

## Parks Department

- Major Accomplishment: Received more than \$91 million in Agency funding for Park Land and Open Space Acquisition, Restoration and Improvement Projects.
- Expanded the City's parklands and open space.
  - Expanded the City's Greenspace Inventory by 1,405 acres from 1995-2002<sup>1</sup>
  - Planned an additional 788 acres for acquisition
  - Completed and adopted the Greenway and Trails Master Plan (2001)
  - Received \$50,000 budget appropriation for the Port Tampa/Friendship Trail
  - Downtown open space inventory increased by nearly 17.84 acres
- Established the N.E.A.T. Team.<sup>2</sup>
  - N.E.A.T. Program clean-up requests increased from approximately 20 to 42 neighborhoods per year.
  - Since January 1997, the N.E.A.T. Team has:
    - Cleaned 60 alleys, 1,607 vacant lots and removed 16,634.83 tons of debris
    - Removed 7,822 signs from right-of-way
    - Cites 1,607 vacant lots and had 6,219 lots complied
    - 741 volunteers participated in the program
- Established plans for expanding and renovating the City's marinas.<sup>3</sup>
- Initiated the expansion of the Lowry Park Zoo.
  - Constructed the Manatee Theater and Stingray Exhibit at the Lowry Park Zoo and designed the Wallaroo Exhibit (\$12,000,00 CIT Funding).
  - Began initial design phase of the African Exhibit for the Lowry Park Zoo.
  - Provided additional parking for the Lowry Park Zoo.
- Maintained the City's Streetscape, Irrigation and Landscaping projects.
  - Planted more than 1,000 trees each year along City Streets and parks.
  - Completed Davis Island Business District, Busch Boulevard, South Franklin Street and South Howard Avenue streetscapes.
  - Completed more than 25 landscaping and irrigation projects.
  - Completed design/construction scheduled for 11 medians N. Dale Mabry Highway.<sup>4</sup>
  - Completed Initial design phase of Boy Scout Boulevard.
  - Redesigned/landscaped over 80 acres of the City's 170 acres of landscaped medians.
- Acquired and managed the Environmental Lands and Restoration Program.
  - Acquired more than 1,000 acres of environmentally sensitive lands through the Environmental Lands Acquisition and Protection Program (ELAPP).
- Completed 18 environmental restoration projects, 5 additional projects in design.
- Participated in the East Tampa Initiative, cleaning 1,435 lots totaling 15,466,029 sq. ft.
- Completed construction of Conanchobee Ft. Brooke Park Phase I & II (2003).
- Maintained the City's playground and park facilities.
  - Utilized annual \$1 million Community Investment Tax appropriations for facility enhancements (FY02-FY06).
  - Completed 44 new playground units since 1998 at a total cost of \$ 2,288,000.
- Co-hosted the National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Congress & Exposition with the Recreation Department.<sup>5</sup>
- Completed Cancer Survivor Plaza (Al Lopez Park) (2003) and redeveloped Ragan Center.

▪ Parks Department Notes

<sup>1</sup> Parks and Greenspace acquisitions shown below:

CITY OF TAMPA PARK LANDS AND OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION 1996-2001		
<b>PRESERVING DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT</b>		
Property	Acreage	Cost
Cultural District/CSX	4.02	\$ 450,000
Cotanchobee Fort Brooke Park	2.20	\$ 6,229,080
Cotanchobee Fort Brooke Park Expansion	1.67	\$ 5,488,552
Cotanchobee Fort Brooke Park Phase III	2.47	\$ 8,340,000
Ribbon of Green/Taggart	0.32	\$ 775,000
Ribbon of Green/Bank of America	0.63	\$ 1,836,000
Ribbon of Green/Mirabella	0.30	\$ 778,440
Waterworks Park	6.23	\$ 0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>17.84</b>	<b>\$23,897,072</b>
<b>CREATING FULL-BLOCK DOWNTOWN PARKS</b>		
Courthouse Square (contributed parcel)	0.33	\$ 800,000
Gaslight Square Park	1.00	\$ 2,830,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>\$ 3,630,000</b>
<b>EXPANSION OF GREEN SPACE INVENTORY</b>		
22 <sup>nd</sup> Street Hammock	24.00	Donation
Benito Soccer Field	2.25	\$ 0
Blackwater Hammock	8.00	\$ 200,000
Cypress Creek Preserve	827.00	\$ 6,500,000
Cypress Point Park	42.40	\$ 3,956,000
DeSoto Park-Expansion	7.00	\$ 715,000
DeSoto Park-Williams	0.41	\$ 135,000
GSA Railroad Spur	6.68	\$ 0
Hillsborough Avenue	3.34	\$ 0
Keen Site	14.25	\$ 1,152,000
MacDill Greenway – Hyde Park Builders	.03	\$ 0
McKay Bay Bike Trail - SWFWMD	258.00	\$ 0
McKay Bay Greenway/Turley	2.68	\$ 350,225
New Tampa Nature Park (Flatwoods)	121.69	\$ 3,046,000
Rivercrest Park Addition/Reed	5.15	\$ 744,500
Rivertower Park	12.82	\$ 2,850,000
South Tampa Greenway/Urette/Marcum	8.53	\$ 668,127
Sulphur Springs	0.41	\$ 425,000
Tappan Site	41.90	\$ 1,100,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,386.54</b>	<b>\$ 21,841,852</b>

## Mayor's Status Report

PLANNED GREEN SPACE ACQUISITION*		
Property	Acreage	Cost
Cypress Point Park South Expansion	6.75	\$ 2,550,500
Greenwood	4.00	\$ 0
Greenwood – Water Department	48.53	\$ 0
Jamaica Lake Greenway	51.00	\$ 1,840,000
MacDill 48	48.00	1,000,000
MacDill Greenway	12.19	\$ 0
MarDill Greenway – TECO	1.00	\$ 0
McKay Bay/Palm River Greenway	67.00	\$ 600,000
New Tampa Community Park	40.00	\$ 0
New Tampa Nature Park – SWFWMD	91.00	\$ 0
New Tampa Nature Park - Water Department	22.60	\$ 0
Port Tampa Restoration Site/American Legion	21.94	\$ 1,100,000
Port Tampa/CSX	304.00	\$ 230,000
Reed Park Addition	1.00	\$ 744,000
Rivertower Park Addition	1.07	\$ 210,000
South Tampa Greenway	42.00	\$ 1,600,000
South Tampa/CSX	21.99	\$ 0
South Ybor Trail/CSX	3.88	\$ 969,000
Spanish Memorial Park	0.30	\$ 32,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>788.25</b>	<b>\$ 10,875,500</b>

CITY OF TAMPA Restoration and Park/Waterfront Improvements (1996-2001)		
Project/Improvement	Complete	Planned - In Progress
Ballast Point Park	\$45,000	
Blackwater Hammock - Habitat Enhancement	\$20,000	
Cultural District	\$260,000	\$27,000,000
Cypress Point Park	\$498,000	
Cypress Pt. Beach Restoration & Park Improvements		\$722,000
DeSoto Park		\$1,530,000
Cotanchobee Fort Brooke Park	\$3,660,000	
MacDill Greenway	\$105,000	\$255,000
McKay Bay Greenway	\$38,000	
McKay Bay Nature Park	\$130,000	
Reed Site – Shoreline Restoration		\$500,000
Ribbon of Green		\$2,000,000
Rivercrest and Epps park	\$162,000	
Rivercrest Park – Shoreline Restoration		\$80,000
River Garden Park Shoreline Restoration		\$100,000
Riverwalk – Channelside	\$1,400,000	
Tappan site – Habitat Restoration		\$260,000

<b><u>Agency Funding of Acquisition, Restoration and Improvement Projects</u></b>	
City of Tampa (COT)	\$ 48,020,580
Environmental Lands Acquisition Protection Program of Hillsborough Co. (ELAPP)	\$ 12,670,000
Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough Co. (EPC)	\$ 405,000
Florida Community Trust – Florida Department of Community Affairs (FCT)	\$ 19,327,500
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	\$ 500,000
Jacksonville Community Foundation (JCF)	\$ 13,000
MacDill Air Force Base (MAFB)	Transportation Easement
Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)	\$ 2,400,000
National Park Service (NPS)	Donation
Office of Greenways and Trails - FDEP (OGT)	\$ 3,247,000
Southwest Florida Water Management District - SWIM Section (SWFWMD-SWIM)	\$ 1,607,500
Tampa Port Authority (TPA)	\$ 140,000
Tower Site Acquisition (13 Acres)	\$ 2,840,000
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)	\$ 60,000
Total	\$ 91,230,580

- <sup>2</sup> NEAT Team is comprised of 8 Crew Cabs with trailers, 1 Front-end Loader, 4 tractors, 2 skidsteers, graffiti machine and miscellaneous hand tools. The Team is supported by the Solid Waste Department's 4 – 8 rear packers, 2 street sweepers following each clean up crew.
- <sup>3</sup> Completed planning/design of the Marjorie Park Marina renovation and expansion. Initiated the design phase of the Bayshore Marina renovation plan (2001).  
Sea Plane Basin on Davis Island
- <sup>4</sup> North of I-275 and South of Hillsborough Avenue
- <sup>5</sup> Event brought over 7,000 park and recreation professionals to Tampa.