

**CITY OF TAMPA  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT  
COMMUNITY NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FY2003-2004  
January 6, 2004**

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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).

Contact Person: Mr. Ralph Johnson, Chairperson  
5703 30th Avenue East  
Tampa, FL 33610  
Phone: 626-5546 (h)  
903-3360 (w)

**Highland Pines:**

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

Highland Pines Recommendations for Needs Fiscal Year 2003:

**Need and Recommendation 1. Recreation Center.**

**Response:** From Pete Burgue, Deputy Director, Recreation Department, 274-7740. The construction of a playground activity center for Highland Pines is included in the Recreation Department's FY04 Community Investment Tax Program.

**Update:** From Ross Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The construction of a playground activity center for Highland Pines was approved in the Parks and Recreation Department FY04 Community Investment Tax Budget. The project is in the pre-design stage.

**Need and Recommendation 2. Police protection/drugs.**

**Response:** From Ann Andrews, Tampa Police Department, 276-3755. Captain Marion

Lewis of the Tampa Police Department contacted Ms. Betty Bell on April 11, 2003 regarding her concerns with drug activity. She related the locations of concern.

During the last several months, there have been three drug-related arrests of street level drug dealers made in Highland Pines. There have been several complaints made mostly for the area of 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 49<sup>th</sup> Street, 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 48<sup>th</sup> Street, 2900 block of 40<sup>th</sup> Street and the 3200 block of 48<sup>th</sup> Street. Some of these complaints have resulted in arrests for outstanding warrants and various drug related-charges.

In May 2002, Q.U.A.D. participated in a Quality of Life Operation that included this area. There were over 90 arrests made within the Highland Pines and Grant Park area by all participating divisions.

Captain Lewis assured Ms. Bell that the Tampa Police Department would continue in our efforts to combat street level drug activity. Additionally, we communicate with code enforcement regarding the abandoned vehicles parked on the property of the vacant hotel.

**Update:** From Ann Andrews, Tampa Police Department, 276-3755. The Tampa Police Department continues to combat street level drug activity in this area.

### **Need and Recommendation 3. Pave parking area in park.**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks Department is requesting funding for paving in the FY04 Budget.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Funding for the paving was approved in the FY04 Budget along with the funding of the recreation center.

### **Need and Recommendation 4. Better lighting for community.**

**Response:** From Calvin Thornton, Transportation Planning, 274-7884. Better lighting is planned for the entire City of Tampa. Please direct your requests to Tampa Electric Company and the Tampa Police Department – Crime Prevention Unit – CPTED Specialists for scheduling. The Tampa Police Department – Crime Prevention Unit – CPTED Specialists can be reached at 276-3318. Street lighting maintenance is the responsibility of Tampa Electric Company. They can be reached at 223-0800 or online at [www.tampaelectric.com](http://www.tampaelectric.com).

**Update:** From Ann Andrews, Tampa Police Department, 276-3755. The Tampa Lighting Initiative has completed the first phase. (West Tampa) A total of 727 have been installed

in the following grids. Grids 102, 103, 112, 113, 114, 121, 122, 123 and 124 (See attached Addendum's C-I, C-II. Phase 2 (East Tampa) Grids 84, 85 and 97 have been completed in East Tampa. (See attached Addendum's C-I, C-II)

As of October 25, 2003 a total of 991 lights have been installed in Phase I and Phase II. The project continues. This project will take approximately 4 to 7 years to complete.

**Need and Recommendation 5. Picnic shelter.**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks and Recreation Departments are in the process of developing a Recovery Action Plan (RAP) for the Parks and Recreation Departments. This Plan looks at the elements within a park. From this study amenities if warranted can be determined. Then it becomes a priority and budget request. The RAP should be developed by December 2003.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The RAP is scheduled to be developed by early 2004.

**Need and Recommendation 6. More picnic tables/grills.**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. Additional picnic tables and grills will be placed in the park with funds from the FY04 Ancillary budget.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. Additional picnic tables and grills are being placed in the park with funds from the FY04 Ancillary budget.

**Need and Recommendation 7. Put clean sand in play area.**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. Fall surface will be requested in the FY04 CDBG Budget Request.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The fall surface was funded in the FY04 CDBG Budget and should be installed by the summer of 2004.

**Need and Recommendation 8. More equipment for children in play area.**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks and Recreation Departments are in the process of developing a Recovery Action Plan (RAP) for the Parks and Recreation Departments. This Plan looks at the elements within a park. From

this study amenities if warranted can be determined. Then it becomes a priority and budget request. The RAP should be developed by December 2003.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The RAP is scheduled to be developed by early 2004.

**Need and Recommendation 9. Upgrade the swing set (infant, small children compatible).**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks and Recreation Departments are in the process of developing a Recovery Action Plan (RAP) for the Parks and Recreation Departments. This Plan looks at the elements within a park. From this study amenities if warranted can be determined. Then it becomes a priority and budget request. The RAP should be developed by December 2003.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The RAP is scheduled to be developed by early 2004.

**Need and Recommendation 10. Clean the pond/chop down foliage around pool.**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The pond located next to Highland Avenue Park is a stormwater issue but the Parks Department will work with the Stormwater Department to resolve the problem.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7740. The pond is not a stormwater pond and the outer banks are being maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department. Within this fiscal year, the Parks and Recreation Department will clean and maintain the water area of the pond.

**Need and Recommendation 11. Fence in pond all around (small children are there unsupervised on the weekend).**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The pond located next to Highland Avenue Park is a stormwater issue but the Parks Department will work with the Stormwater Department to resolve the problem.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7740. The pond is not a stormwater pond and the outer banks are being maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department. The Stormwater Department has investigated the slope of the pond and determined the slope does not warrant fencing.

**Need and Recommendation 12. Put mile markers on walking, jogging path.**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. Parks is requesting funding for designation markers in the FY04 Capital Improvement Project budget.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. This project is being added to the list of Eagle Scout projects that the Boy Scouts will assist the Parks and Recreation Department in completing.

**Need and Recommendation 13. Keep trees and grass trimmed at park in a timely manner.**

**Response:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks Department has performance guidelines on the level of service for all of its parks and that level is determined by its size. Parks wants all of its facilities to be maintained to the highest level of service, if not Parks will take corrective action immediately. The trees will be inspected by the Forestry Division and then determine what action is needed.

**Update:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Parks and Recreation Department maintain a specific performance guideline on the level of service for all of its parks. The trees have been inspected by the Forestry Division and have been taken care of.

**Need and Recommendation 14. Clean culverts (drainage) of debris (torrential rain causes street flooding).**

**Response:** From Alexander P. Awad, Department of Sanitary Sewers, Stormwater Management Division, 274-7865. The stormwater system will be inspected and cleaned if necessary within 60 days. If you observe flooding or debris clogging inlets, please feel free to call the Maintenance Yard at 622-1901.

**Update:** From R. Michael Salmon, P.E., Director, Stormwater Department, 274-8771. This request has been completed.

**Need and Recommendation 15. Speed bumps on 21st Avenue near Highland Pines Park.**

**Response:** From William Porth, Transportation Planning, 274-8333. The Transportation Division is unaware of any speeding problems at the stated location requiring the installation of speed humps. Before the installation of any traffic calming measure, a documented speeding problem must exist and be on our Selective Enforcement List. This list is prepared for several purposes. Tampa Police Departments uses this list to direct

some of their resources from the Special Operations Traffic Unit to perform selective enforcement of the speed limit at various locations. The Transportation Division uses this list to maintain a database of all the existing speeding locations in the City of Tampa while prioritizing those locations for their candidacy as a site for traffic calming.

The Transportation Division will request that our Traffic Studies Section do a Spot Speed Study along 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue between 40<sup>th</sup> Street and Melbourne Boulevard. Upon completion of the study in approximately eight (8) to twelve (12) weeks, the Transportation Division will share the findings with the requestor, Betty Bell of 3002 Star Street, Tampa, FL 33605.

**Update:** From William Porth, Traffic Analysis Section, Transportation Planning, 274-8333. The Traffic Studies staff is currently experiencing a temporary speed study backlog. The requested Spot Speed Study has not been completed. Upon completion, we will contact the original requestor, Betty Bell of 3002 Star Street, Tampa, FL 33605.

### **Northview Hills Subdivision**

Submitted by: Ms. Rosalie Jones  
4523 Ashmore Drive  
Tampa, FL 33610  
Phone: 626-1447 (h)

Boundaries: 4000 block of Chelsea, south boundary (street runs east and west); 4000 block of Osborne Avenue, north boundary (street runs east and west); 4500-5000 block of 40th Street, west boundary (street runs north and south); and 4500-5000 John Bell Drive, east boundary (street runs north and south). The streets included in the Northview Hills Subdivision are as follows: Atwater Drive (street runs north and south); John Bell Drive (street runs north and south); 48th Street (street runs east and west); Ashmore Drive (street runs east and west); Ashland Drive (street runs north and south); Atwood Drive (street runs east and west); and Curtis Street (street runs east and west).

### **Need and Recommendation 1. Re-surfacing of Streets.**

**Response:** From Scott Shaw, Operations Division, 622-1955. This need first appeared in 2000. Each year, it has moved up the priority list and this year, Northview Hills will be among the locations scheduled for re-surfacing sometime during the summer of 2003.

**Update:** From Scott Shaw, Department of Public Works Operations Division, 622-1955. Resurfacing of this area has been completed utilizing CDBG funding to offset expenses.

Submitted by:               Ralph Johnson  
                                  5703 30th Avenue  
                                  Tampa, FL 33619  
                                  (813)626-5546 (h)  
                                  (813)903-2230 (w)

**Need and Recommendation 1. Request for lights at the softball field and weights for the weight room at Grant Park. The park location is: 3724 54th Street, Tampa, FL 33619, (813)622-1910.**

**Response:** From Pete Burgue, Deputy Director, Recreation Department, 274-7740.

1. Lights for Softball Field - The department has requested in the CDBG Capital Improvement Project Funding in FY04 for lights for softball field, security lighting, and general upgrading of park.
2. Weights for Weight Room – Staff will determine equipment needs and replace equipment as needed.

**Update to 1.:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7740. The Parks and Recreation Department requested funding in the FY04 CDBG Budget for lights for softball field, security lighting and general upgrading of park. Only security lighting was approved and the lighting is in the early design stage.

**Update to 2.:** From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7740. The department will be monitoring the condition of the equipment daily to make sure it is in proper working condition. The equipment will be replaced on an as needed basis.

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