Tampa Palms Blvd
Getting Ready For a Makeover

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Design Work Commences

As promised by the City, the project to improve the conditions on Tampa Palms Blvd has commenced.

In the last few weeks the survey work began with surveyors on site and stakes dotting the roadside.

Last week a series of traffic counter devices and radio accumulators have also appeared. They stretch from Wellington to the Tampa Palms Blvd exit in TPOST 3.

This is a complicated project involving:

- Much-needed restoration of the failing/failed roadway surface.
- A “complete streets” component which includes traffic-calming bike lanes AKA sharrows.

Tampa Palms Blvd Is NOT Safe

The deteriorating pavement is a patchwork of crumbling repairs where the City has worked hard to keep the surface intact but the repairs do not last.

Speeds on the boulevard are outrageous at times, especially in Area 1 (and TPOST 3). Speeding, and sometimes even racing, pose a significant danger to other cars, pedestrians and children on their way to school.

Sadly accident statistics reveal that nine out of ten pedestrians hit by a car traveling only 40 MPH will not survive.

The City is taking this into consideration in its designs for boulevard and some of the key intersections. Councilman Viera has arranged for a public meeting so residents can provide input and find out more information about the project.

City of Tampa Public Meeting
Regarding Tampa Palms Blvd Project

Wednesday February 24, 2021
5:30 pm
Compton Park Parking Lot
A Tribute To Special Lady
Kathryn Hyer

Our Tampa Palms neighbor, Kathryn “Kathy” Hyer, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, daughter, cousin, friend, professor, and a devout believer of God, passed away on January 1, 2021 at the age of 67 after a battle with cancer.

Kathy met Jim Soley (CDD Supervisor), the love of her life and her husband of 39 years, at a high school debate tournament in Long Island in 1969, a fitting meeting given their frequent Lincoln-Douglas style debates during their 40 year marriage (which Jim says Kathy always won).

A Life’s Work of Major Importance

Kathy was a world class champion for older adults and centered her research and advocacy on providing proper healthcare and crisis response measures. She was both a professor and associate director at the School of Aging Studies at University of South Florida as well as the Dir of its Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging.

Kathy also served as president of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA), the nation’s oldest and largest interdisciplinary organization devoted to research, education, and practice in the field of aging. As a recognized expert Kathy served on, and provided expert advice and testimony to, numerous federal, state, and local committees. A career highlight was testifying to the US Senate Special Committee on Aging about disaster preparedness in nursing care facilities in the wake of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

The mentoring relationships Kathy formed with countless students over the years brought her immense pride and satisfaction. These students will carry on her academic legacy.

The Hyer-Soley, family pictured to the right at their home in Kensington with their son and daughter (James and Elizabeth) son in law and daughter in law (John and Shannon) and two grandchildren (Lucy and Mary)…. one who is sporting a very Kathy’esque wide smile.

Day Light Savings Time
Means Set Your Timers

Residents are reminded to check irrigation timer settings with the time change to Daylight Saving Time on Mar 14th.

There is no drought at this time but year-round water restrictions have been in place within since 2017.

This is also a good opportunity to make certain that irrigation is set for the proper assigned days and times.
- Addresses ending in 0, 1, 2, or 3 - Mon and Thur
- Addresses ending in 4, 5, or 6 - Tues and Fri
- Addresses ending in 7, 8, or 9 - Wed and Sat

Low-volume micro-irrigation, hand watering, car washing, fountain operation and power washing are unrestricted.

The watering day allowances apply to all permanent, in-ground, automatic and manual irrigation systems and when using a garden hose with a portable hose-end sprinkler. Irrigation is not permitted between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on the allowed day.

For more information go online to http://www.tampagov.net/water/info/water-use-restrictions
Tampa Palms Women’s Club
“Hanging In” Despite Covid Crises

Meetings Are Zoom’ing

The TPWC installed their 2021 officers on January 21st, with Pat Horvath, a TPWC Past-President, conducting the Installation Service via Zoom.

The 2021 Officers include:

President: Maryanne Pothier
Vice-President: Cindy Thomas
Secretary (& email blasts): Debbie Libertiny
Treasurer: Sharon Padley
Membership: Hallie Rice & Pam Fahey
Charities: Marion Brookover Activities: Helen Harris & Anita Hampson
Senior Advisor: Purnima Kumar

Every month, the members donate food items needed by HEART F.E.L.T. – a program by St. James United Methodist Church that sends food home with students who are at risk of chronic hunger over the weekend when not in school.

Each year the proceeds from the fashion show are donated to the club’s charities which include, FEEDING Tampa Bay, HEART F.E.L.T., METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES, O.A.S.I.S, and the RICH HOUSE. The proceeds from the yard sale support the TPWC Scholarship fund.

Looking Ahead With Fingers Crossed

The TPWC can do a lot of things but making the Covid crises go away is not one of them.

Still there are high hopes that the two major fund raisers (not to mention great fun times) can still happen in the Fall …. so save the dates.
Looking to The Future

The City of Tampa is very active in the management of its water uses and is presently in the design phase with its partner, SWFWMD, of a plan that will:

- Improve likelihood that the City will have sufficient drinking water drawn from the Hillsborough River - even in droughts.
- Provide a source of water for minimum river flows, even in times of droughts
- Insert water of drinking water quality into managed wells in the aquifer to:
  - Save for future use to meet minimum river flows when needed
  - Provide a barrier to saltwater intrusion into the aquifer. (see red arrow on graphic below).
- Provide a useful way to use large amounts of post-treatment water, which will then be purified to drinking water quality.

City of Tampa Helps Tackle Long Range Water Needs

Clean Water Is Vital To Tampa Palms

Tampa Palms depends on the availability of clean, healthy water both now and for the future.

Even as the cost of water is increasing, at the same time there is little doubt that water in Florida is a diminishing resource, in part due to:

- Substantial population growth
- Changes in climate and rising sea / gulf levels
- Saltwater intrusions into the Florida aquifer.

Tampa Is Relatively Water Self-Sufficient

Tampa Palms (the City of Tampa) enjoys drinking water from an enviable source not available to most of the area, the Hillsborough River. The water is taken into the Tippin Water facility from a reservoir created in the river by the dam near Rowlett Park.

SWFWMD has oversight of the river and Tampa uses the river water subject to a permit authorized by the agency. There are some limitations:

- There is a maximum amount that can be taken
- The City must provide sufficient water to meet the minimum flows established by SWFWMD.

During periods of low rainfall and or high heat, the flows in the Hillsborough River fall to dangerous levels.

Sustaining the river flows is vital to ecological health of the river and just or more important, proper flows are vital to managing saltwater intrusion.

Tampa pumps from the Sulphur Springs to sustain minimum river flows. Unfortunately SWFWMD has raised concerns about salinity so in the future the springs may not be usable.

What Does This Mean To Tampa Palms

The primary goal of this project is the conservation of the water supply for all users and future generations, as well as, the mitigation of problems to environmental health such as saltwater intrusion. All Tampa will benefit from:

- Water available when needed
- Avoidance of greater reliance on high-cost water purchases in a drought
- A “one water” approach that uses all resources intelligently.

Tampa Palms residents will continue to enjoy the beauty of our own River Park lying along an undamaged river.
Oak Park
An Environmental Gem

Oak Park Is a Natural Conservancy

Oak Park is a special conservation area. In the original development plans Oak Park was slated to be mostly cleared, to have a parking lot, roadway and be generally open as are Hampton and Amberly parks.

After discussions with the City of Tampa Parks and Rec and the Fla FWC those plans were scrapped in favor of an extended conservancy and upland habitat for many “critters”.

Every two to three years the park is professionally inspected, in part to make certain that invasive, non-native plants and especially vines have not encroached. This process is done by professionals because sometimes naturally occurring vines and shrubs can look similar to invasive species.

One example is the Florida yam which is totally “at home” and native to Florida horticulture. It looks very much like the air-potato vine, a take-over and very invasive species.

For more information on exotics versus native Florida plants, trees and vines, the Florida Natural Inventory is on line at https://www.tpoa.net/Green.html: select Native Versus Exotics from the menu on the left.

Several years ago, the CDD repaved the internal paths in Oak Park, using a porous paving product. The paths, in the park favor the trees by allowing water to run through the pavement to adjacent root systems.

This type of pavement also protects the paths from root intrusion which happens if the trees must search for water.

Protect Your Pets From Wildlife

Tampa Palms is home to a wide variety of wildlife from coyotes to bobcats, to alligators and there is even an occasional bear.

The ever-present wildlife is one of the reasons many residents moved to this area but the wildlife is not a friend to our pets.

In part this is the reason that Tampa Palms rules do not permit keeping pets outside, no matter if the pet is tethered or fenced: primarily this is to protect the pet. County laws mirror these rules.

Recently coyotes and bobcats have received a lot of attention: they are the largest of the predators routinely seen in Tampa Palms.

Both live in the conservation areas along the river and Cypress Creek and travel through the golf course and wander up and down the power corridor.

Experts advise to protect household pets do the following:

- **DOGS**: Keep your dog on 4 ft-6 ft leash. Always be vigilant with your pets when going outside from dusk to dawn when predators are most active.

- **CATS**: The best way to protect your cats is to keep them as indoor-only cats. Coyotes have a very easy time hunting cats.
Is The Fluctuating Weather Making You Spend Too Much on Your Yard?

No matter if the weather is a drought or cold or just a dry season made worse for gardens by the record breaking heat, continually replacing turf and plants is a drag on the budget. To avoid that, consider incorporating Florida Friendly Landscape into your yard.

But what does “Florida Friendly Landscape” (FFL) really mean?

FFL is a set of landscaping principles that focus on:
- Conserving water resources
- Minimizing landscape maintenance
- Optimizing use of pesticides and fertilizers

There are many expressions of FFL; many incorporate strategically placed turf, many are exceptionally lush - some far more so than a grass-only yards.

Modern Transitional - Large curving beds around trees, breaking up and reducing turf areas.

Contemporary Urban Chic - Flowering plants intermingled with green shrubs and stone paths or other concept-based elements.

English Garden Formal - Formal, multi-layer greenery laid out in a symmetrical manner.

Butterfly Friendly - Flowering native shrubs, a master gardener’s retreat.

There are multiple examples in Tampa Palms villages.

Make Your Weather-Safe Yard A Reflection Of Your Style

Some owners have called the TPOA to ask if Florida Friendly landscape violates TPOA governing documents. It does not.

When planning to modernize your landscape, making it “Tampa Palms ready” and what works well for you is a piece of cake: simply design a plan and submit that plan to the TPOA RMC - as required.

The TPOA will be glad to make suggestions to help you with compliance. For tips on using Florida Friendly residents can go online:

- http://www.tpoa.net/FFYWorkshop1.pdf
- http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/homeowners/publications.htm

Tampa Palms Landscape Principles Are Simple

- Attractive & Well Groomed
- Weed-Free Beds
- Driveways and Beds Properly Edged
- Foundation Plants Around Home
- Trees & Shrubs Cover A Minimum 25% of Front of Home - No Maximum
- All Upright Shrubs Minimum 3 Gal At Planting
- Hedge Shrubs Minimum 3 Ft At Planting
- Hedge Shrubs Planted Minimum 3 Ft On Center
- Spreading Shrubs 1 Gal Minimum At Planting
- Ground Covers Minimum 4 In Pots Planted 6 In On Center
- Areas Not Landscaped With Plants Must Be Planted With Turf or Ground Covers or Feature an Attractive Design Element.
A Simple Guide To Recycling

Recycling & What To Do With The Rest

Recycling - A Good Deal All Around.

Hillsborough County provides the recycle collections to Tampa Palms, just as they provide the lawn pick-up and garbage collections.

Recycling protects the environment, reduces the amount of landfill area required for solid waste and also produces revenue from the sale of the recyclables which moderates the rising costs of collection and disposal.

A “single stream” recycle process is used whereby materials collected are placed on conveyors and sorted by type. For that reason recyclables must be placed loose in the bins and not in bags.

If the wrong materials are included in the “stream” it can shut down the process and even damage the equipment.

Permitted In The Blue Recycle Container

- All plastic bottles and containers emptied of food residue and liquids.
- Aluminum beverage cans emptied of liquids are recyclable in the blue cart. Large aluminum food trays and pie tins free of food residue can also be recycled.
- Clean glass food and beverage containers emptied of food residue.
- All paper that is clean, dry, and easily tears is recyclable. Recyclable paper includes magazines, newspaper, construction paper, office paper, envelopes (even with the plastic windows), paperback books, and even the glossy paper advertisements.
- Metal food containers, such as vegetable cans and dog/cat food tin cans which should be emptied of food residue.
- Cartons such as milk containers, chicken broth and juice boxes which should be emptied of food residue.
- Clean and dry paperboard boxes such as cereal boxes, tissue boxes, paperboard paper towel and toilet paper rolls, and other fiberboard material.

What to Do With Non-Recyclables?

For items that can not be recycled, there are options.

Small bathroom and kitchen appliances; such as toasters, crock pots, electric skillets, blenders, hairdryers and curling irons; lighting fixtures; and car headlights can be safely disposed of in the grey garbage cart.

Plastic bags can be reused for other purposes around the home, recycled at the local grocery store, or disposed of in the grey cart.

For all other materials go online for more information: https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/sustainability-and-green/recycling.

Note Allowed - If In Doubt Keep It Out

- Plastic bags, tarps, and film of any type are NOT recyclable in the blue cart. This especially applies to cellophane and grocery bags.
- Clothing, shoes, and textiles are NOT recyclable in the blue cart.
- Light bulbs of any type are NOT recyclable in the blue cart. Standard bulbs can be placed in the garbage bin.
- Styrofoam™ items of any type are NOT recyclable in the blue cart, even those labeled as a number 6 plastic.
- Electronics of any type are NOT recyclable in the blue cart.
- Clothing hangers of any type or size are NOT recyclable in the blue cart.
- Rubber or vinyl items of any type are NOT recyclable in the blue cart.
- Food waste of any type is NOT recyclable in the blue cart.
- Cords and wires of any type are NOT recyclable in the blue cart.

For more information you can go online to https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/sustainability-and-green/recycling.
A Safe Alternative To The Garage Sale

Uncollected pet waste is more than an unappetizing and unattractive addition to the landscape.

Dog poop left on the street or lawn does not just go away or fertilize the grass. The bacteria in dog waste is often washed down storm drains and into our ponds.

A little pet poop goes a long way: a day’s waste from one large dog can contain 7.8 billion fecal coliform bacteria, enough to close 15 acres of shellfish beds! More important for Tampa Palms it fouls the water in the ponds and is a major contributor to algae blooms and worse.

Kitty litter dumped outside can similarly be washed into the storm water systems to the ponds and beyond.

Never dispose of pet litter in the storm drains!

Tips For Easy Disposal of Pet Litter

1. When you walk your dog, carry “poop bags”, preferably biodegradable bags.
2. After your dog does his duty, do yours: pick up the poop in the litter bag.
3. Many pet owners prefer to place the bags in a flower pot behind a bush or hedge until garbage day.
4. On garbage day, place the poop bags in the garbage container for collection.

Similarly dispose of kitty litter properly - for your sake and the environment!

Most kitty litters are all or in part clay based materials. Never flush kitty litter down a toilet, never dump kitty litter in a storm drain.

Kitty litter can block the sewer pipes on your property and cost you thousands to repair.

The most effective means of disposal is to securely bag the used litter and place in a bag in the garbage.

Be Careful Of All Snakes

Tampa Fire Rescue warns that at this time of year with alternating chilly / warm temperatures there is a greater chance of “running into” a poisonous snake sunning on paths or along pond banks. If bitten, SEEK HELP IMMEDIATELY

For more information and to view pictures of the most common local snakes go to http://www.tpoa.net/Snakes.pdf

DON’T

Don’t place ice on wound
Don’t use a tourniquet
Don’t cut the bite area

DO

Immobilize area of bite (foot/leg/arm) if possible
Keep bite lower than heart
Remove any tight clothing or jewelry and wash area
Be prepared for shock.

Get All The News On Your Schedule

Busy owners can follow the plans, projects and activities in Tampa Palms on their own schedule through a number of on-line options made available by the community.

Email - Newsletters will be sent to your email, read them anywhere. Contact the TPOA 977-3337 to be added to the list.

Website - The Tampa Palms website contains a wealth of information about the community, meetings, plans and a lot more. www.TPOA.net

Facebook - The official Tampa Palms Facebook site contains vetted announcements https://www.facebook.com/TampaPalmsTPOA
Help Keep Our Ponds Clean

The ponds are designed to receive storm water from the streets for treatment. Anything thrown in the streets will ultimately make its way to the ponds.

It is for that reason that it is vital not to throw trash, oils, fertilizers or any foreign substance into the streets or into the storm drains….. it all goes to the ponds.

Some people, including some tradesmen (landscapers, plumbers, painters) working in Tampa Palms, may not be aware of how the stormwater system works and while working at homes throw products into the storm drains.

Please take a minute to make certain workers on your property do not place yard waste or chemicals, into the drains and call the CDD if you see trash in a pond.

Park Improvements For The New Year

Hampton Park court restorations (tennis and basketball) are coming along and should be completed by the time this newsletter is received.

While this work has been in progress, players used the Compton Park courts.

To start the new year off right the pavilions of Hampton and Amberly parks and the racquetball courts also received a bit of a make-over, some is already completed, some is still in progress:

- The pavilions were pressure washed, inside and out, including the floors and the tables.
- The gutters were cleaned and flushed
- The pavilions were painted, inside and out
- The bottoms of the tables were treated for emerging rust then primed and a protective shield installed on the bottoms so that they will not damage the floors when moved.
- The tables were recoated; the structures were sound but the rubberized coating was wearing
- The floors were repaired (concrete floors with some “gouges”) and then repainted
- The racquetball courts were pressure washed and painted and the facia at the entries replaced.
- The interior of the racquetball courts were repainted and re-striped

Next stop: the tennis, and pickleball courts at Compton Park will be repaired and resurfaced.

Shared Lane Markings On Bruce B Downs

Bright green shared lane markings (sharrows) were added to many exits along BB Downs, as shown below near Lowe’s.

The markings highlight the bike lane as it approaches an exit where the markings change to diagonal lines at the point where cars will cross the bike lane. They serve as a safety warning to both cyclists and drivers.

They will be added to the Tampa Palms Blvd and Amberly Drive entrances in the coming weeks.
### The Tampa Palms Country

**Drop In To Your Club There Is A Lot Happening**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taco &amp; Trivia Night</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 16th</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Mardi Gras Themed for Fat Tuesday Your amazing host, Liz Carpenter already has great questions prepared.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Live Music</td>
<td>Friday, February 19th</td>
<td>6 - 9 p.m.</td>
<td>Drop in to Elements for Live Music with Scarlet Moon! This talented Duo is making their debut here at Tampa Palms!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wine &amp; Tapas Night</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 24th</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Join us in the Courtyard to experience the ultimate Wine and Tapas Night! Chef will prepare authentic tapas that will be paired with Spanish wines. Live music will be performed to tie the evening together.</td>
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### Property Manager

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie French</td>
<td>977-3337</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tpoamail@aol.com">tpoamail@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Koerber</td>
<td>978-8067</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Van Hoose</td>
<td>977-3337</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tpoa.net">www.tpoa.net</a></td>
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### Board of Directors

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tracy Falkowitz, President</td>
<td>977-3337</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maggie Wilson, Vice President</td>
<td>977-3337</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Libertiny, Secretary</td>
<td>977-3337</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jake Schoolfield, Treasurer</td>
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### CDD Board of Supervisors

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gene Field (Chair)</td>
<td>977-1162</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jake Schoolfield</td>
<td>977-3933</td>
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<td>Jim Soley (Vice Chair)</td>
<td>220-3200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tracy Falkowitz</td>
<td>977-3933</td>
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<td>A. Michael Gibson</td>
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### One Source (Landscaping)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Laird, Project Manager</td>
<td>267-1756</td>
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### Tampa Palms Parks

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<th>Park</th>
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<td>Compton Park</td>
<td>972-0897</td>
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<td>Hampton Park</td>
<td>972-5699</td>
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<td>River Park</td>
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### Police & Fire

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<td>Non-Emergency Fire</td>
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### Local Schools

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<td>Tampa Palms Elementary</td>
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<td>Lawton Chiles Elementary</td>
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<td>Liberty Middle School</td>
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<td>Freedom High School</td>
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### Miscellaneous

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<td>New Tampa Rec Center</td>
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<td>Councilman Viera</td>
<td>274-7073</td>
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<td>Commissioner Hagan</td>
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Allowable Use of the Compton Meeting Facilities Has been Increased

Gatherings of limited size and practicing social distancing are currently being held at Compton Park.

Both the main meeting room (Azalea) and the meeting building (The Palms) are limited to 50% of the normal capacity.

- **Azalea Room** 35 attendees
- **The Palms** 65 attendees
Tampa Palms CDD Meeting

March 10th at 6:00 p.m.
Compton Park Recreation Building
16101 Compton Drive, Tampa, FL 33647

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2539344102
Meeting ID: 253 934 4102

1. Roll Call & Opening
2. Strategic Planning
4. Public Comments
5. Board Member Discussions
6. Project Updates
   Around the Neighborhoods
   Modeling Tampa Palms Future
   Pond Management
   Park Updates
   CDD Annual Calendar
7. Misc. Board Business
8. Public Comments
9. Board Member Discussions
10. Adjourn

Protecting The Water & Protecting The Protected Species

Did you know that Tampa Palms is home to many protected species?

The Tampa Palms community (the TPOA and CDD) maintains a robust program to protect the local waters of and does so under a NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (NPDES MS4) permit which is administered by the Fla DEP.

The purpose of these protections of the public waters and environments is in part to safeguard the many species of wildlife present in the Tampa Palms area, particularly those which are endangered. There are many levels of “protected”

- Federal Endangered,
- Federal Threatened,
- State Threatened, or State Species of Special Concern.

For more information you can go online to Eco-Friendly Tampa Palms online at http://www.tpoa.net for a guide to the Protected Species of Wildlife in Tampa Palms.