



East Tampa is a vibrant historic neighborhood full of diversity and cultural significance. Encompassing over seven square miles, the East Tampa Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), established in 2004, is the largest redevelopment community in the city. The work of the East Tampa division, in conjunction with the East Tampa Community Revitalization Partnership, is significantly improving the quality of life of the residents. From the increasing property values and decreasing crime rate to the improvements in basic services, the city is working hard to make East Tampa a better place to live. In addition, the strategic plan for the area will soon be completed, providing a blueprint for the allocation of future TIF funds.

2007

Park Terrace Apartments

The City of Tampa is providing \$200,000 of SHIP funds to the Creative Choice Housing Group to bring 215 units of affordable rental units to the North 43rd Street area.



Rendering of Park Terrace Apartments.

Brandywine Apartments

The Richman Group of Florida's affordable housing development, Brandywine Apartments, located at 5029 North 40th Street, will be completed in August. The development features 144 units of affordable housing complemented by a luxurious community center, pool and playground.

Tampa Police Department District III Police Station

The Tampa Police District III Police Station, located at 32nd Avenue and 22nd Street and completed in summer 2007, helps to promote the safety of the residents in the area placing dedicated police officers in the heart of East Tampa. The \$9.2 million project includes \$1.5 million of TIF revenue that was approved by the East Tampa Community Revitalization Partnership. The building consists of 18,000 square-feet for police and an additional 2,000 square-feet for East Tampa Development and Community Lending. Unique

features of the site include a memorial honoring the accomplishments of the Belmont Heights Little League and the contributions of Tampa's African-American police officers.



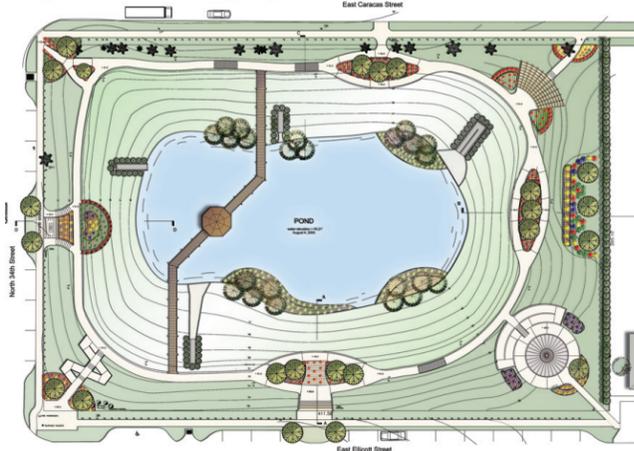
TPD District III station.

Fast Lane Clothing, Inc.

Fastlane Clothing Inc., a screen print apparel manufacturer, is set to open its business in East Tampa in August. The 10,000 square foot building is located at 5112 North 22nd Street. Initially the business will bring approximately ten new jobs to the community. The City of Tampa awarded Fast Lane a \$211,471 Community Development Block Grant to acquire the property. This is the first private enterprise to utilize the Brownfields Assessment Grant in East Tampa.

Fair Oaks Retention Pond Beautification

Fair Oaks Pond, located on 34th Street and East Ellicott Street, is one of the three stormwater ponds designated for the retention pond beautification effort pilot program. Due to its location adjacent to the Fair Oaks Park and Community Center, this pond was chosen to be completed first. Planned improvements, scheduled to begin in August, include a walking trail, landscaping, and a bridge with gazebo. In addition to these and other amenities, there is an opportunity to vacate a portion of Caracas Street in order to connect the lake to Fair Oaks Park. This will increase the amount of recreational space and provide for a more pedestrian friendly area. The City of Tampa has allocated \$50,000 for planning and design of the three ponds. Additionally, \$112,500 of Community Development Block Grant funds and \$475,000 of TIF funds have been allocated for the project.



Fair Oaks Retention Pond rendering.

Lake Avenue Enhancements

The enhancement of Lake Avenue spans from North 22nd Street to North 29th Street. The improvements include an attractive roadway with pedestrian friendly sidewalks with a public art component, bicycle lanes, landscaped intersections, upgraded traffic signals, and improved bus stops and shelters. The project began in 2006 and was completed at a total cost of \$2.73 million. Funding for the project was provided by Gas Tax and East Tampa TIF revenues.



Tree planting ceremony commemorating the completion of Lake Avenue.

City Receives \$400,000 Grant

The City of Tampa was selected to receive a \$400,000 Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields assessment grant for the East Tampa Community Redevelopment Area. The CRA was one of the 29 communities in the southeast Florida region to receive grants for assessment or cleanup of properties. The grant is to be used to conduct environmental site assessments for potentially hazardous substances and petroleum contamination in targeted redevelopment areas.

Gene's Bar

As part of the city's initiative to lower crime in the community, the city purchased Gene's Bar, located at 22nd Street and 21st Avenue, in February 2006. This location offers a great opportunity for potential commercial development.



Signing ceremony commemorating the purchase of Gene's Bar.

Grant Park Resurfacing

Over 80 blocks of city streets in the Grant Park neighborhood were repaired and resurfaced. The improved roadways are located between 50th Street on the west; 56th Street on the east; 26th Avenue on the south; and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on the north. In addition, 37 blocks of Bougainvillea Avenue were repaved from North Boulevard to 40th Street. The streets were completely resurfaced with certain areas reconstructed to improve the integrity of the roadways. The cost for the Grant Park work was approximately \$300,000 and was funded with TIF revenue. The Bougainvillea project was funded by Gas Taxes at a total cost of over \$450,000.

East Tampa Environmental Detectives

The East Tampa CRA adopted an Environmental Detective Program as part of the fiscal year 2007 budget. This program conducts proactive investigations regarding illegal dumping and other environmental criminal activity. Such work includes an investigation that solved the illegal dumping of over five tons of tires next to the Meridian Point Apartments.

2006

Meridian Pointe Apartments

The Meridian Pointe Apartment community, located at 2450 East Hillsborough Avenue, consists of 360 units of affordable rental housing plus approximately 20,000 square feet of commercial space. The development also features approximately 33,000 square feet of commercial space fronting Hillsborough Avenue. The City of Tampa provided \$1 million of federal HOME program funds to the development.

Williams Park and Recreation Center

In October 2006, over 200 corporate and community volunteers adopted Williams Park and Recreation Center, located in the Northview Hills neighborhood, as part of the annual Day of Caring. The volunteers painted picnic tables and shelters; landscaped the center; cleaned up the natural preserve area; and reconditioned the playground areas.

V.M. Ybor Neighborhood Road Surfacing

With approximately \$531,000 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, the City of Tampa resurfaced a number of roads within the V.M. Ybor neighborhood located in the East Tampa CRA. The resurfaced roadways are located between 26th Avenue to the north, 15th Avenue to the south, Republica De Cuba to the east and North Taliaferro to the west.

Cyrus Green Park Community Center and Highland Pines Park Activity Center

Cyrus Greene Park Community Center, a 10,000 square-foot facility, provides programs and activities for adults and children. This \$2 million project was funded through a 1999 bond issue to improve the city's recreational facilities.

The Highland Pines Park Activity Center, located at 4505 East 21st Avenue, is a 3,000 square-foot indoor facility that includes a multi-purpose room and computer room. The building construction was funded through the Community Investment Tax at a total cost of \$600,000.

HOPE VI Belmont Heights Estates

Located on 22nd Street, this three-phase Tampa Housing Authority development consists of all new construction including 860 mixed-income housing units. The community also features 36 three and four bedroom single-family detached homes available for homeownership. The three-bedroom homes are over 1,400 square feet and the four-bedroom homes offer over 1,500 square feet of living space. The city contributed approximately \$1.5 million of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for infrastructure improvements. Phases II and III are in the planning stages.

Award of Merit

East Tampa CRA received the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials Agency Award of Merit for the Public Participation Program in 2006. This award recognizes outstanding achievement in housing and community development programs throughout the nation.

East Tampa Summer Youth Program

The City of Tampa's Clean City Division initiated a Summer Youth Program in June 2006. The program employs local youth between the ages of 16 and 18. Additionally, the program provided for the hiring of two temporary employees and one full-time. Work completed during the summer program includes cleaning illegal dumping areas and working to reduce litter. The permanent, full-time positions work throughout the year to maintain the major thoroughfares throughout East Tampa. Tampa Bay Federal Credit Union partners with the program to educate the youth on money management skills.

2005

Completion of Cuscaden Pool Renovation

The historic Cuscaden Park Swimming Pool was a renovation project funded by a grant from the National Park Service's Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program and the Community Investment Tax. Nearly \$1.8 million in CIT funds were used to rehabilitate the historic pool, which was originally built in 1937. Renovations included updating the facilities and reconfiguring the space to allow for the addition of an activity room, a fitness room and water play features.

Historic George Washington Junior High School Memorial Bus Shelter

The Historic George Washington Junior High School Memorial Bus Shelter was established in 2005 by the Department of Transportation. The school, after closing in 1979, was demolished in late 2004. The Department of Transportation salvaged many historic elements including the flooring, brick, cupolas, wooden banisters, doors and windows. These elements were donated to the Hillsborough County School Board, HART and the City of Tampa to aid in other historic rehabilitation projects.

Centro Place Apartments

In October 2005, the City of Tampa, in partnership with Bank of America and the Home Association, celebrated the completion of the Centro Place Apartments, a 150-unit senior adult apartment complex. Located on the site of

the former Centro Asturiano Hospital, the city contributed \$900,000 of State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funds and \$600,000 of federal HOME dollars to bring the project to completion.

East Tampa Accepts Planning Commission Award

The East Tampa Community Revitalization Partnership, A.A. Baker and Associates and Tampa Bay Engineering, Inc. were honored with a merit award presented by the Planning Commission at the 23rd Annual Community Design Awards. The award was presented in recognition of the outstanding public participation process that led to the creation of the East Tampa Community Redevelopment Plan.

2004

The Environmental Protection Agency Awards Grant to the City of Tampa

In June 2004, the EPA awarded the city \$200,000 in reimbursable funds to conduct Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments for petroleum contamination in the East Tampa target area. Under this grant, over 40 environmental site assessments will be conducted by September 2007.

2003

Belmont Heights Little League Field

In December 2003, the City of Tampa partnered with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Little League Baseball International, Beck Construction and Lowe's Home Improvement to renovate the historic Belmont Heights Little League fields and concession area. Work included the rehabilitation of the ball fields and interior and exterior improvements to the concession stand.

End Gate Trailer Park

In September 2003, the city took action to relocate residents and close the End Gate Trailer Park on Hillsborough Avenue. The site was plagued with numerous code violations and sub-standard living conditions. The land was cleared and purchased by the Hillsborough County School District.

The Historic Village

Located between Columbus Avenue on the north, 15th Avenue on the south, 17th Street on the west, and 20th Street on the east, the first phase of this district consists of 27 historic homes. The homes were relocated to this designated historic district for complete rehabilitation during the I-4 expansion. The City of Tampa provided the \$8 million Florida Department of Transportation project with in-kind contributions related to land acquisition and infrastructure improvements.



For more information on the East Tampa redevelopment initiative, please contact:
East Tampa Development at (813) 242-3807
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East Tampa

Progress Report

Transforming East Tampa into a community of vibrant residential, business, social and cultural life.

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August 2007



Pam Iorio, Mayor