

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

Block Club: Area IX

Neighborhoods: Carver City/Lincoln Gardens, North Bon Air, MacFarland Park, Oakford Park, West Shore Palms, Gray Gables/Bon Air/Southern Pines, Palma Ceia, Golfview, Beach Park, Beach Park Isles, Culbreath Isles, Culbreath Bayou, Culbreath Heights, Sunset Park, Mid-Peninsular, Virginia Park, Bel Mar Shores, and Souther Pines.

Boundaries: Columbus Drive (north); Euclid Avenue (south); MacDill Avenue (east); Old Tampa Bay (west).

**Chairperson/
Contact Person:** Ms. Thelma Davis, Chairperson
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Need and Recommendation 1. Painting of median strip

The edge of the median strip on Lois Avenue needs to be painted for visibility. The median strip on Lois Avenue is between Nassau Street and Cypress Street needs to paint with a yellow stripe.

This request is for safety reasons. With eastbound traffic turning north on Lois Avenue, it is difficult to see the median. This is particularly true for nighttime travel.

Response: From Scott Shaw, Traffic Operations Chief, Transportation Division, Department of Public Works, 622-1955. The city is proposing a roadway enhancement project for Lois Avenue from Cypress Street to Spruce Street that is scheduled to start March 22, 2006. The above request has been forwarded to the construction office for inclusion into the project. The end of the median, or bullnose, shall be painted yellow.

Update: From Scott Shaw, Traffic Operations Chief, Transportation Division, Department of Public Works, 622-1955. The Lois and Cypress Enhancement Project was completed on June 8, 2006, and the noses are painted yellow.

Need and Recommendation 2. Installation of a block wall.

Install block wall around the City of Tampa Maintenance Department along N. Grady Avenue off W. Spruce Street and along W. Laurel Street off of N. Lois Avenue.

This wall has been requested many times over the past ten years. A block wall is needed on N. Grady Avenue off Spruce Street to Laurel Street off Lois Avenue.

The fence along N. Grady Avenue is unsightly with broken lattice and overgrown weeds and palmetto bushes. There is a partial wall on Laurel Street from Lois Avenue to Clark Avenue. The remaining area is left exposed to the neighbors to view parked police city cars and garbage trucks. The stench from the garbage trucks is overwhelming.

Response: From Steve Hiza, Engineer III, Transportation Division, Department of Public Works, 274-8333. Two years ago, Solid Waste responded that a Master Plan was being prepared for the site. I inquired as to the status of this Master Plan, and found that it has been completed. However, it was determined that building rehabilitation must be done in phases over a period of years in order not to disrupt the on-going maintenance work. The first phase would be a Tire & Lube Shop for Fleet Maintenance. Design plans should be forthcoming this year and construction could start sometime next year if funding is available.

Unfortunately, there are no funding provisions in the Master Plan to construct a block wall along Laurel Street from the east side of the existing entrance to the rear parking lot (a.k.a. Clark Street) along the property line to the right-of-way of Grady Avenue. Nor is there any provision to replace the broken lattice fence with a block wall north along Grady Avenue to the right-of-way of Spruce Street. Therefore, on behalf of the residents, this request has been forwarded to Fleet Maintenance for their consideration to update the construction estimate to include building a wall.

Response: From Tim Perry, Fleet Manager, Fleet Maintenance, Department of Public Works, 348-2053. This project is included in both Fleet Maintenance and Solid Waste FY07 Capital Improvement Project requests.

Update: From Tim Perry, Fleet Manager, Fleet Maintenance, Department of Public Works, 348-2053. The funds have been allocated in the FY07 CIP program for the design of the block wall extension. It is anticipated that funds for the actual construction will be made available in FY08. This is a shared project between Fleet and Solid Waste.

Need and Recommendation 3. Additional staff and programs at Loretta Ingraham Center.

Establish funding for more staff and programs at the Loretta Ingraham Center, located at 1611 N. Hubert Avenue.

Although the center was recently renovated, it is in need of more staff and programs to benefit a larger and more varied age group. The playground cannot be used at all times because there is

not enough staff to supervise. There is a large age group that is not being served because there are no programs.

Response: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The number of staff at the Loretta Ingraham Center is within the department's standards. However, the department will conduct a survey to see if there are any other programs needed at the center and adjust staffing if deemed necessary.

Update: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Staff will be conducting the survey which should be completed by June 1, 2007.