a voter referendum.

Completion of the project, to be done in three phases, is scheduled before the start of the 2017 tournament.