

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

Block Club: Area II

Neighborhoods: Palmetto Beach, Historic Ybor City, Belmont Heights/Jackson Heights, College Hill Community, Live Oak Square, South Nebraska, Woodland Terrace, and River Cove.

Boundaries: Sligh Avenue and Hillsborough River (north); Hillsborough Bay (south); 40th Street (east); 15th Street (west).

Contact Person: Ms. Loujean Williams, Chairperson
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Phone: 247-2004 (h)

Palmetto Beach Civic Association:

Submitted by: Mr. Vince Ficarrotta
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Need and Recommendation 1. Defining Separation Wall (East side of new roadway referred to as 20th Street – from the intersection with 22nd Street on the South to 22nd Street intersection on the North).

We want a wall (bricks, mortar and landscaping) along the eastern edge of 20th Street to separate the neighborhood from the highway the FDOT is building to move traffic off 22nd Street. The eastern side of this six-lane roadway was created by taking out a swath of land from the western most edge of the city blocks that make up part of the residential area of Palmetto Beach. This has exposed homes and backyards all down that stretch. This project has accommodated the industrial businesses everywhere. Traffic lights, median cuts and turn lanes have all been defined by what big businesses wanted. This wall needs to go up to define and separate our residential area of the neighborhood from all industrial big businesses, tanker trucks, tractor-trailer trucks and traffic.

We have been speaking with Linda Saul-Sena as chair of the Livable Roadways Committee of the Metropolitan Planning Organizations. The city needs to pressure FDOT for additional funding as per FDOT's own Mission Statement to create roadways that "...preserves the quality of our environment and communities".

Response: From Taha Ataya, Transportation Planning, 274-7347. This need first appeared in 2002, and our response was that the City – through the leadership of Ms. Saul-Sena as Chairperson – presented cost estimates for various alternatives to the Livable Roadways Committee and representatives from the neighborhood.

The City is actively pursuing funding through various state sources, i.e. Enhancement and Surface Transportation Grants that are prioritized through the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), in order to assist the City with funding the project.

Update: From Taha Ataya, Transportation Planning, 274-7347. In mid 2003, the FDOT presented the neighborhood association with the plans for the construction currently underway. The residents asked the department concerning their plans regarding a wall. At last response, the FDOT and the City were still inquiring about the possible sources of funding and type of separation that could be applied.

Need and Recommendation 2. On-site Attendant (DeSoto Park, 26th Street). DeSoto Park Master Plan implementation should include funding to provide for security 24 hours a day/7 days a week. A Parks Service Attendant or Ranger is needed to secure the investment in the park at all times. The Recreation Department will provide only activity supervision. We want proactive after-hours coverage for the park to prevent illegal dumping, littering, trash build-up, vandalism, and loitering, etc.

Response: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. In the FY02 Budget a security guard was funded for the McKay Bay/DeSoto area. Also, security lighting is being established in the park. Having a security guard here 24/7 would require 4 guards for this site alone and this is not feasible at this time.

Update: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7740. One security guard currently maintains the McKay Bay/DeSoto area. Additional security guard at DeSoto Park is not feasible at the present time. Security lighting is being installed at the park.

Need and Recommendation 3. Planning (Palmetto Beach neighborhood). A comprehensive neighborhood plan should be done in/for Palmetto Beach. To make our neighborhood an attractive place for investment, careful proactive planning is needed.

We need a zoning study of the entire makeup of the neighborhood's residential areas to go along with last year's request of a zoning study for the 22nd Street corridor that will have to change, due to the cul-de-sac dead-end that will be created, and when the six-lane 20th Street road project is completed. An economic study has already been requested for several years now in wait of the East Tampa plan that was finally announced last year. A planning body is needed to take on this project and facilitate the community's involved planning requirements.

Response: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. As discussed in last year's response, the City works closely with the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission staff to develop neighborhood studies of targeted areas within the City. The Planning Commission has worked with the City to prepare several Neighborhood Plans and Economic Development Studies, including East Tampa. Most recently, the Planning Commission, in working with City staff, just completed an extensive neighborhood plan for the Tampa Heights area.

Both the City and the Planning Commission have limited planning staff available to accommodate special projects request, such as area wide zoning studies, economic development studies and neighborhood plans. Unfortunately, the City must appropriate the limited planning resources available to neighborhoods with the most severe conditions requiring immediate attention. At this time, the City does not have the Palmetto Beach area scheduled for special projects. The City's administration has committed the limited planning staff time to studying the target areas with blighted conditions and economic distress.

The City Land Development Coordination staff is available on a daily basis to answer and research general questions concerning the existing zoning and future land use categories of the properties within the Palmetto Beach area. Specifically, staff can answer questions and provide information concerning potential zoning changes relating to street reconfigurations, street widening, change in traffic patterns and new cul-de-sac locations. Please contact Thom Snelling, Land Development Coordination at 274-8405.

Update: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. The City's limited planning staff has been assigned other targeted areas for special projects and is not considering initiating a neighborhood plan for Palmetto Beach at this time.

Need and Recommendation 4. DeSoto Park Pavilion (DeSoto Park, 26th Street). The historic pavilion building at DeSoto Park is in desperate need of refurbishment. Exterior and interior painting and repairs are needed. A parking area adjacent to the building is needed and was to have been accomplished through the relocation of the basketball

courts as part of the Master Plan.

Response: From Pete Burgue, Deputy Director, Recreation Department, 274-7740. A CDBG FY04 Capital Improvement Project request was submitted to renovate the exterior and interior of the existing pavilion and to add formal parking to service the pavilion. This should allow for the renovation of the pavilion and provide parking close to the building, along with the new parking area to the north of the swimming complex.

Update: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Parks and Recreation Department submitted a funding request in the FY04 Capital Improvement Project to renovate the exterior and interior of the existing pavilion and to add formal parking to service the pavilion. The request to renovate the exterior and interior of the existing pavilion was not funded in the FY04 Budget. Parks and Recreation will be resubmitting this request in the FY05 budget request.

Need and Recommendation 5. New Basketball Courts (DeSoto Park, 26th Street). DeSoto Park Master Plan implementation should include funding to provide for the addition of the gymnasium in the Master Plan. The existing basketball court was to have been relocated and turned into parking for the Pavilion. The new basketball courts were not done. The addition of another building to house a gymnasium was included in the Master Plan, but left non-funded. If this building is completed, it allows for the basketball courts to be converted into the necessary parking required for the Pavilion's use. Currently, there is no true parking for the Pavilion's use offering reasonably close access. People must park on the grass and this has created a new mud rutted driveway. What seems to be missed here is, that with all that is being done at the park, the use of the historic Pavilion is being stymied by lack of parking. The current basketball courts are used every day and are needed. They cannot be eliminated as an option for parking.

Response: From Pete Burgue, Deputy Director, Recreation Department, 274-7740. A FY04 Capital Improvement Project request was submitted to fund the master plan with the addition of gymnasium and community center meeting rooms, softball fields, etc. Currently, a pool, new parking area, entry drive and Skateboard Park are under construction. The new parking area will be located to the north of the new pool with the entry coming off of Corrine Street. The existing basketball court will remain.

Update: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Parks and Recreation Department requested funding in the FY04 Capital Improvement Project to fund a master plan with the addition of a gymnasium and community center meeting rooms, softball fields, etc. Funding for this request was not available in the FY04 Budget. Parks and Recreation will be resubmitting this request in the FY05 budget request. Currently, a new pool, new parking area, an entry drive and a Skateboard Park are nearly

completed. The new parking area is located to the north of the new pool with an entry coming off of Corrine Street. No additional changes will be made to the basketball court.

Need and Recommendation 6. Relocate Lighted Softball and Soccer Field (DeSoto Park, 26th Street). DeSoto Park Master Plan implementation should include funding to provide for replacement of the softball/soccer field with lighting. We currently have a combo field with lighting and the Master Plan has always indicated that the field and lighting would be relocated. I have learned that only the soccer field will be relocated (and without lighting). The relocation must include lighting and replacement of the softball field. Anything less would be a great injustice of the kind that government is accused of so often. The progress towards neighborhood input, grassroots – bottom up planning will have taken three steps back, if this happens.

Response: From Pete Burgue, Deputy Director, Recreation Department, 274-7740. Soccer field and softball field lighting will be relocated during pool construction, which will occur within the next eight months.

Update: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The soccer and softball fields' lighting is being installed and should be completed very soon.

Need and Recommendation 7. Palmetto "Beach" – DeSoto Park (DeSoto Park, 26th Street). DeSoto Park Master Plan implementation should include design and funding to restore a portion of the shoreline to its original state. The Palmetto Beach Community Association, Inc. requested this last year, when the Master Plan was being finalized and the community was asked for input. Any change is an improvement over all the concrete dumped there by a previous trailer park owner, but the shoreline change has been designed and funded for a design that is not the natural state. Palmetto Beach has a beach-type shoreline. We ask for just a small strip of beach, where there is no seawall or created tidal pools. This is the only true shoreline restoration and therefore our association is requesting that a beach be created, where some shoreline work is scheduled.

Response: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. McKay Bay is a historic estuary, very shallow and its shoreline has historically been vegetated. The bay muck along the shoreline would be too costly to remove for a sand beach and would not be self maintained. Sediment would come back and it would require extensive maintenance. Water quality is poor and not conducive for swimmers. A shoreline beach would never be permitted by the environmental agencies without considerable and costly mitigation. The Parks Department is having the shoreline restored to its natural historical vegetated state which is funded by Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Environmental Protection Commission.

Need and Recommendation 8. Bermuda Boulevard Beautification (Bermuda Boulevard from the Licata Bridge (south), to DeSoto Park (north)). Beautification of Bermuda Boulevard, replace/repair seawall with added sidewalk-greenway trail, reduce occasions of speeders via speed bumps, humps, or tables, eliminate illegal construction in McKay Bay.

Response: From Ann Andrews, Tampa Police Department, 276-3755. Master Police Officer Smalley of the Tampa Police Department contacted Mr. Vince Ficarrota with the Palmetto Beach Civic Association concerning the complaint of speeding on Bermuda Boulevard. In June 2002 a speed trailer was placed in this area for four days and it was determined that there was not a speeding problem. As this was done some time ago, Master Police Officer Smalley originated a new traffic complaint and will re-address these issues.

Update: From Paul Smalley, Tampa Police Department, 276-3471. On April 16th, 2003, based upon information received from Mr. Vince Ficarrota, traffic complaint #03-46 was initiated for speeding on Bermuda Boulevard from Licata Bridge to DeSoto Park. The departments Kustom Smart Traffic Trailer was deployed on Bermuda Boulevard. Additionally, zone officers worked the area for enforcement purposes. The results of the survey showed that the majority of the vehicular traffic was traveling at an acceptable rate of speed. Mr. Ficarrota was contacted both via telephone and through the US Mail system of the findings.

Response: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The master plan calls for bike path along the side of the road. The Parks Department will be requesting seawall repair funds in the FY04 Capital Improvement Project Budget.

Update: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The striping of the bike path was approved in the Transportation FY04 Budget with an estimated completion date of January 2004. The Parks and Recreation Department requested funding for seawall repair projects throughout the City and funding for these projects was not available in the FY04 Budget. The department will continue to look for funding opportunities to fund seawall repairs throughout the City. If unable to find funding in FY04, this project will be a high priority in the FY05 budget request.

Response: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. The complaint of illegal construction of structures on McKay Bay was forwarded to the City's Construction Service Center for inspection. The City's Construction Service Center Inspectors found no illegal construction at the McKay Bay location. I will contact Vince Ficarrota to get more specific information about the type of construction activities and a specific location for re-inspection.

Update: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. Reports for unpermitted work within the City limits go through John Barrios and Construction Services Center, Inspectional Services Division. With regard to illegal construction at the McKay Bay location, a complaint investigation was received, and an investigation permit was issued on May 9, 2000 for an addition without a permit. The investigation result was that the work was in the Port of Tampa's jurisdiction and the investigation was closed.

Another permit was issued for an investigation on June 13, 2001, for constructing a dock without a permit, this again was closed because the dock was in the Port of Tampa's jurisdiction. The address involved on this folio number is 902 S. Bermuda Blvd. The other folio number of 191060.1000 is for 904 S. Bermuda Blvd. Which is a seafood and bait shop. There are no complaints on this address. The last action on this was in 1993.

On October 10, 2003, my staff contacted Vince Ficarrotta and gave him this updated information. If there is still a concern about these properties, I suggest Mr. Ficarrotta call the complaint hotline at 259-1821 and City staff will go out and investigate.

The East Tampa Business and Civic Association, Inc.(ETBCA):

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Submitted by: Ms. Laura Fuller, President
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Need and Recommendation 9. Improve major north/south corridors – N. 22nd Street, N. 29th Street, and N. 34th Street (Hillsborough south to I-4) streetscapes, façade, and beautification.

- a. **Clean N. 22nd Street, N. 29th Street, and N. 34th Street quarterly.**
- b. **Add curbing, repair/replace missing sidewalks, 22nd Street and 34th Street, mow and maintain vacant lots of city owned property at 22nd Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, and right-of-ways. Install lighted gateway type entrances.**
- c. **Landscape and beautify right-of-ways and all public areas on 34th Street, from Hillsborough Avenue to Columbus; 29th Street from Chelsea to Columbus Drive.**
- d. **Initiate funds to encourage remodeling of existing business facades, and/or construction of new commercial along 34th Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard between 39th Street and 40th Street.**

Response to a.: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. Chapter 19 Section 49 of the City of Tampa Code of Ordinances states that adjacent property owners are responsible for the maintenance of the right-of-way. During NEAT cleanups, NEAT will clean and mow as much of the major thoroughfares (right-of-way) within the neighborhood as resources allow.

Response to b.: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks Department will look into the vacant lots to determine appropriate department to maintain these lots. Lighted gateway is not within Parks purview. Chapter 19 Section 49 of the City of Tampa Code of Ordinances requires adjacent property owner to maintain right of way.

Update to b.: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Parks and Recreation Department received additional funding in FY04 for the maintenance of vacant lots in the East Tampa area.

Response to b.: From Steve Hiza, Engineer, Transportation Division, 274-8998. The Transportation Division has been made aware of the needs of these corridors through previous reports. We would support the Committee's approach to explore all available strategies for providing the identified improvements to these areas. One possibility would be a Corridor Master Plan that could be initiated by the Business and Community Services

Department. An overall study of the corridors could provide an Improvement Action Plan that would outline specific gateway and landscaping opportunities. This Master Plan could also identify alternative funding sources, such as grants or development initiatives. It should be noted that 22nd Street is a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) system. Coordination with the FDOT regarding their improvement plans for this roadway should be pursued.

In regard to the addition of curbs along portions of these roadways, both the City Transportation Division and the Stormwater section of the Department of Sanitary Sewers (DSS) have specific engineering-based criteria that outline curbing, as does FDOT. The contact for DSS is Mr. Alex Awad, 274-7865. In general, curbs are designed to facilitate and channel stormwater runoff to inlets, to impede water from entering property adjacent to the right-of-way, and to address erosion problems related to the roadway. Curbs are not considered an aesthetic treatment, however, any planned improvements for these roadways would potentially include curb construction, depending on the drainage design.

The repair and replacement of missing sidewalks for these corridors has been identified as a current need, as it has in the past. Funding was provided for some sidewalk repair work that was completed in the year 2001. The New Sidewalk Program, which is administered by the City Sidewalk Supervisor, Ron Litts (274-8541), includes procedures for maintaining an inventory of sidewalk conditions within the City. In addition, the current Program also relies on input from local residents to provide requests for improvements or replacement of existing sidewalks. Improvements can be expedited more swiftly at locations for which specific addresses are provided.

Based on a review of our sidewalk inventory, sidewalks exist along these three roadways on either one or both sides of the roadway. The policy of the New Sidewalk Program is to give priority to areas that have no sidewalk in place over those that have sidewalk on at least one side of the road. This policy allows more roadways in the City to accommodate pedestrian traffic.

Response to c.: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks Department is reviewing this area to determine if the right-of-way's are suitable for landscaping. Because of sight lines, speed of vehicles, and recovery zones most right-of-ways are not suitable for landscaping.

Update to c.: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 274-7740. The department reviewed this area and landscaped suitable areas (street trees and land covering).

Response to d.: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. Tampa Bay Economic Development (TEDCO) has a Facade Improvement Program that provides property owners with an alternative financing

option with which to upgrade the facade of their commercial buildings. The Program requires the owner to provide 50% of the project costs.

ELIGIBILITY

- Must own the commercial structure.
- Project must be located in a designated targeted area.
- Project must be in a commercial targeted core area.
- The building must be owner occupied and conducting business from the location.
- Project plans must be approved by the appropriate Architectural Review entity for the targeted area.
- Borrower must demonstrate the ability to repay the loan.

FUNDS AVAILABLE

- MINIMUM of \$2,000
- MAXIMUM of \$10,000

USE OF PROCEEDS

Loan proceeds can only be used for facade reconstruction; facade restoration, facade improvements; and/or meeting City of Tampa commercial building minimum standards codes.

SECURITY

Loan will be secured by a mortgage (possibly subordinate) and a promissory note.

TERMS

Up to five (5) years with 20 years amortization repayment. Principal and interest repayment installments are deferred for 12 months from date of closing. Origination fee of 1% and Annual Service Fee of 0%. Interest rate on a facade improvement loan will be 75% of the prevailing prime rate.

For more information on TEDCO's Facade Improvement Program, contact Ken Hornung by calling (813) 274-7971.

Need and Recommendation 10. Fair Oaks Playground/Park Renovation, closure of Caracas Street at N. 35th Street to incorporate retention pond.

- a. **Close E. Caracas Street between Fair Oaks Playground and retention pond. Add covered picnic areas, and plant trees. Landscape retention pond area.**
- b. **Build dugouts for baseball field.**
- c. **Repair, replace or upgrade playground equipment.**
- d. **Install lighted marquee sign, wrought iron fencing, and landscape along N. 34th Street and Fair Oak.**

Response to a.: From Alexander P. Awad, Department of Sanitary Sewers, Stormwater Management Division, 274-7865. The Department of Sanitary Sewers does not object to incorporating the existing pond with the park property. The planting of trees around the pond will have to be in clusters for maintenance and mowing purposes. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 274-7865.

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

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

Response to a.: From Steve Hiza, Engineer, Transportation Division, 274-8998. This need has been identified in the last two years, and the responses were the same as this one, which is to say that the process for this to take place is very specific. A petitioner, other than the City of Tampa, must initiate the request to close this public right-of-way and street for the purpose of incorporating it into an existing retention pond. If desired, this process could be facilitated by James Cook, Land Development Coordination, Right-of-Way and Mapping, 274-8725. Mr. Cook could initiate an "Information Request" for this vacating proposal, on behalf of the neighborhood. He could provide specific vacating limits, a location map, and background information that would be distributed to the appropriate City departments, utility companies, and local residents. A neighborhood meeting could be scheduled to receive input on the residents' desires to continue with the vacating process. If the decision were made to proceed, a petition would be presented at a public

hearing before City Council. A review fee would be required in order to schedule the public hearing.

Response to a.: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. Information packages concerning the procedures for requesting the City to vacate existing street right-of-way are available in the City Land Development Coordination Department, located on the 3rd Floor of City Hall Annex. The process to vacate street involves several City departments that may have services located within the existing right-of-way and may object to the requested closure. For instance, if the City Public Works Department has existing utility lines underground in the right-of-way, they may object to the requested street closure because they may not have access to maintain those utility lines if the right-of-way is vacated.

Update to a.: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. As of November 2003, the City's right-of-way department has not received a request for vacating E. Caracas Street.

Response to b.: From Pete Burgue, Deputy Director, Recreation Department, 274-7740. The current dugouts are the types of dugouts consistent with those used throughout the City for informal fields.

Response to c.: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks Department staff has evaluated the play unit and determined that the unit is in satisfactory condition. Included in the FY06 Community Investment Tax Budget is funding to establish fall surface under the play unit.

Response to d.: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks Department has planted trees along N. 34th Street and will investigate if additional trees and landscaping can be installed. The Parks Department will look at fencing at Fair Oaks, if fencing is installed it will be bollards or chain link fence. The installation of a lighted marquee sign is not an item that the Department currently installs at facilities.

Update to d.: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, 274-7730. The Parks and Recreation Department has planted trees along N. 34th Street and installed landscaping where possible. If it is determined that fencing is needed, it will be either bollards or chain link fence. The installation of a lighted marquee sign is not an item that the Department currently installs at facilities.

Belmont/Jackson Heights

Contact Person: Betty Wiggins, Community Liaison

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Need and Recommendation 11. Program and Community Office.

Within "Front Porch Florida Community" boundary, bounded by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (north), 21st/22nd Streets (west), 29th Street (east), and 15th Avenue (south).

Preferred acquisition would be "Lily Security Association" building on 29th Street. Estimated cost to purchase is \$250,000.00.

Response: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. The City of Tampa is a committed partner in the Front Porch Florida Community efforts within East Tampa. The City is providing administrative support, staff resources and miscellaneous services to facilitate the goals and objectives of the Front Porch program. The City sent a Request For Proposal (RFP) to Ms. Betty Wiggins for completion. Upon submittal of the RFP, we will process this request for consideration of funding.

Update: From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. To date, the City has not received a proposal from East Tampa Business and Civic Association regarding the acquisition of the "Lily Security Association" building on 29th Street. She has been included on our Request For Proposal list to receive a new application in January 2004.

Need and Recommendation 12. Decorative fencing (wrought iron) and landscaping along Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard.

Fencing and landscaping along Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (south), from 21st Street (east), to 26th Street, and South along the West and East side of 22nd Street, to 32nd Avenue.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and N. 34th Street, N. 22nd Street and E. 17th Avenue, N. 21st Street and E. Columbus Drive, E. Columbus Drive and N. 33rd Street, N. 15th Street and E. 21st Avenue, N. 29th Street and E. 25th Avenue, N. 29th Street and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, N. 40th Street and E. Columbus Drive, N. 22nd Street between E. Mallory and E. 21st Avenue, N. 22nd Street and E. Osborne, N. 22nd Street and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, N. 34th Street and E. Osborne, N. 15th

Street and E. Columbus Drive, and E. 19th Avenue between N. 40th Street and the railroad.

Response: From Ross J. Ferlita, Director, Parks Department, 931-2121. The Parks Department does not fence along private property and right-of-ways. Parks Department is reviewing this area to determine if the right-of-ways are suitable for landscaping. Because of speed, recovery zones sight lines most right of ways are not suitable for landscaping.

Submitted by: LouJean Williams, Captain
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Need and Recommendation 13. Covered Bus Shelters. Fund HARTline to install covered bus shelters throughout Block Club Area II. This area has high user participation.

Response: From Mahdi Mansour, Transportation Planning, 274-8333. This need first appeared in 2000, and our response indicated that HARTline would address the issue after road construction is done. (The need did not reappear in 2001.) In 2002, a specific need appeared for only a shelter at 22nd Street and Stuart, and was forwarded to Mr. Les Weakland of HARTline for consideration. He said there is insufficient right-of-way, and suggested that the neighborhood approach the owner about donating an easement, and let him know if that is agreeable. However, there has not yet been a response.

Now the first need from 2000 has reappeared, but includes a request to "Fund" HARTline to build shelters. According to Mr. Weakland, they already have funding sources available through impact fees and grants from the Federal Transit Authority. He indicated they are still re-evaluating the bus route through the neighborhood to possibly utilize both 20th and 22nd Streets. He should know after the roadway is complete where they can put the new stops, and hopefully shelters. The City has forwarded this current need to HARTline and included the name of the requestor, LouJean Williams. Please feel free to contact Mr. Les Weakland at 223-6831 ext. 2105.

Need and Recommendation 14. Asphalt Curbing. Install curbing along the street in the 2900 block of E. Columbus Drive, between N. 29th Street and 30th Street (the railroad). Asphalt curbing has always been installed and over the years they have been all but flattened.

Response: From Scott Shaw, Operations Division, 622-1955. Columbus Drive north of Adamo Drive (SR 60) is under the jurisdiction of Hillsborough County. Please call their

Engineering Department at 272-5912 to request the County reinstall the curbing at this location.

Need and Recommendation 15. Directional Turn Signals. Install directional turn signals at N. 22nd Street and E. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, and N. 34th Street and E. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard.

Response: From Mike Scanlon, Signal Engineer, 274-8105. This need first appeared in 2000, but only for 40th and 34th Streets, not 22nd Street. Our response was that the City has no jurisdictional authority over signals on a STATE roadway like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., so we forwarded the request to FDOT. In 2001, the need reappeared, because the City had not yet notified the neighborhood of the status of the request to FDOT. Unfortunately, FDOT never responded to us. So our response suggested that the neighborhood contact FDOT directly to inquiry about the status of the request. (The need did not reappear in 2002, so we presumed that FDOT had responded to their request.)

Now the same need has again reappeared, but only for 22nd and 34th Streets, not 40th Street. Regretfully, our response must still be the same. The City has no jurisdictional authority over signals on a STATE roadway, nor do we have any involvement in their program. The neighborhood needs to contact FDOT directly, and I would strongly urge you do it in writing in order to elicit a written response. Address your request to Traffic Operations, FDOT District Seven, 11201 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612-6456 or call them at 975-6000.

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