

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FOR CITY COMMISSION MEETING APRIL 11, 2011

1. Workshops

April 25 – 6:00 p.m.

Comprehensive Plan Amendments

May 6 – 9:00 a.m. to noon at the University Area Community Center

Comprehensive Planning Joint Workshop with Hillsborough County, Tampa and Temple Terrace.

May 23 – 6:15 p.m.

Financial Trends Workshop

July 11 – 4:00 p.m.

Preliminary Budget Workshop

July 25 – 3:00 p.m.

Budget Workshop

August 1 – 4:00 p.m.

Budget Workshop

2. Collins Street Parking Lot Time Capsule Sculpture

At the March 14 meeting, the City Commission conceptually approved a sculpture to be placed over the entombed time capsule at the City's Collins Street parking lot subject to staff and Historic Resources Board recommendation. In addition to the site plan and artist rendering presented, the following will be need to be submitted in order to proceed:

- Foundation Permit, sealed Engineering drawings to scale including a footer to verify ADA requirements, dimensional structural data, and wind load calculation.
- An agreement with the artist including a waiver of all rights to the sculpture due to the monument being placed on City owned property.
- A maintenance fund agreement with funding in place prior to the start of construction.
- The value of the sculpture for the City to obtain appropriate insurance coverage.

In addition, because the proposed location of the sculpture is within the historic district boundaries, the City's Historic Resources Board (HRB) will need to make a recommendation to the City Commission regarding the suitability of the sculpture within the district. Staff will present the proposed sculpture to the HRB at its next regularly-scheduled meeting; the sculpture's sponsor and artist also will be invited to attend.

An agenda item re acceptance of the sculpture will be prepared for Commission consideration once the HRB recommendation and the items listed above are received by staff. Assistant to the City Manager Mike Karr has been assigned to oversee this process.

3. Severe Storm Event Response

A severe thunderstorm event that produced torrential rainfall and dangerous winds impacted Plant City on Thursday, March 31, at noon. This storm, while short in duration, caused damage throughout much of the City and required responses from various City departments.

At approximately 12:20 p.m., the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated at the Police Station to coordinate the City's information gathering and storm response activities due to widespread reports of trees and power lines down, residential and business structural damage, flooding and bad road conditions.

Overall damage in the City is reported at:

- 14 homes damaged
- 3 businesses damaged
- 52 trees downed

The following is a summary of the various City departments' storm event responses:

Police Department

Processed and/or responded to the following storm-related incidents on March 31:

- 47 downed trees
- 30 downed power lines
- 2 damaged structures
- 1 car damaged by falling trees
- 15 alarm calls
- 2 road closures
- 3 disabled vehicles

It should be noted that the list above encompasses only those incidents that required a police response. There were other instances of damage, trees down, etc. that did not require police presence or action.

Due to the timing of the storm and its short duration, the police department was able to absorb the sudden increase in call and incident volume with on-duty resources. In addition to Patrol officers, members of administration and investigative units were also deployed as part of the Plant City Police Department's storm response.

The only additional cost associated with the police department's storm response was one hour of overtime worked by an officer providing assistance on storm-related calls. The estimated cost of that overtime hour was \$90.00, including vehicle and equipment costs.

Fire Rescue

- Staff Chiefs were sent into different areas of the City to perform a quick assessment of the overall damage, lend assistance where necessary and radio in reports to the dispatch center for tabulation and assignment to the appropriate agency.
- The Fire Chief and Operations Chief reported to the Police Station as part of the EOC team.

Streets/Stormwater/Traffic Division

- Responded to reports of trees down, one traffic signal down at Baker and Franklin Streets, and one call of water rising at a citizen's home.
- Set up road closures and barricades and assessed what roads could be made passable for Police and Emergency response.
- Assisted the Parks Division with barricades and equipment to open two major streets that were blocked by large trees on Wheeler Street between Spencer and Hillsboro Streets and at Baker and Franklin Streets.
- Sent crews out to clean and check catch basins, canals, and large ditches in area that are high risk for flash flooding and to make sure that there were no blocked drainage ways.
- Friday, April 1, crews continued to clean-up fallen limbs and debris, checking storm inlets, catch basins, canals, and ditches.
- Monday, April 4, crews continued to clean-up branches that had broken loose from the storm, but had fallen over the weekend.
- The division logged approximately 585 man hours for this event.

Parks Division

- Responded to the Streets/Stormwater/Traffic complex with all six crews and approximately 35 field staff and supervisors.
- Crews were dispatched by Streets/Stormwater to their assigned areas and all Parks employees were able to return to their home bases at 4:00 p.m.
- Friday, April 1, continued clean-up operations within City properties along with preparation for events scheduled for Friday and the weekend.
- Monday, April 4, all properties were cleaned up with no overtime expenses incurred from to the storm debris clean-up.

Building Department

The following are the finding of our inspection call outs:

<u>Inspection</u>	<u>Est. Value</u>
• Commercial Buildings – 5	
○ 3 with major roof damage	\$20,000-\$60,000
○ 2 with minor roof damage	\$500-\$2,000
• Residential structures – 22	
○ 4 with major damage	\$9,000-\$12,000
○ 18 with minor damage	\$500-\$8,500
• Residential fences – 6	\$200-\$3,500
• Residential power line – 1	\$600
• Minor wind damage to trees and power lines – 2	\$1,000-\$2,000
• Vehicle damaged by fallen trees – 2	\$2,500-\$4,000

Man hours to complete inspections:

Thursday, March 31

- 6 Inspectors with a total of 34 hours
- 1 Admin./dispatch total of 4 hours

Friday, April 1

- 2 Inspectors with a total of 8 hours
- 1 Admin./ dispatch total of 2 hours

Sanitation Division

- Collected 44 grabber loads of debris (880 cubic yards), mainly large tree debris and foliage totaling 167 tons (334,360 pounds). The disposal cost for this debris to date is \$6,687.20.
- Anticipate at least an additional 25 loads which could generate another 100 tons as we are still having debris brought out by citizens and are still having trees fall as a result of last week's storms.

Utilities Department

- Experienced power failure at several wastewater lift stations and other small facilities; diesel generators were utilized to keep the systems in operation.
- There was some minor wind damage to a tank access hatch and awnings covering some chemical storage tanks and pumps.
- Did not have any major service failure or receive major damage to any water or wastewater facility.

The good news is there were no reported injuries to any personnel or citizens.

The Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group (EPG) met at the County's Emergency Operations Center on Monday, April 4. The EPC declared a local disaster in the County and authorized up to \$2.2 million for disaster relief to be paid from the County's Affordable Housing Fund and the County's federal CDBG allocation. City staff are working with County staff to determine whether the City's cleanup and debris removal costs are eligible expenses under the County's disaster declaration.

Although there was significant damage done by the high winds and the two tornados that touched down in Hillsborough County, staff was prepared and responded quickly and efficiently to address the situation. I am very proud of our employees who worked to identify damage, direct traffic, clear roads, restore operations, and coordinate emergency operations. All did a very good job of maintaining calm and all proceeded to address their specific sphere of operations in an orderly and productive way.

4. Local Water Restoration Projects Reversion of Previous Appropriations

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) notified the City that the proposed Governor and House budgets include that unexpended balances of previous appropriations for specific local water restoration projects are proposed for reversion.

Of the two Plant City water projects identified, the Sydney Road Reclaimed Water Distribution System has already been reimbursed for the design work for the total grant amount of \$200,000.

Unfortunately, thus far the Eastside Canal Stormwater Management Master Plan has only expended \$1,500 of the \$500,000 grant amount. The project was permitted, designed and ready to be bid when we received notice of the proposed reversion of funding.

Senator Ronda Storms has written the FDEP Secretary on our behalf to try to ensure that this critical funding remains intact, but the proposed Senate budget – nor the reconciled House and Senate budget, nor the Governor’s final budget following his vetoes – is unknown at this time.

5. Ellis-Methvin Park Perimeter Fencing

Recreation & Parks staff has researched installing a perimeter fence around Ellis-Methvin Park for security of the fields and park amenities. This would consist of black chain link fencing, 6 foot height near the ball fields and 4 foot height in other areas. Including all materials and needed gate openings, the project is estimated to be approximately \$55,000. Funds for this project will be re-appropriated from existing Ellis-Methvin Park CIP project balances (#238, #301, #324, and #342). Design and bidding will be required prior to installation.

6. Women’s Club Tree Donation

Recreation & Parks Director Jack Holland was contacted by the Plant City Women’s Club concerning their desire to donate three trees for planting at the Veterans Memorial Park at Courier Field. After consultation with the Plant City Armed Forces Memorials Foundation, locations were determined which will not interfere with planned future additions to the park. With assistance from the Parks Division, the three Live Oak trees (eight feet tall in 25 gallon containers) were planted Wednesday, March 30, at the south end of the park. We thank the Plant City Women’s Club for their contribution to the park and our community.

7. Employee Recognition

Officers Mark Dunnam and Adam Heist – PCPD Employees of the Month for March – in recognition of their outstanding efforts in the securing of a violent criminal who had just robbed and beaten an elderly victim in a home invasion. A wallet and gun belonging to the victim was found in his possession resulting in an arrest, taking a potentially dangerous criminal off the street.

Stormwater/Streets/Traffic, Parks and Sanitation Divisions – Bill Hoeft of Walden Lake complimented staff’s emergency clean-up response on Timberlane Drive following the storm event on Thursday, March 31. He stated the effort was “very, very salutary in terms of the rapid response and dedication to safety and keeping the roadways clear.” He appreciated staff’s sacrifice and hard work on a really difficult day.

8. Building Division Permits

PERMITS ISSUED				
MARCH 2011 (FIY 2010-2011)				
	<u>CURRENT MONTH</u>		<u>PRIOR YEAR MONTH</u>	
Type of Permit Issued	# of Permits	Estimated Value	# of Permits	Estimated Value
New Residential (SF) Units	7	\$1,085,000	5	\$761,000
New Duplex/Townhouse Units	0	\$0	12	\$1,249,000
New Multi-Family (MF) Units	0	\$0	0	\$0
Residential Repairs, Alterations & Additions	59	\$626,786	62	\$2,217,727
New Commercial Construction	1	\$50,000	1	\$750,000
New Industrial Construction	2	\$1,371,323	0	\$0
Non-Res. Building Repairs, Alterations & Additions	17	\$799,476	11	\$247,023
Miscellaneous: Fences, Pools, etc.	12	\$41,033	14	\$27,081
Mobile Homes	0	\$0	0	\$0
Demolition	2	\$4,800	3	\$30,334
Mechanical	42	\$215,173	33	\$145,701
Plumbing	32	\$92,068	30	\$261,534
Gas	0	\$4,500	2	\$1,100
Electrical	36	\$258,010	80	\$126,878
TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED	210	\$4,548,169	253	\$5,817,878
% CHANGE / PRIOR YEAR	-16.8%	-21.8%		
CUMULATIVE YTD	1,010	\$17,554,411	1,178	\$17,754,533
CUMULATIVE % CHANGE YOY	-14.2%	-1.1%		
NOTES				
1. "Year" means fiscal year; begins October 1 each calendar year and ends September 30 the following calendar year.				
2. "Cumulative YTD" includes all current & prior month totals for the respective fiscal year.				
3. "% Change / Prior Year" is the net percentage increase or decrease from the prior fiscal year's monthly totals.				
4. "Cumulative % Change YOY" is the net percentage increase or decrease from the prior fiscal year's cumulative totals.				