

**CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA
COMMISSION WORKSHOP SESSION
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2005
1:00 P.M.**

Welcome to the City of Treasure Island Commission Meeting. If you wish to speak on a topic that is on this evening's agenda, a speaker's form [available in the rear of the room] must be completed and given to the Deputy City Clerk. Please do not address the Commission from your seat, but rather from the podium where your comments can be heard by all and recorded as required by Florida law. Unscheduled topics may be presented under the Public Comments section of the agenda.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Retreat for Commission
 - a. Team Building/with Facilitator
 - b. Issues for Discussion/with Facilitator/Downtown Redevelopment (design & marketing)
2. Streetscaping Design of 104th and 108th
3. Evaluation of Maintenance
4. Redevelopment of the North End of Treasure Island
5. Land Development Regulations
6. New City Hall
7. Expanded Marina – (Treasure Bay & Downtown)
8. Causeway Without Tolls
9. Boat Ramps
10. Police E-Alerts
11. Beach Trail Extension Study
12. Gulf Boulevard Safety
13. Dune Walkovers
14. Sewer System Infrastructure Update
15. E-News/Web News
16. St. Petersburg Issues
17. Repaving Neighborhood Streets
18. Rosselli Playground Update on Repairs
19. Progress Energy Examines and Repairs Malfunctioning Street Lights
20. Side Set Backs
21. Beach and Bay Access Issues (pave or shell)
22. Grant Programs
23. Undergrounding Utilities
24. Kingfish Drive Pavilion & Parking
25. Sunset Vista Trailhead Parking, Water Fountain and Painting
26. Elnor Island Cleanup
27. Drainage Improvements and Sidewalk Report on West Gulf Boulevard
28. Residential Traffic Calming
29. Slow-Zone in Blind Pass – All day, Everyday for Safety and Manatee Protection
30. Master Plan Layout of the Whole Downtown Park
31. Grading the Parking Lot next to the Beach Pavilion

II. OLD BUSINESS:

III. ADJOURNMENT:

Any person desiring to file an appeal to any action taken by the Commission at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose may be required to insure that a verbatim transcript is made. Said transcript shall be made by the appellant at his or her expense. The City maintains a tape recording of all public hearings. In the event that you wish to appeal a decision, the tape may or may not adequately insure a verbatim record of the proceedings. Therefore, you may wish to provide a court reporter at your expense.

Any person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding is entitled to assistance at no cost. Please contact the office of the City Clerk in writing at 120 – 108 Avenue, Treasure Island FL 33706 or by phone at 727 547 4575 at least two working days prior to the meeting to advise what assistance is needed.

Commission Issues for April 19, 2005 Workshop Agenda

Item #	Department	Issues	MCC	Priority	Fiscal Year	Est. Cost (000's)	Available Funds	Fund Source	Current Program	Comments
1	Stone	Retreat for Commission a. Team Building/with facilitator b. Issues for Discussion/with facilitator/ Downtown Redevelopment (design & marketing)	Malooof	1	2005	1	Y	Comm	N	
2	Stone	Streetscaping Design of 104th and 108th	Malooof	2	2006	10	Y	Penny	N	
3	Hambridge	Evaluation of Maintenance (how do we look?)	Malooof	1	ongoing	staff/TBD	Y	Multi	Y	
4	Stone	Redevelopment of the North End of Treasure Island	Malooof	1	2006	staff	Y	N.A.	N	
5	Rosetti	LDRs	Malooof	1	2006	staff	Y	TBD	Y	
6	Stone	New City Hall	Malooof	3	TBD	TBD	NO	TBD	N	
7	Hayduke	Expanded Marina - (Treasure Bay & Downtown) feasibility	Malooof Kraus/ Collins	2	2005	TBD	Y	TBD	Y	
8	LaFrance/ Hambridge	Causeway without Tolls	Malooof/ Gayton	1	2006	TBD	TBD	TBD	N	
9	Hambridge	Boat Ramps	Kraus/ Gayton	2	2006	50	Y	Grants/ Penny	Y	
10	Peckington/Santos	Police E-Alerts	Kraus	3	2006	staff	Y	P.D./I.T.	N	
11	Stone	Beach Trail Extension Study	Malooof/ Kraus	1	2005	50-75	Y	Penny	Y	
12	Hambridge	Gulf Boulevard Safety	Kraus/ Collins	1	2005-2006	450	Y	FED Grant	Y	
13	Hambridge	Dune Walkovers	Kraus/ Collins	1	2005-2006	410	Y	FED Grant	Y	
14	Hambridge	Sewer System Infrastructure Update	Kraus/ Collins	1	2005-2006	500	Y	FED Grant	Y	
15	Santos	E-News/Web News	Kraus	3	2005	staff	Y	I.T.	N	
16	Stone	St. Petersburg Issues	Kraus	1	2006	staff	TBD	TBD	N	
17	Hambridge	Repairing neighborhood streets	Collins	1	Ongoing	TBD	Y	Gas Tax	Y	
18	Hambridge	Roselli Playground Update on Repairs	Collins	1	2005	6	Y	Rec-PW	Y	
19	Hambridge	Progress Energy examines and repairs malfunctioning street lights	Collins	1	ongoing	TBD	Y	PW	Y	
20	Rosetti	Side set backs	Collins	2	2006	staff	Y	CID	Y	
21	Hambridge	Beach and Bay Access Issues (pave or shell)	Gayton	2	2006	TBD	TBD	TBD	Y	

22	Stone	Grant Programs (more aggressive)	Gayton	1	ongoing	60	Lobbyist/ staff	Admin	Y
23	Hambidge	Undergrounding Utilities	Gayton/ Collins	3	ongoing	1,000 per mile	TBD	TBD	Y
24	Hayduke	Kingfish Drive Pavilion & Parking	Gayton	1	2005-2006	TBD	TBD	TBD	Y
25	Hayduke	SVTP Parking, Water Fountain & Painting	Gayton	1	2006	TBD	TBD	TBD	Y
26	Hambidge	Elmor Island Cleanup	Gayton	2	2006	TBD	TBD	TBD	N
27	Hambidge	Drainage improvements and sidewalk report on West Gulf Boulevard	Blidz	1	TBD	TBD	No	TBD	N
28	Hambidge/ Pelkington	Residential Traffic Calming	Blidz	2	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Y
29	Pelkington	Slow zone in Blind Pass all day, every day for safety and manatee protection	Blidz	3	ongoing	staff	Y	PD	Y
30	Hayduke	Master plan layout of the whole downtown park	Blidz	1	2006	TBD	TBD	TBD	N
31	Hayduke	Grading the parking lot next to the Beach Pavilion	Blidz	2	TBD	Staff	TBD	TBD	Y

COMMISSION ISSUES

#1 – RETREAT FOR COMMISSION (TEAM BUILDING AND/OR DOWNTOWN REVELOPMENT) ADMINISTRATION

A suggestion has been made that the City Commission dedicated some time to conduct a workshop regarding team building and/or downtown redevelopment. Subject to the Commission's direction these could occur on the same date. The Civic Group has been addressing downtown issues and has also requested an opportunity to hear from professionals in the area who have been involved in successful downtown redevelopment initiatives. An idea for the redevelopment component might be to invite the consultant team that has been working countywide for the past two years on redevelopment issues, including key downtown and special district areas. Treasure Island has been identified as an area with this type of potential. Administration suggests that if this occurs, that a joint workshop be conducted with the City Commission, Civic Group, Beach Stewardship Committee, Beautification and Planning and Zoning Board members.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#2 – STREETSCAPING OF 104TH & 108TH

Administration

The downtown area is currently experiencing significant residential redevelopment along 108th Avenue. It is likely that this trend will continue in the downtown area. The 104th Avenue area is also a prime candidate for residential redevelopment and currently represents many residential units. Both streets lack full sidewalk treatment and little streetscape improvement is in place. These two streets define the north and south boundaries of the downtown area and will become increasingly pedestrian as residential development occurs. These streets and the community overall would benefit from upgrading the quality of these corridors with a streetscape program. This treatment does not need to be as extensive as the 107th Avenue streetscape. However, sidewalks and street trees along both sides of each street would significantly improve the area and provide pedestrians and bicyclists a better and safer environment. Administration recommends that the city's landscape architect develop a design for these improvements and work with the community to upgrade the look of these key corridors.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#3 – MAINTENANCE EVALUATION

Public Works Department

In general I believe that overall City maintenance is good; there are specific areas that need to be addressed:

- a. Street Ends: There has never been a standard established for these. Some have been taken over by the abutting property owners for their private use and none get the routine attention that they probably should receive. Our grounds crews spend a day every 3 months cleaning up, weeding, etc. and that is all the time they have. Should we develop a standard, then costs could be attributed and the maintenance addressed after the adoption of those standards. There are approximately twenty of these on the bay side (beach side are considered beach access.)
- b. City buildings are old, but, except for the roofs, are in good shape. The City Hall, Community Center and, to a lesser degree Police/Fire, DPW and Treasure Bay need roofs replaced. The beach pavilion, clock tower and SVTHP's pergola all need painting every two years due to the severe environment of their location. An approximate cost for roof replacement for City Hall and the Community Center is \$70,000 and \$20,000 respectively. However, the Community Center estimate assumes that no air conditioning work will be required. Currently, we are experiencing A.C. problems at the Community Center. If this system requires modification, the recommendation is to remove the A.C. from the roof. This would increase the roofing cost.
- c. The grounds foreman, Don Spatzer, performs a monthly inspection of all landscaped areas in the City. The WPC crew performs routine checks of all life stations and the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system continuously monitors each lift station and telephonically reports problems to the "on call" person.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#4 – REDEVELOPMENT OF NORTH

END OF TREASURE ISLAND

Administration

The northern end of Treasure Island will soon experience significant redevelopment near the John's Pass Bridge on both the east and west sides of Gulf Boulevard. A local family has consolidated property that represents major redevelopment opportunities. The current uses, particularly the marina operation near Gator's is an under utilization of the property and in staff's opinion, the wrong use for this property. The property owner has indicated an interest in working with the city and the community to develop a mix use plan that has the potential to serve both the residents of the city and visitors, significantly increase the tax base and provide a major boost for the tourism industry. The current zoning on the property may not provide the flexibility to provide the mix of uses and design treatment that best address this opportunity. Administration recommends that the city approach the property owner and suggest that an effort be initiated to define alternatives for this area and to work with the community to development a consensus for redevelopment.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#5 – LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

Planning Department

The issue of the City's land development regulations has been ongoing for a number of years. In the fall of 2001, City Planner Lynn Rosetti conducted a series of neighborhood and business meeting workshops in an effort to get public input into the type of changes and opportunities the community wanted with respect to the LDR's.

These meetings resulted in the identification of numerous issues and concerns relating to both land development regulations and community appearance. Staff generally clustered the main issues into four major categories:

- 1) Hotel and motel districts;
- 2) Residential;
- 3) Housekeeping, general, and generic; and,
- 4) Commercial, condos, and apartments.

A number of these issues are related to the redevelopment of Treasure Island. Due to the fact that Treasure Island is completely built out, the island's development efforts constitute redevelopment. In fact, redevelopment is one of the most important issues facing Pinellas County today. The entire county is in the forefront of the redevelopment issue statewide due to limited vacant land. With redevelopment comes the opportunity to redefine the community and ensure quality development. Such an effort will be a part of the LDR revision process.

At the current price and market condition it is likely that almost all multi-family or commercial waterfront properties will be redeveloped in the next ten years. Similarly, the pace of significant renovation and "knockdowns" for new construction will continue at a steady pace in the residential neighborhoods. The land development regulations should be revisited to determine if current standards are workable in a redevelopment environment.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#6 – NEW CITY HALL

Administration

The current City Hall space is inadequate for the staff that is currently housed in the space. Many office spaces have double or triple the staff in these spaces compared to the intended design. The space for the City Commission is also inadequate and requires that the elected officials use the only conference room in City Hall as office space for the five members of the City Commission. Similarly, the Commission Chambers double as space for recreation activities such as aerobics and art classes. While this is a very effective use of the space, it requires that the Chamber be “set up and broken down” for each City Commission meeting and all of the boards and committees that use the space. The shortage of conference room space frequently requires the staff to conduct meetings at the lunch area table. Although, the current condition is over crowded, the need for a new City Hall is not a “front burner” item. However, there are a number of issues that will need to be addressed prior to any direction toward a new facility. Among these are, final decisions regarding the use of the Community Center area, the alternatives for the site that City Hall currently is located, a space needs analysis and a funding solution. Administration recommends that when the Causeway Bridge is completed that a detailed design for the Community Center area be developed which would include space for City Hall at that location or redeveloping the City Hall at the current location. Once those decisions have been made the future design and funding for a new facility can be addressed. It should be noted that a key component of capital funding for local governments in Pinellas County, the Penny for Pinellas sales tax, will be up for renewal in the next half of this decade. This source of funding would provide a key component of financing a new City Hall.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#7 – EXPAND MARINA AT TREASURE BAY

Recreation Department

The City of Treasure Island currently has a Service Agreement with Delta Seven, Inc. to provide a study to determine whether or not conditions are suitable to pursue a full feasibility study and begin the permit application. Delta Seven, Inc. will complete a sonar sweep of the waters to determine depths, obstructions, etc... and aerial photography for indications of submerged vegetation. The cost for this study is not to exceed \$2,720 and is being funded out of the 2004-05 budget. This work is scheduled to be completed by May 2005. The staff and consultant will then prepare a presentation for the City Commission to determine whether to proceed.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#8 – CAUSEWAY WITHOUT TOLLS

Finance Department

The current fiscal year is the last full year that the city will collect tolls from the Causeway. By mid 2006, assuming no loss of construction time, the first half of the new bascule bridge will open and at that point the tolls will be eliminated. Finance is currently analyzing the impact of the bridge construction and the one way toll on revenue given the January through March 2005 revenue and will be able to report on this projection at the workshop. One of the issues that the City Commission will need to determine is the cost of bridge passes for FY 06, which as indicated above, will be a partial year. However, it is likely that revenue will be reduced from historic levels. Regardless of the revenue level, the estimated costs for maintenance of the new bridges and the causeway has been developed as follows:

Drawbridge (includes bridge tenders expense, operation and maintenance)	\$234,000
Fixed Bridges (maintenance)	\$ 20,000
Causeway (roadway, traffic signals, street lights, landscape)	\$335,000
Overhead (Salaries charged directly to Causeway/Bridges and Administrative Charges)	\$346,000
Total	\$935,000

Without reductions in these costs, this funding level represents approximately .9 mills of funding.

It should be noted that prior to the option of accepting the \$50 million grant from the federal government, the city had refined the funding option necessary to construct the new bridge using toll revenues. This financing analysis indicated that even if the Causeway pass cost was raised to \$80 and the individual tolls were increased to \$1 each way, that toll revenue would only support \$25 million of construction cost. The other \$25 million would have had to come from debt service obligation (usually General Fund) sources that would represent an additional 1.4 mills. Clearly, significant additional revenue was going to be required regardless of the "tolls vs. no tolls" option.

Staff has been discussing options that will reduce the projected \$935,000 cost of the new Causeway system. This include options from transferring the Causeway and Bridge system to FDOT to transferring the St. Petersburg portion of the Causeway and east bridge to St. Petersburg to reducing the maintenance costs. These options are not yet refined and should be the topic of specific discussion during the FY 06 budget process.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#9 – BOAT RAMPS

Public Works Department

The City has 3 boat ramps located at 84th, 100th and 123rd Avenues. All are in need of repair to the ramps (a marine construction contract) and some land-side work. Costs for the marine construction are anticipated to be in the \$20,000 to \$25,000 range for each ramp. Land-side work will depend on the standard selected for the boat ramp areas.

Currently all three ramp locations have surfaces that are compacted fill material. Paving and improving the aesthetics of these areas will require drainage systems and possibly irrigation systems. Also, none of these areas include adequate parking. Limited parking is appropriate at the two ramps in the neighborhood areas. However, the ramp at 100th Avenue would be appropriate for expansion. The City has received correspondence from the property owner to the north offering this property for sale. The proposed price is \$675,000. Administration will be presenting this option to the Commission at the April 19, 2005, meeting. Staff is currently investigating grant opportunities; however, the property owner may not be willing to wait for grant options to be secured.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#10 – POLICE E-ALERTS

Police Department

Several months ago the Police Department provided information to our citizens on the city's website pertaining to solicitors. It offered not just the law concerning solicitors, but also guidelines on what to do if approached or upon observing anything suspicious about people in the neighborhood.

The city staff proposes developing a program for expanding this concept to include an array of law enforcement issues that will arm our citizens with information to protect themselves and their property. It will also provide them with guidelines to assist the police in preventing crime, identify law violators and arrest criminals. This will require our police and information technology staff to develop a regular program. An outline of the type of information, staffing requirements, technology issues and cost will be developed and presented to the City Commission. This program will be developed by the end of this fiscal year.

The use of E-mails to alert citizens of policing issues has several areas of concern. First of all a system of keeping E-mail addresses up to date and/or adding new ones can be time intensive. There are also concerns regarding liability and creating a public record of private E-mail addresses. A better option than "E-mailing" is to provide the same information via the city's web site so that anyone could access the information. That way citizens with internet capabilities can access and centralize points of information on the web site rather than have the city sending out hundreds or thousands of emails. Administration does not support an email alert system at the current time.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#11 – BEACH TRAIL EXTENSION

Administration

The existing Beach Trail in Treasure Island has proven to be a popular location for visitors and residents on the island. The current trail is little more than an expanded sidewalk and small sand wall. The current fiscal year budget has funding to develop alternatives for the extension of the trail both north and south and for upgrading the existing trail. There are also opportunities to define how the public land east of the trail, that has historically been utilized by the contiguous private property owner's, can be integrated into an overall improved trail environment in a way that provides use for both the public and private owners. The City has retained a landscape consultant to develop these plans and this work will be under soon. The city has an agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for funding of \$380,000 for the extension of the trail. This funding is in addition to the NOAA funding that created the Sunset Vista Trailhead Park.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#12 – GULF BOULEVARD SAFETY

Public Works Department

The City will be hiring a Transportation Engineer of Record and will have that firm study this issue. The request for SOQ's will go out this week. Federal grant money is available for at least a portion of this work. Congressman Young notified the City that a grant for \$450,000 has been earmarked for Gulf Boulevard cross walks. The engineer will evaluate potential locations, appropriate design options, FDOT permitting issues and estimated costs. It should be noted that the FY05 City Budget included \$220,000 of City funding (Penny for Pinellas Funds) for up to five cross walks.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#13 – DUNE WALKOVERS

Public Works Department

The City has 25 dune walkovers that it maintains. Two of these are relatively new, having been re-built last year. Material costs for the walkovers using the Trex decking ranges from \$7,000 to \$9,000; the latest contract price for construction of one dune walkover at SVTHP was \$20,000. Congressman Young notified the City that \$400,000 has been earmarked for beach walkovers. Depending on costs at the time this funding is available, many if not all, the walkovers may be funded. It should be noted that the Public Works Director is working with the grant administration to determine if some portion of this funding (approximately \$50,000) could also be used for upgrading the boat ramps.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#14 – SEWER SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

Water Pollution Control Department

As part of our federal lobbying effort, the City was required to fill out a form before any Congressional review would be done. Part of that form requested information on the availability of State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans. The City has since provided information to the FDEP for consideration of an SRF loan for the purpose of conducting a sanitary sewer evaluation study (SSES). It is believed that the \$500,000 that the City is obtaining in federal grant form to pay for the master control center at the master pump station requires a 45% match in local funding. DPW Director will be attending a federal grant workshop in Atlanta in May and will get all of the particulars at that time. If done, the SSES will provide data on where the system is deficient and what the available remedies are.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#15 – E-NEW/WEB NEWS

Police and IT Departments

SEE ITEMS No 10.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#16 – ST. PETERSBURG ISSUES

Administration

Once the new bridge is complete the funding for maintaining the bridge from tolls will be terminated. Historically, Treasure Island has maintained the portion of the Causeway that is in the City of St. Petersburg city limits. This is an unusual arrangement that dates back many decades. This arrangement needs to be evaluated to determine if there is an option to have the City of St. Petersburg assume maintenance responsibility for the portion of the Causeway in their city limits. There may be several alternatives that are available including the maintenance of the small east bridge, landscape and irrigation maintenance only or an arrangement where the City of St. Petersburg provides Treasure Island funding to continue maintenance of these improvements.

Another issue related to the City of St. Petersburg is the St. Petersburg Municipal Beach in Treasure Island. The condition of the landscaping in the parking area and the age of the concession facility need to be addressed. Like the Causeway, the legal circumstances with this property need to be evaluated to determine the appropriate options. At a minimum this property should be upgraded and properly maintained. The Civic Group, in their recent endorsement of the Beach Trail extension and upgrades, identified this property as an opportunity for integration into the overall design treatment for the Beach Trail, which runs directly west and is linked to the concession building.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#17 – REPAVING NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS

Public Works Department

Staff is currently analyzing the results of the field work that was done on the City's streets. This analysis will result a ranking of streets/street segments based on severity of deterioration type of fix and related costs. Typically, gas tax revenue funding is sued for this effort; Finance Department would have those numbers.

Analysis should be complete by late summer/early fall. Depending on the road surface condition, there are five (5) basic remedies that could be applied:

- 1) Crack sealing (labor intensive, but low cost, usually not done alone);
- 2) crack sealing and overlay;
- 3) shim (base course) and overlay (wearing course);
- 4) milling and overlay (base course and wearing course);
- 5) total reconstruction of the road and drainage system.

Typically, one tries to stay w/ options 2&3 above. These options run about \$18 per linear foot (2) to \$24.75/lf (3). This is equivalent to \$95,000 to \$131,000 per mile (costs based on bid prices for the bascule bridge project). Due to the fact that we only have about \$210,000 in our gas revenue tax coffers, and that number is only increased annually by about \$68,000, I believe that it is imperative that we proceed on a worst case basis rather than a neighborhood at a time.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#18 – ROSSELLI PLAYGROUND UPDATE ON REPAIRS

Recreation Department

Don Spatzer, Grounds Foreman, has provided you with the following repairs and costs.

12/7/04	New water fountain	\$ 2,450
10/15/04	Fence repair by 3 rd base dugout	\$ 110
1/7/05	Fence repair 1 st base line	\$ 90
1/14/05	Playground equipment repair	\$ 690
1/27/05	Playground surface material	\$ 1,392
3/8/05	Shuffleboard repair & refinish	\$ 596

Also, I have a proposal from Welch Tennis Courts to repair and resurface the tennis courts. The cost is \$10,900. I am currently awaiting the cost to replace the tennis court fence.

There have also been requests by the neighborhood to completely replace the fencing for the ball field and to add additional playground equipment. The costs and improvements will be provided to the City Commission in conjunction with the FY06 proposed budget.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#19 – PROGRESS ENERGY EXAMINES AND REPAIRS MALFUNCTIONING STREET LIGHTS

Public Works

Street light repairs by Progress Energy. The City performed City-wide evaluation of street light outages in March 2005. This report was given to Progress Energy on March 23, 2005, and Progress Energy started repairs on March 24, 2005.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#20 – SIDE SET BACKS

Planning Department

Although this issue is separate from Item #5, *LDR's*, any decisions relating to side setbacks need to be part of the overall LDR philosophy and report. This item will be incorporated with the LDR issue and will be done at the same time. Staff will be prepared to discuss concerns and answer questions regarding this item.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#21 – BEACH AND BAY ACCESS ISSUES

Public Works Department

No standard currently exists for these relatively narrow lanes except for keeping the vegetation in check and picking up trash. This was partially addressed in #3 regarding city wide maintenance. On a preliminary basis, staff suggests that the bayside street ends may be more appropriate for a more “urban” treatment which could put in a bench, ADA accessibility and landscaping. In contrast most of the beach access points should remain in a more natural state. However, there should be “major” points of beach access that provide an upgraded hard surface and connections to the Beach Trail. The City landscape architect should be requested to provide a “standard” design for the bay access points and the major beach access points. Uniform signage and enforcement should occur for both.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#22 – GRANT PROGRAMS

Administration

The City of Treasure Island has been very successful in securing a variety of grant funds to assist the city in development of various programs and projects. The largest is clearly the \$50 million dollar federal grant for the construction of the new main Causeway Bridge. In the current fiscal year the city received a total of \$1.35 million dollars in federal grants for upgrade of the sewerage system, beach walkovers and Gulf Boulevard cross walks. Next year the City will receive \$380,000 for the expansion of the Beach Trail. The key to successfully competing for all grant funds is to have well define projects that closely match the available grant program and to make personal contacts by internal staff, elected officials and lobbyists with the key decision makers related to the particular opportunity. The City staff receives monthly notifications of grant opportunities and defines those that fit our circumstances and responds accordingly.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#23 – UNDERGROUNDING UTILITIES

Public Works Department

The last information that DPW had concerning this issue was the County's desire to underground utilities along Gulf Blvd. The estimated costs were in excess of \$1M per mile and the effort was dropped. However, recently the BIG C has expressed a desire for the County Commission to revisit this project given the concern about the tourism industry in the County and the large tax base that the beach communities represent. There have also been expressions of interest for possible undergrounding in the residential neighborhoods. This also is extremely expensive and is unlikely to have a revenue source other than local sources. At this time, this level of expense is unlikely to receive a priority status.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#24 – KINGFISH DRIVE PAVILION

Recreation Department

The Public Works Department proposed in the 2004-05 budget the demolition of the existing pavilion, building of a new pavilion, pouring new slabs and sidewalks, building a retaining wall at the end of the parks and some seawall repair for a cost of \$15,800. The estimate did not include landscaping, benches and picnic tables. Only \$2,000 was allocated in the 2004-05 budget for the removal of the existing pavilion. There are no funds allocated to complete the remaining scope of work in this year's budget. It is feasible to budget the remaining funds with the additional costs for landscaping, picnic tables and benches in the FY06 budget.

Phil Graham and Associates is being asked to prepare an estimate to upgrade the existing site and provide recommendations for a new structure at the site. Once this estimate is developed staff will present this to the City Commission for direction.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#25 – SUNSET VISTA TRAILHEAD PARK

Recreation Department

The Public Works Department is currently obtaining bids for the painting of the Sunset Vista Trailhead Park, Beach Pavilion and Clock Tower for the 2005-06 budget. Additionally, we can budget additional funds to install a water fountain on the site for an estimated cost of \$3,000 for a gravel fountain, fittings and sidewalk/slab.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#26 – ELNOR ISLAND

Planning Department

In 2003, City Planner Lynn Rosetti worked with TIBA and Bob Dowling to seek grant monies for the removal of the Brazilian Pepper on Elnor Island. A grant application was made by the TIBA to the Tampa Bay Estuary Program requesting \$7,500. The TIBA volunteers and donated services were going to provide the matching monies. Although a grant was not awarded due to a large volume of applicants, the grant coordinator encouraged us to apply again.

As part of any effort to clean up Elnor Island, we should again attempt to get grant money to eradicate the Brazilian Pepper. Since most such grants are matching grants, we should determine if there is still adequate community volunteer interest to match such a grant.

Historically, Elnor Island clean-up has been a volunteer activity.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#27 – DRAINAGE AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS ON WEST GULF BOULEVARD

Public Works Department

Stormwater runoff in this area outfalls to the bay, not the Gulf. Sunset Beach is low and drainage outfalls are typically below mean sea level. Drainage ponds are on the low areas of West Gulf Boulevard. Where the City had land (Parking Lots 2&3) it has used them as retention areas and moved the ponded water off of West Gulf in those areas. Raising West Gulf would put the ponded water onto the residential areas. There may be other engineering solutions, but a comprehensive drainage study would be required to identify these and costs associated with these alternatives.

Currently there is a sidewalk on the west side of the street. Some of the panels are cracked and could be replaced, but I didn't see any that were an immediate tripping hazard. There is standing water after last night's shower, but that is typical of the area. No sidewalk exists on the east side of the street.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#28 – RESIDENTIAL TRAFFIC CALMING

Police Department

Patrol Units are assigned to utilize the radar to enforce speed laws on all main and frequent traveled roadways, but, this is contingent upon availability of those units when not providing a multitude of other police services to the community. In order to maintain a high and constant level of traffic enforcement effort, overtime expenditures, or adding additional police personnel, would be required to assign officers for traditional traffic law enforcement assignments on key corridors:

Capri Boulevard
115th Avenue
Paradise Boulevard
West Gulf Boulevard
Bayshore Boulevard
Gulf Boulevard

Even if the use of a great amount of overtime was authorized, the simple fact of being a small agency negates a constant daily assignment of this nature. The priority for enforcement is based on numerous complaints from residents of speeding on the above streets. It should be noted that justification for a higher level of enforcement on these streets cannot be based on the traffic crash rate, which is relatively low, but given the increase in pedestrians, biking and younger children in recent years gives cause for public safety concerns. It should also be noted patrol units track school buses at their various bus stops when time allows.

The Public Works Department has recently completed up to date speed and volume studies for: Sunset Beach, Paradise Island, Isle of Palms and Isle of Capri neighborhoods and for the Clock Tower area. Jerry Dabkowski, the City's traffic engineering consultant, is evaluating these studies and will make recommendations regarding appropriate options for each location. These options may range from increased enforcement to physical improvements such as speed tables or stop signs. Continuing citizen education is also a key ingredient.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#29 – SLOW ZONE IN BLIND PASS – ALL DAY

Police Department

Changing the current boating speed regulations for Blind Pass will require the cooperation and mutual perspective of both the Treasure Island City Commission and the St. Pete Beach City Commission. This was an issue several years ago and after considerable evaluation and debate, the current regulations were jointly approved.

Currently slow boat speeds are required on all weekends and holidays. Week days, which have a significantly reduced number of boaters, allow boats to proceed “on plane” if desired. If the City Commission desires to further regulate boat speeds seven days a week, the Commission needs to initiate a discussion of this alternative with the St. Pete Beach City Commission. The reason for required cooperation is that the city limits between the two cities runs through the middle of the Blind Pass channel.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#30 – MASTER PLAN LAYOUT OF TREASURE ISLAND PARK

Recreation Department

Staff recommends that we start the planning phase of this project in the 2006 budget as we can not start any work until the construction of the bridge project is complete as the park is currently being used for the storage of bridge construction material. Staff has contacted Phil Graham's office regarding the estimated cost of a conceptual study for the park, and he has indicated that would cost approximately \$4,000. Also, there has been some discussion among the Hotel/Motel Association regarding the installation of an entertainment/band shelter equipped with lighting and sound for future events in Treasure Island Park. Staff has also contacted the cities of Seminole and Dunedin on the costs of their band shelters, which are between \$50,000-70,000. The opportunity to use this area for outdoor events will be assessed in the conceptual plan.

COMMISSION ISSUES

#31 – GRADING PARKING LOT 2

Public Works Department

This is done at approximately 6 month intervals. The lot also functions as a retention area and is an efficient and inexpensive alternative to historic street flooding in the area.