

**CITY OF TAMPA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
COMMUNITY NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FY2006-2007
December 5, 2006**

Block Club: Area VII

Neighborhoods: Lowry Park, North Lowry Park, Sulphur Springs, Forrest Hills, Blue Sink/Curiosity Creek, North Tampa Community, University Square, Hillsborough Heights, Terrace Park, and Temple Crest.

New Tampa-Brookfield, Deer Creek, Cypress Green, Espirit, Fox Chase, Heather Downs, Hampshire, Hampton on the Green, Heritage Oaks, Hunter's Green, Lakeside, Laurel Ridge, Lockwood Links, Magnolia Chase, Nathan's Court, Oakcrest, Osprey Point, Pinnacle, Quail Creek, Richmond Place, Stonebridge, Tampa Palms, Waterforde, Wynstone.

Boundaries: Fowler Avenue (north); Sligh Avenue (south); City limits (east); City Limits/Armenia Avenue (west) and New Tampa Annexation.

Chairperson: Mr. Joseph Robinson
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Submitted by: Vicki Pratt
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Need and Recommendation 1. A Public park and a public swimming pool.

Boundaries: (North) Busch Boulevard, (East) City Limits, (West) N. 40th Street, (South) River Hills

A public park and a public swimming pool is needed for the children, teenagers, and adults that offers outside sports, game rooms, study space, crafts, or other activities to eliminate the "idle mind theory". There is a park off of 37th Street, but poses safety hazard for younger persons, if not transported by vehicle. There is no pool in the area far with the exception of ones at apartment complexes.

Several city parks offer a variety of classes to encourage creativity and could stimulate the imagination. To offer these classes where the facility is accessible without much travel, could possibly develop a person's career. A facility within the area could help so many children avoid the temptation to do drugs, steal or become a menace to society.

Response: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Parks and Recreation Department will evaluate the feasibility of developing a park and swimming pool in this area through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan which is being developed for FY07 and FY08.

Need and Recommendation 2. Speed bumps.

Install speed bumps within the River Bluff subdivision on River Dune Street, north of E. Regnas Avenue (cul-de-sac).

There is too much speeding within a small area and children in the neighborhood have to sometime play in the street.

Response: From William Porth, Traffic Studies Technician, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8333. Before consideration is given to the installation of speed tables or any other traffic calming measures on local residential streets or Neighborhood-Collector roadways, 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. In rare circumstances, such as an intersection with a documented history of pedestrian accidents, other site specific traffic calming measures may be implemented.

Speed studies determine the 85th percentile speed. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at, or below which 85% percent of the observed free-flowing vehicles travel. The Transportation Division, in cooperation with the Tampa Police Department, considers speeding to be 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 currently has documented 235 locations city-wide with speeding problems on local residential streets, Neighborhood-Collector roadways, and the higher volume Collectors and Arterials. Of the 235 locations, 160 of them qualify for traffic calming measures because they are classified as local residential streets or Neighborhood-Collector roadways. The remaining locations do not qualify for traffic calming because they are classified as Collectors and Arterials.

As each new speeding location is documented, it is added to the Speeding Location List (SLL). This list contains all of the locations in the City of Tampa 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. Additionally, rankings will change when each new speeding location is documented. When we reach a requested location on the SLL that qualifies for traffic calming measures, we will work with the

affected property owners and their neighbors to find the best solution to address the speeding problem.

A speed study for N. River Dune Street between E Regnas Avenue and the dead-end has been requested on your behalf and the estimated time of completion is approximately 12 weeks. After the speed study is completed, our findings will be reported to Vicki Pratt.

Update: From William Porth, Traffic Studies Technician, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8333. The following findings were shared with Vicki Pratt via telephone: On Tuesday, March 21, 2006, 24-hour speed and volume studies were conducted on North River Dune Street between East Regnas Avenue and the Dead-end. The posted speed limit for this section of roadway is 25 mph. The resulting 85% percentile speed as determined by the study was 28 mph. Additionally, the 24-hour volume count indicated a total volume of 497 vehicles, 252 vehicles north bound and 245 vehicles south bound. Based on these results, North River Dune Street between East Regnas Avenue and the dead-end does not appear to be experiencing a speeding problem.

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Need and Recommendation 3. Sidewalks.

Construct sidewalks – 34th Street, from Yukon Street to Busch Boulevard.

There are no sidewalks on this street and they are needed to accommodate walking to the parks and schools in our neighborhood.

Response: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This request for 34th Street from Yukon Street to Busch Blvd under the New Sidewalk Construction Program will be considered in FY07. Reference of this request is reported in the message center under tracking #78195. Selection information will be available in December 2006.

Update: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This location will be considered again in FY08. Selection information will be available in December 2007.

Need and Recommendation 4. Sidewalks

Construct sidewalks on Yukon Street, from Rowlett Park to 40th Street.

There are no sidewalks on this street and they are needed to accommodate walking to the parks and schools in our neighborhood.

Response: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This request for Yukon Street from Rowlett Park Drive to 40th Street under the New Sidewalk Construction Program will be considered in FY07. Reference of this request is reported in the message center under tracking #78197. Selection information will be available in December 2006.

Update: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This location will be considered again in FY08. Selection information will be available in December 2007.

Need and Recommendation 5. Sidewalks.

Construct sidewalks on Lakeshore, from Pinetree Court to River Hills Drive.

There are no sidewalks on this street and they are needed to accommodate walking to the parks and schools in our neighborhood. This will also be an alternate route for traffic during 40th Street construction.

Response: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This request for Lakeshore Drive from Pinetree Court to River Hills Drive under the New Sidewalk Construction Program will be considered in FY07. Reference of this request is reported in the message center under tracking #78198. Selection information will be available in December 2006.

Update: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This location will be considered again in FY08. Selection information will be available in December 2007.

Need and Recommendation 6. Sidewalks

Construct sidewalks on N. Hutton Pl., from 40th to Pinetree Court.

There are no sidewalks on this street and they are needed to accommodate walking to the parks and schools in our neighborhood.

Response: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This request for Hutton Place from 40th Street to Pine Tree Place under the New Sidewalk Construction Program will be considered in FY07. Reference of this request is reported in the message center under tracking #78199. Selection information will be available in December 2006.

Update: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This location will be considered again in FY08. Selection information will be available in December 2007.

Need and Recommendation 7. Sidewalks.

Construct sidewalks on 47th Street, from Regnas Avenue to Yukon Street.

There are no sidewalks on this street and they are needed to accommodate walking to the parks and schools in our neighborhood.

Response: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This request for 47th Street from Regnas Avenue to Yukon Street under the New Sidewalk Construction Program will be considered in FY07. Reference of this request is reported in the message center under tracking #78201. Selection information will be available in December 2006.

Update: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This location will be considered again in FY08. Selection information will be available in December 2007.

Need and Recommendation 8. Sidewalks.

Construct sidewalks on Bird Street, from 37th to 40th and 40th to 46th.

There are no sidewalks on this street and they are needed to accommodate walking to the parks and schools in our neighborhood.

Response: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This request for Bird Street from 37th Street to 46th Street under the New Sidewalk Construction Program will be considered in FY07. Reference of this request is reported in the message center under tracking #78203. Selection information will be available in December 2006.

Update: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This location will be considered again in FY08. Selection information will be available in December 2007.

Need and Recommendation 9. Install speed tables.

Install speed tables on Yukon Street, from 37th east to end point.

This is an incredibly busy road that is narrow and dangerous. It is vital to slow down the traffic on this street.

Response: From William Porth, Traffic Studies Technician, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8333. Before consideration is given to the installation of speed tables or any other traffic calming measures on local residential streets or Neighborhood-Collector roadways, 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. In rare

circumstances, such as an intersection with a documented history of pedestrian accidents, other site specific traffic calming measures may be implemented.

Speed studies determine the 85th percentile speed. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at, or below which 85% percent of the observed free-flowing vehicles travel. The Transportation Division, in cooperation with the Tampa Police Department, considers speeding to be 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 currently has documented 235 locations city-wide with speeding problems on local residential streets, Neighborhood-Collector roadways, and the higher volume Collectors and Arterials. Of the 235 locations, 160 of them qualify for traffic calming measures because they are classified as local residential streets or Neighborhood-Collector roadways. The remaining locations do not qualify for traffic calming because they are classified as Collectors and Arterials.

As each new speeding location is documented, it is added to the Speeding Location List (SLL). This list contains all of the locations in the City of Tampa 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. Additionally, rankings will change when each new speeding location is documented. When we reach a requested location on the SLL that qualifies for traffic calming measures, we will work with the affected property owners and their neighbors to find the best solution to address the speeding problem.

Currently, the segment of E. Yukon Street between N. 40th Street and N. 46th Street is ranked 46 out of the 160 local residential streets and Neighborhood Collector-roadways with a documented speeding problem. However, this segment, and also the segment of E. Yukon Street between N. 46th Street and N. Hyaleah Street (not ranked) were last studied over a year ago, so new speed studies have been requested for both of these segments. The estimated time of completion is approximately 12 – 16 weeks. After the speed studies have been completed, the Speeding Location List will be updated to reflect the new study's findings which may affect current rankings.

Many years ago, the requested segment of E. Yukon from 37th Street to 40th Street was included within the traffic calming project to install speed humps from 30th Street to 40th Street. However, there was no speed hump installed within the segment from 37th Street to 40th Street because the city design specifications do not allow traffic calming measures within 600 feet of the approach to a signalized intersection.

Update: From William Porth, Traffic Studies Technician, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8333. On Wednesday, August 9, 2006, 24-hour speed and volume studies were conducted on East Yukon Street between North 40th Street and North 46th Street. The posted speed limit for this section of roadway is 25 mph. The resulting 85% percentile speed as determined by the study was 34 mph. Additionally, the 24-hour volume count indicated a total volume of 1,700 vehicles, 816 vehicles west bound and 884 vehicles east bound. Based on these results, East Yukon

Street between North 40th Street does not appear to be experiencing a speeding problem and has been dropped from the SLL.

On Tuesday, March 21, 2006, 24-hour speed and volume studies were conducted on East Yukon Street between North 46th Street and North Hyaleah Road. The posted speed limit for this section of roadway is 25 mph. The resulting 85th percentile speed as determined by the study was 31 mph. Additionally, the 24-hour volume count indicated a total volume of 855 vehicles, 380 vehicles west bound and 475 vehicles east bound. Based on these results, East Yukon Street between North 46th Street and North Hyaleah Road does not appear to be experiencing a speeding problem.

Need and Recommendation 10. Install speed tables.

Install speed tables on E. River Hills Drive, from Greenwood Avenue to 40th Street and 40th Street to (east) Tampa City limits.

This is a feeder road that is narrow and winding. We need to slow down the traffic on this road because we do not have sidewalks on the road and we have schools and parks nearby, as well as pedestrians and bicyclists. There have also been serious pedestrian accidents on this road, including one involving a citizen suing the City of Tampa.

Response to Speed Tables: From William Porth, Traffic Studies Technician, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8333. Before consideration is given to the installation of speed tables or any other traffic calming measures on local residential streets or Neighborhood-Collector roadways, 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. In rare circumstances, such as an intersection with a documented history of pedestrian accidents, other site specific traffic calming measures may be implemented.

Speed studies determine the 85th percentile speed. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at, or below which 85% percent of the observed free-flowing vehicles travel. The Transportation Division, in cooperation with the Tampa Police Department, considers speeding to be 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 currently has documented 235 locations city-wide with speeding problems on local residential streets, Neighborhood-Collector roadways, and higher volume Collectors and Arterials. Of the 235 locations, 160 of them qualify for traffic calming measures because they are classified as local residential streets or Neighborhood-Collector roadways. The remaining locations do not qualify for traffic calming because they are classified as Collectors and Arterials.

As each new speeding location is documented, it is added to the Speeding Location List (SLL). This list contains all of the locations in the City of Tampa 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.

Additionally, rankings will change when each new speeding location is documented. When we reach a requested location on the SLL that qualifies for traffic calming measures, we will work with the affected property owners and their neighbors to find the best solution to address the speeding problem.

Currently, the segment of E. River Hills Drive between N. 40th Street and N. 50th Street is ranked 175 out of all the 235 locations with a documented speeding problem. However, this segment does not qualify for traffic calming measures, because it is classified as a Collector. We must therefore rely solely on traffic enforcement as provided by the Tampa Police Department (TPD) whom you may contact at 231-6130 directly with your circumstances.

The segment of E. River Hills Drive between N. Greenwood Avenue and N. 40th Street is currently not ranked, and both segments of E. River Hills Drive from N. Greenwood Avenue to N. 40th Street and to N. 50th Street were last studied over a year ago, so new speed studies have been requested for both of these segments. The estimated time of completion is approximately 12– 16 weeks. After the speed studies have been completed, the Speeding Location List will be updated to reflect the new study's findings which may affect current rankings.

Update: From William Porth, Traffic Studies Technician, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8333. On Tuesday, March 21, 2006, 24-hour speed and volume studies were conducted on East River Hills Drive Street between North Greenwood Avenue and North 40th Street. The posted speed limit for this section of roadway is 25 mph. The resulting 85% percentile speed as determined by the study was 26 mph. Additionally, the 24-hour volume count indicated a total volume of 1113 vehicles, 634 vehicles west bound and 479 vehicles east bound. Based on these results, East River Hills Drive Street between North Greenwood Avenue and North 40th Street does not appear to be experiencing a speed problem.

On Tuesday, March 21, 2006, 24-hour speed and volume studies were conducted on East River Hills Drive Street between North 40th Street and North 46th Street. The posted speed limit for this section of roadway is 30 mph. The resulting 85% percentile speed as determined by the study was 38 mph. Additionally, the 24-hour volume count indicated a total volume of 5634 vehicles, 2,528 vehicles west bound and 3,106 vehicles east bound. Based on these results, River Hills Drive Street between North 40th Street and North 46th Street does not appear to be experiencing a speed problem and has been dropped from the SLL.

On Tuesday, March 21, 2006, 24-hour speed and volume studies were conducted on East River Hills Drive Street between North 46th Street and North 50th Street. The posted speed limit for this section of roadway is 30 mph. The resulting 85% percentile speed as determined by the study was 39 mph. Additionally, the 24-hour volume count indicated a total volume of 4613 vehicles, 2,164 vehicles west bound and 2,449 vehicles east bound. Based on these results, East River Hills Drive Street between North 46th Street and North 50th Street does not appear to be experiencing a speed problem and has been dropped from the SLL.

On Tuesday, March 21, 2006, 24-hour speed and volume studies were conducted on East River Hills Drive Street between North 50th Street and Ridgeway Road (City Limits). The posted speed limit for this section of roadway is 30 mph. The resulting 85% percentile speed as determined by the study was 39 mph. Additionally, the 24-hour volume count indicated a total volume of 6,933 vehicles, 3,463 vehicles west bound and ,3470 vehicles east bound. Based on these results, East River Hills Drive Street between North 50th Street and Ridgeway Road (City Limits) does not appear to be experiencing a speed problem and has been dropped from the SLL.

Update: From Major Robert J. Guidara, Tampa Police Department, District III, 276-3700. Patrol officers in this designated area of District II have been assigned to monitor the traffic activity and take enforcement action as necessary.

Response to Sidewalks: From Jan Washington, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This request of River Hills Drive from Greenwood Avenue to 40th Street and continuing to the Tampa city limits under the New Sidewalk Construction Program will be considered in FY07. Reference of this request is reported in the message center under tracking #67648. Work orders 7205, 7247, and 6267 are entered into the database. Selection information will be available in December 2006.

Update: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. This location will be considered again in FY08. Selection information will be available in December 2007.

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