



Tampa's Downtown Vision & Action Plan Annual Update Community Forum

Wednesday, May 20, 2009 - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

USF/Port Authority Building, Downtown Tampa

COMMUNITY INPUT

Culture & Arts

- Need for a targeted campaign to promote the more than 20 arts institutions and arts events that will be located in downtown by 2010
- Create a campaign to encourage people to walk, take an electric shuttle service, take public transit or bike to cultural arts institutions and arts events
- Cross-market Downtown, Channelside and Ybor City
- Promote the Ybor City Arts Walk and consider starting an Arts Walk in downtown Tampa

Education

- Need for additional arts education programs (including music and performing arts)
- Tie arts programs with schools and the downtown community
- Study the "missing" education needs in downtown and create additional education sites as needed
- Partner with the University of Tampa in downtown activities
- Use educational center's Planning and Management Departments
- USF is working on a public realm project in downtown
- Rampello School is planning for an organic garden project

Environment/Open Spaces/Community Gathering Places

- Create urban and/or community gardens
- Need more playgrounds/parks for children
- Create a recycling program in parks
- Need more dog parks
- Create a comprehensive downtown tree-planting plan
- Need for more pedestrian connections to Riverfront Park
- Need for more architectural shade structures
- Need for public kayak and bicycle rentals
- Homeless Population/Security is an issue in parks

Hospitality

- Create partnerships with downtown venues to create destinations along the Riverwalk
- Encourage restaurants to stay open nights and weekends
- Need for Kayak and bicycle rentals
- Build awareness for the days and times venues are open
- Link venue information/Riverwalk activities to City of Tampa, Chamber of Commerce, Tampa Bay & Company and Tampa Downtown Partnership websites
- Need for more activity on the waterfront/outdoor dining
- Encourage river tours
- Make roads more pedestrian-friendly

Housing/Residential

- Create tax rebates for property owners to encourage investment in downtown
- Build market awareness about new venues and opportunities
- Promote HiLife and Monday Morning Memo outside of downtown
- Promote Live After Five on radio stations targeting a younger audience

Office/Commercial Real Estate

- Need additional parking options/more low-cost options
- Need incentives to attract smaller businesses, i.e. competitive leasing rates, parking incentives, etc.
- Attract more creative industries and technology companies to downtown

Planning/Design/Zoning

- Need more connectivity between destinations
- Plan for Electric Vehicle charging stations
- Design more points of entry to the Riverwalk/make entry points more visible

Retail/ Entertainment

- Find ways to mark the 2014 Centennial Celebration of the Jannus Flight
- Need for better communication of retail hours/offers
- Need for better parking and transportation options to support retail/entertainment connectivity
- Program the Riverwalk to increase usage
- Create a Downtown Brewery/Dining venue
- Close off the streets for more activities like the Bud Bowl during SuperBowl

Transportation/Parking/Pedestrian Movement

- Create more multi-modal transportation options
- Create a trolley service to David Island
- Keep HART's Green Line running and extend the hours of service
- Make downtown more pedestrian-friendly