

CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA

CONSOLIDATED PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Tampa's Strategic Plan of the Consolidated Plan for Program Years 2002-2007 focus is to provide housing to low and moderate income residents through the means of financial variables as well as not impeding the development of safe, decent housing; including fair treatment in the housing market. This will be accomplished by coordination of the private sector, its resources, and the Housing and Community Development Division.

The City's biggest impact on housing is at the neighborhood and community level. Community support is vital for a successful program, by clarifying the makeup of a community and by identifying critical links such as social, cultural and economic. Preserving usable public space and local history and providing neighborhood centers foster healthy communities.

Generating and rebuilding economic activity in the communities may begin with banks small business loan programs to promote local business talent. Non-profits then aid the businesspersons with management and other essential instructions to maintain the business and remain viable in the community.

Being able to own your own home is another priority of the City. These are the City's housing goals.

1. Increasing the opportunities of citizens to rent or purchase decent, safe and sanitary housing by means of rehabilitation, revitalization, and redevelopment of existing housing stock.
2. Continuing to encourage development of new residential areas with an appropriate mix of homes that will eliminate needs of the existing housing deficient populations.

Housing and Community Development Objectives

Some ways of achieving the above goals with our limited resources are through the following objectives.

1. Work with non-profit housing providers in acquiring vacant parcels for construction and/or rehabilitate existing structures for resale.
2. Continue a low-cost Purchase Rehabilitation program.
3. Identify areas in need of rehabilitation.
4. Work with private sector entities to provide leveraged financing.
5. Identify adequate sites for development of houses affordable to very low, low, and moderate-income households.
6. Use state and federal funds for down payment assistance as well as low-cost loans and grants to qualified owners.
7. Through publicity, promote qualified first-time homebuyers to use State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program and HOME.
8. Remedy code violations for very low, low and moderate-income households.
9. Provide deferred loans and grants to qualified homeowners for rehabilitation.

10. Use code enforcement to stop the decline of slum and blight conditions.
11. Utilize zoning regulations to promote congregate and foster care living facilities.
12. Enforcement of the Fair Housing ordinance.
13. Address the needs of homeless individuals and families; aid in the prevention of homelessness.
14. Provide housing and supportive services for special needs populations: the elderly, the disabled, substance abusers, victims of HIV/AIDS and public housing residents.
15. Promote economic opportunities for income-disadvantaged households, and economically disadvantaged minority and women owned small businesses.
16. Accelerate the demolition process to remove condemned houses.
17. Utilize Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Program (HOPWA) for this special needs population.
18. Provide public infrastructure and supporting facilities and services to improve the quality of existing neighborhoods.
19. Work with public service providers to fulfill needs not met by Hillsborough County's Social Service Policy.

Housing and Community Development Strategy for Accomplishing Housing Needs

This Consolidated Plan includes the need for continued growth in the housing market; the level of substandard housing conditions; and the need for additional affordable housing at all income levels. The following are general strategies the City will use to meet these needs.

1. The provision of housing with supporting infrastructure for all current and anticipated future residents, with particular emphasis on the provision of affordable housing.
 - Most residential housing will be infill development on vacant lots and land. This is preferable in that most infrastructures is already in place. Infill building also promotes stronger neighborhoods.
2. The elimination of substandard housing conditions and for the structural and aesthetic improvement of housing.
 - This has been a goal of the City for 25 years, by targeting housing code enforcement with some form of housing assistance via low interest loans and grant. This provision maintains the health, safety, and welfare of the community. However, at this time, the code enforcement is in the process of revision. By involving the community in these revisions, code enforcement procedures should protect the citizens as well as assisting homeowners in meeting code requirements.
3. The provision of adequate sites for housing for the very low-income, low-income and moderate-income households.
 - By relying on local non-profits to locate and secure vacant lots, they have been successful in bringing affordable housing to the market place with the City's assistance.
4. The provision of adequate sites for group homes and foster care licensed facilities.
 - The City's zoning code allows congregate living facilities in all residential zoning districts.
5. The identification of conservation, rehabilitation or demolition activities, historically significant housing or neighborhoods.
 - The City's program of code enforcement and housing assistance emphasizes the maintenance and repair of its housing stock. All efforts are made to assist or compel the property owner to maintain the condition of the residential unit. Demolition is viewed as a last resort. The City has adopted a Historic Preservation ordinance that ensures the preservation and protection of the City's historic resources.

Housing and Community Development Priorities

The general priority for allocating investment to meet housing and public service need is to target those geographic areas where the need is most pronounced. The Mayor's Enterprise Development Project is Tampa's effort to improve the distressed neighborhood of East Tampa. An overall comprehensive plan was developed that will change E. Tampa into an urban revitalized community. Over a five-year period this project will produce 500 new single-family homes, 400 rehabilitated homes for resale and 300 new multi-family apartment homes. New parks, recreation centers, public facility improvements and construction and expansion of school improvements will be implemented.

Also planned is the Mayor's Heights Project. Once a premier neighborhood, it is now neglected and in a deteriorated condition. This project located near the work centers of downtown is designed to bring in public and private sectors. Major development has already occurred but plans continue for the redevelopment of the old police headquarters site along the Hillsborough River for hotels, pharmacy, office tower, apartments, and marina.

West Tampa has shown positive improvements via the Howard Avenue Façade Program as well as the West Tampa loan pool for local or new businesses. Future plans for the area calls for rehabilitation of single-family homes, installation of decorative and high intensity security lighting, parking, and library improvements. Of great importance is the Centro West Tampa, a \$3.5 million building renovation. The Tampa-Hillsborough Urban League utilizing multiple funding sources, private as well as public, upon completion of the renovation will provide employment and job training; family services, housing initiative and youth development.

Coordination of Strategic Plan

Coordination efforts for the Housing and Community Development strategies extend between numerous private, public and governmental entities and communication with organization and agencies. Particular care was taken to consult with those focusing on services to children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families and the homeless. Some of these are: The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County (HCHC); Hillsborough County Affordable Housing Management; County Community Improvement Department, and neighborhood organizations.