

**Ybor City Community Redevelopment Area
Community Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary**

April 22, 2025, at 4 p.m.

Entrepreneur Collaborative Center, 2101 E. Palm Ave, Tampa, FL 33605

I. Attendance

CAC Member (Last, First)	Seat	Organization	CAC Term Expires	Present or Absent
Austin, Marcia	At-Large	Resident	2025	P
Aye, Olivia	At-Large	Property owner	2025	P
Baia, Larissa	Ex-Officio	Hillsborough Community College	2026	P
Bailey, David	Ex-Officio	Historic Ybor City Neighborhood Civic Assoc.	2026	P
Barbas, Stephen	Ex-Officio	Ybor City Museum Society	2026	P
Barrie, Brittney	At-Large	Work/Own Barrie Hause	2025	P
Calzon, Manny	Ex-Officio	Historic Social Clubs	2026	P
DeGeorge, Tom	Ex-Officio	Ybor Merchants Assoc.	2026	A
Erion, Carisa	At-Large	Work at Casa Ybor	2025	A
Iavarone, Carmine	At-Large	Restaurant/Property Owner	2026	A
McIntyre, Rich	At-Large	Business Owner	2026	P
Murphy, Michael	At-Large	Property Owner	2025	P
Pinillos, Walter	Ex-Officio	Gaybor District Coalition	2026	P
Rhodes, Carolyn Cheatham	Ex-Officio	East Ybor & Gary Neighborhood Civic Association	2026	P
Smith, Jack	At-Large	Resident	2027	P
Simmons, Rich (Chair)	At-Large	Property Owner	2025	P
Trueba, Arnold	At-Large	Hillsborough County Sheriff's office	2025	P (V)
Wojtowicz, Chris	At-Large	Property Owner	2025	P
Capitano Sr., Joe	Emeritus	Property Owner	NA	A
Costantino, Fran	Emeritus	Property Owner	NA	A

Other Attendees: Lee Bell, Andrea White, Mark Rendini, Steven Navarro, Zovillermo Perez

City Staff: Brenda Thrower, Chris Ullian, Captain Dan College, Lt Houston

Start Time: Chair Rich Simmons called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. A quorum was present with 15 members in attendance, 1 virtual and 3 absent.

- II. **Action Item:** Approval of the Ybor CAC Minutes from March 25, 2025. The minutes were offered for review and comment. Hearing no comments, Chair Simmons entertained a motion to approve. ***There was a motion (Wojtowicz/McIntyre) to approve March 25, 2025, CAC meeting minutes. Vote passed unanimously.***
- III. Public Comment: None
- IV. Community Policing Updates –
- **TPD Update** – Captain College introduced Lt Houston. He provided a crime stat report and vehicular burglaries continue to take place in the district. In many cases, these crimes are committed when car doors are left unlocked. There is a march planned for Ybor and will provide info to Ms. Thrower. Most of the protests are held downtown on the corner of Kennedy and Franklin, adjacent to City Hall. Austin said she saw an event planned for May 3 at Centennial Park. Barbas asked about the homeless liaison report and College said that unit is under a different chain of command and he will inquire.
 - **YES Team** – Navarro provided a brief report on activities of the YES Team over the last month. The monthly report was provided too.

Presentations

- a. **Centro Ybor Garage Window Improvements** – Cory Robinson, CRA Arts and Culture Coordinator, provided a presentation on the conditions of the 15 display boxes that surround the first floor of the garage. These spaces need to be repaired and renovated first before they can be utilized as display cases for art. He has been working with City Facilities and Parking divisions to obtain an estimate to fix and prevent leaking in the boxes. The Parking Division is funding the structural repairs needed to the garage by replacing the aging expansion joints. In addition to that repair, Robinson presented a cost estimate for up to \$90,000 for improvements for the ground level window boxes. This proposed estimate will cover the repairs and improvements to the window boxes that have been damaged by the water leaks. The window boxes will be painted white and then activated by local art groups and community organizations to promote the art of Ybor.

There was a motion (Bailey/Rhodes) to ask the City Parking Manager to attend the next Ybor CAC meeting to address how they are handling repairs to the Centro Ybor Parking Garage and ground floor window spaces. Vote passed 12-1 with Larisa Baia, HCC Ybor President abstaining due to conflict. HCC Ybor is one of the tenants in the 15th Street side window boxes.

Reports

- a. **CAC Chair Report- Rich Simmons**
- i. **YCDC Inc. Update** - YCDC continues to process paver orders, and Simmons is organizing a Board meeting to strategize the future of YCDC Inc. next month.
- b. **CRA Staff Reports**
- i. **Projects Report**– included in packet. There was a request to see if the projects could be represented on a map, like with ARC GIS. The stormwater project was mentioned again and there was a request to add it as a project. There was an inquiry about the Centennial Park RFP and scope of work.
 - ii. **Grants Report** – included in the packet. The Team will be presenting the Grants Policy Update in June.

- iii. **Housing Report** – There have been no applications. The information is on the tampagov.net website and you can visit the CRA Housing office at 3808 N. 22nd Street in person.
- iv. **Manager Meeting** –Thrower presented the FY26 Draft Budgets for Ybor CRA I and II that was included in the agenda packet. She walked through each line item and explained the funding recommendations. There was a actively dialogues about the projects and programs with general support for the funding recommendations as presented with a few additions.

There was a motion (Murphy/Aye) to approve the FY26 Ybor CRA I and II budgets with the following adjustments: 1) Add Affordable Housing Unit Creation line item to Ybor II and 2) Add District Sidewalk Improvements to both Ybor I and II.

New Business /Announcements

- a. Semi-truck traffic in the historic district continues to be a problem. Recent incident involved a large commercial truck getting stuck on the railroad tracks on 17th Street as the driver was following GPS. Is there a way to advise trucks using GPS to avoid these routes?
- b. Next CRA Board meetings- May 8 and June 12
- c. Next CAC meeting – June 24, 2025 (No meeting in May)

Chair Simmons adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.