

**CITY OF TAMPA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
COMMUNITY NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FY2008-2009
December 17, 2008**

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).

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1. NEED & RECOMMENDATION: Staff for the library within the Loretta Ingraham Center at 1611 N. Hubert Ave and extended hours (*Non-Eligible*)

The library was originally staffed with one paid worker and volunteers. Since the grant for the paid worker has ended, the library has been staffed by volunteers. Because of this, there are no set days and hours. When they are there it is only for the morning hours. Because of the limited hours, the library cannot be used by the entire communities of Carver City and Lincoln Gardens.

Response: From Karen Palus, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The department does not have staff to operate the library. Staffing will need to come from volunteers or from the library system staff. However, the department will discuss this matter with the library system to see if any thing can be worked out.

2. NEED & RECOMMENDATION: Improvements to Hubert Ave. between Cypress St. and Union St. (*Eligible and Non-Eligible*)

- a) The ditch on Hubert Ave. at Arch St. is a trash collector. (*Non-Eligible*)
- b) Due to the large number of young people that gather on the corners and buy and sell drugs, the street lights at Nassau St., LaSalle St., and Arch St. need to be upgraded with crime lights and unbreakable covers. (*Non-Eligible*).
- c) Hubert Ave. needs to be repaved because of the laying of the reclaimed water pipes.

Response a.: From Michael J. Burwell, Planning and Environment Division, Stormwater Department, 274-7864. The Stormwater Department has inspected the location and found a great deal of leaves, but no trash, in the ditch. These leaves were apparently deposited by the resident or owner of the house on the southeast corner but the house is unoccupied at present. The Stormwater Operations Division will be requested to remove the excess leaves before the next rainfall and the owner will be notified about the deposition of leaves or other debris in the stormwater system.

Update a.: From Michael J. Burwell, Planning and Environment Division, Stormwater Department, 274-7864. The ditch system was cleaned of leaves and the resident notified.

Response b.: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. Streetlights are an essential part of the transportation system, and are provided for the safety of motorists and pedestrians while moving in the rights-of-way. For this reason, the City recently completed a system-wide upgrade from 50W and 70W luminaries to 100 Watt fixtures. Plans are to start adding new light fixtures in areas that have low uniformity – or no illumination in FY2010, contingent upon budgetary constraints.

Residents may want to consider requesting their own personal area lights from Tampa Electric Company directly. While the expenses cannot be supported by the City, the illumination can be installed at the homeowner's discretion. TECO can be reached at 273-0800.

Response b.: From Major Robert J. Guidara, Police Department, 242-3899. Ms. Veronica Hills of CPTED, advised that the upgraded crime lighting program began approximately 2 years ago and since that time all lighting has been installed. This included the area listed in West Tampa.

The District I QUAD squad under the supervision of Sergeant John Sluckus has been assigned to address the problem on narcotic sales at the listed location. Since receiving this complaint his squad has made two arrests for narcotic sales.

Update b.: From Captain Craig Roberts, Police Department, 242-3899. Captain Sal Ruggerio of District I has assigned the district's narcotic QUAD squads to address the drug sales at the listed locations. Since that time, the QUAD squads have made multiple narcotics arrests and are continuing to work in the area.

Response c.: From Scott Shaw, Traffic Operations Chief, Transportation Division, Department of Public Works, 622-1955. The above requested location was paved in 1996 and the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Index is still greater than 70. There is no evidence of any problem areas at this time.

3. NEED & RECOMMENDATION: Sidewalk request for the 4000 block of Grace St. (Eligible)

Residents request this sidewalk because the only walking space is in the street.

Response: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. We plan to visit the 4000 block of Grace Street to determine the constructability. If constructible, location will be considered in FY09.

Update: From Jan Washington, Engineer, Transportation Planning, Department of Public Works, 274-8303. 4000 block of Grace Street is not cost effective to construct. Storm drainage issues exist. Moreover, interstate widening has taken half of this block from 4009 going east on the north side and from 4014 going east on the south side.

4. NEED & RECOMMENDATION: Finish wall on Laurel St. from Clark Ave. to Grady north side of Laurel St. (Non-Eligible)

The completion of the wall surrounding the City Solid Waste Maintenance area has been requested multiple times. The wall is needed to block the view of the garbage trucks and to help with the smell of the trucks.

Response: From Varghese Jacob, Interim Director, Solid Waste Department, 348-1104. Funding for the construction of a wall around Solid Waste Yard has been approved as CIP project in FY08. The construction is expected to start by the end of this fiscal year.

Update: From Mark Wilfaulk, Operations Chief, Solid Waste Department, 348-1153. Although the funding of the perimeter wall construction project has been approved, the Department of Solid Waste encountered permitting issues with EPC relating to the property being an old landfill. In addition, some concerns were identified with regard to the current property line. In 2008, the department learned that the current fencing surrounding the property may be as far as 10 feet outside of the property line.

To remedy this problem, the Department of Solid Waste is working with the Public Works Contract Administration department to redesign the architectural master plan for the Solid Waste facility. The estimated completion of the updated mater plan is expected to be completed by March of 2009.