



Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority

Memorandum

TO: Mr. Hassan Halabi, Community Planner
Hillsborough County Planning Commission
FROM: Steve Feigenbaum, Planning Manager
Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART)
DATE: September 23, 2008
RE: CPA 09-02
East Lake- Orient Park Community Plan

HART has reviewed the comprehensive plan amendment for the East Lake- Orient Park Community Plan. HART's comments to the proposed comprehensive plan amendment are listed below.

Community Plan Boundaries- Eight local routes and one express route travel within the boundaries of the East lake- Orient Park Community Plan Area connecting the Netpark Transfer Center. See the attached map. The routes are described below.

Table with 3 columns: ROUTE NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, DESTINATION. Rows include routes 6, 15, 32, 34, 37, 39, 41, 57, and 23X with their respective descriptions and destinations.

The routes travel on segments of the following roads: Broadway Avenue, Columbus Drive, Orient Road, Sligh Avenue, Hillsborough Avenue, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Fowler Avenue, Davis Road, Harney Road, and 50<sup>th</sup> Street. All routes travel daily except Route 57 that does not operate on weekends and Route 37 that does not operate on Sundays. Routes 6, 32, and 34 operate until midnight.

### **Community Plan Transportation Goal**

The goals for transit are in the unfunded needs plan of the TDP. Funding will be needed for additional vehicles, operation, and capital funding for ADA compliant transit stops. The following are HART's comments on the community transit goals.

*Seek additional mass transit routes.*

The needs plan of the Transit Development Plan (TDP) includes additional express service to Brandon and USF for this area. Operation of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service that will connect to the Netpark Transfer Center is scheduled for 2011. BRT will result in faster and more reliable service providing connection to the Tampa International Airport, West Tampa, Temple Terrace, and the University Area.

The community should define the type of transit service i.e. circulator, express, flex or local.

*Improved frequency of service*

HART added late night services and improved frequency on Routes 6, 32, and 34.

The needs plan of the TDP includes the following:

- Extending service on all routes in the East Lake – Orient Park area.
- Increase Frequency on weekday routes to 15 minute peaks.
- Adding earlier and later service

*Provide additional stops within the community as necessary to properly serve the area*

HART completed a bus stop study and is in the process of consolidating and improving bus stops to improve connectivity. Additional stops will require funding for ADA connectivity to include sidewalks, and ADA landing pad.

*Additional service is desired on Sligh Avenue east of Orient Road to US 301. Additional service is desired south along US 301 to Breckenridge with connection to the Netpark Transfer Station.*

HART staff will continue to monitor development projects within these areas. Major activity centers and increase density will make these segments more conducive for transit.

HART concurs with the following goals:

- New development shall include pedestrian and bicycle access when meeting concurrency requirements.
- The goal to improve segments of Falkenburg, Orient Road, and Sligh Avenue
- The goal to improve the intersection of Hillsborough Avenue and Orient Road.

These goals will help meet the requirements for transit accessibility.

**Community Plan Economic Development Goal**

In order to provide connection to employment, HART staff will meet with the East Lake- Orient Park Community to prioritize additional or improved service on the following proposed road segments when funding becomes available.

Road Segment	Current Service	Need
<i>Harney Road adjacent to Davis Road and US 301</i>	No service on this segment.	Monitor new development and add route as needed.
<i>US 301 (Tampa By-pass Canal to Hillsborough Avenue)</i>	No transit service	Monitor new development and add route or extend current route as needed.
<i>56<sup>th</sup> St (Temple Terrace Boundary to Harney Road)</i>	The Netpark Transfer Center that serves nine routes is located within the segment. The proposed BRT will travel on this segment.	Improve frequency.
<i>Hillsborough Avenue (56<sup>th</sup> St to Orient Road)</i>	Three routes travel on this segment of Hillsborough Avenue.	Improve frequency.
<i>Orient Road (Hillsborough Avenue to Columbus Drive)</i>	Three routes travel on this segment of Orient Road.	Improve frequency.

If you have any concerns regarding HART comments or role in the East Lake- Orient Park Community Plan, please contact Linda Walker, of my staff, at (813) 223-6831 or email [walkerl@gohart.org](mailto:walkerl@gohart.org).

# HART ROUTES WITHIN THE EAST LAKE - ORIENT PARK COMMUNITY PLANNING AREA

