

# YBOR LEGEND

A Publication of the Ybor City Development Corporation

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## LATEST NEWS

- INTERSTATE PROGRAM ASSISTANCE
- NEW BANNERS MARKETING PROGRAM
- YCDC'S OFFICE MOVING
- 15TH STREET CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
- LAS YBOR CITY HOMES GRAND OPENING
- CRIME PREVENTION SEMINAR
- YCDC BOARD SETS PRIORITIES
- UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

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## Interstate Program Offers Assistance to Historic Properties

As you drive Interstate 4 through Ybor City, it's easy to notice the decorative elements that stretch from Nebraska Avenue to 30th Street. The improvements feature brick, concrete molding and medallions. The work is the result of a historic preservation effort by the Florida Department of Transportation and the City of Tampa to protect and preserve the historic character of Ybor City, Tampa Heights and West Tampa. These National Historic Register Districts were impacted by the widening of Interstates 4 and 275.

When the interstate expansion project was in its early planning stages over a decade ago, preservation concerns surfaced about the impact



The above medallion is part of the decoration on the interstate overpasses in Ybor City.



I-4 overpass in Ybor City with decorative details.

of such a project on Tampa's historic districts. These concerns were concentrated in Ybor City. The community clearly remembered when the historic district was subsequently divided into two neighborhoods because of the 1960s' interstate construction.

In an effort to minimize negative impacts and exceed federal requirements, FDOT formally agreed with the city, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer and the Federal Highway Administration to relocate and rehabilitate 32 historic structures that were in the path of the project. The buildings were then deeded

to the city and sold to the public. The proceeds from the sale of these structures were deposited into a special fund to be reinvested back into the impacted historic neighborhoods. As a result, the Interstate Historic Preservation Trust Loan and Grant programs were established to provide financial assistance to owners of historic properties for them to preserve the character and structure of the buildings.

### Interstate Historic Preservation Trust Loan and Grant Programs

Because of the Interstate widening project, two financial assistance programs are currently

available to owners of historic properties wishing to make improvements to the buildings.

The purpose of the Trust Fund Loan and Grant Program is to enable the owners of historic properties to preserve the character and structure the buildings by providing exterior preservation funds for eligible owners and projects.

Dennis Fernandez, Historic Preservation Manager and Administrator for the programs tells us that, "The Trust Fund programs offer property owners, who otherwise may not have the financial means to properly maintain their

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## "Banner Program" Promotes Ybor's Marketing Campaign



The Ybor City Development Corporation marketing committee will launch a new banner program on Nick Nuccio Parkway between Nebraska and Palm Avenues to assist with our branding and marketing efforts for Ybor City. The campaign emphasizes the existing theme that can currently be seen in billboards, prints ads and on the website, [www.YborOnline.com](http://www.YborOnline.com). A banner sponsorship program for Ybor businesses is in the planning stages.

## YCDC Offices are Moving

YCDC will be moving its offices to a 7th Avenue storefront in April.

The new address will be:  
**2015 E. 7th Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33605**

The phone number and fax will stay the same. Stay tuned for a grand opening in May.



## City Set to Close 7th Avenue Ybor City Stormwater Project Continues

The City of Tampa is set to close 7th Avenue between 14th and 16th Streets beginning on Thursday, March 22, 2007 in order to install new stormwater pipe. Solid waste pickup and local traffic will be allowed access up to the intersections of 7th Avenue at 15th Street.

This section of the project is slated to be complete in four weeks, with construction crews working expeditiously to

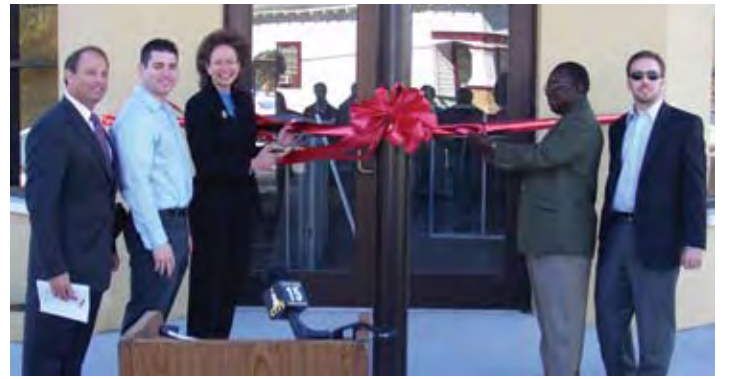
minimize inconvenience to citizens living and working in the area.

The Stormwater Division will re-open 15th Street north of the streetcar tracks at 8th Avenue through 9th Avenue and 9th Avenue will re-open between 14th and 17th Streets on March 22, 2007. The HCC Child Development Center can be accessed via 9th Avenue. The Fernando Noriega Parking Garage can be accessed at 15th

Street and the Centro Ybor Parking Garage can be accessed at 16th Street.

This is the second of four phases in the extensive 15th Street stormwater replacement project that began in January 2007, with completion slated for July 2007 for a total estimated cost of \$2.7 million. For more information, please contact P.J. Calloway, Stormwater Project Coordinator, at (813) 630-3902.

## Urban Living in Historic District - Las Ybor City Homes Opens



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on January 26, 2007 for this mixed-use building with 12 residential units and one commercial unit in Ybor City. From left to right are Mark Huey, Economic and Urban Development Administrator; Matt Sireci, Sireci Enterprises; Mayor Pam Iorio; City Councilman Frank Reddick (District 5) and Martin Frame, Las Ybor City Homes resident.

Special thanks to the following 15th Street businesses for their patience during this project:

- Blue Shark
- Creatures of Delight
- Element Engineering
- Flirt Nightclub
- D'Italia Pizzeria
- Rock and Sports Bar & Grille
- Silver Ring Sandwich Shop
- The Laughing Cat Restaurant

Please continue to show them your support.



## Crime Prevention Seminar for Ybor Businesses

The Tampa Police Department, in partnership with the United States Secret Service, TPD's Crime Prevention Unit and the YCDC, will hold a free seminar to assist business owners with detecting counterfeit money, fraudulent credit cards and the proper procedure of reporting such crimes to the Tampa Police Department. The seminar is open to the public.

Wednesday, April 4, 2007 at 3 p.m.  
The Italian Club Cantina  
1731 East 7th Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33605

For more information, please contact Julia Junquera, TPD Program Coordinator at (813) 276-3337 or 276-3318.

## Interstate Program Offers Assistance to Historic Properties *continued*

historic buildings, an avenue to do so."

The Interstate Historic Preservation Trust Fund offers two types of funding:

• **Loan Program:** The Interstate Historic Preservation Trust Fund Loan Program is a revolving loan fund whereby funds are provided through loans with reasonable terms to all owners. The property can be commercial or residential but must have been constructed at least 50 years ago. The deadline for the next Loan Fund

application cycle is on April 3, 2007 at 3 p.m.

• **Grant Program:** The Interstate Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant Program is for residential property only. The property must be the legal homestead of the applicant and have been constructed more than 75 years prior to the date of the application. Applicants must also qualify as a moderate income household, as

the area, and must exhibit a financial need. The deadline for the next Grant Fund application cycle is on June 5, 2007 at 3 p.m.



Ybor City residence at 918 E. 11th Avenue (Grant Program).

determined by the State of Florida's State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program. Moderate income households do not exceed 120% of the Median Family Income for

For more information about the programs, please contact: Dennis Fernandez, Manager Historic Preservation at (813) 274-7984 or visit [www.tampagov.net/dept\\_historic\\_preservation](http://www.tampagov.net/dept_historic_preservation)



Former Berriman-Morgan Cigar Factory (Loan Program).

## YCDC Board Sets Priorities

After receiving input from the Ybor community, the YCDC Board met to discuss future priority programs for both of Ybor City's Community Redevelopment Areas. The list of priorities that will be considered in next year's budget include:

### Ybor CRA 1:

1. Initiate a retail incentive program
2. Pursue an east side parking garage
3. Develop a long-term parking strategy
4. Restore brick streets and/or install brick pedestrian crosswalks
5. Strengthen panhandling ordinance
6. Install LED lighting to 7th Avenue archway lights

### Ybor CRA 2

1. Implement residential streetlighting program
2. Increase anti-crime enforcement
3. Restore brick streets and/or install brick pedestrian crosswalks
4. Engineer and implement alley standardization program
5. Strengthen panhandling ordinance
6. Implement a historic facade improvement program



## Upcoming Special Events in Ybor City

### March 2007

24  
Lion's Eye Run 6th Annual Race for Sight  
Lions Eye Institute  
[www.lionseyefoundation.com](http://www.lionseyefoundation.com)

29-31  
Pre-Festa Italiana  
talian Club  
[www.festaitalianatampa.com](http://www.festaitalianatampa.com)

18  
Ybor Festival of the Moving Image  
Hillsborough Community College - Ybor Campus  
[www.yborfilmfestival.com](http://www.yborfilmfestival.com)

21-22  
Tampa Bay Motorcycle Rally  
CC Event Productions  
[www.cc-events.org](http://www.cc-events.org)

### April 2007

1  
Festa Italiana  
Italian Club  
[www.festaitalianatampa.com](http://www.festaitalianatampa.com)

13-14  
Ybor Aficionado Days  
Ybor City Chamber of Commerce  
[www.ybor.org](http://www.ybor.org)

### May 2007

5-6  
Ybor Arts Festival  
Ybor City Chamber of Commerce  
[www.ybor.org](http://www.ybor.org)

12  
WMNF's 26th Annual Tropical Heatwave  
Cuban Club  
[www.wmnf.org](http://www.wmnf.org)