

Revenue and Finance Department

- No increase in the property tax millage rate during the Mayor's entire term in office.
- Published the annual newspaper insert: "Tampa Reports to the People".¹
- Redesigned the Recommended Capital Improvement budget book.²
- Implemented a new automated accounting and budget system.
- Identified funding to support reestablishment of the Police take-home program.³
- Identified funding to improve the Fire Rescue aging fleet. The average age of front-line ladder trucks and fire engines was reduced from 13 to 5 years.⁴
- Developed, implemented and identified funds to support a standardized vehicle replacement program.⁵ Significantly increased funding in the last two years to upgrade the medium and heavy duty vehicle fleet. Annual funding for these vehicles increased from \$800 thousand to \$2.8 million.
- Provided financial analysis and guidance in establishing and maintaining Special Assessments for the Streetcar System, Streetlight Districts, and the Downtown Special Services District.
- Provided \$458.6 million in bond financing for major capital projects.⁶
- Refinanced \$232.6 million in bonds resulting in reduced debt service for the City.⁷
- Assisted in bond funding for the Aquarium and Raymond James Stadium.⁸
- Implemented citizen information campaign for Community Investment Tax (CIT), to present recommendations and get feedback from the citizens.⁹
- Identified funding to support City-wide expansion of the curb side recycling program.¹⁰
- Earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 17th consecutive year.
- Earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 17th consecutive year.
- Implemented major accounting system changes, known as GASB34, issued by the national Governmental Accounting Standards Board.
- Assisted in development of new Payroll/Personnel System.
- Helped keep Sanitary Sewer, Water and Solid Waste rates low, with no rate increases for FY03. No rate increases in three of the last four years.
- Provided financial analysis and guidance in establishing and maintaining a new Special Services District and Assessment for the Westshore area.
- Provided financial analysis and guidance in developing and administering the operating budget for the new Tampa-Ybor Historic Streetcar Line (Tampa Historic Streetcar, Inc.).
- Provided financial analysis, recommendations and/or funding arrangements for numerous interlocal, development and land disposition agreements.¹¹
- Developed City's Consolidated Five-Year Plan for HUD.
- Assisted with funding for the Qualified Target Industries program.

Revenue and Finance Department Notes

- ¹ This publication provides a concise view of the City's Annual Budget. More than 132,000 copies are distributed to homes via the Tampa Tribune. In addition, the insert is published in La Gaceta and Sentinel Bulletin
- ² Added maps to show where funded projects are located and expanded the descriptive information for projects.
- ³ Under the program, the number of marked vehicles increased from 320 in FY97 to 758 today. Unmarked units went from 186 in FY97 to 226. Presently, all vehicles are less than seven years old.
- ⁴ Acquired 3 ladder trucks, 16 fire engines, 18 ambulances and 50 support vehicles
- ⁵ All sedans and light trucks are now on a seven-year replacement cycle. Also, the City increased funding significantly to accelerate replacement of other rolling stock
- ⁶ These Projects include:
- New police headquarters, 2 district offices and fire rescue vehicles from 1996 Utility Tax bonds of \$23.6 million
 - Ft. Brooke parking garage expansion, Lowry Park Zoo parking, Municipal parking garage and various street improvements from 1997 Utility Tax bonds of \$28.9 million
 - Expansion/renovation of the Hillsborough River Water Treatment Plant and construction of a potable water aquifer storage and recovery system from 1999 Water and Sewer System bonds of \$62.8 million
 - Retrofit of McKay Bay Waste-to-Energy facility and construction of new Administration building from 1999 Solid Waste System bonds of \$190.5 million
 - Ybor Garage and acquisition/construction of surface parking lots from 1998 Utility Tax bonds of \$19.2 million
 - Electric Streetcar System, New Tampa East-West Road, Operations Yard relocation and other transportation projects from 1999 Transportation bonds of \$24.8 million
 - Renovation and construction of Citywide recreation center and soccer fields, work on parking garages, and 2 new fire stations from 1999 Utility Tax bonds of \$39.7 million.
 - Parking facilities, Convention Center improvements, and marina improvements from 2000 Utility Tax bonds of \$22.0 million
 - Community Investment Tax projects: Museum and cultural arts district; Lowry Park Zoo expansion; Ft. Brooke Park development; Ribbon of Green development; Cuscaden Pool renovation; Hunt Center relocation; Tampa Theatre improvements; and neighborhood projects from annual recurring CIT funds and from 2001 Sales Tax bonds of \$55.6 million
 - South Tampa Area Reclaimed Water Project (STAR) from 2001B Water and Sewer bonds of \$13.5 million
- ⁷ The primary bonds that were refinanced include:
- Water and Sewer 1988 bonds refunded in 1998, \$45.6 million
 - Utility Tax 1991 bonds refunded in 2001, \$52.0 million
 - Water 1999 Water and Sewer Bonds refunded in 2001, \$66.1 million
 - Portion of Sewer State Revolving Loan funds refunded in 2002 into Water and Sewer Bonds, \$31.2 million
 - Water and Sewer 1992 bonds refunded in 2002, \$37.7 million
- ⁸ The acquisition of the Aquarium (1996) came out of the Occupational License Tax bonds of \$104.2 million. The Raymond James Stadium project was funded through the Local Option Sales Tax bonds of \$148.9 million
- ⁹ The Department continues to provide quarterly reports to City Council and Department heads on the status of the CIT program.
- ¹⁰ This included the acquisition of 11 recycling trucks and over 80,000 "blue" boxes. Also authorized 12 positions to support the program
- ¹¹ Includes Stetson Law School, Tampa Heights Riverfront Development, New Tampa Park and Recreation Center, Cultural Arts District- Museum & Residential, Grand Hampton, and the School Siting Agreement