

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

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**Block Club:** Area VI

**Neighborhoods:** Northeast MacFarland, Old West Tampa, and Ridgewood River.

**Boundaries:** Dr. Martin L. King Jr., Blvd. (north); I-275 (south), Florida Avenue (east); MacDill (west).

**Chairperson:** Mr. Jim Gray, LDO  
1938 W. Main Street  
Tampa, FL 33607  
Phone: (813) 253-0527 (w)

**Contact Person:** Harriet McCray  
1703 W. St. Conrad Street  
Tampa, FL 33607  
Phone: (813) 253-2943 (h)  
(813) 274-8179, Ext. 1001 (w)  
(813) 274-8927 (fax)

**Need and Recommendation 1. Install Traffic Calming Devices at the following locations:**

**Boundaries:** (N) W. Columbus Drive, (S) I-275, (E) Hillsborough River, (W) N. Armenia Avenue.

- a. 1700 block – 2300 block – Chestnut Street, west
- b. Spruce Street, west
- c. 2400 block – 2900 block – Fremont Avenue, north
- d. 2400 block – 2900 block – Oregon Avenue, north
- e. 1700 block – 3000 block – Rome Avenue, north
- f. 1700 block – 3000 block – Albany Avenue, north
- g. 1700 block – 2300 block – St. Joseph Street, west
- h. 1700 block – 2300 block – St. Louis Street, west
- i. 1700 block – 2300 block – St. John Street, west
- j. 1700 block – 2300 block – St. Conrad Street, west
- k. 1700 block – 2300 block – Beach Street, west
- l. 1700 block – 2300 block – Pine Street, west
- m. 1700 block – 2300 block – Palmetto Street, west
- n. 1700 block – 2300 block – Walnut Street, west
- o. 1700 block – 2300 block – Union Street, west

**We are requesting the installation of traffic calming devices in the above listed streets, due to excessive speed of traffic in the area.**

**Response to a.-o.:** From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. The Traffic Analysis Section contacted Ms. Harriet McCray via phone for clarification of the specific street location in item b for placement of traffic calming devices. This

information is needed to request a speed study at the appropriate location. Ms. McCray stated the location of concern in item b is the 1500 block – 1700 block of W. Spruce Street.

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 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed. The 85<sup>th</sup> 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 85<sup>th</sup> 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.

Speed studies have been requested for the above listed locations. The estimated time of completion 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 study after this 16-week period, please contact us at 274-8333.

From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333.

**Update to a:** On Thursday, 10/27/05 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 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 32.1-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Chestnut Street from N. Fremont Avenue to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to b:** On Thursday, 10/27/05 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 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 33.1-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Spruce Street from N. Fremont Avenue to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to c:** On Thursday, 10/27/05 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 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 25.5-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. Fremont Avenue from W. Union Street to W. Chestnut Street does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to d:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 24.3-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. Oregon Avenue from W. Union Street to W. Chestnut Street does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to e:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 45.4-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. Rome Avenue from W. Palmetto Beach Street 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 is listed on the SLL.

**Update to f:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 32.4-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. Albany Avenue from W. Palmetto Street to W. Beach Street does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to g:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 29.9-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Saint Joseph Street from N. Fremont to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to h:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 31.0-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Saint Louis Street from N. Fremont to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to i.:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 22.6-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Saint John Street from N. Fremont to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to j:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 29.8-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Saint Conrad Street from N. Fremont to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to k:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 33.6-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Beach Street from N. Fremont to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to l:** The speed study request for W. Pine Street from dead end to N. Howard Avenue was missed. A new speed study has been requested.

**Update to m:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 29.6-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Palmetto Street from N. Fremont to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to n:** 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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 27.4-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Walnut Street from N. Fremont Avenue (dead end) to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Update to o:** On Thursday, 10/27/05 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 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 25.5-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Union Street from N. Fremont Avenue to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Contact Person:** Sadie Perry  
2119 Beach Street  
Tampa, FL 33607  
Phone: (813) 810-2414  
(813) 258-9570

### **Need and Recommendation 3. Traffic Calming Devices.**

**Boundaries:** Between Spruce Street and Rome Avenue and between Chestnut Street and Albany Avenue.

- a. On Albany Street near corner of Beach and Howard Avenue.
- b. Albany Street to Armenia Avenue or Chestnut Street.
- c. All cross streets surrounding Main Street, Columbus Drive, Armenia Avenue, North Boulevard and North Cypress.

**Many children in the neighborhood play in the street, and passing cars could injure them.**

**Response to a.-c.:** From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. The Traffic Analysis Section contacted Ms. Sadie Perry via phone for clarification of the specific street locations requested for the placement of traffic calming and other related traffic control devices. This information is needed to request the appropriate traffic related studies at the appropriate locations. Ms. Perry state that all three original requested locations are to be revised as follows:

- a. N. Albany Avenue between W. Main Street and W. Columbus Drive (speeding)
- b. W. Beach Street between N. Albany Avenue and N. Howard Avenue (No Truck signs)
- c. W. Spruce Street between N. Rome Avenue and N. Howard Avenue (speeding)

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.

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Speed studies have been requested for the revised requests in items a. and c. The estimated time of completion 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 study after this 16-week period, please contact us at 274-8333.

The Traffic Analysis Section will have No Truck signs installed at the revised requested location in item b.

**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 30-mph. The resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 32.4-mph. Based on the results of this study; N. Albany Avenue from W. Palmetto Street to W. Beach Street 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. Sign installation is not complete. 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.

**Update to c:** From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Thursday, 10/27/05 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 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 33.1-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Spruce Street from N. Fremont to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

**Contact Person:** Carolyn Collins  
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Tampa, FL 33607  
Phone: (813) 879-0372 (h)  
(813) 871-3986 (fax)  
Email: CarCollins1@aol.com

#### **Need and Recommendation 5. Traffic Calming Devices.**

- a. **Install traffic calming device on W. Spruce St., between Fremont and Rome Avenue.**
- b. *Replace existing four way stop sign at the intersection of W. Spruce St and N. Rome Ave for a traffic light.*

**A new charter school has been opened during the 2003-2004 school year. The students are 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders and they are dropped off and picked up. They cross the street for cafeteria meals and programs. The community has experienced speeders, despite posted warnings. Drivers are not stopping at the four-way stop signs.**

**Response to a.:** From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. A speed study has been requested for W. Spruce Street between N. Rome Avenue and N. Howard Avenue. The estimated time of completion 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 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.

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**Update to a:** From William Porth, Transportation Technician, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8333. On Thursday, 10/27/05 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 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was 33.1-mph. Based on the results of this study; W. Spruce Street from N. Fremont to N. Albany Avenue does not appear to be experiencing an excessive speeding problem.

#### **Need and Recommendation 10. Sidewalk for Churches That Offer Community Services.**

- a. Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church – 2002 N. Rome Avenue**
- b. First Baptist of West Tampa – 1302 W. Willow Avenue**
- c. New Bright and Morning Star – 1805 N. Albany Avenue**
- d. Mt. Olive AME Church – 1747 W. LaSalle Street**
- e. Beulah Baptist Church – 1006 W. Cypress Street**

**Response:** From Jan Washington, Construction Engineer, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, 274-8303. Each year, new sidewalk locations are selected from our database as candidates for construction based on citizen input, constructability, budget constraints, and a benefit/cost ratio. Citizens can submit site specific requests anytime during the year and they will be evaluated. We retain the information until the sidewalk is built. If a citizen is interested in the current “ranking” of any requested segment, they are encouraged to call the Sidewalk Section at 635-3407 for information.

The above requests are not site specific enough for us to evaluate properly at this time. Our records indicate existing sidewalk in front of all but one of the churches, and sidewalk on at least one side of the street leading

to and from the church. The exception is Mt. Olive AME with no sidewalk on LaSalle, but there is sidewalk on the west side of Fremont. The city's ultimate goal is sidewalk on both sides of every roadway, but due to budget constraints, our current policy is to ensure that there is sidewalk on at least one side of a street. There are many streets in the city without any sidewalk, so those locations are considered a priority over those with sidewalk already on one side. However, evidence of a higher benefit/cost ratio for sidewalk on both sides will be given a higher priority. Therefore, I will endeavor to meet with the contact person to discuss site specific requests and provide a determination of the priorities in my response in the update later this year.

**Contact Person:**           **Kenneth L. Muldrow**  
  **2121 Moses White Boulevard**  
  **Tampa, FL 33607**  
  **Phone: (813) 272-3422 (h)**  
  **(813) 272-3715 (fax)**

**Need and Recommendation 11. Repaving of Alleys.**

- a. **Between Moses White Boulevard (Main Street) and Union Street, located behind 2123 Moses White Boulevard north and south of Union Street.**
- b. **Between Violet Street and Albany Street, located between Violet Street running east and west to Albany Street.**

**The West Tampa Community Church and organizations would like to beautify the alley areas. The pavement is presently a safety hazard and needs to be paved.**

**Response:** From Scott Shaw, Traffic Operations Chief, Department of Public Works, Operations Division, 622-1755. The requested location is a T shaped alley. The north to south portion between Main Street and Union Street will not be resurfaced and is in good condition. The East to West section will be reworked and resurfaced, starting at Albany Avenue and ending where the "T" intersection of the alley forms. This work should be completed by May 31st.

**Update:** From Scott Shaw, Traffic Operations Chief, Department of Public Works, Operations Division, 622-1755. The paving of this alley has been completed.

**Need and Recommendation 12. Salcines Park Lighting Needs to be Upgraded and Benches Need to be Painted and Water Fountain Needs to be Installed.**

- a. **Salcines Park is located at Howard Avenue and Moses White Boulevard.**

**Community crime prevention activities will be scheduled at this site during the years of 2004 through 2019. The community needs more beautification of lights and mirrors.**

**Response:** From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Parks and Recreation will obtain the cost of upgrading the lighting and benches and will investigate funds in the Fiscal Year 2007 budget.

**Contact Person:**           **Jimmie Gray**  
  **1938 W. Main Street**  
  **Tampa, FL 33607**  
  **Phone: (813) 259-1161 (h)**

**Need and Recommendation 13. Eligibility and Funding Change to CDBG City of Tampa Vision & Dental Guidelines.**

On July 1, 2003, the State of Florida eliminated vision services to Medicaid recipients who are over the age of 21. This resulted in an increase in the number of city residents requesting vision services. This change will require an additional allocation of funds to cover at least 500 citizens. \$100 per person would amount to \$50,000.

The City of Tampa's Dental & Vision program guidelines need to be reviewed and adjusted to serve the needy residents of our community. Many of our citizens fall between the cracks, with respect to the City versus the County's guidelines. The city does not serve clients that meet the County's monetary guideline, even though they are still within the Federal guidelines. Citizens are referred to the County, where many do not qualify, due to not being able to meet the County's additional criteria.

**Response:** From Jim Stefan, Budget Officer, Department of Revenue and Finance, 274-8111. The city received a Request for Proposal (RFP) from Hillsborough County Health Department for the Vision Program. Additional funding for the program will be considered through the RFP process. A recent newspaper article stated that adult Medicaid recipients would be able to receive two pairs of eyeglasses a year and repairs to their glasses. State government is proposing to bring back Medicaid coverage in July. We will continue to monitor state actions to determine the appropriate course the City of Tampa should take.

**Update:** From Jim Stefan, Budget Officer, Department of Revenue and Finance, 274-8552. The program was awarded \$13,722 for FY05-06. Due to a reduction in funding from HUD and following the Request for Proposal process established by the City of Tampa and approved by Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee, grading and funding limits would not allow additional funding for this program. No additional information has been provided about reinstatement of Medicaid coverage at this time.

**Need and Recommendation 14. Request for Funding – Census Tracts 1-60.**

The Fatherhood, Assistance, Lifestyle, Legal referral Service, Inc. (F.A.L.L.S.) a faith-based organization is requesting a \$15,000 contribution. The contribution will enable efforts to help non-custodial, custodial fathers and their children, to give them hope and break the patterns of family violence, absenteeism, poverty, illiteracy, homelessness and hopelessness.

Utilizing experts from private consultants to public service agents, we assist one to three families and eight to twelve individual participants monthly, which is all that our current resources will allow. Services are free of charge to all residents of the City of Tampa and Hillsborough County. Your contribution will enable us to enhance and further our programs of:

- a. Public awareness via newspaper and radio.
- b. Domestic violence education/prevention.
- c. Parenting/effective communication skills.
- d. Legal referral-child support/custody/visitation.
- e. GED prep classes.

Our most recent Community Health Fair and Family Festival (12/7/02) at River Front Park, boasts attendance of more than 100 participants, local vendors and volunteers. The F.A.L.L.S. is currently

**looking at other beneficial program venues. As you are aware, the need is great and it is real. When children have both parents actively involved in their upbringing, they perform better in school, have higher self-esteem and are less likely to become involved with the legal system negatively.**

**Response:** From Jim Stefan, Budget Officer, Department of Revenue and Finance, 274-8111. The city received a Request for Proposal (RFP) from The Fatherhood, Assistance, Lifestyle, Legal Referral Service, Inc. The application has been included with other requests submitted through the RFP process and will be considered for funding.

**Update:** From Jim Stefan, Budget Officer, Department of Revenue and Finance, 274-8552. Many proposals were submitted for consideration than could be selected for inclusion in Tampa's application to HUD. Due to a reduction in funding from HUD and following the Request for Proposal process established by the City of Tampa and approved by Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee, grading and funding limits would not allow additional funding for this program.

**Need and Recommendation 15. Have Businesses on Main Street Comply with Current Store Front Lighting and Facades Codes.**

**Response:** From William Doherty, Deputy Director, Code Enforcement, 274-5562. The Code Enforcement Department will inspect the businesses on Main Street in regards to the façade codes.

**Update:** From William Doherty, Deputy Director, Code Enforcement, 274-5562. The Code Enforcement Department has inspected the businesses on Main Street and continues to monitor any businesses to ensure they comply with 27-466. West Tampa Overlay District Development Design Standards (c.) Site and Building Standards.

**Need and Recommendation 16. Provide Business Micro Loans from \$2,000-\$20,000 for West Tampa Small Business Owners Using Blue Ribbon Model Created by EC, EZ Board to be Managed by The West Tampa CDC.**

**Small businesses need assistance with equipment and renovation of stores. Loan would increase profit and community economics.**

**Response:** From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner III, Housing and Community Development, 274-8228. Micro loan programs are eligible for CDBG funding. The City of Tampa is currently working with a subrecipient in East Tampa to set up a micro loan program in East Tampa, funded primarily with CDBG funds. The subrecipient agreement is scheduled for City Council consideration at the end of April. Once approved by City Council, this micro loan program can serve as a model of a proposed micro loan program for West Tampa.

**Update:** From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner III, Housing and Community Development, 274-8228. Upon further research of other communities that have used CDBG funds for micro-loan programs, the city has discovered there are too many complications associated with using federal funds to implement this program. The city will not be funding a micro loan program with CDBG funds. It is recommended interested small businesses contact Tampa Bay Economic Development Corporation at 984-8100 for more information about small business development loans.

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