

**West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area  
Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

January 23, 2018

**West Tampa Free Public Library  
2312 W. Union Street**

**Attendees**

**Committee Members:** Joe Robinson, Chair; Kenneth Perry, Vice-Chair; Benjamin Buckley; Dedrick Jackson; Delphine Jones; Carlos Ramirez; Emanuel Wilson; and Tina Young

**Excused:** Marvin Knight; Jeffrey Rhodes; Ed Turanchik; and Walter Smith II

**Staff:** Malcolm Kiner, Urban Development Manager  
Michelle Van Loan, Economic Development Staff  
Jan Washington, Transportation and Stormwater  
Paul Dial, Parks and Recreation Director

**I. Welcome / Introductions**

Mr. Robinson opened the regular meeting of the West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Committee at 5:35 p.m. on November 28, 2017. Quorum established at 5:52 p.m.

Mr. Robinson excused Marvin Knight, Jeffrey Rhodes, Ed Turanchik, and Walter Smith II from the meeting.

**II. Meeting Minutes November 28, 2017**

Mr. Ramirez moved to approve the November 28, 2017 meeting minutes and seconded by Mr. Perry. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. Tampa Police Department Update**

Postponed to next meeting.

**IV. Staff Reports**

**Street Lighting Report:** Ms. Jan Washington provided an overview of the Bright Lights Safe Nights lighting program and update on the status of street lighting in West Tampa.

- The Bright Nights program has installed over 10,000 street lights in last 4 years in 70% of the City's communities. 30% increase in new lights.
- All areas of the City will be upgraded to LED over next 4-5 years.
- "Smart light" are the newest technology in lighting.

- Spring 2018: West Tampa will be the first community to be upgraded with the new LED lights on local streets.
- Focus is on intersections and then local streets for traffic safety.
- LED lights are being installed in between the high pressure sodium lights.
  - There will be no more than 150 feet between lights.
- Phase II will be to replace the high pressure sodium lights. Letters will be posted when crews will be out doing the work.
- Until all lights are upgraded, people still need to call in lights that are out.
- If there is an area of concern, then please submit a request ticket to the City.

Strategic Action Plan: Mr. Greminger provided an overview of the December 18 Strategic Action Plan Community meeting. As part of the presentation, he also reviewed the economic projections for TIF revenues and growth. The consultants have been meeting with different groups and stakeholders and are hearing the same themes of issues.

Summary of Community Priorities:

- Economic Development Summary
  1. Job Creation/Opportunities
  2. Marketing
  3. Housing
  
- Physical Development
  1. Parking
  2. Safety
  3. Streets
  4. Parks/Open Spaces
  5. Historic Preservation

West Tampa CRA Opportunities

1. Economic Development Objectives and Initiatives – Community Wide
  - Job Training and Placement Programs
  - Develop West Tampa Labor Market and Businesses
  - Local Businesses and Industries
  - Establish Planning, Zoning, and Economic Retention Policies
  - Promote Infill and Redevelopment
  - Micro-loans and Other Financial Incentives
  - Affordable and Workforce Housing Developments
  
2. Physical Development and Redevelopment Opportunities
  - Old West Tampa Infill: Howard Ave/Armenia Ave/Main Street
  - Reuse of Old Cigar Factories
  - Catalytic Potential of Strategic Properties
  - Putting Excess Public Lands on the Tax Roll
  - Affordable and Workforce Housing Developments
  
3. Additional discussion topics
  - Gateway markers
  - Enhanced district corridor connections
  - Specific Street Improvement opportunities
  - River connections and access

- Affordable and Workforce Housing Developments

Next Steps:

- Development of Planning Directives for improvements and financial strategy
- Produce the Final Draft for CAC Review and comments
- Present final Draft Report to community at 3<sup>rd</sup> Public Meeting in March
- Present the Final Draft Report to the CRA Board for review and approval

Discussion:

- Opportunities to have FDOT address issues and enhancement 3 remaining underpasses. CRA should not have to pay for this.
- The Vision is for Main Street to become a Complete Street.
- Final plan will have detailed recommendations for short and long term.
- Where is the “in lieu of” money going that is paid by developers?
- Focus on options for affordable housing

Legislative Update: Mr. Kiner provided update on State Legislative activities concerning CRAs.

- HB17 passed by full house 72-32
- SB432 is in subcommittee for transportation. Two additional subcommittees if it moves forward.
  - Currently SB432 is less favorable towards CRAs and is more limiting.
  - Request that Mr. Kiner draft letter to send to members of the Transportation subcommittee reiterating our position.
- If both versions pass their respective bodies, they will still have to be reconciled.
  - Mr. Kiner will inform the WTCAC as subcommittees are scheduled for bill hearings.

Mr. Robinson mentioned that the CRA Board is talking to the delegation. Mr. Robinson is meeting with Mr. Putnam on Thursday.

## V. Requests to Address the Committee

**FDOT:** Ed McKinney presented an update on the FDOT TBX project now called Tampa Bay Next. The current system has design deficiencies and a demand/volume problem.

FDOT is soliciting public input and focusing on the transparency of the process. Community workshops have happened and will continue to be scheduled. FDOT wants to know community needs.

Considerations:

- Design constraints
- Interaction with local streets and interchanges
- Back-up onto interstate ramp at exits
- Lois area is a big challenge. How do you spread out the traffic?

Concepts: The following are only concepts at this point as FDOT receives community input and evaluates feasibility. All concepts have pros and cons.

- A: Splitting traffic to Himes for Eastbound and McDill for Westbound, express lane traffic only.

- B: Diamond interchange at Himes. This would be a full Express lane interchange at Himes.
- C: Flyover ramps for Express lane interchange South side at McDill and North side at Himes.

West Tampa Concerns. This is what FDOT has heard from the West Tampa Community:

- Concern for noise and visual impacts on adjacent community
- Option A fits with vision of West Tampa CRA Vision for Main Street businesses
- No specific comments on Option B.
- Concern regarding increased traffic on McDill with Option A
- Concern regarding construction vibration, noise and visual impacts
- Need for walkability and better bike/pedestrian amenities

Next Steps:

- Neighborhood field visits
- Additional traffic analysis
- Aesthetics discussions
- Additional feedback from community
- Coordinate outreach with HART and MPO

Get involved:

- In-person meetings
- Email updates
- Online meetings
- Other?

Discussion:

- The Stormwater pond at Willow and 275 needs attention, trash.
- Where are our Historic District signs on the Interstate, in both directions?
- Right now there are no plans for eminent domain, but until the final design is known, it cannot be said for certain. FDOT owns all the ROW it needs from Downtown to Lois exit.
- Any taxes that may get levies for transit have to go to transit.
- All the people who live from Hillsborough tpo South Tampa are affected by these changes since they are accessing the interstate at the interchanges slated for changes.
- Issue remains, can the local jurisdiction fund their 25% local match (approximately \$100 million) across several counties.
- If the improvements can be tied to FDOT Roadway system, then FDOT does the maintenance vs the local transit system/gov't jurisdictions.

**Tampa Parks and Recreation Department:** Director Paul Dial introduced himself to the community and discussed his efforts to acquaint himself with all our parks and the communities' needs.

- Reviewing appropriate level of programming at the MLK Community Center.
- A tour of Julian B. Lane Park can be arranged for the CAC members.
  - Julian B. Lane is tentatively scheduled to open in May. The grand opening will involve the community, entertainment and activities.
- Mr. Dial and his team are reviewing all the parks to identify needed improvements, updates, and changes. Once those have been identified, Mr. Dial will come back to

the West Tampa CAC.

- Landscaping along corridors within the City is handled by different agencies depending upon which corridor it is.

Discussion:

- Desire to team up with the City for cleanup and closure of streets prior to Juneteenth celebration.
- The districts that “in lieu of” fees are appropriated to are very large. Can Mr. Dial look into making those smaller districts so that money from area developments stay within that area?
  - People are deprived of green space when this option is exercised and then the money is used far from the development and the affected community.
- Philips Field Historical Marker update: A new sign will be placed on North Blvd to indicate area and then a sign will be inside of the park, along the sidewalk where there is a lot of foot traffic.

## **VI. Subcommittee Reports**

Special Events Subcommittee:

Ms. Young discussed that the Subcommittee is working on a process for outside agencies to apply for sponsorship as well as a large West Tampa signature event.

## **VII. General Discussion & Questions**

- Please schedule Solid Waste for follow up discussion for next meeting.
- CAC Meeting Notice signs:
  - Prefer brighter, more eye catching signs
  - Can CRA provide 5 signs for each group to put out?
- Good neighbor Notices:
  - 2405 W North B St & 2403 W North B Street: ReZoning, RM-16 to RM-18. Feb 8, 2018 Public Hearing.
  - Variance Public Hearing: 2006 West Kennedy Blvd, sign variance to allow a 3<sup>rd</sup> wall sign to be placed on the west elevation. Jan 9, 2018.

## **VIII. Announcements & Public Comment**

- Concern over trash buildup, trash cans on Main Street, need code enforcement.
  - Develop options to address these issues in Strategic Action Plan.
- Can there be identification at Fortune Street?
- We need on job training as part of construction projects to encourage careers in construction. Workforce development programs.
- At N. 22nd Street and Fletcher there is a junior achievement for Adults. Need space for adults to learn these trades.
- Need to address Pasco residents coming through area to head to centralized points.
- Spruce and Cypress need to be widened.
- There is a construction career fair in St. Pete on January 31 from 10 am – 1 pm.

Contractors will be there. Working on duplicating event on Tampa side.

- The owner of the Cotton Club is looking for building assistance on her building.
  - Once the Strategic Action Plan has been developed, programs offering this kind of assistance may be available.
  - Small Business Association may be able to assist with loans.
- BBIF is funded by the state and is located in Orlando. We should have them come talk at a future meeting.
- 1700 Beach Street has traffic issues.
- A housing forum about homestead benefits and process might be good to hold for the community.
- What is the status of the historical mural at the Julian B. Lane Park building?
- The WT Chamber has been advertising in the Sentinel, good to see.
- New owner of the cigar factory on Albany. They are looking to do urban agriculture through hydroponic gardening. Invite them to a future meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 8:23 p.m.

**WEST TAMPA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**February 27, 2018, 5:30 p.m.  
West Tampa Free Public Library  
2312 W. Union Street  
Tampa, FL 33607**

**AGENDA**

- I. Opening Comments & Introductions Joe Robinson, Chairman

**Action Items**

- II. Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2018 Advisory Committee

**Reports**

- III. Tampa Police Department Update Tampa Police Department

- IV. Staff Report Malcolm Kiner

Solid Waste Mark Wilfalk  
Strategic Action Plan  
Salcines Park Mural

- V. Request to Address the Committee

Accion Adriana Contreras

SBDC Carol Minor

Tampa BBIC Albert Lee

- VI. General Discussion & Questions Advisory Committee & Staff

- i. Sub-Committee Report Tina Young, CAC Member

- VII. Announcements & Public Comment

**Important Dates**

CRA Board meeting: March 8, 2018, 9:00 a.m., City Council Chambers  
West Tampa CAC meeting: March 27, 5:30 p.m., West Tampa Library Community Room