

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

March 25, 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 (V)
Baia, Larissa	Ex-Officio	Hillsborough Community College	2026	P (V)
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	P
Erion, Carisa	At-Large	Work at Casa Ybor	2025	P
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	P (v)

Other Attendees: Lee Bell, Andrea White, Mark Rendini, Steven Navarro, Anabel Sierra, Marcolina Mercado, Darren Chavez, P Erikson, Gavin Caldwell, Claire May

City Staff: Brenda Thrower, Chris Ullian, Captain Dan College, Mike Peterson, Crytal Shiver

Start Time: Chair Rich Simmons called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. A quorum was present with 16 members in attendance, 2 virtual and 2 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/Barrie) to approve February 25, 2025, CAC meeting minutes. Vote passed unanimously.***
- III. Public Comment: Lee Bell announced that Britney Barrie's birthday is today.
- IV. Community Policing Updates
 - **Tampa Police-** Captain College reported on the monthly crime stats. There were no robberies, vehicle thefts or sexual reports. He compared stats to 2024, and it has been the best year in recent years with a significant reduction 8.4 % in total crime. Bailey said that the late-night party in lots is still going on and thinks its best to have visible officers around to curtail the activity. Captain said that most patrols are on 7th Avenue, but they do have roaming patrols that get into the surrounding area. Its difficult to get everywhere but they deploy the best they can and work with HCSO. There have been lots of special events and this has stretched staff resources. Captain addressed the Robinson high school kids and complimented their attendance at this public meeting.
 - **Homeless Liaison** – Captain College announced the reorganization of the department, and the homeless liaisons are no longer in District 3 but now citywide. They are working through this change and there are great officers in the city assigned to this unit.
 - **Code Enforcement** – Officer Renee Lopez and Nick Cox were present and reported on the stats that were included in the packet. For the A-Frame signs, they have not impounded signs yet, but they are at the point of enforcing it and owners will be notified. Some businesses are putting out multiple signs and this is causing issues. Vendors are setting up tables and selling goods on the weekends which is not allowed, and they are going to start enforcing that too. Simmons inquired about the mobile vendors, and they will be enforced too.
 - **YES Team** – Mark Rendini provided a detailed YES Team Activity report this month with statistics and pictures. He mentioned the two district events that took place, Fiesta Day and Knight Parade, and all went well. There was an increase in trash and debris. There is an increase in homelessness this month but there have been less issues. Bailey asked about the men's room issue and the folks handing out. YES Team services the cleaning of the bathrooms but not the security of the facilities. The Parking Garage has a security company that patrols the garage, and coordination has been established and contact information shared so they can respond to issues at the restrooms.

Reports

- a. **CAC Chair Report- Rich Simmons**
 - i. Welcome for Jack Smith, new Ybor CAC member who is a resident of the district.
 - ii. **YCDC Inc. Update** - YCDC continues to process paver orders. Annual tax filings are taken place and he plans to convene a YCDC Board meeting in the next couple of months.
- b. **CRA Staff Reports**

- i. **Projects Report**– included in packet. Thrower reported on the stormwater study and staff reached out to lead City engineer to see if project is planned for CIP. Stantec is conducting an assessment to identify viable CIPs to prioritize, and aware of the Ybor South stormwater project. Wojtowicz reported that a new street name sign at 6th Ave and 20th Street has come apart and needs repair. It was encouraged to report these incidents to www.tampaconnect.com with a picture to expedite repairs. Simmons asked about HART Bus Stops which was deferred due to streetcar additional funding request.
- ii. **Grants Report** – included in the packet.
- iii. **Housing Report** – There have been no applications. Flyers were provided to help distribute to the community. The CRA housing office moved to East Tampa CRA Office at TPD District 3. Staff continues to work with Real Estate to identify potential properties for sale suitable for affordable housing.
- iv. **Manager Meeting** –Thrower announced that the Streetcar Fare Free funding requests was approved by CRA Board. CAC Orientation Training on March 10th was well attended and she provided copies of the presentation. House Bill 991 and Senate Bill 1242 are making their way through the legislative committees and calls for significant changes to the future of CRA's. The Legislative session ends in early May so we will know more about the final bills soon.

Announcements/ New Business

- a. Next CRA Board meeting- April 10, 2025
- b. Next CAC meeting – April 22, 2025
- c. May meeting was cancelled since it follows Memorial Day and concern for attendance. No reports planned for April meeting to allow time to discuss CRA action items including the draft FY26 budget.

Chair Simmons adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.