

## Riverwalk Status Update – March 23, 2006

### ❖ Riverwalk Celebration Kick Off Event held March 14, 2006

- Master Plan unveiled on March 14<sup>th</sup> at Riverwalk Celebration held in Curtis Hixon Park
  - ◆ Graphics of the Master Plan can be viewed on the [website](#)
  - ◆ Capital campaign launched
    - This is a project for the community and we need everyone's support
      - Information on how to donate to the Friends of the Riverwalk can be found on the [website](#)
      - No donation is too small
- Next Steps
  - ◆ EDAW will continue to hone costs as the those provided with the Master Plan are rough estimates. As the design is refined to greater detail, more accurate cost estimates will be possible.
  - ◆ Examine under and over crossing options for the Cass Street/CSX Bridge connection segment
  - ◆ Coordination with Heights Development project
  - ◆ Finalize approach for cultural and interpretive elements

### ❖ Funding

- Federal and State funding requests
  - ◆ Requests submitted for \$3 million in Federal funding and \$5.5 in State funding
  - ◆ The City continues to coordinate significantly with the State legislators to secure State funding
- Private resources
  - ◆ Capital campaign launched to raise \$20 million for private fundraising goal
  - ◆ Tax deductible donations can be made to Friends of the Riverwalk
    - Checks can be mailed to:  
Friends of the Riverwalk  
P.O. Box 173312  
Tampa, FL 33672-1312
- Grant writer (The City is in the process of hiring a grant writer for downtown development)
  - ◆ Review process to select a grant writer from responses to RFP underway
  - ◆ Grant writer will search for grants to fund projects for entire downtown area, with a focus on the Riverwalk, Curtis Hixon Park development and Ashley Street redesign

## ❖ Segment Update

- Segments 1 – 3 (Channel District)
  - ◆ “Enhancement segments” for consideration beyond the Riverwalk 2010 Plan
- Segment 4 (Tampa History Center with sidewalk to Channelside Drive)
  - ◆ Next priority in securing proper funding for design and construction
  - ◆ Working with Hillsborough County to integrate Riverwalk with History Center design
- Segment 8 (Platt Street Bridge)
  - ◆ The Tampa Port Authority met on March 21, 2006 and approved the work permit application
  - ◆ FDOT LAP (Local Agency Program) Agreement package – After review and approval by FDOT, the City can begin bidding process for construction
    - A LAP agreement’s purpose is to ensure that federal funds are spent in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations. It also allows the City to complete the segment with additional funding sources even though the Federal money is not available for several more years
- Segment 9 (USF Park on the Riverwalk)
  - ◆ Grand opening and dedication held on January 27, 2006
- Segment 11 (Trump Tower)
  - ◆ Groundbreaking ceremony to officially launch construction of the tower held on March 2, 2006
- Segment 12 (MacDill Park on the Riverwalk)
  - ◆ Grand opening and dedication held on December 22, 2005
- Segment 16 (Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park)
  - ◆ Thomas Balsley, an architect based in New York, has begun the preliminary work for redesigning the park
  - ◆ Balsley’s firm and EDAW will collaborate on this segment to ensure the integration of the Riverwalk into the park design
  - ◆ Public input meetings will be announce in the immediate future

## ❖ Other Items of Interest

- Neighborhood Meetings
  - ◆ 5 community meetings were held between February 8, 2006 and March 7, 2006 in East Tampa, South Tampa, New Tampa, North Tampa and West Tampa.
  - ◆ Purpose of meetings was to provide citizens throughout Tampa an update on the project and how the Riverwalk will affect them