

CHANNEL DISTRICT



Channel District Improvements Projects

Channel District Strategic Action Plan

Tampa's Channel District is a community redevelopment area (CRA) that is quickly becoming a leading mixed-use residential, entertainment and cultural destination in Tampa. This thriving community just east of Downtown Tampa is home to approximately 1,600 residents, numerous attractions, restaurants and shops.

A Channel District Strategic Action Plan (SAP) was initiated by the City of Tampa to guide the area's growth with capital and aesthetic improvements. The SAP identifies that utility and other improvements are vital to supporting the success of the Channel District's redevelopment. Improvements to water, wastewater, stormwater drainage, roads, power lines, sidewalks, street lighting and public spaces are all recommended in the SAP.

Project Overview

The Channel District Improvements Projects is the first phase of implementing the SAP, which was developed with the input of business and residents in the Channel District. The \$8.6 million projects are being funded by property taxes within the Channel District CRA and includes two separate efforts: a project on York Street and a project on Washington Street.

The York Street project will provide capacity for present and future stormwater drainage. A new stormwater storage vault and drain will be installed that will help protect water quality in Tampa Bay by removing sediment and trash from stormwater before it is discharged into the Ybor Channel. York Street construction also includes new stormwater pipelines, an associated stormwater water quality pump station, and an outfall structure.

The Washington Street project will make improvements above and below ground. Underground, the Washington Street project will upgrade stormwater, wastewater and drinking water pipelines. Above ground, sidewalks will be widened and improved, new landscaping will be planted, and overhead power lines will be buried. Roadways in this area will be narrowed to slow traffic and improve pedestrian safety. New street lighting will combine with other improvements to enhance the community's appearance, appeal and walkability.

Safety First

Each construction site will adhere to strict safety standards and will be restricted from public access with caution tape, safety fences or barricades. The York Street site, including the temporary access road and staging areas, will be fully fenced. Pipelines along Washington

Street will be installed using trench boxes in open trenches. All trenches will be covered and secured at the end of each work day. Please keep children and pets a safe distance from the construction sites at all times.

Keeping Tampa Moving

Keeping traffic moving safely during construction is a priority for the Channel District CRA. During construction, local traffic will be diverted in accordance with the Department of Transportation's or Tampa Traffic Engineering Division's approved detour routing. Traffic to the Florida Aquarium will be rerouted north on Channelside Drive to McKay Street, through the Tampa Port Authority's property south to the Aquarium parking lot entrance. Other detours or lane closures will be clearly marked, and we will use our best efforts to make the detour period as short as possible. Variable message boards, signs and updates to the project web site will keep residents and businesses informed of major road closures and detours.

What to Expect During the Project

- ◆ York Street construction began in April 2010 and is expected to take five months to complete.
- ◆ Washington Street construction will begin when York Street is complete, and the construction schedule and duration will be finalized in late summer.
- ◆ Residents and businesses will receive notification in advance of construction, and updates, major detours and road closures will be posted on the project web site – www.tampa-ucap.com.
- ◆ Maintaining access to businesses and homes will be a top priority.
- ◆ The Channel District CRA will work with the City's arborist to ensure maximum protection of trees. If trimming of trees is necessary, the team will follow the arborist's requirements.
- ◆ The entire construction area will be documented with video prior to construction activity. Construction crews will take every precaution to protect valuable property, including mailboxes, driveways and landscaping. Property will be restored to its original condition.
- ◆ Restoring streets is a priority. Streets will be restored to their original or better condition.
- ◆ A project inspector, wearing a blue hard hat and blue vest, will be stationed in the project area during construction to address concerns and answer questions.

There are a number of ways to stay up-to-date on the Channel District Improvements Projects:

- ◆ Access the dedicated UCAP program website www.tampa-ucap.com and click on Projects, then select Channel District Improvements Projects
- ◆ Call the project hotline (813) 777-9222
- ◆ Talk to the project inspector stationed in the area during construction.

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A Channel District Strategic Action Plan (SAP) was initiated by the City of Tampa to guide the area's growth with capital and aesthetic improvements. The SAP identifies that utility and other improvements are vital to supporting the success of the Channel District's redevelopment. Improvements to water, wastewater, stormwater drainage, roads, power lines, sidewalks, street lighting and public spaces are all recommended in the SAP.

Washington Street Overview

The Channel District Improvements Projects is the first phase of implementing the SAP, which was developed with the input of business and residents in the Channel District. The \$8.6 million projects are being funded by property taxes within the Channel District CRA and include two separate efforts: a project on York Street (nearly complete) and a project on Washington Street.

The Washington Street project will make improvements above and below ground. Underground, the Washington Street project will upgrade stormwater, wastewater, drinking water pipelines and power lines. Above ground, sidewalks will be widened and improved, new landscaping will be planted, and overhead power lines will be buried. Roadways in this area will be narrowed to slow traffic and improve pedestrian safety. New street lighting will combine with other improvements to enhance the community's appearance, appeal and walkability.

Washington Street Construction

The Washington Street project is being constructed in two phases to coordinate intersection closures, minimize disruption and keep traffic moving in the area. Phase 1 construction, slated for late August, starts at Channelside Drive and proceeds west to 180 feet west of 12th Street. Phase 1 construction is expected take approximately three months. Phase 2 construction, slated for early December, begins 180 feet west of 12th Street and proceeds west to Meridian Avenue. Phase 2 construction is expected to be complete in the second quarter of 2011.

Partial restoration will coincide with each phase of the project, with full restoration being completed at the end of Phase 2.

Safety First

Washington Street construction will adhere to strict safety standards. Construction sites will be restricted from public access with caution tape, safety fences or barricades. Pipelines will be installed along Washington Street using trench boxes in open trenches. All trenches will be covered and secured at the end of each work day. Please keep children and pets a safe distance from the construction sites at all times.

Keeping Tampa Moving

Keeping pedestrian and vehicle traffic moving safely during construction is a priority for the Channel District CRA. Starting in late August, parts of Washington Street will be closed to vehicle traffic. Detours or lane closures will be clearly marked, and we will use our best efforts to make the detour period as short as possible. The sidewalk on the south side of Washington Street will be closed during construction. Pedestrians should follow signs to other safe pathways.

What to Expect During the Project

- ◆ Washington Street construction is scheduled to begin in late August and is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2011.
- ◆ Residents whose on-street parking is affected by construction will be notified of temporary parking arrangements.
- ◆ The sidewalk on the south side of Washington Street will be closed; pedestrians should use the north sidewalk or other safe pathways.
- ◆ Maintaining access to businesses and homes will be a top priority.
- ◆ Construction and traffic updates will be posted on the project web site – www.tampa-ucap.com.
- ◆ The Channel District CRA will work with the City's arborist to ensure maximum protection of trees. If trimming of trees is necessary, the team will follow the arborist's requirements.
- ◆ The entire construction area will be documented with video prior to construction activity. Construction crews will take every precaution to protect valuable property, including mailboxes, driveways and landscaping. Property will be restored to its original condition.
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