



CITY OF TAMPA

Pam Iorio, Mayor

Office of the Mayor

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

For additional information, please contact:

Liana Lopez, Public Affairs Director

(813) 274-8251

liana.lopez@tampagov.net

Construction Projects Support Channel District Redevelopment

Tampa, Fla. (May 13, 2010) – Construction crews are beginning work on the Channel District Improvements Projects designed to support revitalization of the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA). The projects are two separate efforts, one on York Street and one on Washington Street.

Construction has begun on the York Street project, which will provide capacity for present and future stormwater drainage. The project includes installing a stormwater storage vault and drain 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.

York Street construction is expected to be complete in five months. The York Street site is fully fenced. Traffic to the Florida Aquarium is being rerouted on Channelside Drive to McKay Street, then to a designated access road on the Tampa Port Authority's property leading to the Aquarium parking lot entrance. Detours and lane closures are clearly marked and flagmen will help direct traffic when needed.

The Washington Street project will begin when York Street is complete and includes upgrading stormwater, wastewater and drinking water pipelines, as well as burying overhead power lines, improving sidewalks, new landscaping and narrowing roadways to slow traffic and improve pedestrian safety. Residents and businesses will receive advance notice before active construction begins.

The \$8.6 million Channel District Improvements Projects are being funded by property taxes within the Channel District CRA. The projects were identified in the Channel District Strategic Action Plan (SAP). The SAP was initiated by the City of Tampa to guide growth in the Channel District CRA to create a strong, urban neighborhood that emphasizes design quality for private development and public spaces. The SAP recommends improvements to water, wastewater, stormwater drainage, roads, power lines, sidewalks, street lighting and public spaces to support the Channel District's revitalization.

The public can stay up to date on the project by visiting www.tampa-ucap.com. Questions or comments should be directed to the UCAP hotline at (813) 777-9222. For additional information, please contact India Williams with CH2M HILL at (813) 874-0777.

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306 E. Jackson Street, 1N • Tampa, Florida 33602 • (813) 274-8251 • FAX: (813) 274-7050

