

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

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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.

Contact Person: Ms. Betty Shaffer, Chairperson  
1422 109th Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33612-5925  
Phone: 971-2481 (h)  
238-9181 (w)

Submitted by: David West  
North Tampa Community Crime Watch and Civic Association, Inc.  
1412 E. 109th Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 975-8607 (h)

**Need and Recommendation 1. Nebraska Avenue Initiative. I support the Nebraska Avenue Initiative as first priority, to fix Nebraska Avenue, from Fowler Avenue, South to where no work is needed.**

**Response:** From Mahdi Mansour, Transportation Planning, 274-8333. The latest information is that FDOT would be willing to incorporate the City's Landscape Plan into

their upcoming resurfacing project on Nebraska Avenue. The Parks Department is reviewing the construction drawings for the project, which are 60% completed. The Parks Department plans to determine any necessary revisions to the Landscape Plan after this review. FDOT plans to advertise the project for bid in February 2004 and begin construction in May 2004, finishing in May 2005, then our landscaping would begin. However, the estimated \$300,000 for the Landscape Plan is not currently funded, because we are waiting on FDOT to indicate what funding is available. The proposed Landscape/Irrigation Concept Plan from Hillsborough to Sligh can be viewed by contacting Ms. Nina Mabileau, Project Management Engineer III, at 274-8542.

**Update:** From Mahdi Mansour, Transportation Planning, 274-8333. The City met with the FDOT on October 29, 2003 to discuss the possible Landscape and Irrigation Plan that could begin no sooner than summer or fall of 2005. Funding for this project is still undetermined. The topics of public notification and input were also discussed at this meeting. The City is conducting internal meetings with staff on project scope and viability. HARTline wishes to add half a dozen bus shelters along the corridor that would necessitate redesign of the landscaping and irrigation.

**Need and Recommendation 2. Lighting. I support the need for better lighting throughout the Nebraska Avenue corridor, including streets that run off of Nebraska Avenue. The whole city needs updating, for the most part.**

**Response:** From Calvin Thornton, Transportation Planning, 274-7884. Better lighting is planned for the entire City of Tampa. Please direct your inquiries to Tampa Electric Company and 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).

**Response:** From Ann Andrews, Tampa Police Department, 276-3755. The Lighting Initiative is comprised of members from the Tampa Police Department, City of Tampa's Transportation, Planning and Zoning, Parks Departments and Tampa Electric Company. Currently the City of Tampa utilized 50 and 70-watt High Pressure Sodium lamps in Type I cobra-head fixtures in all streetlights. A Type I fixture projects a vast majority of the light onto the street rather than the sidewalk. The Lighting Initiative was developed to provide higher illumination levels with the pedestrian being the primary focus of the light source. Every fixture in Tampa will be replaced with 100-watt High Pressure Sodium lamps in a Type III fixture. In order to enhance illumination levels it is necessary for TECO to replace the entire fixture.

The Tampa Lighting Initiative is currently in the first phase, the installation of the first group of new lights will be in West Tampa. A resolution for the purchase and installation of the enhancements has been approved by City Council and now TECO needs to order and install the lights. The West Tampa area was chosen as the experimental grid due to the crime statistics and community redevelopment. This will be the same criterion used to identify future sites.

Due to the coordination efforts among multiple City agencies and a private utility company, the first phase is the most critical as we learn our strengths and shortcomings and adapt operating procedures accordingly. It is anticipated that TECO would need four to seven years to complete the project.

**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 3. Neighborhood Improvement Division (code enforcement). Increase performance of code enforcement by reducing number of non-compliant properties throughout the city.**

**Response:** From Curtis Lane, Director for the Code Enforcement Department, 274-5545. The Code Enforcement Department has made legislative changes to better enforce code violations, including collecting fines to deter illegal dumping and overgrown, unkempt properties. Specifically, the Department has instituted a new procedure to forward outstanding violations to the County's Court system for a judge to render a decision concerning enforcement. This new procedure places the emphasis on possible jail time to habitual offenders of the code enforcement system and has improved the overall efficiency of compliance with code requirements.

**Need and Recommendation 4. Retention Pond. The retention pond floods at E. 113th Avenue. The water covers E. 113th Avenue and approaches homes from 1400-1500 E. 113th Avenue.**

**Response:** From Alexander P. Awad, Department of Sanitary Sewers, Stormwater Management Division, 274-7865. The retention pond in question drains by percolation. There is no outfall for this pond. Under extreme conditions it has overflowed into the

street; however, there has been no reported structural flooding. If you observe structural flooding, please contact me at 274-7865.

**Need and Recommendation 5. Street Repair.** There are several potholes next to one another causing flooding. They have been fixed before, but did not last long at 10800 N. 14th Street and 1400 E. 109th Avenue intersection.

**Response:** From Scott Shaw, Operations Division, 622-1955. A Work Order has been issued to make repairs to distressed areas at 10800 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, hopefully within the next few weeks.

**Update:** From Scott Shaw, Department of Public Works Operations Division, 622-1955. Repairs have been completed at the requested locations.

**Need and Recommendation 6. Flooding.** There is a flooding problem from 10100-10114 N. Hyacinth Avenue. When it rains, water settles to the low area in the middle of the street. When dry, one can see the dip in the road. The water has gotten into homes.

**Response:** From Alexander P. Awad, Department of Sanitary Sewers, Stormwater Management Division, 274-7865. A project has been identified for this area. It is prioritized at number 55 on the Stormwater management list for a cost of approximately \$195,000. Funds are not available at this time to solve this problem. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 274-7865.

### Sulphur Springs Action League

Contact Person: Joseph Robinson  
1621 E. Mulberry  
Tampa, FL 33604  
(813) 932-9288 (h)

Submitted by: Marshall Jines  
1607 E. Idell St.  
Tampa, FL 33604  
(813) 932-2092

**Need and Recommendation 7. Permanent Police Presence.** This is a high crime area. If a policeman lived in the area, it might help deter crime. City should purchase one of many available homes to rent to an officer (or as enticement-rent free) for approximately two to five years.

**Response:** From Ann Andrews, Tampa Police Department, 276-3755. Currently, several privately owned apartment complexes provide housing for officers at a reduced rental rate or for free. There seems to be no shortage of officers to take advantage of this program. It is plausible that an officer would live in the Sulphur Springs area under the suggested circumstances.

**Response:** From Stuart Campbell, Urban Planner, Housing and Community Development Division, 274-8228. The City does not have a program to purchase existing homes and rent them to police officers. The City's Housing and Community Development Division does have a program to provide assistance to income qualified first-time homebuyers. The City's program does provide a priority for public service employees, including policemen. Interested applicants can contact the City's Housing and Community Development Division at 274-7954.

Submitted by: Tim Vadnals  
1751 Mulberry Drive  
Tampa, FL 33604  
(813) 931-4303

#### **Need and Recommendation 8. Solid Waste Regularly Scheduled Pick-ups.**

**We have a high level of trash and debris contributed to:**

- a. Normally thrown out because unable to pay fees – also no means to take to McKay.**
- b. Constant moving of tenants from duplexes and contents are dumped into street.**
- c. Area has lots of vacant, unfenced, lots and has reputation of "dumping" area.**

**Response to a. through c.:** From Varghese Jacob, Admin. and Fiscal Office Manager, Solid Waste Department, 348-1104. Solid Waste Department provides unlimited curbside residential garbage collection. Also, as mentioned previously, every residential customer has an opportunity to dispose trash and bulky materials at the McKay Bay Transfer Station free of charge.

Submitted by: Norma Robinson  
1621 E. Mulberry  
Tampa, FL 33604  
(813) 932-9288

**Need and Recommendation 9. Repaving of E. Mulberry from Railroad and 22nd Street to E. Waters Avenue.**

**This is a main through street used by traffic, especially during times train comes by. Also, in many areas, the vegetation "ground" has moved into the street. There are many potholes. The area the buses travel, needs to be re-enforced (it was patched a while ago and it is not holding).**

**Response:** From Scott Shaw, Operations Division, 622-1955. Mulberry from the Railroad tracks to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street is identified for paving in the future. This location will be reviewed at the time the requested paving locations are scheduled.