

**CITY OF TAMPA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
COMMUNITY NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FY2005-2006
December 15, 2005**

Block Club: Area I

Neighborhoods: Florence Villa, Beasley, Grant Park, Oak Park, Northview Hills, Galloway Heights, Northeast Community, and Highland Pines.

Boundaries: Hillsborough River (north); Tampa By-Pass Canal (south); Tampa By-Pass Canal (east); 40th Street (west).

Chairperson: Ms. Rosalie Jones
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Contact Person: Mr. Ralph Johnson
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Need and Recommendation 2. Installation of Lights for Softball Field.

Install lights on/around the softball field at Grant Park Center/Playground. No lighting prohibits outside activities during evening hours.

Response: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Funding for lighting is available in the fiscal year 2006 Community Investment Tax. The department is in the process of bidding out various lighting projects.

Update: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The department is still in the bid process.

Need and Recommendation 3. Road Signs, Lower Speed Limit and Traffic Calming Devices.

- a. Need road signs on 53rd Street North and 54th Street North, 32nd Avenue East, and 30th Avenue East.*
- b. Reduce speed limit on streets around Grant Park to 25 miles per hour.*
- c. Install traffic calming devices on streets surrounding the Grant Park area.**

The speed limit is currently 30 miles per hour, and needs to be reduced, since there are small children crossing the streets and people walking.

Response to c.: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. The Traffic Analysis Section contacted Mr. Ralph Johnson via phone for clarification of the specific street locations requested for placement of traffic calming devices. This information is needed to request speed studies at the appropriate locations. Mr. Johnson requested a faxed copy of Block Club Area I, Need and Recommendation 3 in order to reply to our request. Mr. Johnson will re-contact us with the information requested.

Before considering the installation of speed tables or any other traffic calming measures, a documented speeding problem must exist. This documentation takes place once the Transportation Division staff conducts a speed study and substantiates the existence of a speeding problem.

Speed studies determine the 85th percentile speed. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at, or below which, 85% of the observed free-flowing vehicles travel. Currently, the Transportation Division, in cooperation with the Tampa Police Department, considers speeding a problem at a point in which 85% of the motorists are traveling 10 mph or more above the designated speed limit.

The City of Tampa has documented over 226 locations city-wide with speeding problems. Of the 226 locations, 156 of them qualify for traffic calming measures because they are classified as local residential or Neighborhood Collector roadways.

As each new speeding location is documented, they are added to the Speeding Location List (SLL). This list contains all of the locations in the city that have documented speeding problems. The SLL is a prioritization tool and a prerequisite prior to considering a location for traffic calming measures. The SLL ranks speeding locations by the greatest differential between the 85th percentile speed and the designated speed limit. This sorting ranks the worst speeding locations first and as each new speeding location is documented and added to the SLL, rankings change.

Update to c.: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. Traffic Analysis contacted Mr. Johnson via phone for clarification of the specific street locations requested for the placement of traffic calming devices. This information is needed to request speed studies at the appropriate locations. Mr. Johnson requested a faxed copy of Block Club Area I Need and Recommendation 3 in order to reply to our request. Mr. Johnson has not re-contacted us with the information requested.

Need and Recommendation 5. Allocate Funds to Complete Fenced Areas of Grant Park Center/Playground.

The fenced area is in the front/back of the recreation center.

Installation of the fencing has begun, but work has ceased because the city's Recreation Department does not have the funds to complete the work.

Response: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Funding for fencing is included in the Fiscal Year 2006 Community Investment Tax project list.

Update: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Grant Park is one of the possible locations for fencing with Fiscal Year 2006 CIT funds.

Need and Recommendation 6. Addition Needed at Grant Park Center.

A meeting room and a room for after-school activities needs to be added to the Grant Park Center. The existing building is not spacious enough to have planned activities because space was needed for equipment to be stored. The center does not have a meeting room or classroom for their after-school programs. Arts and Crafts are being taught in the existing room, which also houses recreation equipment.

Response: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The renovation and addition to Grant Park will be considered in any future bond funding.

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Need and Recommendation 7. Improvements for Williams Park Center/Playground.

- a. Drainage system for Williams Park Playground/northwest quadrant.**
- b. Expand Williams Park activity center by adding an office and an exercise room.**
- c. Purchase computers, and exercise equipment for Williams Park activity center.*
- d. Install rubberized surface under playground equipment.**
- e. Install wrought iron fencing and gate on back parking lot of playground.**
- f. Resurface Chelsea Avenue.*
- g. Install traffic calming devices from 40th to 50th Streets, on Chelsea.**
- h. Repaint center stripes on Osborne from 40th Street to Ashland Drive that were not replaced when streets were resurfaced.*
- i. Complete sidewalk repairs on Ashland Drive, John Bell Drive, Curtis and portions of Atwater.**

The playground's back parking lot is on 43rd Street. Chelsea Avenue runs East and West. Williams Park activity center is located at 4362 E. Osborne Avenue.

Proper leveling to the track is needed because when it rains, the track is under water for days. Resurfacing is needed to help water run-off into the retention pond.

Williams Park Activity Center needs to be expanded to accommodate other activities. Accordion dividers are currently being used to separate spaces for accommodating some activities.

There are three (3) schools in close proximity of the center. Computers are needed for after-school training and tutoring program. When exercise classes are in session, children do not have enough space for their inside activities, nor can game tables be used during this time.

Response to a., b., d.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730.

a.) Parks and Recreation will work with Stormwater Department in order to determine problem and come up with possible options that may be possible.

Update to a.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Stormwater and Parks and Recreation have reviewed the site. The installation of a French Drain is being considered to solve the problem in the 20 to 25 feet that floods when it rain very hard and long.

b.) Design for the expansion has been requested in the Fiscal Year 2006 budget.

Update to b.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Department has not requested any funding for the expansion but the design will be considered for next year.

d.) The rubberize fall surface is scheduled to be installed in Fiscal Year 2006.

Update to d.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Rubberized fall surface was completed in fiscal year 2005.

e.) If funding is available will install chain linked fence in Fiscal Year 2006.

Update to e.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Department did not receive enough funding in the Fiscal Year Budget to fund the fencing but will be considered for next year.

Response to g.: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. A speed study has been requested for East Chelsea Street between N. 40th Street and N. 50th Street. The estimated time of completion is approximately 12-16 weeks. After the speed study has been completed, our findings will be shared with you. If you have not received an update on the speed study after this 16-week period, please contact us at 274-8333.

Before considering the installation of speed tables or any other traffic calming measures, a documented speeding problem must exist. This documentation takes place once the Transportation Division staff conducts a speed study and substantiates the existence of a speeding problem.

Speed studies determine the 85th percentile speed. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at, or below which, 85% of the observed free-flowing vehicles travel. Currently, the Transportation Division, in cooperation with the Tampa Police Department, considers speeding a problem at a point in which 85% of the motorists are traveling 10 mph or more above the designated speed limit.

The City of Tampa has documented over 226 locations city-wide with speeding problems. Of the 226 locations, 156 of them qualify for traffic calming measures because they are classified as local residential or Neighborhood Collector roadways.

As each new speeding location is documented, they are added to the Speeding Location List (SLL). This list contains all of the locations in the city that have documented speeding problems. The SLL is a prioritization tool and a prerequisite prior to considering a location for traffic calming measures. The SLL ranks speeding locations by the greatest differential between the 85th percentile speed and the designated speed limit. This sorting ranks the worst speeding locations first and as each new speeding location is documented and added to the SLL, rankings change.

Update to g.: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Monday, 10/31/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 30-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 45.4-mph. Based on the results of this study; E. Chelsea Street from N. 44th Street to

Atwood Drive does appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Therefore, the location will be added to the Speeding Location List (SLL). The findings of this speed study will also be forwarded to the Tampa Police Department with a request for selective enforcement of the speed limit as their schedule permits.

Unfortunately, Collector Roadways such as E. Chelsea Street do not qualify for traffic calming measures, but will receive additional enforcement by the Tampa Police Department since it will be added to the SLL.

Response to i.: From Jan Washington, Construction Engineer, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8303. We evaluated the requested locations for damage and consider them as Priority 3 concerns. Due to budget constraints, the City of Tampa will not be able to respond to Priority 3 Maintenance requests in FY05. The following work orders are in our database for repair and will be considered again in FY06:

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Work Order#</u>	<u>Segment: From: To</u>
3	6711	Curtis: 48 th to Ashland
3	6710	Curtis: John Bell to 48th
3	6709	John Bell: Cayuga to Curtis
3	6708	John Bell: Chelsea to Cayuga
3	6707	Atwater: Cayuga to 48th
3	6706	Atwater: Chelsea to Cayuga
3	6705	Ashland: Ashmore to Curtis
3	6704	Ashland: Osborne to Dead-end

Priority 1-Severe damages in highly traffic areas.

Priority 2-Severe damages in low traffic areas.

Priority 3-Standard New Sidewalk Construction Request.

Contact Person: Ms. Betty Bell
3002 Star Street
Tampa, FL 33605
Phone: (813) 621-5761

Need and Recommendation 8. Improvements for Highlands Pines Playground, Located at 4505 E. 21st Avenue.

- a. **Recreation Center.** This has been a repeat request for approximately 21 years.
- b. *Police visibility is needed to curtail the drug activity in the area.*
- c. **Playground's parking area needs to be resurfaced.**
- d. **Additional picnic shelter is needed.** Previously requested three shelters, received only two.
- e. *Additional picnic tables and grills are needed.*
- f. **Replace sand in play area.**
- g. **Additional equipment for children in play area is needed.**
- h. **Upgrade the swing set (infant, small children compatible).**
- i. *Clean the pond, to eliminate overgrowth of foliage around the pond.*
- j. **Fencing is needed around entire pond (small, unsupervised children visit the playground on weekends).**
- k. **Install mile markers along walking/jogging path.**

l. Keep trees and grass maintained in the park.

Response to a.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Playground Activity Center is currently out to bid and construction should begin in June 2005.

Update to a.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Construction should begin in November of 2005 instead of June 2005 previously stated.

Response to c., d., f., g., h.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730.

c.) Parking lot is included in the Playground Activity Center project.

Update to c.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The parking lot is included in the Playground Activity Center project. The construction of the building has just began.

d.) Additional picnic shelter will be installed in Fiscal Year 2005.

Update to d.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Department determined that an additional shelter is not needed at this time.

f.) Will be installed in Fiscal Year 2005.

Update to f.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The sand was installed in FY05.

g.) The department will investigate if additional play equipment is needed. If required the department will evaluate the Fiscal Year 2006 Play Unit funding to determine if equipment can be installed.

h.) The department will investigate the need for an infant swing.

Update to h.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Tot swing will be installed in fiscal year 2006.

Response to j., k.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730.

j.) The pond does not meet depth requirements to be fenced in.

k.) The mile markers will be installed in Fiscal Year 2006.

Update to k.: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Mile markers were placed on the pavement and signs will be installed in fiscal year 2006.

Need and Recommendation 11. Install Speed Calming Devices on E. 21st Avenue, near Highland Pines Playground.

Response: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. Currently, East 21st Avenue between N. 40th Street and Melbourne is ranked 97 out of 156 local residential and Neighborhood Collector streets with a documented speeding problem. We are currently working to resolve the documented speeding problems in the order of severity (worst-case first). When we reach East 21st Avenue on the Speeding Location List (SLL), we will work with the affected property owners and their neighbors to find the best solution to address the speeding problem.

Update: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. Currently, E. 21st Avenue between N. 40th and Melbourne is ranked 91 out of 164 local residential and Neighborhood Collector streets with a documented speeding problem. We are currently working to resolve the documented speeding problems in the order of severity (worst-case first). When we reach E. 21st Avenue on the SLL, we will work with the affected property owners and their neighbors to find the best solution to address the speeding problem.

Contact Person: Ms. Oweida Walker
3010 N. 45th Street
Tampa, FL 33605
Phone: (813) 621-2590 (h)

Need and Recommendation 12. Speed Tables.

Speed tables are needed throughout the Highland Pine community. These streets include:

- a. 42nd Street
- b. Arrow Street
- c. 43rd Street
- d. Hudson Street
- e. 44th Street
- f. Dodge Street
- g. 45th Street
- h. Star Street
- i. 46th Street
- j. Cord Street
- k. 21st Avenue
- l. 22nd Avenue

Response to a.-j. and l.: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. The Traffic Analysis Section contacted Ms. Walker via phone for clarification of the specific street locations requested for the placement of traffic calming devices. This information is needed to request speed studies at the appropriate locations. As a result, speed studies have been requested for items a – j. However, in our discussion with Ms. Walker, it was mutually agreed that E. 22nd Avenue (item l.) is broke into many one-block segments and is configured as part of several loop roads. These loop configurations will most likely prevent us from finding speeding problems, so all of E. 22nd Avenue (item l.) has been dropped from this request. The estimated time of completion of the speed studies for items a-j is approximately 12-16 weeks. After the speed studies are completed, our findings will be shared with you. If you have not received an update on the speed studies after this 16-week period, please contact us at 274-8333.

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Update to a: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Friday, 10/28/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 25.2-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. 42nd Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to b: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Wednesday, 11/02/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 26.8-mph. Based on the results of this study; Arrow Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to c: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Friday, 10/28/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 25.8-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. 43rd Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to d: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Friday, 10/28/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 24.2-mph. Based on the results of this study; Hudson Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to e: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Monday, 10/31/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 30.9-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. 44th Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to f: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Friday, 10/31/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 24.5-mph. Based on the results of this study; Dodge Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to g: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Friday, 10/28/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the

aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 24.7-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. 45th Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to h: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Friday, 10/28/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 24.3-mph. Based on the results of this study; Star Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to i.: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Friday, 10/28/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 26.2-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. 46th Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to j: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Friday, 10/28/05 a 24-hour speed and volume study was conducted on the aforementioned street. The designated speed limit for this section of roadway is 25-mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed was 22.8-mph. Based on the results of this study; Cord Street from E. 21st Avenue to E. 22nd Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

Update to l: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. In speaking with Ms. Walker it was mutually agreed that because E. 22nd Avenue (item l.) is broke into many one-block segments and is configured as part of several loop roads. These loop configurations will most likely prevent us from finding speeding problems, so all of E. 22nd Avenue (item l.) has been dropped from the request.

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NOTE: Ms. Walker submitted an Additional Request during our phone conversation. She requested that No Truck signs be installed on N. 44th Street between E. 21st Avenue and Melbourne Boulevard or on E. 21st Avenue between N. 40th Street and Melbourne Boulevard. The Traffic Analysis Section will have No Truck signs installed at both requested locations.

Update to Note: From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. Creating work request and once approved request is transferred to the maintenance shop for installing. The estimated time for installation is between 2-6 months.

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