

**West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2020
Virtual Call-In Meeting**

Attendees

Committee members: Joe Robinson, Chair; Delphine Jones; Carlos Ramirez; Jeffrey Rhodes; Anthony Serrano, Walter Smith II; Bobby Wilson; Benjamin Buckley; Ken Perry

Excused: Dee Jackson; Marvin Knight; Tina Young;

Staff: Jesus Niño, West Tampa/Drew Park Manager, Shelia Jackson, OSSIV, Randy Goers, Planning & Development, Stewart Runion, Code Enforcement

Guests:

I. Opening Comments & Introductions

Chair Robinson convened the meeting at 5:35 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was reached.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Rhodes moved for approval of the minutes of the August 25, 2020 meeting; seconded by Mr. Perry. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Tampa Police Update

Captain Fernandez provided a report of crime trends in the area. There was a shooting at Green and Rome. It was a road rage incident; they have good leads on the subject. Four individuals have been arrested for narcotics distribution on Main Street. There were 123 initiated calls in the past 22 days in the area, i.e. that is an average of six calls. There was also an issue about an individual living in their van on the other side of the park. Captain Fernandez got him in touch with the department's homeless liaison that assisted him with getting his van fixed, so that he could return to his home state.

Officer Lisa Bunn asked if the committee had been provided an update on the requested cameras. Per Mr. Niño, he is working with engineering to get a camera with access to power at Fremont and Main. They are working on getting an estimate together regarding the installation/connection of the camera to the power source. Per Mr. Perry, there are several utility type poles being installed in the area. Per Officer Bunn, it's a cellular pole.

IV. Staff Report

Stewart Runion Code Enforcement Officer for the city brought greetings and a report. Per Mr. Runion, on the northeast corner of Main and Albany there is a vacant structure that has been written up. They will be required to do some working cleaning and painting the building. There was also some illegal dumping behind the building that has been picked up by a lighting loader. We will continue to be proactive and get items picked up before having to be called. There are trashcans along Main Street that are overflowing. His suggestion is that the cans be removed, they are not emptied enough and has become a problem. Mr. Robinson asked the manager to check into what the frequency rate for pick up and who oversees the pick-up.

BUILD grant from USDOT

Jesus Niño reported that everyone is happy the area received the 24 million dollar Build Grant, which will help to extend the Riverwalk into the West Tampa area. His next step is to bring the manager of the grant to one of our meetings to discuss how we can be a part of the process/use the funds. Mr. Robinson, would like to formally request that Mr. Niño, get the CRA Chair and/or West Tampa Infrastructure Chair invited to sit in on the group that will oversee the Build Grant. Ken Perry made a motion to support that action item. Benjamin Buckley provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.

Rome Yard RFP

Per Mr. Robinson, he would like to make sure Mr. Niño is on the planning committee for the Rome Yard RFP. Per Mr. Niño, yes, he will increase his presence representing the committee and has already attended some discussions with the Housing Division.

Staffing Update

Per Mr. Niño the individual we selected to hire as the EDC Specialist that was supposed to start next week has accepted another position. We have decided to go back and review the resumes of the other candidates in order to make a new selection.

October 6th Community Meeting – Main Street Corridor Study

Randy Goers, shared a reminder about the upcoming Main Street Corridor Study meeting. A notice will go out this week via email to everyone on the contact list. Mr. Niño, also asked members to send the contact information for anyone they think would be good resources. Mr. Robinson, asked that staff make sure that individual property owners and business owners are reached. Also, please do not forget to contact the West Tampa Chamber of Commerce.

Freemont Linear Park Pole and Camera Estimate

Per Mr. Niño, all members received an estimate for the cost to install a camera at the Fremont Linear Park. If members are okay with that cost, we will move forward. Per Mr. Robinson, we made a motion to approve these costs at our last in person meeting at the MLK Center, if you need us to do a fresh motion, let's wait until after discussion. During discussion, Ken Perry asked the committee to consider taking the cameras all the way down to North Boulevard instead of stopping at Rome (i.e. additional cameras). A motion was made to ask staff to look at the cost of putting cameras along Oregon, Willow and Delaware to Rome. The motion was seconded by Walter Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion continued when Benjamin Buckley, asked that staff also find out what the value/effectiveness of cameras will be to the neighborhood. Per Mr. Robinson, how will cameras help, are they monitored etc. Per Captain Fernandez, the most important part of cameras is that they deter crime, the cameras will also record.

Mr. Bobby Wilson asked was there a decision made about the pole for the Fremont camera? We originally asked for a decorative pole. Jesus Niño, is not sure that was viable, but will check to see what type of pole has been quoted. After discussion, Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the final costs for the camera to be installed at the Fremont Linear Park but asks that a decorative pole be used instead of just a regular wooden pole. Mr. Rhodes provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.

Exterior Rehabilitation Grant Program

Per Mr. Niño, he has been in contact with the Housing Department. They are still working on the process/procedures for running this program and processing applications. Mr. Niño will notify us once they have more progress. This program may be able to encompass a tree trimming component.

Newsletter

Per Mr. Niño, the newsletter is complete and was sent to committee members for review. He asked committee members to provide a motion to proceed with distribution and to approve the 125 hard copies printed circulation. We were limited to four pages, the content that could not be added will be used as part of the next newsletter.

Howard and Armenia Right-of-Way Tree Trimming

Per Mr. Niño, city staff is working with county staff to facilitate getting the trees trimmed along the right of way of Howard and Armenia. Once we have the schedule, he will let the committee know. Main Street is still under review, Jesus is still confirming who has responsibility for the trimming.

Per Mr. Robinson, the CRA Board would like West Tampa CRA to come up with a tree trimming program in the area. They would like to do something different with a tree trimming program than East Tampa CRA and would like more time to discuss options.

Columbus Drive Resurfacing Project

Per Mr. Niño, Stephen Vincent will be invited to a later meeting to discuss the Road Diet Program Plans. They are trying to fix some of the traffic impediments. Committee members want to know if a round about is part of that plan, if it is, they have a problem with it.

Gateway Identification Signs and Beautification

Subcommittees discussed this item and would like to get the committee to approve wayfinding signs to beautify the community. Mr. Robinson wants to know if the subcommittees have come up with an identifier/brand for the wayfinding signs. Per Ms. Jones, Dee Jackson did come up with some design suggestions. Mr. Wilson, suggested the committee come up with a contest open to the public to see if we get some ideas. Mr. Robinson asked it to be flushed out in the next Special Events Sub-committee meeting and asked Mr. Serrano to ensure that the West Tampa Chamber weighs in on the discussion.

V. Request to Address the Committee

None

VI. General Discussion & Questions

West Tampa CAC Subcommittee Reports

- **Economic Development** – Walter Smith shared that they discussed what we need to do to make sure Main Street looks good. We want to discuss what it will take to make sure we have the proper ordinances are meeting the needs of the area. We need to start purchasing and leasing buildings to ensure we have valuable activity in our community. We also need to put money into marketing. The EMOJA Group also sat in on our meeting. They are looking to doing a co operative business incubator space in the area much like The Hall or Armature Works. Mr. Robinson asked Mr. Niño to check into inviting this group to a future meeting. Per Mr. Wilson, is there a process for purchasing buildings? There are several properties in the area that the committee would like to purchase. Per Mr. Niño, there is a process for acquiring land/property. Part of the process is to have a property appraisal completed to attain the value. Then of course the CRA Board would have to approve any purchases. The CRA Attorney, Morris Massey has been invited to the

next meeting and can go into further detail/answer questions. Mr. Niño asked committee members to forward the address of properties they would like the CRA to consider purchasing. Per Mr. Niño, a meeting is tentative with the school board about consolidating the two local schools Just and Stewart into a Pre K - 8th grade facility.

- **Special Events/Special Projects** – Joseph Robinson let the committee know that the Metropolitan Ministries tent has been secured up to January 31st (does not include Superbowl week) as a community tent.
- **Infrastructure** – Mr. Ramirez delivered the subcommittee report. At the last meeting we are asking for a density study to see what types of projects are being developed. We talked about an overlay content item regarding Historic Cigar Factories and about coming up with a grant program to ensure the buildings are redeveloped following historic guidelines. Planning contacted us and let us know they will start planning public meetings. There was another overlay change suggestion that was initiated by a private entity that would affect the frontage of our homes. Painting over graffiti is not efficient. The subcommittee would like to investigate better ways to restore brick buildings affected.
- **Housing** – Mr. Wilson reported that his committee met recently, and they reviewed their priorities such as the Proposed Rental Rehab Program, and New Homeowners Down Payment Assistance Program. He also mentioned scheduling a Homestead Exemption Presentation sometime during the first quarter. They are also working on getting an inventory of historic properties and open alleys.

VII. Announcements and Public Comment

Per Bobby Wilson There are some inconsistencies with how the rules are being enforced in Julian B. Lane Park and MacFarlane Park. Mr. Robinson asked Mr. Niño to get with the Parks Department and ask for written instructions about the use of the two parks.

Ms. Jones was concerned about a shooting at the park. Anthony Serrano suggested the CRA think about scheduling a cleanup along Main Street.

Ivan Rivera asked does West Tampa CRA have a down payment assistance program. Per Bobby Wilson, the subcommittee is working on coming up with that program.

Spencer Kass – He has many concerns about the Columbus Avenue Road Diet project. Slowing down traffic will force more traffic into the neighborhood. He thinks the plans are already written, and that the city is not looking to change their plan. The committee should insist on getting their concerns heard. Per Mr. Niño, he has reached out to Mr. Vincent (Hillsborough County) to talk about the project from Howard to Boulevard. Mr. Kass shared that the county only wants to pave the road, the city is the one trying to narrow the road and slow the traffic down.

Michael Randolph provided updates on the initiatives of the West Tampa CDC.

Mr. Robinson announced that at 9:00 am, September 24, 2020 the Tampa Housing Authority will host a ribbon cutting at the new North Boulevard Homes.

VIII. **Adjournment:**

Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

**West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2020
Virtual Call-In Meeting**

Attendees

Committee members: Joe Robinson, Chair; Benjamin Buckley; Delphine Jones; Ken Perry; Bobby Wilson; Carlos Ramirez; Walter Smith; Tina Young; Anthony Serrano; Jeffrey Rhodes

Excused members: Marvin Knight

Staff: Jesus Niño, West Tampa/Drew Park Manager; Shelisia Jackson, OSSIV; Milton Martinez, Engineer; Stephen Benson; Karla Price; Tony Monk; Calvin Hardie; Morris Massey; City Legal Department

Guests Wade Reynolds, Hillsborough MPO

I. Opening Comments & Introductions

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. CRA Manager Jesus Niño opened the meeting with brief comments and took role call and provided public comment details. After role call it was established a quorum was present. Mr. Niño stated there was a change noted for the agenda. The Emoja Group will not be able to present at the meeting today. Their spot was moved to next month. The minutes for September 22, 2020 were reviewed. Ken Perry provided the motion to approve. Walter Smith provided the second. Motion passed unanimously. The October 13, 2020 Special Call Minutes were also reviewed for approval. Mr. Robinson wanted to make sure a correction was made there are two At-Large positions Marvin Knight and Jeffrey Rhodes that need to be advertised. The third At-Large position (Kenneth Perry) expires January 2021. Ken Perry provided the motion to approve. Carlos Ramirez provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Reports

I. CRA Legal Counsel – Item tabled to later in the meeting, Mr. Morris Massey could not attend during the first half of the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances.

II. Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant -

Milton Martinez, the City's Chief Transportation Engineer, provided a presentation to the CAC about the BUILD Grant Project. He serves as the project lead for the West River District Multimodal Improvements Project. This project is a collaboration between the City of Tampa Parks & Recreation Department and the Smart Mobility Department. He introduced the project team: Calvin Hardie, Stephen Benson, Catherine Hayes, Karla Price, Brad Suder, and Tony Monk. Per Mr. Martinez, the grant supports projects that have a significant impact on the mobility of the immediate areas in and surrounding the Downtown Riverwalk and West River Project. The project is a part of the Mayor's Transforming Tampa's Tomorrow (T3) Initiatives. The project will complete a 12.2 contiguous mile path separated from automobile traffic and build out enhanced crossing locations. There are numerous ADA and environmental improvements. There are several project components. The grant amount awarded and the required local match for each project was shared with the committee:

- Platt Street Bridge Underpass - BUILD Grant: \$6,000,000/Local Match: \$1,000,000
- Trail segment from Tony Janus Park - BUILD Grant: \$450,000/Local Match: \$50,000
- Brorien Bridge Underpass - BUILD Grant: \$3,500,000/Local Match: \$500,000
- Trail segment along Plant Park - BUILD Grant: \$900,000/Local Match: \$100,000
- Crossing – CSX Rail and Cass Street - BUILD Grant: \$150,000/Local Match: \$50,000
- Trail Segment -Tampa Prep School - BUILD Grant: \$1,350,000/Local Match: \$150,000
- Trail Segment - Blake High School - BUILD Grant: \$1,750,000/Local Match: \$250,000
- Trail Segment - Stewart Middle School - BUILD Grant: \$1,500,000/Local Match: \$500,000
- Pedestrian/Bike Crossing - Stewart Middle School - BUILD Grant: \$70,000/Local Match: \$30,000
- Pedestrian/Bike Crossing - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rec. Complex - - BUILD Grant: \$70,000/Local Match: \$30,000
- Trail Segment - Columbus Drive - BUILD Grant: \$1,200,000/Local Match: \$800,000
- Trail Segment –Riverwalk Connection - BUILD Grant: \$1,500,000/Local Match: \$500,000
- Complete Street Segment Platt St. (Willow Ave to Bayshore Blvd) - BUILD Grant: \$1,500,000/Local Match: \$500,000
- Complete Street Segment -Rome Ave (Platt St. to Columbus Dr) - BUILD Grant: \$2,000,000/Local Match: \$1,000,000
- Living Shoreline - Tony Jannus Park - BUILD Grant: \$180,000/Local Match: \$20,000
- Living Shoreline - Tampa Prep - BUILD Grant: \$80,000/Local Match: \$20,000
- Living Shoreline – Blake H.S.- BUILD Grant: \$1,600,000/Local Match: \$400,000

Timeline:

- Application Submittals (May 18, 2020)
- Award Announcement (Sep 16, 2020)
- Implementation Webinar (Oct 15, 2020)
- Implementation Kick-Off Meeting (Oct 28, 2020)
- Reporting Webinar (Nov 19, 2020)
- Direct Recipient Webinar (Dec 2020)
- FHWA Target for Execution of Grant Agrmt(Jun 30, 2022)
- Funds must be fully obligated by (i.e. –Grant Agrmtexecuted) (Sep 30, 2022)
- Project should not start until the Grant Agreement is executed
- BUILD 20 Fund Expenditure Deadline (Sep 30, 2027)

Next Steps:

- Negotiate Grant Agreement w/FHWA (6 –12 months)
- Program Local Match Funds
- Coordinate with Hillsborough MPO and FDOT on TIP/STIP/WP
- Public Engagement and Stakeholder Outreach
- Complete Property Acquisition
- Prepare Design-Build (DB) Contract Criteria Package
 - Scope of Work
 - Concept Plans & Refined Cost Estimates
- Execute Grant Agrmt(Oct 2021 -Jun 2022)
- DB Final Design & Construction (2021/22 –2024)

Committee Questions –

Question: Benjamin Buckley: Are there any drawings or specifications yet? We would like to make sure the project follows the West Tampa CRA Strategic Action Plan that needs to be followed and would like to have some input. If there is an opportunity, will we be able to upgrade anything, above what the planned specifications are? We would like to make sure you use sustainable materials.

Answer: Per Mr. Martinez - Yes, there is still an opportunity for public input.

Question: Carlos Ramirez – We are in talks about getting gateway markers to bring out the character of West Tampa. With this being so early, is there opportunity for us to combine projects on some of the segments within West Tampa?

Answer: Per Mr. Martinez – Yes, we have been having early conversations with City of Tampa Arts Department to identify what type of public art can be integrated into the project and what type of funding sources can be applied. There will be space to include those items as we go through our preliminary design and criteria package.

Question: Ken Perry – It appears to be a public/private partnership to complete this project. Will the funding from the grant and the private partnership pay for the grant in its entirety? What is the Cypress Street improvement?

Answer: Per Mr. Martinez – We are looking at an estimated cost of \$30 million dollars. \$24 million, is funded via the federal grant. We need to work on identifying various funding sources to meet the match portions of the funding for \$6 million dollars. This could also include asking the CRA to assist. The Cypress Complete Streets Project is a program to provide bike connectivity from Westshore through Boulevard to Downtown. The City will be developing the concept plans for those improvements, which will include Off street bike facilities and sidewalk improvements. This as well as (Borein St. Bridge Rehab; Cass St. Bridge Rehab; Columbus Dr. Resurfacing; Cypress St Complete Streets; Green Spine Cycle Track; Laurel St & Boulevard Traffic Signal; Main St Visioning; Ridgewood Park Imprvmnts; West Tampa Multi-Modal Plan) are not part of the BUILD grant, but part of complementary projects the city will be working on over the next eight years.

Question: Delphine Jones – inquired what are the specific shoreline enhancements along Blake High School.

Answer: Per Karla Price – We will be looking to do a living shoreline, similar to what we have done along Julian B. Lane Park.

Question: Walter Smith – The committee takes issue with CRA funds being used as the matching funds. We will want to make sure, that the expenditure is what the community wants/needs and the project is what will be useful to the community. How much will be asked?

Answer: The majority of the funds will come out of the City's general funds. It is still to be determined and under consideration as we complete the grant process. It would be a small amount, after other opportunities are sought.

Comment: Tina Young – in reference to the budget, when the budget was being developed for this project, was the grant match amount taken into consideration?

Answer: Per Mr. Martinez - Part of the requirements of the grant is that the receiving agency has to provide a portion of the costs.

Comment: Joseph Robinson – How much of the local match was considered to come from the West Tampa CRA? We have a lot more pressing needs than to beautify the river. If its not in the strategic plan, we won't even consider it. This project appears to be heavily skewed to non-commercial side of the river. The only commercial entity, I think pretty much is Ricks on the River. Will there be any land acquisition required on the west side of the river? Does the City have an easement from Oregon to the River? Be aware that connectivity is taken into consideration when it comes to the new West River Project. Are we going to have an opportunity to have a CAC member participate in the City's BUILD Grant project committee? A roundabout at the foot of the Columbus Drive Bridge is not something the community wants.

Answer: Per Mr. Martinez - none, at the time was earmarked in the grant request to come from the CRA. Nothing is committed to come from the CRA. All of the easements and property needed for the segments that are part of the project have been acquired, it is not a requirement to secure any land from them. We will take that under consideration and follow up with the CRA CAC committee about providing a seat on the Build Grant Project Committee.

Answer: Per Tony Monk - Yes, the City has access via the Yellow Jackets Field and the School District.

Per Jesus Niño – Staff plans to set up a meeting to discuss possible funding of the BUILD Project at a later time.

III. Columbus Drive from N. Howard to N. Boulevard – Safety & Mobility Improvements

Presentation - Stephen Benson, City of Tampa Mobility Department opened the presentation and turned over the first part of the section, to discuss the history of the project to Wade Reynolds of the MPO. Per Wade Reynolds, the West Tampa Multi-Modal Plan is a look at

walk/bike improvements in the area bounded by Lois on the West, Tampa Bay Boulevard on the North, Kennedy on the South and North Boulevard on the East. We are looking at enhancing cycling and pedestrian access as well as improving ADA requirements on Columbus Drive. Stephen Benson, then provided a view of what they are working on to be considered at this time and what is potential for the future. Columbus Drive has many facets. It is used as a transportation corridor, business district, transit route, connects parks and neighborhoods and a residential roadway. The existing conditions of the roadway are that it has deteriorated pavement, narrow sidewalks, the posted speed limit is not followed, no bike lanes, ADA issues, no crosswalks, no turn lanes, no buffers between sidewalks and cars. Columbus was identified in a 2010 study of roadways that need improvements. Columbus Drive is a county roadway, upkeep is taken care of by Hillsborough County. The county plans to repave Columbus Drive from Dale Mabry to N. Nebraska Avenue. The City is working with the county to develop additional modifications to improve the safety of the roadway. The segment east of Howard avenue to west of North Boulevard is the section the City is looking to modify past the repaving. Their recommendation is to do a road diet approach. Which will include narrowing travel lanes to 10', creating a two-way left turn lane, adding dedicated bike lanes, and adding areas for future landscaped medians, and enhanced bus stops as well as six new pedestrian crossings. More information about the proposed plan can be found at www.tampagov.net/tss/west-Columbus-drive. Committee members had comments about the proposed modifications. There were questions about the simulations and safety crash statistics as well as the analysis of the amount of crashes in specific areas and reiterated that the community has a problem with a roundabout as a potential modification. There was no crosswalk mentioned between Rome and Howard. Additionally, discussion has occurred with the neighborhoods to the East of Columbus Drive, not the West and that needs to occur. A request by the committee is to ask the county to be invited to discuss their design and the future buildout of the project because more community input is needed. Additionally, committee members requested specific data detailing the crash rate between Howard and Boulevard be provided to the committee.

IV. General Discussion & Questions

Per Jesus Niño after today's meeting he will be sending out notices to committee members who need to re-apply for CAC membership.

Per Morris Massey, CRA Attorney, he let the committee know that committee members serve until their appointment is replaced. He also confirmed that each entity that has an ex-officio seat does not have to be a certified organization with the state. It is not addressed in the CAC policy at this time. It doesn't automatically dissolve the organization or make them ineligible to participate. We will have to look into it and go back to the CRA Board to discuss developing a policy for that issue. The CRA Board at later dates will be asked to come up with the qualifications to be recognized as an ex-officio organization. Morris Massey will work with staff to bring it to their attention.

Per Joseph Robinson the committee would like to acquire land/property. Per Morris Massey, the state statute that governs CRAs says that all land acquisitions must be done voluntarily. Purchasing tax liens/condemned properties is not something the CRA can do. Purchasing properties that are for sale voluntarily is acceptable. Can we purchase tax certificates. Per Morris Massey, per 163, this goes back to the acquisition issue which has conservative investment requirements, the CRA is a dependent board subject to the City Charter and City investment requirements that will not allow us to do that.

Tina Young, Special Events Committee distributed a draft of the Special Events Grant Application. Mr. Robinson asked committee members to review the draft and come prepared to discuss/review it at the next meeting. The tent for Metropolitan Ministries has a lot of

requirements associated with its use. We are receiving requests to have an event there and need to start discussing the available dates, insurance andn permitting requirements.

Per Jesus Niño, the Economic Development Specialist II position was offered to an individual and she has accepted the position and passed the background checks. She should be in place by next month.

Per Anthony Serrano, Bay Cannon Brewery will be starting their West Tampa Market November 8th the 2nd Sunday of the month through to April from 9am – 1pm at the park across from the business.

Per Walter Smith, one of the things we talked about in the Economic Development Subcommittee are the beautification efforts that we push that through in our marketinig efforts. That means getting benches and garbage recepticles placed throughout the area. Per Mr. Robinson, if you have an idea, please put a budget together and present it to the committee.

V. Announcements & Public Comment

Michael Randolph announced upcoming activities of the West Tampa CDC and shared the ability of the organization to secure funds.

Spencer Kass – sent an email to Mr. Niño about the committee and the sunshine law about meaningful participation by the public and the committee. Additionally, he thought the City's presentation was very misleading in that the county only wants to repave the roadway. The City's proposed ideas will slow/back up the traffic flow along Columbus.

VI. Adjournment: Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area Community Advisory Committee Special Call Meeting Minutes October 13, 2020 Virtual Call-In Meeting

Attendees

Committee members: Joe Robinson, Chair; Benjamin Buckley; Delphine Jones; Ken Perry; Bobby Wilson Jeffrey Rhodes; Carlos Ramirez; Walter Smith

Staff: Jesus Niño, West Tampa/Drew Park Manager, Rob Rosner, Economic Opportunity Director, Vanessa McCleary, Shelisia Jackson, OSSIV

Guests Leroy Moore, Michael Randolph, Spencer Kass

I. Opening Comments & Introductions

Chair Robinson convened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

CRA Manager Jesus Niño opened the meeting with brief comments and took role call and provided public comment details.

II. Presentation

Rob Rosner, Director of Economic Opportunity provided greetings and introductions of staff, then he offered a brief explanation of the purpose for the meeting, which is to preview the Rome Yard Mixed Use Development Request for Proposal with the West Tampa CAC. Per Mr. Rosner, the property encompasses approximately 18 acres and is near Ricks on the River.

The slide features a purple header with the text 'Housing Affordability Site Location' and a house icon. Below the header, the address '2609 N. Rome Ave' is listed. To the right is an aerial photograph of the site, with a pink outline highlighting the property and a blue outline highlighting an adjacent area. A list of bullet points is provided below the address.

Address: 2609 N. Rome Ave

- Approximately eighteen (18) acres
- Located immediately west of the Hillsborough River, south of Columbus Drive and north of Spruce Street in Tampa, Florida.
- Potentially eligible for Brownfield Tax Credits.

The West Tampa CAC provided their input regarding their desires for the project. So far it does look like we were able to accommodate all those requests.

The slide features a purple header with the text 'Housing Affordability Community Request/Information Meeting' and a house icon.

West Tampa CRA Advisory Committee provided input regarding their desires for development of the property:

- 8 foot sidewalks on the property to improve walkability
- Single Family homes
- High Rises for higher density
- Maintain the current look of the neighborhood
- Mirror the West River project that is currently being built
- Use of LED lighting in and around the property

Continued from previous slide

- Include the playground and MLK Center into plans
- Include a workforce training center
- Connect to the Downtown Riverwalk
- HART Bus Stop
- West Tampa Cultural Center

- The Riverwalk has been a focal point of the revitalization efforts as it ties neighborhoods, recreation, restaurants and the business center together into a walkable community that promotes sustainability while enhancing and preserving the beauty of the river.
- City was recently awarded a grant to continue the Riverwalk project on the West side of the river allowing more neighborhoods to take advantage of this community asset.

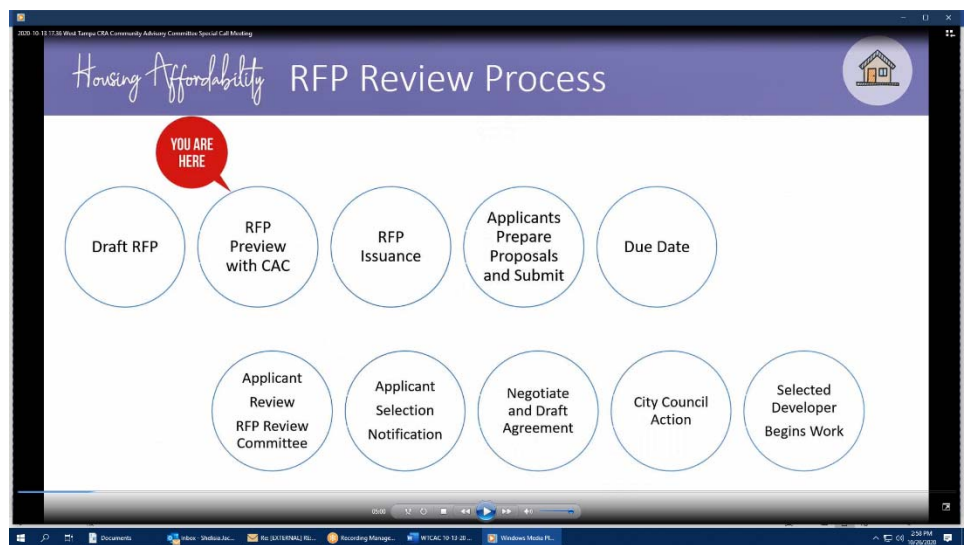


Additional discussion is needed about the playground and MLK Center inclusion request.

Some of the ways we can incorporate this is that the Riverwalk is a focal point of the revitalization efforts.

Where are we now in the RFP process? The next step after the current RFP Preview with CAC is portion is to issue the RFP.

Members received the RFP for review before the meeting and were asked during this meeting to share their questions, comments, concerns etc.....



CAC Member Comments/Questions

Bobby Wilson – Based on the early on feedback, we wanted to have a transit hub that could be tied to water taxis, light rail multiple things (not just limited to HART bus stops) i.e. connection to transit should be more general and not specific.

Ken Perry – Would like more information about the RFP Review Committee. Who will that consist of and is it possible for the CRA CAC to have a representative as part of the committee? Per Mr. Rosner, yes, we would like to have a CAC representative on the RFP Review Committee. Per Mr. Perry, is the committee selected yet? Per Mr. Rosner, no, we have not formulated that committee yet, the City departments are still coordinating and will be working right up to issuance to put the make-up of the review committee together. One of the processes the CRA CAC should think about is to select a representative for the RFP Review Committee.

Delphine Jones – Who can we contact if we have additional questions? Per Mr. Robinson, Jesus Niño as our West Tampa Manager should be the point of contact. Is there anything in there about Minority participation, is there a percentage? Per Mr. Rosner, our equal business opportunity office is one of the last departments working on their section now, the RFP will be heavily weighted towards WMBE and SBLE and potentially have some bonus in there for those who go the extra mile to include it. Per Ms. McCleary it will be monitored by a community benefit agreement and there will be penalties for non-compliance.

Benjamin Buckley – How many developers at this point are qualified to put in a proposal? Per Mr. Rosner, the qualification process is not part of the RFP process. You do not have to be pre-qualified to submit. The specific requirements are being cleaned up by City Departments. This is supposed to allow different types of markets to participate and not over prescribe it but to allow the different kinds of markets to come in and make creative proposals. Per Mr. Buckley, what is the timeline? Per Mr. Rosner, we are looking at a general timeline of 30-60 days for developers to ask questions and submit their proposals. There will be 30-45 days for review after submittal for the review process. Per Mr. Buckley, our strategic action plan will be provided to the developers as parameters? Per Mr. Rosner, yes. Per Mr. Buckley, some of our term limits are coming up. How will this affect committee members, do you know the date of that happening, this might happen in the middle of this process? Per Jesus Niño, the ex-officio organizations with representatives on the committee will be notified that it is time to re-appoint their reps and the three at-large positions will be advertised. Additionally, the topic is on our next CAC agenda for discussion. Mr. Buckley is concerned that new board members would be thrown into the decision-making process, not knowing what is going on. Per Rob Rosner, the entire community are a part of the process and we will try to keep everyone fully involved and informed as a part of the process.

Jeffrey Rhodes – had a concern about the Housing portion of the RFP what is the range of the Affordable Housing referred to? Per Mr. Rosner, it is too early to describe that at this time, there are parameters that we will want to make sure that is included further down the line. Per Vanessa McCleary, we did put in the RFP that a certain percentage of Affordable Housing and a certain percentage of Workforce Housing must be included based on member comments.

Bobby Wilson –pointed out a typo in the residential mix parameters of section five. The section reads 60% Affordable Housing and doesn't make mention to Workforce Housing. Per Rob Rosner and confirmed by Vanessa McCleary, that is a typo and should read 20% Affordable and 40% Workforce, the correction will be made. Per Rob Rosner, the intention is to make the development mixed use.

Carlos Ramirez - Is the developer also going to be responsible for bringing in the company that will be maintaining the development? Per Rob Rosner, yes, the developer is expected to be responsible. Per Mr. Ramirez, will the workforce and affordable housing be interspersed throughout the development instead of all on one side? Per Mr. Rosner, yes, we plan to encourage that. We do want mixed income throughout the development and no single income based.

Joe Robinson – The preview doesn't have the equal opportunity clauses or WMBE statements. He would like to see the totality of the document once that information is added before the document is released. He also shared that he went back and reviewed previous notes from past CAC meetings regarding the things we asked to be considered. There are some things that have still not been addressed. On the photo, my understanding is that the RFP is for 12 acres, is it 12 or 18, the three acres of the ball field, is it included? Per Vanessa McCleary, yes, it is included, it is 18 acres. We assessed the value the 18 acres at \$18 million the last time we were given information, is that correct. Per Vanessa McCleary, yes that is correct. Per Mr. Robinson, he did not see anything telling the potential developer that the community would like to have community input throughout the entire process (design, layout etc.). Per Vanessa McCleary and Rob Rosner, yes that is in there we are still committed to that. Land banking by the West Tampa CRA is not included, we wanted to buy an acre for our own West Tampa CRA use. Where is that at? Per Vanessa McCleary that was not included. Per Robinson, we would like to bank an acre for \$1 million dollars that the committee can do a project of their own selection. Please figure it out, that is something on the table for us and we are saying we would like to purchase an acre that we

can deal with as a committee to do something on (maybe at the ball field location, we don't care). Per Mr. Robinson, single family homes do you mean a condo, what does that mean? Per Ms. McCleary, single family home can be a condo, townhouse or single-family home, we are waiting to hear from the developers. It can be anything the developers propose. Per Mr. Robinson, there is no mention of a public garden or shade trees. Per Vanessa McCleary that is already required via zoning. Per Mr. Robinson, now that we have the Build Project, we would like to have some mobility choices. Per Ms. McCleary, yes, we have added a mobility option. Per Mr. Robinson, I didn't see anything about docking stations (electric vehicle charging stations), is that there? Per Ms. McCleary, she didn't recall that was part of the input. Per Rob Rosner, on the charging stations, that technology is changing rapidly. If we want to have stations that address those modes, he agrees that is the future, but even some of the older cars that are doing electric, are becoming hard to fix because their batteries have become obsolete. Instead of being overly prescriptive we should provide for facilities that support that kind of station/type of future technology. Per Ms. McCleary, we addressed this by having a Silver Leed portion. Per Mr. Robinson, he did not see a development agreement for s WMBE requirement and would like to see it codified. Per Ms. McCleary, it will be a part of the community benefit agreement. Per Mr. Robinson, he wants to make sure that black contractors and businesses are used throughout the process and built in the operations of the finished development for maintenance of the site, not just for the bricks and mortar. Once we get a development agreement it needs to be tracked, there are at least two agreements that are not being tracked or reported. He would like to make sure it is tracked annually and submitted to the CAC for review. He feels that a workforce development plan is important, we want to make sure that there is a required plan. We want to make sure there are historical requirements. We are a historical area. Per Ms. McCleary, that is represented in the RFP. We talked about a micro grid on this site, so that if a hurricane comes through at least we will still have some power. TECO has started doing them, and we think it is something that should be part of this development. LED lighting is important. One of the concerns of the committee is to do buffering of the residential area to the west of Rome typically like they buffer in expensive neighborhoods that looks nice. Per Ms. McCleary, this project is supposed to add resources to the rest of the community that doesn't keep people out are you talking about how it goes from the residential to the commercial? Rob Rosner, also asked some clarifying questions, do you mean like not putting up a 20-story tower across the street from a home, but maybe something 4-6 stories the first few blocks in, and then go high rise after that? Per Mr. Robinson, yes that sounds about right. What about the traffic pattern/traffic plan? Per Mr. Rosner, we require that as part of the process. Per Mr. Robinson the developer needs to purchase the property and it is not donated. Per Mr. Rosner, the disposition portion of it is not out there, we are going to leave that open, so that we can look at options for lease, buy etc., different developers' kind of financing is in play. In some cases, the city might want to stay in the game to assist in developing the direction. Per Mr. Robinson, one of the issues is there is no access to the river for the Tampa Housing Authority development we want to make sure that this site has some access to the river. We want an urban feel for this site. The developer needs to have market rate and commercial. We get taxes from that to go back into our community. Per Ms. McCleary, one thing I didn't hear you talk about was minority equity, we have included that too. Per Mr. Robinson, one of the things that came up is a West Hub Center Project via TOBA, he hopes that whoever the developer is, they work with that type of concept he would be happy to provide a link to their presentation. Under the selection process criteria, I didn't see a WMBE participation portion, including operations as part of the weighted points. Gregory Harts department must be able to track these agreements so that even 10 – 20 years down the line, it is monitored. Per Ms. McCleary, we do monitor our projects in Housing. Mr. Robinson also stated that the city should encourage developers to work with smaller black development companies.

RFP Selection Committee – CAC Representative

Benjamin Buckley made a motion to nominate Walter Smith to represent the CAC on the RFP selection committee. There was not a second. Jeffrey Rhodes made a motion to nominate the West Tampa Chair Joe Robinson to represent the committee on the selection committee. Delphine Jones provided the second. Seven members agreed unanimously to support the motion. Per Mr. Robinson, there will be more opportunity to have a representative to be on the committee being put together on the Build Grant.

Per Mr. Robinson, can this recording be made available to developers. Per Mr. Niño and Mr. Rosner yes, it can if requested. Mr. Niño, asked the CAC to come up with an alternate for the RFP selection committee. Mr. Rhodes made a motion that Bobby Wilson be the alternate to represent the committee on the RFP Selection Committee. Benjamin Buckley provided a second to the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Michael Randolph wanted to share a project the West Tampa Technology and Wealth Center. The center is in response to community members who want to fight against gentrification. They want to increase the number of residents going into the math and sciences careers. The second project we have going online is a Video Production & Media Center Project. It will provide incentives to increasing marketing in the West Tampa area. He will email the committee with more details.

Spencer Kass had two questions. 1. The \$18 million the city will get for this plan, is the city willing to give those funds back to the CRA and spent within the community? 2. There needs to be a more general discussion about incubator space. At the next meeting, we will have a presentation from a group. Maybe, this land would be better served as a park or community market instead of selling it off to the highest bidder. A special request, is that at the next meeting with the CRA lawyer Morris Massey public comment be offered after each topic before motions are made instead of at the end. Per Ms. McCleary we don't know what the proposals will look like. Any decisions about what to do with the funds that come in is with City Council, not with us. In terms of the incubator space, there is something in the RFP requiring the developer to provide space for new emerging businesses and some free space for workforce development. They are not requirements, but suggestions. Once we get the proposals that is when we go into negotiations.

Adjournment: Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

**West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

November 24, 2020

**David M. Barksdale Active Older Adult Center
1801 N. Lincoln Avenue**

Attendees

Committee Members: Joe Robinson, Chair; Delphine Jones; Jeffrey Rhodes; Anthony Serrano; Carlos Ramirez (virtual); Emanuel Wilson (virtual)

Excused: Dedrick Jackson; Walter Smith II, Vice-Chair; Kenneth Perry; Marvin Knight; Benjamin Buckley; Tina Young

Staff: Jesus Niño, Ashlyn Shrewsbury

I. Welcome / Introductions

Mr. Robinson opened the regular meeting of the West Tampa Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:41 p.m. on November 24, 2020. There was no quorum for this meeting. CAC members introduced themselves.

Mr. Robinson excused Dedrick Jackson, Walter Smith II, Kenneth Perry, Marvin Knight, Benjamin Buckley, and Tina Young.

II. Meeting Minutes October 27, 2020

The minutes were tabled due to a lack of quorum.

III. Public Comment

- A special projects grant program application currently being developed by the Special Events subcommittee.
 - Allocations for the special events and special projects programs increased from \$100,000 to \$200,000.
 - The special projects application will not be ready before the Super Bowl.
 - Submit special events applications to Mr. Niño, then it will go before the Special Events subcommittee. The special projects application process will be the same once developed.
 - There is no deadline for creating the special projects application since the board and subcommittees are volunteers.
- Spencer Kass expressed his concerns about the proposed Columbus Drive road construction project. New construction will increase commute time; and Mr. Kass says the community doesn't support increased commutes.
 - County wants to just repave Columbus Drive, while the City wants to add streetscaping and a road diet.
 - Information on the public meetings for the Columbus Drive improvements were sent to Mr. Niño, but were missed due to first days on the job.
- Radio show hosts Property Appraiser to inform homeowners on possible exemptions. Citizen interested in having Property Appraiser report back to the housing subcommittee in the future.
- Mr. Robinson moved the next CAC meeting to December 15, due to the Christmas

holiday.

- Safety and Mobility will give an update, to include visuals, on the proposed Columbus Drive improvements at the next CAC meeting.
- Mr. Niño to connect Mike Randolph to the Economic Development subcommittee due to concerns about violence and crime deterring entrepreneurs and new businesses.

IV. Tampa Police Department Update

Captain Fernandez, TPD.

- The department is aware of the issue in West Tampa on Palmetto Street and Albany involving motorcycles. Since the Police, per City policy, cannot provide chase, the department will be working with Air Service on Sunday of this week to record and catch the perpetrators.
- Shooting on November 9 at Main Street Car Wash. Victim not cooperating.
- Westshore Mall and International Mall increased police presence, and along Dale Mabry.
- Shooting on November 8 at Oakhurst. Victim not cooperating.
- Department believes shootings at Main Street Car Wash and Oakhurst are connected.
- Captain to meet with manager of Oakhurst to discourage people from parking there and having large gatherings, which can lead to increase in violence.
- TPD does not work with Sheriff's Department Gang Suppression unit as their focus is unincorporated areas.
- CAC members still have concern about prostitution at Salcines Park.

V. Staff Reports

Mr. Niño introduced himself and the new Economic Development Specialist II for West Tampa/Drew Park CRAs, Ashlyn Shrewsbury.

Main Street Camera Update – Mr. Niño stated that the cameras are up and running. A presentation will hopefully be provided to the CAC soon on findings.

- There is no camera at the Main Street Car Wash yet that could have helped with the shooting investigation, but one should be installed soon.

Main Street Corridor Study Update – Mr. Niño introduced Frank Hall from the City to provide an update on the Main Street Corridor Study.

- Currently conducting Main Street stakeholder meetings to listen to the community's perspective on Main Street's current image, ideas to improve, current assets, issues, and concerns.
- The public should reach out to Mr. Hall if they would like to be interviewed and give their input.
- A final meeting will be held sometime in December to recommend best design for the corridor, with help from the graduate students at University of South Florida.

Additional meeting to be held on December 14 at Bay Cannon Brewery at 10 a.m. to gather input from business owners along Main Street regarding issues.

Columbus Drive (from N. Howard to N. Boulevard) Safety and Mobility Improvements Requested Data Updates – Mr. Niño and Mr. Robinson received the requested data regarding traffic accident studies and public meeting notices as of yesterday. The information will be provided to the other CAC members and an update will be given at the December 15 CAC meeting.

V. General Discussion and Questions

Mr. Robinson provided the following updates:

- Currently scheduling for use of the Metropolitan Ministries tent at the Rome Yard.
- January 23-24: Black Business Bus Tours will be bringing businesses to use the tent.
- January 27-30: NFL Alumni Group will be using the tent to provide a West Tampa cultural event with food and music. Parking will be offsite.
- January 15-22, 25-26 are the only January dates open currently.
- Mr. Serrano to discuss with the West Tampa Chamber at their December 10 meeting about potentially using the tent.
- There is the potential to use grant funding on events hosted at the Rome Yard through the Special Events grant or co-sponsorship.
- If the Super Bowl gets pushed back due to COVID-19, a new lease on the tent will be through the end of March, allowing for more opportunities to book the tent.
- Rome Yard RFP currently out but may need to be readvertised.
- As part of the Rome Yard proposal, school consolidation of Dunbar, Stewart, and Just to allow for a more urban and updated school should be considered and included in the Rome Yard development plan.
- Mr. Robinson supports readvertising the RFP to include the school issue.
- Beginning in 2021, Chair Robinson will not be excusing absences of the CAC board members.

Sub-Committees:

Economic Development:

- No update, subcommittee Chair absent.

Special Events:

- No update, subcommittee Chair absent.

Infrastructure:

- Meeting with Planning Commission postponed until January.
- Gateway improvement discussions have begun.
 - A joint meeting between the Infrastructure and Economic Development subcommittees is scheduled for December 7 at 5:30 p.m. to continue this discussion.

Housing:

- Subcommittee met on November 17.
 - Working on acquiring an alley inventory list and historic building inventory list.
 - Homestead Exemption workshop to occur in Q1 2021.
 - Rental rehab program and exterior housing update marketing targeted for Q1 2021.
 - Housing rehab working with nonprofits RFP to go out soon.
 - CAC Chair meeting on December 3 to discuss rental rehab program.
 - Residents interested in the tree trimming program like East Tampa.
 - Current exterior housing grant program can include tree trimming, but more specific program is being looked at based on East Tampa's model.
 - \$300,000 has been allocated for 20 homes for the CRA's to help with exterior repairs. Application currently be developed to address need to help senior homeowners.

VI. Announcements

- Bay Cannon Brewery is hosting its West Tampa Market on December 13, 2020 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned 7:24 p.m.

West Tampa Community Advisory Committee – Important Dates

Economic Development Committee:	December 7, 2020 5:30 p.m.	Virtual (Joint Meeting)
Infrastructure Committee:	December 7, 2020 5:30 p.m.	Virtual (Joint Meeting)
Housing Committee:	December 8, 2020 5:30 p.m.	Virtual
CRA Board meeting:	December 10, 2020, 9:00 a.m.	Tampa Convention Center
West Tampa CAC meeting:	December 15, 2020 5:30 p.m.	David Barksdale Senior Citizen Center
Special Events Committee:	December 28, 2020 4:00 p.m.	Virtual

**West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2020

**David M. Barksdale Active Older Adult Center
1801 N. Lincoln Avenue**

Attendees

Committee Members: Joe Robinson, Chair; Delphine Jones; Carlos Ramirez; Tina Young; Emanuel Wilson (virtual); Kenneth Perry (virtual)

Excused: Dedrick Jackson; Jeffrey Rhodes; Walter Smith II, Vice-Chair; Anthony Serrano; Marvin Knight; Benjamin Buckley

Staff: Jesus Niño, Ashlyn Shrewsbury

I. Welcome / Introductions

Mr. Robinson opened the regular meeting of the West Tampa Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:35 p.m. on December 15, 2020. There was no quorum for this meeting. CAC members introduced themselves.

Mr. Robinson excused Dedrick Jackson, Jeffrey Rhodes, Walter Smith II, Anthony Serrano, Marvin Knight, and Benjamin Buckley.

II. Meeting Minutes October 27, 2020 and November 24, 2020

The minutes were tabled due to a lack of quorum.

III. Public Comment

- Michael Randolph, CEO of the West Tampa CDC, stated the CDC is pursuing several grants to address health issues, crime reduction, affordable housing, and social racism in the area. Mr. Randolph announced that anyone looking to start a business in West Tampa should contact the West Tampa CDC for assistance.
- Sandy Sanchez suggested having public announcements at the beginning of the meeting and public comment later in the meeting instead of public comment at the beginning. The issue is the public comment portion of the meeting is at the beginning of the agenda prior to items or presentations being heard by the public.
- The internet radio show with seven co-sponsors across the nation will be moving from Wednesdays at 7 p.m. to Thursdays at 7 p.m. With the Property Appraiser coming on the show to talk about how residents can reinvest in their community, the show could use help from the CAC.

IV. Staff Reports

Tampa Police Department (TPD) Update – Corporal Robin Penix, District I, was present at the meeting, but there was no update to provide. Mr. Robinson appreciates TPD's efforts on Main Street so far. The cameras are up, trash has been picked up, and the crime has decreased in the area. Salcines Park and the homeless are still points of concern.

Main Street Corridor Study Update – Mr. Niño stated Randy Goers and Frank Hall, both with the City of Tampa, are leading the effort on the Main Street Corridor study.

- Over 50 participants were on the December 8 virtual update meeting that included presentations from the University of South Florida students.
- Mr. Goers and Mr. Hall are still accepting interviews from anyone that would like to speak with them regarding the Main Street Corridor before the study is finalized.

Howard and Armenia Road Improvements Update - Cal Hardie with the City of Tampa's Mobility department provided an update on the road improvements to Howard and Armenia.

- Improvements include:
 - Speed limit reduction from 40 miles per hour to 35
 - Enhanced crosswalks
 - Brick removal at the end of curb returns to help improve drainage and more American's with Disabilities (ADA) accessible
 - Relocation of Tampa Electric Company (TECO) poles from curb ramps
 - Potential removal of abandoned driveways
- Armenia improvements estimated to cost around \$2.1 million.
- Howard improvements estimated to cost around \$1.3 million.
- Both Armenia and Howard improvements expected to be finished mid-to-late 2021
- Since this is a Hillsborough County project, there is not an opportunity for additional upgrades, such as benches, decorative lighting, landscaping, etc. as part of this project.
 - This is something to discuss for a future project
- There are no roundabouts planned.
- The planters on Howard and Armenia will not be removed.
- The bump outs on Howard will not be removed, but the ones on Armenia will be removed to accommodate for the bike lane.
- Questions about the palm trees that are dying and grown into the electric lines will be passed along to the County.
 - Mr. Niño to draft a letter to send to the County regarding the palm trees for Mr. Robinson to send.
- Mr. Hardie to check with the City and County to see if there have been any service complaints recently regarding the pipe collapse and granite curb that has sunken near Chestnut and Spruce Street on Howard.
- Mr. Hardie to reiterate with those in charge of the project that the community prefers the granite curbs instead of concrete.

Columbus Drive (from N. Howard to N. Boulevard) Safety and Mobility Improvements Requested Data Updates – Stephen Benson with the City of Tampa's Mobility department provided an update of the proposed improvements on Columbus Drive.

- Update to answer questions and address concerns from the October presentation to the CAC board.
- Planning for the project began in Spring 2020 with expected construction completion in Fall 2023.
- Proposed improvements:
 - Speed reduction from 40 miles per hour to 35
 - Lane reduction from two lanes each way to one
 - Addition of sidewalks and bike lanes to make the area more pedestrian-friendly
- Road diets are proven to reduce accidents by 30 percent.
- Other countermeasures being considered along with the road diet:
 - Reduced speeds
 - Left-turn lanes

- Buffered walkways
- Flashing beacons
- Refuge islands
- Road diet adds 31 seconds of delay during the afternoon rush hour in this area from Howard to Rome.
- Road diet adds 13 seconds of delay during the morning rush hour in the same area.
- Studies show that signalized intersections are the cause of chokepoints, not the road diet and reduction of lanes.
- Cutting through neighborhoods does not actually provide faster travel times.
 - City will look at additional traffic calming measures for the side streets in order to prevent cut throughs, including raised intersections and all way stops.
- Current traffic counts across the region are almost back to pre-COVID volumes.
 - Currently at about 10 percent below the volume, so an increase is expected and will be factored into the expected estimates.
- The recommendations for this project consider storage for cars queuing during peak hours, and there will be sufficient storage.
- Within 1 hour of the day only 2-3 buses travel through this area so they only have a minimal effect on the average delay.
- Citizen Spencer Kass requested that the CAC board send a letter to the City letting them know that the community does not support this project as they were not consulted in the design.
 - Mr. Kass would like the road to be repaved, but nothing more
 - Believes that the City doesn't care and that more cars on the road for longer times will lead to more pollution.
 - Said that the additional 44 seconds of delay for the day leads to four and a half more hours of delay per year approximately.
 - Mr. Benson said that is not true as the delay is only during rush hour, and not every car included in the total traffic count will be on that road during rush hour
 - Mr. Kass also stated that while it may be proven that cutting through neighborhoods does not lead to faster commutes, psychologically it feels faster so people will still do it.
- Mr. Robinson said that due to a lack of quorum at this meeting no votes could take place on this issue by the CAC board in support or against the improvements.
 - Mr. Robinson asked that the vote be added to next month's agenda.
- There have been road diets on roads with bridges in the City.
 - Mr. Robinson believes that moveable bridges affect the ability of road diets to work effectively.
- Reducing the speed alone does not provide a readily available percentage of crash reductions since it works in conjunction with the road diet, not separately.
- The Bay-to-Bay project in South Tampa involved a road diet but was stopped due to political pressures before it was built.
- Push button crosswalks are planned for the intersections at Columbus and Rome and Columbus and Albany.
- As part of the road diet, the signals will be reprogrammed to look at timing since it is the signalized intersections that choke traffic.
- There cannot be a secondary lane for turning during peak times like what was done in Channelside for the Port Authority since this was done in a roundabout not in the roadway.
- Mr. Ramirez urged the committee to look further into this project and consider that

roads need to be designed for everyone.

- While there is a 44 second delay that will be added during rush hour times, this is nothing compared to the amount of lives that could be saved.

V. General Discussion and Questions

- Mr. Robinson is having the CRA Attorney, Morris Massey, look into a potential show on WTMP to get information out to the community with the CAC participating in the show.
- Mr. Robinson is also looking into whether it is legal for the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) to donate a building to a local radio station that provides Community updates and radio in the CRA.
- Mr. Niño is drafting a letter to the County to locate the African American Museum in West Tampa, per Mr. Robinson's request.
- Beginning in 2021, Mr. Robinson will not be excusing absences of the CAC board members.
- Mr. Ramirez urges the CAC board members to attend future meetings in person in order to move business along since legally votes cannot be taken without a physical quorum present.
- Mr. Niño is going to inquire about getting Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the board members before the next meeting, per Ms. Young's request.

Sub-Committees:

Economic Development:

- No update, subcommittee Chair absent.

Special Events:

- Ms. Young stated that the subcommittee is still working on the special projects application.
 - The current special events application has been approved by the CRA attorney, and will be made available online on the Community Redevelopment Department's website.
- Current special events planned for the tent at the Rome Yard include:
 - January 27-30: NFL Alumni event, special event application already submitted.
 - January 23-24: Black Business Bus Tour, application has not been submitted.
 - January 16-17: West Tampa Chamber of Commerce tentatively considering.
 - This leaves January 15, 18-22, and 25-26 available currently.
 - If the Super Bowl is delayed due to COVID-19, there may be additional dates available for use.

Infrastructure:

- Mr. Ramirez's subcommittee met virtually in a joint meeting with the Economic Development subcommittee on December 7 to discuss gateway improvement projects.
- Potential locations for the new gateway monuments included:
 - Columbus Avenue
 - N. Boulevard
 - Cass Street
 - Julian B. Lane Riverfront Park
 - Willow Avenue
 - Howard Avenue
 - Main Street

- Additional guide signs are being considered to point traffic coming off the interstate into the main business area of West Tampa.

Housing:

- No update to provide.

VI. Announcements

- Ed Johnson with the East Tampa CRA is retiring December 31, 2020 and Vanessa McCleary with the City of Tampa Housing Division has resigned.
- Any expired CAC board applications or new applications are due by December 21.
- Mr. Ramirez introduced Kandfry Kendrick, who will be the new CAC representative for the North Hyde Park Civic Association following appointment from the CRA Board in January 2021.
- The Martin Luther King parade was moved to June 19, 2021 due to COVID.

Meeting Adjourned 8:12 p.m.

**West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2021

**Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center
2200 N Oregon Avenue**

Attendees

Committee Members: Joe Robinson, Chair; Delphine Jones; Carlos Ramirez; Sandy Sanchez; Kenneth Perry; Walter Smith II, Vice-Chair; Kandfry Ocana-Hendrick

Excused: Tina Young; Jeffrey Rhodes;

Unexcused: Dedrick Jackson; Anthony Serrano; Emanuel (Bobby) Wilson

Staff: Jesus Niño, Ashlyn Shrewsbury

I. Welcome / Introductions

Mr. Robinson opened the regular meeting of the West Tampa Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:40 p.m. on January 26, 2021. Quorum was established at 6:08 p.m. CAC members introduced themselves, including new members Ms. Sandy Sanchez and Ms. Kandfry Ocana-Hendrick.

Mr. Robinson excused Tina Young and Jeffrey Rhodes.

Mr. Robinson gave unexcused absences to Dedrick Jackson, Anthony Serrano, and Bobby Wilson. He has stated at the last two meetings that starting January 2021, there would be no more excused absences unless members contact the Chair directly with a legitimate excuse.

II. Action Items

Meeting Minutes October 27, 2020, November 24, 2020, and December 15, 2020

- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Perry, with a second by Mr. Ramirez. The motion passed unanimously.

Columbus Drive Improvements

- Once the quorum was reached, this item was revisited.
 - Mobility Department presented proposed improvements on Columbus Drive from N. Howard to N. Boulevard to the CAC twice.
 - City recommends going from 4 lanes to two lanes, with two turn lanes. Also adding bikes lanes and more pedestrian crossings.
 - Signals will be improved to keep the queue of traffic from baking up.
 - Speed limit will be reduced from 40 to 35 miles per hour.
 - County will be repaving the road, and the City would like to add this road diet along with other beautification efforts.
 - This project will not require any money from the CAC.
 - Mr. Robinson let the committee know that when the bridge closed the other day, people did not cut through the neighborhoods. Road diet would likely have the same effect.

- Mr. Robinson also noted that if there becomes a problem in the future, they can always revisit the issue.
 - There is no roundabout proposed with these improvements.
- After a roll call vote, the CAC voted unanimously with 7 votes to 0 in support of the proposed improvements by the City.
- Mr. Niño will pass this consensus along to the City.

III. Public Comment

- Michael Randolph, CEO of the West Tampa CDC, expressed concerns that the CAC needs to maintain its African American presence on the board, as that population represents the majority of the community.
- Mr. Spencer Kass asked to speak to the CAC regarding the proposed improvements to Columbus Drive. Mr. Kass would like the CAC to send a letter from the Chair to the City and County telling them to stop the proposed improvements because the community does not support the proposed road diet.
 - Improvements would add four and a half hours per year to the commute time.
 - Businesses in the area need this group's support to terminate the project.
 - At the time of speaking, there was no quorum, so Mr. Kass said that the CAC needs new members in order to finally get a quorum to vote on this issue before it is too late.

IV. Staff Reports

The Tampa Police Department and Tampa Code Enforcement Department were not able to attend this meeting to provide an update. Both are currently very busy preparing for the Super Bowl.

- Carlos Rios with the City's Code Enforcement Department did provide the following update via email prior to the meeting:
 - From September to December 2020, in the area of West Columbus and West Kennedy between North Armenia to West of the River there are:
 - 288 new cases open
 - 223 were closed
 - 65 in process for review

Ms. Robin Nigh with the City's Arts and Cultural Affairs Department could not be present at their meeting either, due to the upcoming Super Bowl. Ms. Nigh's presentation will be rescheduled.

- Mr. Robinson reminded the CAC that the African American community in West Tampa would like to see more culture in the area.
 - Because of this, a letter was written from the Chair to Ms. Pat Kemp, Hillsborough County Commission Chair requesting an African American Art Museum be located in West Tampa.
 - The proposed location for the museum would be the West River area on property owned by the Housing Authority.
 - The County previously requested bids for a consultant on a new African American art museum in 2019.
 - Now, the CAC is asking this museum to be located in West Tampa.
 - This is not the same as the African American History Museum being located at the Encore! Development.

Mr. Niño provided a Main Street Camera update to the CAC.

- Staff met with Tampa Electric Company (TECO) and the Tampa Police Department (TPD) to discuss adding cameras at the intersection of Main and Fremont Street, at the Fremont Linear Park, and anywhere along Main where there are gaps in coverage currently.
 - A proposal was not sent to staff in time for this meeting, so the update on cost estimate will be provided at the next CAC meeting.

February 25, 2021, the Hillsborough County Property Appraiser and Tax Collector will provide a free webinar at 10 AM.

- Webinar will cover possible exemptions available and any other questions the public may have.
- Mr. Niño will send out the information on how to join once it is available.

TIF Budget updates will be discussed at the February CAC meeting.

Potential Grant Programs for the Community Redevelopment Areas

- Mr. Niño presented a slate of potential grant programs for the CAC to consider that he has worked on in the past. Once vetted and approved by the CAC, all programs would go to the Community Redevelopment Agency board (CRA) for the final approvals.
 - Grant programs included:
 - Upstairs Residential Conversion Grant Program
 - Vanilla Shell Grant Program
 - Restaurant and Food Services Grant Program
 - Ready Use Site Infrastructure Grant Program
 - Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program, which would be a smaller version of the Special Projects Grant Program
 - Business Enhancement Micro Grant Program, which would be a smaller version of the current Façade Grant Program
 - Residential Improvement Grant Program
 - Programs can be stackable, so a budget cap would need to be considered for those instances.
 - All budget numbers mentioned in the presentation are just fillers, and the budget would need to be considered before assigning grant amount caps to these programs.
 - Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program should be worded so that neighborhood groups represented on the CAC should still be eligible to apply. Budget cap for this grant should also be more than \$5,000 as presented, per Mr. Robinson.
 - Mr. Robinson requests that the budget for these programs be discussed at the next CAC meeting. CAC is trying to get away from tying money in with City money for programs.
 - Staff will also look into which subcommittees each of these grant approvals should fall under.
- A motion was made by Mr. Smith II to direct staff to move forward with drafting applications and guidelines for these grant programs to be reviewed by the CAC. Mr. Perry seconded this motion. Motion approved unanimously by the CAC with a 7-0 vote.

V. Urban Progress Alliance, Inc. Presentation

- Representatives from the Urban Progress Alliance, Inc., including Brenda Allen, Andre Hills, Jr. and Danny Tulsiak, were present to present on the Tampa Heritage Initiative.
 - The goal of the initiative is to encourage the community to be healthy and self-sufficient. The proposal includes a community garden.
 - Presentation to the CAC is a prelude to their Special Projects application, once that process has been clarified.
 - Community garden looking to eliminate the food deserts and food insecure areas of the community.
 - Planned for unity garden to be designed at 2307 W Beach Street, which is based on a hydroponic system housed in one shipping container.
 - Will provide a platform to educate the public and allow for hands on learning.
 - Potential collaborations including: Coco Frios, Meacham Urban Farms, St. Peter Claver Elementary, MacFarlane Park, and West Tampa Elementary.
 - Budget for starting costs is \$154,281, which is the amount the group is looking for funding to support.
 - Additional yearly costs are estimated to be around \$15,000 annually.
 - Some produce will be sold, others will be given away through delivery, food drives, etc.
 - Includes going through the community and delivering produce to citizens without transportation.
 - This will be the first of its kind in this community.
- Mr. Niño will discuss this project with the City's legal department to find out if Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds can be used for this type of project.
- Once a Special Projects application and process has been finalized, this group will need to go through that process to request potential grant funds.
- Cash flow and potential revenue should also be considered and shown to prove that this project is sustainable.
- A motion was made by Mr. Perry to allow staff to explore if funds can be used for special projects, with Mr. Smith II seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously 7-0.

VI. General Discussion and Questions

- First meeting on the Rome Yard proposals will be held Monday, February 1, via zoom for the selection committee.
- CAC should submit any available properties for sale to staff.
 - Ms. Shrewsbury already sent out a slate of several available properties to the CAC for consideration.
- Ms. Sanchez would like to be the Chair for the newly created Arts Subcommittee. Mr. Robinson approves that request.
 - Creation of the new subcommittee will be finalized at the February CAC meeting.

Sub-Committees:

Economic Development:

- No update was provided.

Special Events:

- No update was provided, subcommittee chair was absent.

Infrastructure:

- No update was provided

Housing:

- No update was provided, subcommittee chair was absent.

VII. Announcements

- This Thursday, January 28 at 9 a.m. City Council will host a workshop on the Equal Business Opportunity Program to go over study findings.
- NFL Alumni event planned for the Rome Yard has been moved to the first week of March due to COVID. Subcommittee already approved their \$5,000 special events grant request.
- All new board members will have training and orientation, and the legal department will host a Robert's Rules training for all board members. No dates have been set yet.

Meeting Adjourned 7:40 p.m.

**West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2021

**David M. Barksdale Active Older Adult Center
1801 N. Lincoln Avenue**

Attendees

Committee Members: Joe Robinson, Chair; Delphine Jones; Carlos Ramirez; Sandy Sanchez; Emanuel (Bobby) Wilson; Tina Young; Matthew Juaire; Kandfry Ocana-Hendrick; Janice Williams; Walter Smith II, Vice-Chair (Virtual)

Unexcused: Michael Braccia; Dedrick Jackson

Staff: Jesus Niño, Ashlyn Shrewsbury

I. Welcome / Introductions

Mr. Robinson opened the regular meeting of the West Tampa Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:37 p.m. on February 23, 2021. There was a quorum present. CAC members introduced themselves.

Mr. Robinson excused Kenneth Perry and Michael Braccia.

Mr. Robinson requested that Staff have plaques prepared for all CAC members who are no longer on the board thanking them for their service to the community.

II. Action Items

Meeting Minutes for January 26, 2021

- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Wilson, with a second by Mr. Ramirez, with the amendment that Mr. Wilson had an excused absence at the January CAC meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Smith absent from the vote.

III. Public Comment

- Michael Randolph, CEO of the West Tampa CDC, expressed concerns regarding public safety, especially with the summer season coming in Tampa. Mr. Randolph sited other public safety programs from Baltimore and California that involve getting people off the street and even paying people not to commit crimes. Mr. Randolph will forward this program information to Mr. Niño.
- Commissioner Gwen Myers introduced herself as the Hillsborough County Commissioner for District 3.
- Heem Baisden, West Tampa Alliance, asked for the progress of the West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) Strategic Action Plan and requested to know where the monies have been spent so far.
 - Mr. Robinson let Mr. Baisden know to submit a Public Records request to Mr. Niño for this information.

IV. Reports

The Tampa Police Department was not in attendance, so not update was provided.

Tampa Code Enforcement Department representative, Carlos Rios, joined virtually to provide the following update:

- Last quarter there were 400 new cases in the CRA, including environmental, zoning, solid waste, and transportation issues.
 - Stats include North and South of I-275.
- Actively working on alley clean-ups working with Staff and the Infrastructure Subcommittee.

V. Staff Reports

The Tampa Police Department was not in attendance, so not update was provided.

Tampa Code Enforcement Department representative, Carlos Rios, joined virtually to provide the following update:

- Last quarter there were 400 new cases in the CRA, including environmental, zoning, solid waste, and transportation issues.
 - Stats include North and South of I-275.
- Actively working on alley clean-ups working with Staff and the Infrastructure Subcommittee.

Mr. Niño provided the following updates:

- There is one last opening on the CAC board and there is an application that will go to the Community Redevelopment Agency board on March 11, 2021. Mr. Smith's new ex-officio organization will also go to the Community Redevelopment Agency for approval at that time.
- February 25, 2021 at 10 a.m. is the Hillsborough County Property Appraiser and Tax Collector free virtual presentation on Homestead and Other Homeowner Exemptions.
- New CAC member orientation coming up after the last CAC appointments at the March 11 Community Redevelopment Agency board meeting.
- Three virtual trainings with a Parliamentarian will be held towards the end of March on a Tuesday afternoon and on a Friday and Saturday mornings to provide the CAC members with the training for running the CAC meetings.
 - Mr. Niño will provide the CAC board members with the latest policy for governing the boards, along with a copy of the Roberts Rules of Order.

V. Historic Preservation Presentation

- Dennis Fernandez with the City's Historic Preservation department presented on a couple of programs that the West Tampa CRA may benefit from.
 - The Interstate Historic Preservation Trust Fund includes both a loan program and a grant program.
 - To be eligible, the property must be on the National Historic Register, and be located within the boundaries designated in the West Tampa CRA.
 - Upcoming application deadlines for the loan program is May 5, 2021 and for the grant program is May 19, 2021.
 - A copy of this presentation will be uploaded to the Department's website after the meeting.
 - Historic preservation does not keep a list of all the historic locations in West Tampa that are currently vacant.
 - The City has worked with heired properties, but for the loan programs there must be a corporation to tie the lien to. The property also must be homesteaded

- for the grant program.
- Structures do not have to be contributing but does have to be at least 75 years old.
- Mr. Fernandez is on a review board that looks at condemnations and properties being reviewed for demolition.
- Historic Preservation does have tax credit programs as well, but they require local historic designations, not just national designations.
- The loan fund is revolving, and no new money is added, only the interest from the funds already available.

VI. Budget Discussion for Programs

- Michelle Van Loan, Community Redevelopment Department Director, was present on the virtual meeting to provide an update of the budget.
 - Board interested in where there is money for potential grant programs presented at the last meeting.
 - Money is in the budget for the 20 senior homes that the CAC wants to partner with the City's Housing department on exterior renovations, along with rental rehab and down payment assistance programs.
 - Upcoming budget year will be addressed again at the April or May CAC meetings for Fiscal Year 2022.
 - Grant programs previously discussed can be put on a planning budget, but until the Community Redevelopment Agency board approves the program and reprograms the money it will not show on the actual budget sheet.
 - Next month staff will show more detail on what each line item includes and what money has already been put in reserves.
 - Leftover funds from the previous year go into the Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements line item until it is ready to be reprogrammed.
 - To allocate money for a consultant to look into Form-Based Code changes for the residential section of the West Tampa Overlay it will need to be reprogrammed.
 - The CAC wanted to fund a radio show in the past, but the Community Redevelopment Agency board tabled that discussion until the new marketing position for the department has been filled.

VII. General Discussion and Questions

- Ms. Sanchez requested that the CAC consider funding for improvements to Rey Park, to include removal and replacement of the fence, trimming trees, adding lighting below the tree level, adding tables, and refreshing the painted mural.
 - Ms. Sanchez wants to have more community involvement, which could occur at neighborhood meetings held at Rey Park in the future.
 - Public safety is an issue in the CRA, and if the community gets more involved, they will work to keep it safer hopefully.
 - The Parks and Recreation Department starts working on their budget in March, so Ms. Sanchez suggested proposing a fifty-fifty arrangement with Parks and Recreation to fund these improvements.
 - Mr. Robinson also recommended discussing with Parks and Recreation their plans for all the City-owned parks in the CRA.
 - Mr. Niño will request Parks and Recreation to speak at the March CAC meeting to discuss their plans for all the parks in the CRA.
 - Ms. Sanchez made a motion to direct the Infrastructure subcommittee to develop a proposed plan for improvements to Rey Park to present to Parks and

Recreation prior to them speaking at the March CAC meeting. Mr. Wilson seconded this motion. Motion passed unanimously with Mr. Smith absent from the vote.

- The Arts Subcommittee was established at the January CAC meeting, with Ms. Sanchez agreeing to Chair the committee.
 - Lynn Dingfelder, Janice Katz, Ms. Jones, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Jackson have all volunteered to participate on this committee.
 - Ms. Sanchez has a vision of the CAC purchasing a former Cigar Factory to turn into a West Tampa Arts and Cultural Center.
 - Mr. Niño will work with Mr. Fernandez and the Arts Subcommittee to identify all buildings in the CRA that are historically significant, not just those that are designated.

Sub-Committees:

Economic Development:

- No update was provided.

Special Events:

- Mr. Niño let the CAC know that the Special Projects application is currently being reviewed by City Staff before it goes to the legal department. After that, the application will come before the Special Events subcommittee for review, before coming back to the CAC for approval.
- Mr. Niño will also provide the CAC with a description of every subcommittee and its role to be added to the website.

Infrastructure:

- Mr. Ramirez gave the following updates for Infrastructure:
 - The West Tampa Overlay amendment passed, but the subcommittee will now begin looking at areas that did not make it into this proposed amendment.
 - This includes Form-Based Code for residential areas and preservation of historic brick buildings and graffiti removal.
 - Met today with Code Enforcement to discuss alley clean-up.
 - CAC to send the worst alleyways to Mr. Niño to compile a list of the top ten. These will be forwarded to Code Enforcement to help clear and then it will be the property owners' responsibility to maintain their alleys.
 - Met with the Tampa Electric Company (TECO) and the Tampa Police Department (TPD) to discuss camera placement at Freemont Linear Park.
 - Two cameras will be added to existing poles that will have TPD monitoring them.
 - With new construction, TECO is placing wooden poles in the front of properties. Mr. Ramirez suggests talking to TECO about moving the poles to alleyways or the back of properties on future new construction to make it more aesthetically pleasing.
- Mr. Jackson noted a sign on the corner of Green and Albany right off Exit 42 that is facing the wrong way. Mr. Niño will work with the Florida Department of Transportation to get this corrected.

Housing:

- No update was provided.

Other General Discussion

- The Rome Yard committee has reviewed all the proposals for the site and have placed them online. The short-listing is occurring, and the final presentation will occur in two weeks.
- The Daycare on Roosevelt and Albany is having trouble with speeding and suspicious individuals. Mr. Robinson directed those concerned to contact TPD.
 - Mr. Niño previously met with a nearby church to discuss similar safety issues regarding lighting improvements in that area.

VIII. Announcements

- Wednesday, March 3 at 10 a.m. is the next West Tampa Business Development Response Team meeting at Bay Cannon Brewery.
 - Mr. Niño will provide future meeting information to the CAC to distribute to anyone who may not know about the area.
- Mr. Jackson suggested making sure all neighborhood businesses know when events are being held in the future.

The quorum was lost at 8:10 p.m., meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. Additional comments tabled until the next CAC meeting in March.

**West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2021

**David M. Barksdale Active Older Adult Center
1801 N. Lincoln Avenue**

Attendees

Committee Members: Joe Robinson, Chair; Delphine Jones; Carlos Ramirez; Sandy Sanchez; Emanuel (Bobby) Wilson; Tina Young; Matthew Juare; Kandfry Ocana-Hendrick; Janice Williams; Walter Smith II, Vice-Chair (Virtual)

Unexcused: Michael Braccia; Dedrick Jackson

Staff: Jesus Niño, Ashlyn Shrewsbury

I. Welcome / Introductions

Mr. Robinson opened the regular meeting of the West Tampa Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:34 p.m. on March 23, 2021. There was a quorum present. CAC members introduced themselves.

Mr. Robinson gave Michael Braccia and Dedrick Jackson unexcused absences.

II. Action Items

Meeting Minutes for February 23, 2021

- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Sanchez, with a second by Mr. Juare. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Smith absent from the vote.

III. Public Comment

- Michael Randolph, CEO of the West Tampa CDC, provided an update on the Rome Yard project that the Tampa Housing Authority and the West Tampa CDC are working on. The West Tampa CDC will put together a custom workforce package focusing on home-based businesses, e-commerce, etc. There will be 50-120 resident owned businesses over the next three to five years, and the CDC will work on providing microloans.
- Eve Jones, West Tampa resident, asked that staff update the website and provided minutes, agendas, meeting dates, and other potential information for residents to easily access and know what is going on in the community.
 - Staff will work to add agendas, minutes, meeting dates, and subcommittee overview information to the website for easy access.

IV. Reports

The Tampa Police Department update was provided by Captain Fernandez.

- The shooting on Main Street, outside of Bay Cannon, is still an active case, but the suspect has not been identified. There is a video of the vehicle though.
- In February, North of the Interstate 275, the following data was provided:
 - 1 shooting
 - 8 felony possession arrests
 - 91 disturbance calls

- 6 fight calls
- 8 hang-ups
- 316 crime prevention events were held
- 106 arrests were made
- 265 traffic stops
- 477 building checks
- 28 field interrogations
- 4 bike stops
- 17 attempt-to-pickups
- Mr. Niño is going to provide a map of the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) to Captain Fernandez so that the data will be for the CRA only at the next meeting.
- Year-to-date for last year and this year in comparison, only auto theft and burglaries are up for this year. All other data is down for this year.
- Captain Fernandez is going to look into the University of Tampa students parking in the alleyways in the West River Crime Prevention area.
- The CRA can fund community policing innovations.
- In regard to the shooting near the Rosa Valdez Day Care, the victim did not come forward, so it has been difficult to solve that case and keep it from happening again.
- Mr. Andrew Warren will be invited to a future CAC meeting to discuss why there is a revolving door for felons charged with guns that keep getting released from prison.

Tampa Code Enforcement Department representative was not present to give an update.

V. Staff Reports

Mr. Niño provided the following updates:

- The Main Street Corridor Study, being led by Frank Hall and Randy Goers, has completed the interview and data phase.
 - A draft report should be ready by May.
 - A public presentation will be held to discuss the findings within the next two to three weeks.
 - The presentations that the University of South Florida students gave presented ideas, but not final designs.
 - Many different parking options are being evaluated with this plan.
- Staff is working with Code Enforcement and Mobility, along with Mr. Ramirez, to complete an alleyway cleanup throughout West Tampa.
 - Code Enforcement already has a list of 64 alleys throughout the City that they are going to start cleaning.
 - The CAC has been asked to compile a list of the top 10-15 alleyways in West Tampa that need immediate attention to send to Code Enforcement.
 - Once the alleyways have been cleaned, the adjacent property owners will then be educated on how to maintain the cleanliness.
 - The Infrastructure Subcommittee is also discussing a Clean Team project for West Tampa.
- Jan Washington with the City and the Tampa Electric Company (TECO) are working on the paperwork for the cameras at Fremont and Linear and some additional ones along Main Street.
- The last Main Street Business Development Response Team meeting was held on March 3, 2021 at Bay Cannon brewery.
 - A list of City Points of Contact was distributed to the attendees and went out to

- o the distribution list.
 - o The next meeting will occur around the middle of April, and the date and points of contact will be added to the website for easy access.
- Hard copies of the West Tampa Community Redevelopment Plan (CRP) and the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) have been ordered to give to the CAC members.
 - o Every CRA should follow the CRP and the SAP is designed to help implement the CRP.
 - When the state statute changes, it supersedes the CRP and the SAP.
- Staff held a CAC orientation for all new members to the CAC board on Friday, March 19.
 - o 6 CAC members attended the training.
 - o The orientation was recorded and can be made available to anyone who wants to watch it.

West Tampa CRA Neighborhood Group Special Projects Grant Program

- This grant program is what was originally intended to be the Special Projects grant.
 - o The legal department reviewed the application and made edits to make the program be consistent with state statute.
 - o Private properties were taken out of the program, and now only public properties will be considered with this grant, and neighborhood groups will be the applicants.
 - Projects on private properties will still be considered for funding on projects, but they will be on a case-by-case basis brought to the Special Events subcommittee, then to the CAC, and finally to the CRA board. These projects will not be a part of this grant program.
 - o Staff recommends that this grant program be for grants up to \$10,000.
 - o The Special Events subcommittee expressed concerns that the allowable projects are those that the City should do anyway; however, the CRA was created to go above and beyond what the City can afford to do.
 - o Some of the projects from the original grant application were aimed towards social services, but the state statute leans more towards infrastructure-based projects.
 - o While the program developed into something different than the original intent, the CAC still views this program as a useful tool for the community.
 - o Even though some of the eligible neighborhood groups may not be able to come up with the funds up front, the grant is not matching, and a request can be made to receive the funds from the CRA upfront.
 - o Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve this grant program and application. Ms. Sanchez seconded this motion. Mr. Ramirez amended the motion to also include continuing to research programs that can include projects on private property. The motion passed on a roll call vote unanimously with Mr. Smith being absent from the vote virtually.
- A copy of the state statute changes will be distributed to the CAC for comparison with the current CRP.

V. ArtSpace Presentation

- ArtSpace is a live, work, show complex for up to 50 artists to live under one roof to collaborate and teach.
 - o Approximately 53 projects have been completed in the last three or four years and they are all successful, with none having closed so far.

- There are a few different building styles that would fit in with the culture of West Tampa, if ArtSpace was to choose this area.
 - All rents are affordable, and do not price the artists out over time.
- Cigar factories would be good aesthetically for this project, but they would need to be donated to make financial sense for the project.
- March 25 is the launch event for the virtual survey to gather community input via the artspacetampa.org website.
- Mr. Robinson asked the infrastructure and arts subcommittees to take the lead with helping get community input for this project.
 - Additional information on the project can also be sent out on the email distribution list.
- Once a property has been identified and the project is further along in the design phase, the CAC can engage in the project more.

VI. General Discussion and Questions

Sub-Committees:

Economic Development:

- No update was provided.

Special Events:

- The West Tampa CRA newsletter will begin development soon, and the owner of Nubian Knots on Main Street has already been contacted to interview for the newsletter.

Infrastructure:

- Mr. Ramirez gave the following updates for Infrastructure:
 - The subcommittee wants to extend the business core to include all businesses between Albany and Rome.
 - This was supposed to be part of the recent West Tampa Overlay Amendment, but a letter has to be distributed to all of the businesses first.
 - Mr. Ramirez made a motion to finalize the draft letter that he sent to staff and send it to all of the businesses between Albany and Rome. Once the letter has been sent, any businesses interested in more information can join in virtually to the next infrastructure workshop. Ms. Sanchez seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Smith being absent from the vote virtually.
 - Mr. Ramirez made a second motion the move forward with developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to complete a parking assessment study for the Main Street corridor area. This study will incorporate information from the 2006 parking study and the current Main Street Corridor Study. Mr. Juairé seconded this motion. Mr. Robinson asked that the CAC have a seat on the final selection committee for the RFP along with a representative from the Minority Small Business Utilization team. Mr. Robinson also asked that the selected firm have experience with historic districts. The motion passed unanimously with these conditions, with Mr. Smith being absent from the vote.
 - The three parks in the CRA (Salcines Park, Rey Park, and Fremont Linear Park) have been identified to have issues that the subcommittee would like to be updated and addressed.

- Mr. Ramirez made a motion to have the subcommittee and CAC identify what improvements they want to be made to the parks, present the ideas to the Parks and Recreation department, and have them develop a plan and present the costs of these improvements back to the CAC for consideration. Ms. Sanchez seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Smith being absent from the vote virtually.

Housing:

- Mr. Wilson will meet with internal City staff on Wednesday, March 25 to discuss housing programs for the CRA.

Arts:

- The Rome Yard has a West Tampa Arts and Cultural Center proposed as part of the development.
 - Ms. Sanchez feels that something similar should be located in the Old West Tampa neighborhood.
- The subcommittee is going to start looking at designing a logo for the West Tampa CRA.
- A motion was made to allow staff to find out the cost of doing a feasibility study to find a historic building to locate an arts center in by Ms. Sanchez. This motion was seconded by Mr. Ramirez. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Smith being absent from the vote virtually.
 - Some CAC members were hesitant to agree with potentially locating the arts center in Centro Español, a location Ms. Sanchez proposed, due to the Hillsborough Education Foundation using that building; however, the CAC still approved of considering all historic buildings in the CRA if a feasibility study is done.

Other General Discussion

- With safety being a big concern for the area, it will now be part of the Infrastructure Subcommittee to discuss.
- The oak tree canopy near the Rosa Valdez Day Care needs to be trimmed because it is blocking the lights.
 - Mr. Niño is going to look into that, and also talk to legal about whether or not the CRA can provide a grant to the day care to update the lighting and add a camera for safety improvements.
- A time clock will be retrieved for the next CAC meeting.

VII. Announcements

- Wednesday, March 24 at 11:30 a.m. at Old City Hall is the meeting to finalize the documents and notes from the final selection committee and the Mayor's recommendations for the Rome Yard project.
- There is a Special Use Public Hearing scheduled for April 22nd at 6 p.m. for a small venue with beer and wine to be consumed on premises at 1701 W. Gray Street, which is currently zoned PD.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.