

**Drew Park Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2021

Virtual Workshop

Attendees

Committee Members: Damien Beal, Chair; Ann Kulig, Vice-Chair; Maritza Astorquiza; Bobby Calhoun; Dr. Allen Witt; Randy Forister; Ian DeRan

Excused: Michael Kass; Julio Piazza

Staff: Jesus Niño, Urban Development Manager
Ashlyn Shrewsbury, Economic Development Specialist II

Guests: Neale Stralow, VHB
Jared Jones, VHB

I. Opening Comments / Introductions

Mr. Beal opened the regular meeting of the Drew Park Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:32 p.m. on January 5, 2021. There was no quorum for this meeting since it was a virtual workshop. CAC members introduced themselves.

II. Public Comment

No comments from the public.

III. Staff Reports

Mr. Niño announced that staff would be advertising for the expired At-Large member positions within the next week. He also stated that the City of Tampa's Mobility Department would be presenting to the CAC at the February meeting on what micro improvement projects they are currently working on in Drew Park.

V. Strategic Action Plan Update

Mr. Neale Stralow, a Senior Planner at VHB, the firm selected to update Drew Park Strategic Action Plan (SAP), and Mr. Jared Jones, also from VHB, presented the draft report that was submitted to staff last week. The draft was also sent to the CAC members yesterday for review. The following updates were provided:

- There were not many changes from the presentation made on the report to the CAC at the December meeting.
- The online survey is still up, but there have been no more responses since the last meeting, where approximately 47 responses had been collected.
- Some cost estimates will be provided as part of the final document, and are currently being finalized, but Mr. Stralow encouraged the CAC not to lock itself into a dollar amount.
- The CAC agreed to review the document and provide any comments or concerns to Mr. Niño within the next couple of weeks.
- At the February CAC meeting, there will be time for a short discussion of the document prior to any vote taking place.
- Next steps:

- Staff, CAC, and the community (through the draft being posted on the Community Redevelopment Department website) will review the document and provide comments.
- Once the CAC decides to take action through a vote, the SAP will go to the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) board for final approval.

VI. General Discussion and Questions

- The February CAC meeting will start at 5 p.m. to allow extra time for discussion of the Strategic Action Plan amongst the members.

VII. Announcements

No additional announcements were made.

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Drew Park Community Advisory Committee – Important Dates

CRA Board meeting:	January 21, 2021, 9:00 a.m.	Tampa Convention Center
Drew Park CAC meeting:	February 2, 2021 5:00 p.m.	Hillsborough Community College

**Drew Park Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2021

**Hillsborough Community College – Dale Mabry Campus
4001 West Tampa Bay Boulevard**

Attendees

Committee Members: Damien Beal, Chair; Ann Kulig, Vice-Chair; Maritza Astorquiza; Dr. Allen Witt; Randy Forister; Wallace Washington

Excused: Bobby Calhoun; Michael Kass; Julio Piazza

Staff: Jesus Niño, Urban Development Manager
Ashlyn Shrewsbury, Economic Development Specialist II

Guests: Neale Stralow, VHB

I. Opening Comments / Introductions

Ms. Kulig opened the regular meeting of the Drew Park Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:09 p.m. on February 2, 2021. A quorum was established at 5:42 p.m. CAC members introduced themselves, including new member, Mr. Wallace Washington.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from December 1, 2020 and January 5, 2021 by Ms. Kulig. The motion was seconded by Ms. Astorquiza. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 6-0 for the December 1, 2020 minutes, and 5-0 for the January 5, 2021 minutes with Dr. Witt being absent from the second vote.

III. Public Comment

No comments from the public. Mr. Niño did announce that Mr. Ian DeRan was no longer a board member since his term has expired. Mr. Washington took his place.

IV. Staff Reports

Mr. Niño had nothing new to report from staff. There was no representative from the Tampa Police Department available to give an update at this meeting.

V. Mobility Department Updates

Mr. Milton Martinez from the City's Mobility Department was present virtually to provide an update on the City's transportation initiatives, specifically those in the Drew Park area. Mobility has several initiatives underway:

- Transforming Tampa Tomorrow (T3), which includes making Tampa a Vision Zero City.
- Tampa MOVES, the new 30-year, citywide mobility plan.
 - Drew Park is in Area 3 of the neighborhood outreach for this study.
- Completing a Citywide Pavement Survey Condition Assessment, which prioritizes roads based on their Pavement Condition Index (PCI).
- Citywide Speed Reduction Initiative, which includes looking at Air Cargo Road

Based on the request of some CAC members, Mobility also provided short-term crash data from 2016 to 2020, which includes the following total crash numbers:

- Air Cargo Road: 41
- Lois Ave at Cayuga: 24
- Lois Ave at Alva: 23
- Martin Luther King (MLK) at Lois: 19
- Hesperides St from MLK to Crest: 6
- Hubert at Osborne: 1

Short-term improvements in Drew Park include:

- Hesperides Street: adding more double yellow center line striping, upsizing existing stop signs, remark faded stop bars, adding bright sticks to stop signs at intersections of MLK, Alva (which also includes trimming overgrowth and relocating stop bar), Cayuga, Osborne, and South.
- Lois Avenue: conducting gap speed and stop speed at intersections of Alva and Cayuga, adding traffic signal back plates and retiming the signal at MLK, and consider speed reduction.
- Air Cargo Road: adding backplates at MLK and consider speed reduction.

Members of the CAC thanked Mobility for all the work they are doing and the improvements they are making.

Mobility is working with both Hillsborough County and Florida Department of Transportation on improvements of all roads in the City, not just those operated by the City.

A Community Traffic Study Team meets monthly in Hillsborough County to allow public input, and Mr. Niño will send out contact information on that to the CAC.

There will be opportunities for the CRA to put money towards road improvements where they may not score high enough in the City's criteria to be highly prioritized.

V. Strategic Action Plan Discussion

Mr. Niño provided a handout to comments collected from the public and other City staff.

- One comment mentioned optimizing Opportunity Zones. This was meant that the CRA and CAC should better market the Opportunity Zone program so that it can be better utilized in Drew Park.
- Additional comments from the CAC discussion included:
 - Using the strategies to prioritize where the CAC wants to use its budget annually.
 - Taking on the bigger projects so that the smaller ones can be handled easier later.
 - Figuring out where parking should go since a lot occurs on street currently.
 - Revisiting community policing program that the CRA utilized years ago to help with crime reduction, as mentioned in Strategy 2.2.
 - Working with School Board to figure out where the bus stops are, then making those areas safer for the children.
 - Using TIF funds to help with transportation projects, since, as mentioned in the Mobility presentation, these often provide more opportunities in areas that don't met the criteria for high prioritization with the City.

- Figuring out what the sidewalk standards are so that all future projects meet those standards.
- Mr. Neale Stralow also provided a matrix with some preliminary cost estimates for projects identified with the strategies of the draft Strategic Action Plan (SAP).
 - Matrix is not a part of the SAP but can be used by the CAC and updated annually depending on the budget and priorities for that year.
- City Stormwater Department staff are also looking at the SAP and will provide comments.
- The CAC wants another workshop held after all City staff comments are received in order to go over everything, map out expenses and revenues for the coming years, and see what projects are possible. This workshop will be virtual in order to get the most people, especially staff, in attendance.
- Current draft SAP does not mention a park, but there is the Tampa Bay Linear Park. Mr. Stralow will add that to the draft. Additional park comments included:
 - Original plan for park was to be for kids and families. Current linear park has nothing to do for kids, just open space.
 - CAC believes another study should be done to decide whether to add equipment at the Linear Park and make it more assessable from the residential areas of Drew Park, or locate another park directly in the residential areas on some of the City owned land.
 - Mr. Niño suggested a separate workshop to discuss the parks and will invite the City Parks staff and Mobility staff to attend once set up.
- Mr. Niño recommended that the CAC not vote to accept the SAP as is today until all additional staff comments have been received.
- Latinx term will be removed from the draft SAP.
- Look into economic development opportunities to help make the large portion of properties in Drew Park that are currently “non-contributing” into “contributing” properties.
- Make sure to uphold Drew Park’s rich military and art history that is often forgotten and use this in future marketing efforts for the new SAP plan.

VI. General Discussion and Questions

- No additional discussion or questions.

VII. Announcements

- Mr. Niño let the CAC know that the Department will be hiring a new person to work on marketing and branding for all the CRAs soon.

Ms. Astorquiza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Kulig seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Drew Park Community Advisory Committee – Important Dates

CRA Board meeting:
Drew Park CAC meeting:

February 11, 2021 9:00 a.m.
March 2, 2021 5:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers – Old Town Hall
Hillsborough Community College

**Drew Park Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2021

**Hillsborough Community College – Dale Mabry Campus
4001 West Tampa Bay Boulevard**

Attendees

Committee Members: Ann Kulig, Vice-Chair; Maritza Astorquiza; Dr. Allen Witt; Randy Forister; Wallace Washington; Dr. Yeshitila Agzew

Excused: Bobby Calhoun; Michael Kass; Julio Piazza

Staff: Jesus Niño, Urban Development Manager (Virtual)
Ashlyn Shrewsbury, Economic Development Specialist II

Guests: Neale Stralow, VHB

I. Opening Comments / Introductions

Ms. Kulig opened the regular meeting of the Drew Park Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:48 p.m. on March 2, 2021, CAC members introduced themselves, including new member, Dr Yeshitila Agzew.

II. Action Items

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made to approve the minutes from February 2, 2021 by Dr. Witt. The motion was seconded by Mr. Washington. The motion passed unanimously.

Tampa Bay Linear Park Sign Language:

- Language for the two signs was drafted by Dennis Fernandez with the City of Tampa's Historic Preservation team and other University of South Florida and historical institutions staff.
- Signs have already been priced, just waiting for language to be approved.
- A motion was made by Ms. Astorquiza to hold an event at her business with residents who have knowledge of Drew Park's history to get a better sense of the entirety of the history for the area before finishing the language on the sign. This motion was seconded by Dr. Witt. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

No comments from the public.

IV. Community Policing Update

Police Department Corporal Timothy Gaddis was on the virtual meeting to provide an update on crime in the Drew Park CRA for the last month. The following statistics were provided:

- 3 aggravated batteries, 2 of which resulted in arrests already
- 27 disturbance calls
- 5 shots fired calls

- 4 fight calls
- 68 crime prevention events held
- 26 arrests made
- 70 traffic stops
- 17 field interrogations.

V. Staff Reports

Mr. Niño provided the following updates:

- New CAC member orientation will be held in a few weeks once all other CAC's in the City have filled their open positions.
- A Parliamentarian has been hired to conduct three training sessions, which will also be recorded, to train the CAC members on how to properly conduct CAC meetings.
- The Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) owns several properties in the Drew Park area. Once the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is completed, the CAC will have to decide on what they would like to do with these properties.
- The new budget cycle is approaching, but in the meantime, Mr. Niño showed a consolidated version of the current budget as of December 31, 2020.
 - The funds available are what is left in the current budget to spend.
 - Funds not used this fiscal year will be carried forward.
 - None of the COVID-19 Business Assistance funds have been used, so they will be reprogrammed at a later date.
 - A long-term projection of the funds for the next five years has been provided in the Strategic Action Plan (SAP), with the CRA generating around \$1.5 million a year in revenues.
 - These funds cannot be bonded.

V. Strategic Action Plan Discussion

- A virtual workshop was held last week on February 25, but with only two CAC members present, the workshop was cancelled.
- The cost estimates provided by Mr. Stralow are not part of the actual SAP, but instead are intended to be a working document for the CAC to use to prioritize projects annually.
- No major changes were made from the previous CAC review of the document and City Staff and the County's Planning Commission reviewed and made edits.
 - No strategies, including parking, were removed or changed from the earlier drafts.
- The footnotes in the budget estimates with the 2021 numbers are estimates taken from the original master plan design and escalated to today's numbers.
- Once approved by the CAC, the SAP will move to the CRA for review and approval.
- A motion was made to approve the SAP and move it forward to the CRA by Ms. Astorquiza. A second was made by Mr. Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. General Discussion and Questions

- No general discussion or questions were made.

VII. Announcements

- A legal memorandum was issued from the City that states that the CACs must have a physical quorum in person to start any meetings. If a physical quorum is lost during meeting it must be adjourned, and all other agenda topics will be tabled until the next meeting.

- Virtual workshops can be held if they are advertised as such.
- Mr. Niño will send the memo to the CAC members.

Ms. Astorquiza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Forister seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Drew Park Community Advisory Committee – Important Dates

CRA Board meeting:	March 11, 2021 9:00 a.m.	City Council Chambers – Old Town Hall
Drew Park CAC meeting:	April 6, 2021 5:30 p.m.	Hillsborough Community College

**Drew Park Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2021

**Hillsborough Community College – Dale Mabry Campus
4001 West Tampa Bay Boulevard**

Attendees

Committee Members: Maritza Astorquiza, Chair; Ann Kulig; Dr. Allen Witt; Randy Forister; Dr. Yeshitila Agzew; Julio Piazza

Excused: Wallace Washington; Bobby Calhoun; Michael Kass

Staff: Jesus Niño, Urban Development Manager (Virtual)
Ashlyn Shrewsbury, Economic Development Specialist II

I. Opening Comments / Introductions

Ms. Kulig opened the regular meeting of the Drew Park Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:37 p.m. on May 17, 2021, CAC members introduced themselves.

II. Action Items

New Chair Selection:

- Ms. Astorquiza nominated herself for Chair of the CAC. Dr. Witt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Piazza not being present at the time of the vote.
- Dr. Witt nominated Mr. Calhoun for Vice Chair of the CAC. Ms. Kulig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Piazza not being present at the time of the vote.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made to approve the minutes from March 2, 2021 by Ms. Kulig. The motion was seconded by Dr. Agzew. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Piazza not being present at the time of the vote.

FY22 Budget Discussion:

- Based on the priorities identified in the new Strategic Action Plan (SAP), staff drafted a budget for the new fiscal year, which starts October 1, 2021, based on the projected new revenues.
 - The projections are based on a five percent increase each year.
 - Sidewalks are estimated to cost around \$80 per linear foot due to the increased thickness needed in Drew Park because of the trucks that often park on them and cause damage from the weight.
 - Along with sidewalks, gateway improvements, continued façade improvements, and improved housing conditions and affordable housing were all identified as priorities in the SAP.
 - Some grants have been drafted for West Tampa that may be useful in Drew Park to help with exterior residential improvements.
 - Within the budget, operation and administration remain roughly the same as salaries for some staff is shared between Drew Park and West Tampa.

- Employee training allows staff to keep up their certifications.
- Travel and per diem included funds for the CAC members to also attend trainings.
- Along with the budget for the new revenues, carryover funds from the current fiscal year will also be available from what is not spent.
- Other professional services includes an added \$100,000 which can be used for potential design of new parks, phase II of the Tampa Bay Linear Park, and gateway improvements.
- Business Façade Grant includes \$50,000 more as staff plans to market that program more.
- COVID funds will be reprogrammed and can be added to the sidewalk and connectivity projects.
- Streetscapes and beautification will add around \$500,000, but current other professional services funds can be used to start the design process.
- Neighborhood infrastructure is a holding line item and funds can be reprogrammed from that line item to fund other projects as needed.
- Drew Park doesn't have any notes or debt out there.
- Once the Community Redevelopment Area for Drew Park expires, the Tax Increment Funds (TIF) will go back to the City's General Fund.
- Based on the proposed budget, the CAC believes the law enforcement line item may need additional funds in the future as some of the past issues are starting to emerge again.
 - If needed, funds can be reprogrammed for this.
- Parking is also an important issue to the CAC board.
- TIF fund can be used for street repaving.
- Staff is working better with City departments to partner on projects so that everything can be done at once instead of projects having to be destroyed for other projects to take place.
- A motion was made to approve the staff presented budget for the new projected revenues for Fiscal Year 2022 by Mr. Forister and seconded by Ms. Astorquiza. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

No comments from the public.

IV. Staff Reports

Mr. Niño provided the following updates:

- Staff just completing a parliamentarian training for all CAC members, and copies of the Roberts Rules of Order book will be provided to all CAC members who want it.
- Drew Park Properties:
 - Staff provided a map of the City-owned properties located in Drew Park.
 - Two of the properties are already in use for a lift station by the City.
 - The new SAP calls for disposing of the properties for the use of affordable housing.
 - Staff is requesting that the CAC grant them permission to explore all potential uses for these properties and the different scenarios available for disposing of them.
 - Another potential use for the properties could be for a new park that the CAC is interested in.
 - The parcels located directly in the middle of the residential

- neighborhoods may be appropriate for that.
 - Other parcels can be identified for a new park as well.
 - The Community Redevelopment Agency cannot use eminent domain for these projects.
 - All of these parcels identified are currently vacant.
 - Habitat for Humanity and other groups are still interested in developing affordable housing on these properties.
- After discussing whether to limit specific parcels for affordable housing, and others for a park, a motion was made by Ms. Kulig to allow staff to explore all possibilities for these City-owned parcels in compliance with Drew Park's Community redevelopment Plan and state statutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Forister. The motion passed unanimously.
- Other Projects to Pursue:
 - Sidewalk connectivity was also identified in the new SAP as a priority.
 - Staff is requesting a motion to start pursuing these connections and working with other City departments to partner on the projects.
 - Some specific areas were identified through the SAP process and others are those staff sees as priorities that area visible from Air Cargo Road, to start with.
 - A motion was made for staff to engage the Mobility and Public Works departments with the City to come and workshop with the CAC on sidewalk connectivity in priority areas by Mr. Forister. A second was made by Ms. Kulig. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Another project that is a priority for the CAC is the connectivity to the Tampa Bay Linear Park.
 - Currently there are no sidewalks, with the exception of the crosswalk near the traffic circle, that allows for crossing Tampa Bay Boulevard.
 - Mr. Vik Bhide with the City's Mobility department has expressed interest to the CAC about partnering on micro-improvements in Drew Park, including crosswalks, beacon lights, etc.
 - The Mobility department has some funds for these types of projects, but the bulk would come from the CAC budget.
 - The City current has no money budgeted for sidewalks.

V. General Discussion and Questions

- Ms. Astorquiza hosted a Drew Park history event at her business, All Art Studio.
 - The event allowed community members with a long history in the area to come tell their personal stories of their time in Drew Park.
 - Due to some people not being able to attend the last event, a second event will be held on July 16, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.
 - This next event will be publicly noticed.
 - Resident Susan Braun, in attendance today, was a panelist at the first event.
 - The goal of the event was to bring a more human side to the history of Drew Park and to document the stories for potential future use.
 - Mr. Niño is going to see if there is a website specifically dedicated to the history of Tampa as Ms. Braun mentioned using local schools to have students interview their grandparents from the area to provide an educational component to the history.
 - A couple of interesting facts that came out of the event were the longstanding history cypress trees to the area, which can help with water runoff, and the

Hunts Park importance to the area, which was home to several famous baseball players.

- Some of this history can be memorialized through gateway and other improvement projects to Drew Park.

VI. Announcements

- Dr. Witt is retiring from the Hillsborough Community College and this will be his last CAC meeting on the board.
- Mr. Piazza introduced himself in person as a CAC board member, who is also a property owner of a body shop located in Drew Park.

Ms. Kulig made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Forister seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Drew Park Community Advisory Committee – Important Dates

Drew Park CAC meeting:
CRA Board meeting:

June 1, 2021 5:30 p.m.
June 10, 2021 9:00 a.m.

Hillsborough Community College
City Council Chambers – Old City Hall

DREW PARK COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

Hillsborough Community College – Dale Mabry Campus
Library Building Room 106 (DLRC 106)
4001 West Tampa Bay Boulevard

Attendees

Committee Members: Maritza Astorquiza, Chair; Ann Kulig; Randy Forister; Julio Piazza; and Susan Braun

Excused: Wallace Washington

Staff: Jesus Niño, Urban Development Manager;
Alana Brasier, Vision Zero Coordinator (virtual); and
Timothy Gaddis, Police Department Corporal

I. Meeting Called to Order

At 5:35 p.m. Ms. Astorquiza called the Drew Park Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting to order and stated a quorum of committee members was present to conduct business.

II. Opening Comments & Roll Call

Ms. Astorquiza welcomed everyone in meeting attendance, which included Hillsborough Community College (HCC) students in attendance. CAC members introduced themselves to the public. Mr. Niño stated that the CAC is down to six members. Two at large seats are available for the CAC, and one ex-officio seat is available from HCC. Mr. Niño stated two members recently resigned from the CAC, Dr. Yeshitila Agzew and Bobby Calhoun, both at-large members. New HCC Dale Mabry Campus President, Dr. Paige Niehaus, stated HCC's ex-officio application has been submitted to the City for her appointment to the CAC.

III. Public Comment

Ms. Astorquiza asked if there was any public comment. There was no public comment.

IV. Action Items

Ms. Kulig made a motion to approve the May 17, 2021 CAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Forister. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Crime Prevention Discussion

Police Department Corporal Timothy Gaddis provided an update on crime in the Drew Park CRA for the last month. Ms. Astorquiza asked Mr. Gaddis if he would provide a physical crime statistics report to the CAC. Mr. Gaddis stated Mr. Niño can contact Captain David Fernandez and request the report. Mr. Niño stated he would follow-up. Ms. Astorquiza stated that in the past the CAC partnered with the Police Department for crime stings at certain establishments in Drew Park with successful results. She stated that the CAC should again partner with the Police Department to do community policing projects.

VI. Staff Reports

• Entertainment District Discussion

Mr. Niño requested the CAC discuss the Entertainment District item listed on the agenda first since HCC IT staff was working on the virtual component of the meeting. He stated the request would allow City Mobility staff to participate in the meeting. The request was granted by Ms. Astorquiza. Mr. Niño stated the CRA board requested City staff come before the CAC and discuss their desire to have an Entertainment District in Drew Park. Mr. Niño asked the CAC about their desire for an entertainment district in Drew Park, and stated he would report back to the CRA the feedback, message, or motion the CAC provides him regarding the entertainment district discussion. Ms. Astorquiza asked what CRA board member made the motion for staff to come before the CAC to discuss an entertainment district. Mr. Niño stated it was CRA Board Member Bill Carlson. Ms. Astorquiza stated the CAC just completed a Strategic Action Plan update and the CAC should concentrate its efforts to implement the plan and improve its existing assets, the businesses, its light industrial nature, and to promote itself as a business/commerce friendly district. Ms. Kulig stated she agreed with Ms. Astorquiza about concentrating on implementing the strategic action plan. Ms. Kulig stated that it is not known how an entertainment district would affect private property owners, residents, or land uses. She stated the City seems to be shifting to a lot of mixed-use areas and now is looking for new entertainment districts. A motion was made by Ms. Kulig that it was not appropriate at this time or in the near future to explore an Entertainment District for Drew Park and that the CAC is not interested in an entertainment district, and the CAC will concentrate their efforts on the implementation of the recently approved Strategic Action Plan. Mr. Forister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

• HCC Crosswalk on Lois Avenue

Mr. Niño stated that Ms. Brasier, Vision Zero Coordinator with the City's Mobility Department, was online and ready for the discussion. Ms. Astorquiza asked for a little background before the discussion. Mr. Niño stated that Mobility staff approached him about a potential project and potential partnership with HCC, Mobility, and the CRA to construct a pedestrian flashing beacon crosswalk on Lois Avenue from Hawks Landing Apartments to the HCC campus. Mr. Niño stated that HCC students were in attendance for this item. Ms. Brasier introduced herself as the City's Vision Zero Coordinator and provided verbal information on what the Vision Zero initiative is about. She stated Vision Zero is a citywide initiative to eliminate fatalities and life altering injuries on City roadways. She stated that a big component of that is increasing multimodal and mobility options and improving sidewalk systems for the community.

Ms. Brasier stated that Eric Johnson, HCC's Government Relations officer, reached out to her to discuss the potential crosswalk and that HCC's Student Government was very interested in requesting the crosswalk. Ms. Brasier stated she believes a past crosswalk existed at the general location of discussion, but when the complete streets project was implemented on Lois Avenue the crosswalk was removed and was not put back in place. She stated since she was not working for the City at the time, she did not know why the crosswalk was not put back in place. She explained the scope of the project and the general proposed location, as shown on the provided GIS map Mobility staff produced, was from the entrance of Hawks Landing starting at the edge of the Lois Avenue right-of-way crossing Lois Avenue to HCC's property line. Ms. Brasier stated Mobility is supportive of the project if the CAC moves it forward. She asked if the request is something the CAC would be willing to fund or willing to be funding partners with Mobility and HCC on the project. Ms. Brasier stated the project is in line with the CRA's goals and would help with safety and connectivity in the Drew Park area. She stated she recommends that the next step be to have a site meeting with student government, CAC members, and staff. She stated she was attending the night's CAC meeting to get the CAC's feedback on the crosswalk and the broader discussion on mobility improvements in Drew Park and what their priorities are for the CAC. She stated the

Strategic Action Plan did not go into enough detail on where to start with mobility projects and that is why she was there to talk to the CAC.

Mr. Forister asked what the funding partnership would be with Mobility and the CRA. Ms. Braiser stated the crosswalk would be an approximate \$50,000 project. She stated she needs to talk internally with City staff to see what funding is available from the City. She stated the project would happen a lot faster if the CRA was willing to contribute funds. Mr. Forister asked if the CAC did step-up with funding, does the City provide the engineering and designs or does the CAC have to pay for those items. He asked who makes sure the crosswalks are installed in the right location preventing someone from inadvertently getting hurt if the crosswalk is installed in the wrong location. He stated that he doesn't want the cure to be worse than the disease. Ms. Braiser stated it would be cheaper for the City to provide the engineering and design inhouse. She stated that to have the crosswalk in the right location, she would like to have a site meeting to talk the project through at the site area and properly accommodate people that would use the crosswalk. She stated that CAC and HCC students could attend the meeting.

Ms. Astorquiza stated that other schools in Tampa that needed crosswalks paid for them themselves. She stated that if the City already had a crosswalk in that general location in the past and it was removed, then the City needs to put it back. Ms. Braiser stated that she believes the old crosswalk was not replaced because transit stops were installed where the general location of the crosswalk use to exist.

Ms. Kulig stated the Drew Park Streetscape Master Plan has a lot of prioritization of projects for Drew Park and that the plan should be looked at by staff.

Ms. Kulig stated maybe the proposed crosswalk could be constructed at West Woodlawn Avenue instead of midblock then the crosswalk would be located at an existing intersection. Mr. Niño stated most students from Hawks Landing Apartments take the path of least resistance and just cross midblock on Lois Avenue. Ms. Astorquiza stated that HCC students and staff need to understand the crosswalk would be for a community benefit, not just a private benefit or use. She stated that if the CAC were to partner and be asked to pay for the crossing then it's not about Hawks Landing but what is best for the over all community.

Ms. Braun stated that Hawks Landing is an apartment complex and should have paid impact fees at the time of construction and those impact fees are supposed to go into transportation improvements for the surrounding area. Ms. Astorquiza stated that HCC does not pay into the TIF. Dr. Paige Niehaus stated that from her understating, Hawks Landing Apartments is owned by the HCC Foundation. Ms. Astorquiza stated that HCC and Hawks Landing then do not pay into the TIF and they should pay for the project as depicted on the drawing if that is what they want. Ms. Astorquiza stated to the HCC students that when TIF is used that it is used for the public benefit overall. Ms. Astorquiza stated that Drew Park does not have to many crosswalks and has lost many of its bus stops. She stated that Drew Park does not have a crosswalk to the Linear Park. Ms. Braun asked Ms. Brasier if a crosswalk could be considered to connect to the Linear Park. Ms. Astorquiza asked Ms. Brasier to look for areas in Drew Park where crosswalks could be constructed for the community. The CAC did not take any action on the proposed crosswalk for HCC.

Mr. Forister stated improvements should come in two different boxes, sidewalk improvements and area beautification that was identified in the Drew Park Streetscape Master Plan many years ago. He stated that projects need to be prioritized like sidewalks, crosswalks, and other improvements. He stated a stacked ranking process needs to be performed on the mobility projects and the CAC

can look at those rankings and decide which project they want to fund and have implemented if the funding allows it. He stated the same thing should be done from a roadway improvement perspective. He stated that intersections or roadway segments that have accidents or engineering issues like broken curbs, signs, pavement, etc. should be addressed. He stated that the intersection and roadway fixes that can be done through engineering should be stacked ranked too. He stated that the areas that have issues because of people with mental or behavior problems need to be addressed too but should be examined separately. He stated CRA dollars need to be released and used for projects and the CAC and staff need to find a way to streamline projects for the CAC to implement.

- **CAC Discussion on Mobility Projects**

Ms. Brasier suggested walking tours of Drew Park with CAC members to identify mobility and safety projects. Ms. Astorquiza stated that there are projects that have already been discussed by the CAC and staff and that Mr. Niño can share those discussions with Mobility. She stated there is much more than sidewalk issues in Drew Park and that other traffic issues are present in Drew Park. She stated traffic issues are important because of a lot of the accidents in the area. She stated Drew Park is not a planned community so there are a lot of issues with sidewalks, traffic, roads, speeding, parking, storage, and more. She stated there should be more uniform standards for sidewalks in the area because some sidewalks are constructed flat, others raised, some thick, some weak and damaged by trucks, and sidewalk curb issues.

The CAC agreed through consensus, without a motion, to allow Ms. Astorquiza and other CAC members to join discussions with Mobility and CRA staff to discuss mobility ideas and transportation areas of concern that need to be improved in Drew Park. Ms. Astorquiza stated the reason why she met with Mr. Vik Bhide and Mr. Nino at her establishment was because of all the accidents and racing near her business and that some of those accidents had major injury or death. Ms. Brasier stated that her division is data driven and that helps them prioritize their safety projects. She stated not many corridors popped up in the Drew Park area compared to Citywide for safety concerns but that does not mean that there are no safety issues in Drew Park and that CAC members are more aware of those issues since they drive the streets and conduct business in Drew Park on a regular basis. She asked the CAC what the most important mobility improvements in Drew Park are and what safety treatments can be implemented in Drew Park. She stated she can work with City engineers on cost analysis to help the CAC make decisions. Ms. Brasier stated that in person or site meetings or tours or a dedicated workshop should be planned so details can be identified quicker, and Mobility can meet the desires of the CAC and its budget. Ms. Astorquiza stated that Air Cargo Road is a big issue, cars speed there often and there are walkers, runners, etc. that need to be safe on that road. The road is outside of the CRA boundary. A lot of the issues are behavior issues like drag races on Drew Park roads.

Mr. Piazza stated he would like to do one of the walking tours. Ms. Braun and Ms. Astorquiza both stated they would also be happy to do a walking tour with Mobility staff. Mr. Niño stated the tours will have to be separate for each CAC member so that Florida Sunshine laws are not violated, or the walking tour will have to be advertised as a CAC meeting with the public invited to attend and minutes taken. In addition, Ms. Astorquiza and Mr. Forister agreed to be interviewed separately by Mobility and Mr. Niño to provide their opinion on areas in Drew Park that need improvement. Mr. Niño stated CAC members need to identify areas in Drew Park that need sidewalk or connectivity improvements. He stated that the walking tour will help identify areas of need for sidewalk improvement. In addition, Ms. Astorquiza stated that Mr. Niño already identified one area that can be improved, North Hesperides Street. Mr. Niño stated that Hesperides is a potential project and that he would work with Mobility. Mr. Forister stated that potential projects need to be ranked by priority and cost so that the CAC can better choose projects. Ms. Astorquiza stated the CAC will

work with Mobility to identify micro-mobility projects to implement in Drew Park. Mr. Niño stated he would bring back micro-mobility projects for the CAC to vote on and to get started with implementation.

- **CRA Property Disposition**

Mr. Niño stated that all the CAC members were provided maps and information on the properties under control by the CRA but owned by the City. Mr. Niño stated the properties were purchased for affordable housing or workforce housing and that was the desire of the CAC at that time. Mr. Forister asked if the four contiguous properties on North Hubert Avenue, south of West Ohio Avenue, could instead be considered for a pocket park for the neighborhood. Mr. Niño stated he would work with the parks department and other City departments to see if those properties are appropriate for a park and that he would report back to the CAC once he received an answer.

- **Potential Property for Community Park**

Mr. Niño stated that he provided all the CAC members with a map and property information for two properties that could potentially be purchased for park land in Drew Park. He stated the properties are located at 4450 West Ohio Avenue and 4101 Air Cargo Road. The CAC members all indicated they would review the properties.

VII. General Discussion

No general discussion.

VIII. Announcements

No announcements.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Piazza stated he had to leave the meeting due to a prior engagement. Mr. Niño stated that if Mr. Piazza's departed the meeting, a quorum would be lost, and the meeting would have to be adjourned. Ms. Astorquiza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Kulig seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:00p.m.

**Drew Park Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2021

**Tampa Police District 1 Headquarters
3818 West Tampa Bay Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33614**

Attendees

Committee Members: Maritza Astorquiza, Chair; Ann Kulig; Dr. Paige Niehaus; Randy Forister; Wallace Washington; Julio Piazza; Susan Braun (virtual)

Staff: Jesus Niño, Urban Development Manager
Ashlyn Shrewsbury, Economic Development Specialist II

I. Opening Comments / Introductions

Ms. Astorquiza opened the regular meeting of the Drew Park Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at 5:34 p.m. on December 7, 2021, CAC members introduced themselves.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Action Items

Approval of August 18, 2021 Minutes:

- A motion was made to approve the minutes from August 18, 2021 by Ms. Kulig. The motion was seconded by Mr. Piazza. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Niehaus abstaining from the vote.

Tampa Bay Boulevard Linear Park Activation:

- Currently a passive park, the CAC has expressed interest that they would like to convert the park to an active park.
- Mr. Tony Monk, a Landscape Architect with the City of Tampa Parks department, recently walked through certain areas of Drew Park with Mr. Niño to assess the current state of the linear park and streetscapes along certain segments of Lois Avenue (include the roundabout) and Grady Avenue
 - Mr. Monk recommends hiring a consultant to advise the CAC and parks staff on how best to activate the park and design the park with both community and CAC input.
 - If approved to move forward, parks staff will work with contract management to hire a consultant to advise how to best activate the park.
 - There are some concerns with how the linear park space is activated due to the amount of vehicular traffic on either side of the park and the wrong type of activation can put people in danger.
 - Mr. Monk stated that staff will have to manage the work scope that is put together for the consultant really carefully to ensure the proper activation of the park.
 - The consultant role will be to do preliminary studies and costing of the activation of the linear park and neighborhood park.
 - Cost for edge protection will have to be looked at as part of the scope of work.

- Mr. Monk stated that we cannot know what the appropriate activation or edge protection for the linear park can be until the studies are complete and the cost estimation could prompt the CAC to make decision on what activation can be afforded or to use funding elsewhere instead of on parks.
- The studies would not be for a lot of design but for what viable uses can be had at the parks and costing.
- Mr. Monk said it may be worthwhile to wait until after the neighborhood park study is complete to so see what activation should be done at the linear park.
- If the neighborhood park ends up being a more viable active park, the activation there may cause the CAC to reconsider how much activation should be done at the linear park.
- Ms. Kulig stated maybe to look at both the linear park and the neighborhood park at the same time instead of individual projects and then the projects can be more cohesive.
- The CAC would like to combine the activation of the park and the potential new neighborhood park on the Hubert properties as part of one scope and Request for Proposal (RFP).
- Ms. Astorquiza stated that original park land in Drew Park was taken for airport property, which left Drew Park without any park options. She stated that the linear park did not serve the purpose of original intent of the CAC to have an active park for Drew Park.

Neighborhood Park Properties:

- Mr. Nino stated that Parcels 5, 6, 7, and 8, totally 1.97 total acres, and as shown on the map provided to the CAC are City owned properties controlled by the Community Redevelopment Agency. The parcels are along Hubert Ave are the potential location for a new neighborhood park.
 - Per a motion at the last CAC meeting, staff has worked with both Zoning and Parks and Recreation staff to explore these parcels for a potential neighborhood park.
 - Mr. Nino stated that the City's Real Estate department informed him that there may be an option to explore contiguous parcels for acquisition to expand the area for the proposed park.
 - A motion was made by Mr. Forister to allow staff to move forward with drafting an RFP scope to allow staff to pursue, through the City's contract management division, a consultant Landscape Architect company to explore and study the appropriate activation of the Tampa Bay Boulevard Linear Park and the activation of the Hubert Avenue neighborhood park, to provide probable construction cost of the activations, to provide concepts, and to consider the contiguous parcels to the Hubert parcels in case they were purchased to make a bigger neighborhood park. The motion was seconded Ms. Kulig. The motion passed unanimously.
 - The CAC does not want to approach property owners about buying the properties at this point.
 - No motion was made to have Real Estate approach the property owners at this time.

Improvements to Lois and Grady Avenues:

- Mr. Niño and Mr. Monk did a mini walking audit of this area to assess the current landscape conditions.
 - With the original landscaping people completed around 2013 or 2014, it needs an upgrade.
 - Staff recommends having an end-to-end audit of the landscaping completed.
 - At the end of the audit everything could be quantified so that it can be easily rolled into an RFP to put out for bid to complete the work.
 - The Community Redevelopment Area is currently paying for the maintenance in the area.
 - Mr. Monk hopes that the audit will cost less than \$25,000 but does not know a definite number at this time.
 - The auditor can also prepare a cost estimate for fixing the landscaping when the audit is complete.
 - With some of the medians not doing as well after they were originally constructed and large trucks driving over and damaging many of them, the new landscaping may need to be adjusted to accommodate this issue.
 - There is currently many places to pull funds from in the budget for this process.
 - The roundabout on Tampa Bay Boulevard would also be a part of this audit.
 - Once the audit and recommendations are complete by the consultant then the work can be competitively bid.
 - A motion was made by Ms. Kulig, with a second by Mr. Forister to hire a Landscape Architect consultant to complete a landscape audit and planting re-design where appropriate, streetscape and safety improvement recommendations as needed for the entire length of N. Lois Avenue from W. Tampa Bay Boulevard to W. Hillsborough Avenue and N. Grady Avenue from W. MLK Boulevard and W. Crest Avenue and including the roundabout at Lois and Tampa Bay Boulevard. In addition, that the end product provided by the consultant be a scope of work that is ready to bid for construction/improvements. The motion passed unanimously.

Property Disposition – Affordable Housing:

- The Community Redevelopment Area owns two properties at 4221 N. Coolidge Ave. and 4224 N. Hubert Ave., which is surrounded by single-family homes.
 - The Community Redevelopment Plan (CRP) states that these properties should be disposed for affordable housing.
 - A motion was made by Ms. Kulig to allow staff to initiate the process with the City's Real Estate department and CRA staff to prepare and issue out an RFP for disposing these properties, located at 4221 N. Coolidge Avenue and 4224 N. Hubert Avenue for affordable housing with the CAC as the evaluation committee for the proposals. A second was made by Mr. Forister.
 - The CAC would like to consider disposing of these lots and using the revenue to purchasing properties next to the potential neighborhood park on Hubert in order to expand the park.
 - The proposals will come back before the CAC to be the evaluating committee.
 - This original motion will go to the Community Redevelopment Agency board as well for approval.

IV. Crime Prevention Discussion

A motion was made by Ms. Kulig, with a second by Dr. Niehaus to move this item up on the agenda ahead of the Property Acquisition action item. The motion passed unanimously.

- Ms. Tierra Thompson with the Tampa Police Department (TPD) had been present at the meeting to discuss potential community policing projects, but she had to leave early.
- Lieutenant Felts was present at the meeting to provide an update on crime trends in the area.
 - Auto parts theft is on the rise in this area.
 - Catalytic converters are one of the main targets.
 - Organized groups out of Miami area often behind these thefts.
 - The group receives an order for a specific auto part, then at night the group goes out and steals the item to fill the order.
 - Mr. Piazza, who owns an auto business in the area, has caught some of these perpetrators in his business's camera.
 - There have been no other types of crime spikes in this area.
 - TPD is also working to address the homelessness issue.
 - There is an encampment off the Hillsborough loop onto Dale Mabry, and TPD is currently working with the Florida Department of Transportation to address this issue.

V. Staff Reports

Mr. Niño provided the following updates:

- Florida Redevelopment Association Conference:
 - Ms. Astorquiza attended the conference held in Fort Myers, Florida, on behalf of the CAC.
 - Ms. Astorquiza stated that it was a very informative meeting and that she learned a lot, including programs that could be used in the Drew Park area.
- Micro-Mobility Improvements Update:
 - Mr. Niño walked the streets to identify areas with sidewalk gaps from Dale Mabry to Air Cargo.
 - Mr. Niño has also contacted the City's Mobility department to evaluation sidewalk connection issues.
 - With the Mobility department currently overloaded with work and slow response to requested improvements, the CAC would like to go directly to a consultant to have them evaluate the sidewalk gaps that can be closed and other mobility safety issues, then work with Mobility and other City departments from there to address these issues.
 - Mobility already has general contract consultants that they have agreements with that the CAC could potentially use for this project.
 - Hillsborough Community College would also like to make sure there is good connectivity to the campus and the area, included the crosswalk at Hawk's Landing, which the CAC has discussed before.
 - The landscape audit will also look at the crosswalks.
 - A motion was made by Mr. Piazza to move forward with hiring a consultant to do an audit to look at mobility, safety and transportation improvements and sidewalk projects throughout all of Drew Park CRA, and the consultant to provide recommendations that is ready to bid for construction/improvements. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kulig.
 - Mr. Niño will review the Strategic Action Plan and prepare a scope of work for the CAC to review before it goes out to an RFP.
 - Bus stop locations will also be considered in this project.

- There was no public comment on this item.
 - The motion passed unanimously.
- Mobility is also already working on some short-term mobility projects that the CAC had previously requested.
 - These projects included work on Hesperides, Lois, and Air Cargo.
- City of Tampa Fix it Fast Program:
 - The City of Tampa has a Fix it Fast Program where quick fix mobility items can be submitted into a system and the City will go out and look at it within 72 hours.
- Community Policing Projects:
 - Staff and Ms. Astorquiza have been working with Ms. Tierra Thompson to discuss potential community policing projects that can be done in Drew Park.
 - Ms. Thompson had to leave the meeting early, so she will be invited to the next meeting to discuss potential projects further.
 - There is an interactive crime map with link that Mr. Niño will send to the CAC members.
- Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program:
 - The Strategic Action Plan states that the Drew Park CAC should create grant programs to offer the community for improving the area.
 - Mr. Niño presented a draft grant program for residential exterior improvements.
 - This program is the same one that is being used in the West Tampa Community Redevelopment Area currently and can be edited to fit the needs of the Drew Park community.
 - The CAC will review the draft and provide comments back to staff at a future meeting.

V. General Discussion and Questions

- A new Vice Chair needs to be elected by a motion and vote.
 - Ms. Kulig made a motion to elect Mr. Piazza as the new Vice Chair of the CAC. Mr. Washington seconded the motion. There was no public comment on the matter. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Piazza being absent from the vote.

VI. Announcements

- There is a new Circle K being built at the corner of Hillsborough and Lois.
- There's a new Ross going into the old Save-A-Lot building.

Ms. Kulig made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Forister seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Drew Park Community Advisory Committee – Important Dates

CRA Board meeting:	December 9, 2021 9:00 a.m.	City Council Chambers – Old City Hall
Drew Park CAC meeting:	January 4, 2022 5:30 p.m.	Tampa Police District 1 Headquarters