

# Beyond Today

eNews Tuned Into Planning

issue 7

March 2013

## *Imagine 2040 Working Group says: Our community needs clear Vision!*

Several rounds of questions were posed to the Imagine 2040 Working Group at its first visioning workshop held on February 12. Eager participants used hand-held electronic voting devices to express themselves.



The group spoke loudly when asked:

*"Does this community have a clear vision*



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## for the future?"

56% voted "No" with only 16% voting "Yes." One thing we can be sure of, is over the next year, we will be working together to clearly define our community's vision in order to obtain the best possible quality of life for our current and future citizens.



Able to view the results of each poll instantly, the group engaged in open discussions on big ideas to guide land use and transportation decisions going forward. on topics related to our region's past and future growth. Solutions were sought when tackling our greatest challenges, like:

- identifying our most critical challenges
- effective, collaborative leadership
- prioritizing and funding for needed transportation improvements
- maximizing the potential for land available for development and redevelopment
- achieving long term economic prosperity
- creating and retaining well-paying jobs
- addressing the needs of an aging population
- meeting the quality of life desires of the younger generation
- water supply, environmental concerns and disaster relief

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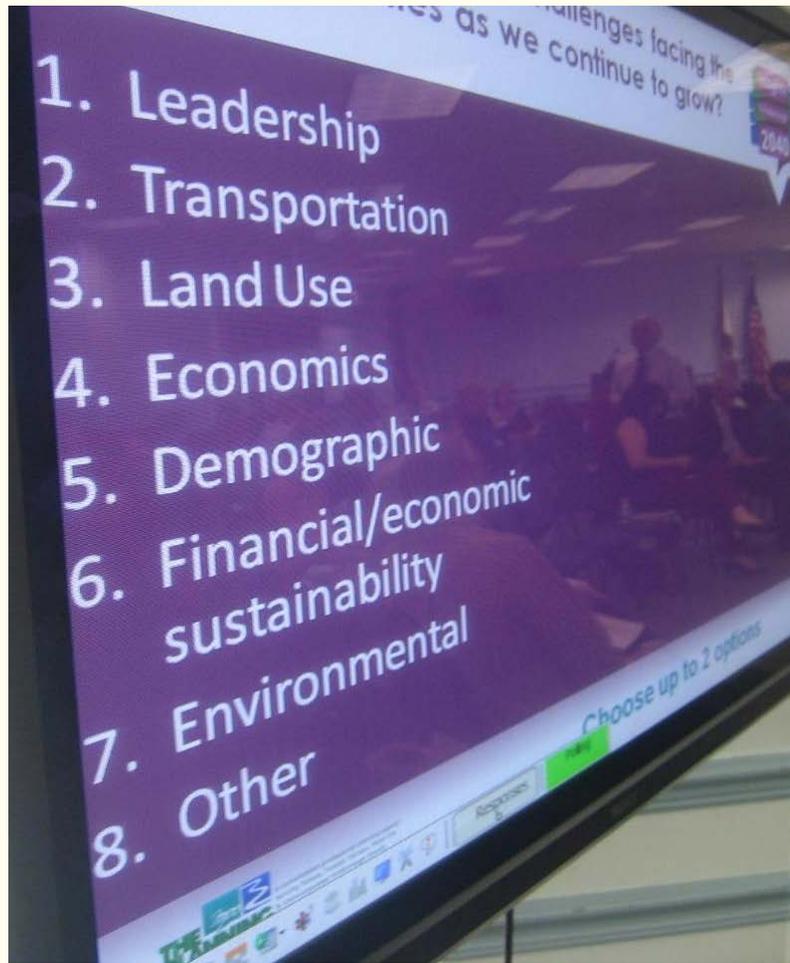
### *Upcoming Events*

MON : MAR 11  
2:00p  
Planning Commission  
Regular Meeting  
followed at 4:15p by  
Ad Hoc Budget Committee

MON : MAR 11  
5:30p  
Planning Commission  
Public Hearing on  
Amendments to the  
County's Comp Plan

SAT : MAR 16  
8:00a  
10th Annual  
Hillsborough County  
Neighborhoods Conference  
(County event at HCC -  
Dale Mabry Campus)

THU : MAR 21  
6:00p



Given the eight choices above, participants were asked:

*"What are the greatest challenges facing the county and cities as we continue to grow?"*

*Top responses:*

1. Transportation - 34%
2. Financial/economic sustainability - 24%
3. Leadership - 16%
4. Economics - 14%

Terrace Park -  
University Square  
Vision Plan Workshop

WED : MAR 27  
6:30p  
Tampa Walk-Bike Plan - Phase  
III - Green ARtery Interactive  
Workshop

THU : MAR 28  
4:00p - 6:00p  
Hillsborough County  
Open Space Open Forum

TUE : APR 2  
10:30a - 1:30p  
Complete Streets Summit  
Marshall Center at USF

For more information and to  
view all meetings and events:

[planhillsborough.org](http://planhillsborough.org)

In accordance with Title VI of  
the Civil Rights Act of 1964  
and other nondiscrimination laws,  
public participation is solicited  
without regard to race, color,  
national origin, age, sex, religion,  
disability or family status.

*A whopping 96% of the working group felt the demand for urban-style living (multi-family or attached homes) would be increasing in the future.*

*Investing in transportation was the top choice to make redevelopment more successful, garnering nearly a quarter of the participants' votes, followed closely by public-private partnerships at 20%.*

*The rising cost of energy/oil/gas was a major uncertainty we need to prepare for with 53% of the voters in agreement.*

To view the entire polling presentation and results summary from the Imagine 2040 Group visioning workshop #1, please visit:

[planhillsborough.org/plan2040](http://planhillsborough.org/plan2040)



Data collected from dozens of interviews with technical experts in the region set the stage for the Imagine 2040 Working Group. The group is made up of a wide variety of community volunteers and stakeholders interested in

defining potential scenarios of what our region could look like in the year 2040 based on decisions made today. From sixth graders to grandparents and persons with disabilities, participants from the business, neighborhood, environmental, education, and development communities rolled up their sleeves to work side-by-side with public agencies and elected officials.

*A special thank you to the*



### *Video Central*



Feeling Good about Tampa Bay - music by Michael Buble



students, parents, and faculty from Berkeley Prep's Future City Club for squeezing in this first workshop right before an important trip to Washington, D.C.! (See next article below.) Joining them, starting at our next workshop, will be middle

school students from the **Rampello Downtown Partnership School**. "Our students are interwoven into the fabric of this community," said Principal Liz Uppercue. "We're excited about our student leaders having the hands-on opportunity to plan for Hillsborough County's future."

**What's next?**

### *Imagine 2040 Working Group Visioning Workshop #2*

**Tuesday, April 16**

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Children's Board of Hillsborough County  
1002 E Palm Avenue, Tampa

*To receive updates and event invitations, please click the email below to join the Imagine 2040 Working Group email list:*

**[planhillsborough@plancom.org](mailto:planhillsborough@plancom.org)**

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### *Berkeley Prep's Future City Club has 2040 vision!*

Coming off their big win as the first place team in the Tampa Bay Region Future City competition, students in **Berkeley Preparatory School's** Future City Club just returned from

Washington, D.C., where this young team made a winning impression with the judges at the national finals. Their hard work and first place regional finish already caught our eye, so we invited this inspiring young group to be part of our **Imagine 2040 Working Group!**



Berkeley Prep's Future City Club students and faculty participating at the 1st Imagine 2040 Working Group Visioning Workshop

The **Future City Competition** is a national, project-based learning experience where students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade imagine, design and build cities of the future. In January, the team's "Jugnum Novus Orbis" project took first place out of 20 other schools in the Tampa region. In February, the team competed against 36 other regional winners from across the country and came home with the award for **Best Residential Zone in a City**. Jun-Min Liu, representing the seven chapters of the **Chinese Institute of Engineers - USA** that reviewed the entries, said, "Your project has the highest score among all entries and exhibited excellent vision, incorporating innovation,

integrated use of resources, and local governance/  
collaborative."

"I'm thrilled, not only that we won the regional competition, but also that we did so well with such young competitors on the national level," said Kate Baten, a middle division science teacher at Berkeley and director of the Future City Club. She explained that the winning team presenters Bethany Schneider, Nirav Aggarwal and Kelland Timothy are all in the 6th grade, making them some of the youngest competitors in the national competition. The Future City competition requires students work as a team with an educator and engineer mentor to plan cities using SimCity™ 4 Deluxe software; research and write solutions to an engineering problem; build tabletop scale models with recycled materials; and present their ideas before judges. Berkeley's project was a three-tiered city housed within a dormant volcano.



Baten explained that the team's winning project was based on an essay by two Berkeley 7th graders, Faizan Sagheer and Andre Armero,

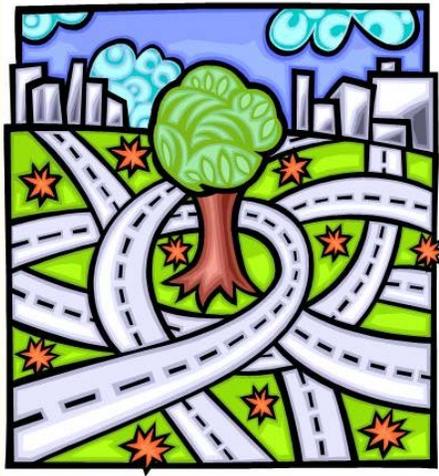
following an assignment for the entire 7th grade class who were asked to envision their idea of a utopian society after reading **The Giver by Lois Lowry**. The students were asked to realistically explain how the city's infrastructure, like storm water run-off and power grids, would function. In fact, Berkeley's Hannah Cesaretti's essay on storm water runoff issues - this year's competition theme - was so well articulated that it

took the first place prize for Best Essay at the regional competition.

We are looking forward to continue planning 2040 with these very dedicated and talented student visionaries!

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## Join us for an Open Space Open Forum!



*Light refreshments  
will be served.*

**Thursday, March  
28**

**4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

*in the*

Planning Commission

Boardroom

on the 18th floor at

County Center

601 E Kennedy Boulevard

Downtown Tampa

We want to have an open conversation about the open space and recreational use policy in the County's Comprehensive Plan. The Future Land Use Element Policy 14.5 requires new development provide 25% open space, including 5% functional recreation. We've heard that achieving this is difficult on infill sites and want to hear your ideas for potential solutions or revisions to this policy. For more information, contact Marcie Stenmark, AICP, at 813.273.3774 x364 or [stenmarkm@plancom.org](mailto:stenmarkm@plancom.org).

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## Q: What's the easiest way to connect 20 Tampa neighborhoods?

### A: The Green ARtery

The Hillsborough Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the City of Tampa partnered to develop the **Tampa Walk-Bike Plan**. Two phases of the Tampa Walk-Bike Plan have been completed: Phase I identified candidate projects to connect the surrounding neighborhoods to each of the City's three major business centers (Downtown, Westshore, and USF) and Phase II filled-out a grid of bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Central Tampa and South Tampa.

Phase III of Tampa's Walk-Bike Plan has two major objectives:

1. To work with the **Green ARtery** community organization, City of Tampa Transportation Division, and City of Tampa Planning Division to refine the Green ARtery "Perimeter Trail" concept
2. To complete the coverage of the City by identifying bicycle and pedestrian connectivity opportunities in New Tampa

About 40 people brought their ideas about this trail route to the first interactive workshop held in February. Now it's your turn to bring your ideas to an upcoming workshop from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on:

- **March 27 at the Rogers Park Golf Course Clubhouse**, 7911 N 30th St in Tampa - *focusing on the East Seminole Heights, East Ybor, Hampton Terrace, Rogers Park, and Southeast Seminole Heights neighborhoods*
- **April 24 at the DeSoto Park Community Center**, 2617 Corrine St in Tampa - *focusing on Palmetto Beach, Encore, South Seminole Heights, Tampa Heights, and V.M. Ybor*

*neighborhoods*

- **May 29 at the Seminole Heights Garden Center**, 5800 N Central Ave in Tampa - *focusing on East Tampa, Historic Ybor, Old Seminole Heights, Ridgewood Park, and Woodland Terrace neighborhoods*

For persons in need of special accommodations, please contact Michele Ogilvie at 813.273.3774 x317, or [ogilviem@plancom.org](mailto:ogilviem@plancom.org), at least three business days prior to the public meeting you wish to attend.



*Try it FREE today.*