Streetcars as a New Urbanist Tool

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Tampa’ s Streetcar Development

1984 - 2008

Ybor City Historic District - Centro Ybor streetcar stop

Tampa – The Regional Center
and Downtown Tampa

TECOLine Streetcar System

Ybor City to Downtown

- 2.5 miles of track
- 11 streetcars
- 7 day per week service
- $2.3 million operating budget
- Opened 2002
- Birney replica cars

Linking Urban Districts

Ybor City-Channel District-Downtown

Connects urban cores of three major neighborhoods:

- Ybor City
- Channel District
- Downtown Tampa

Linking Urban Districts

Ybor City-Channel District-Downtown

Linking Urban Districts

Ybor City-Channel District-Downtown

Centro Ybor

Retail-entertainment complex in Ybor City historic district

Linking Districts

Ybor City-**Channel District**-Downtown

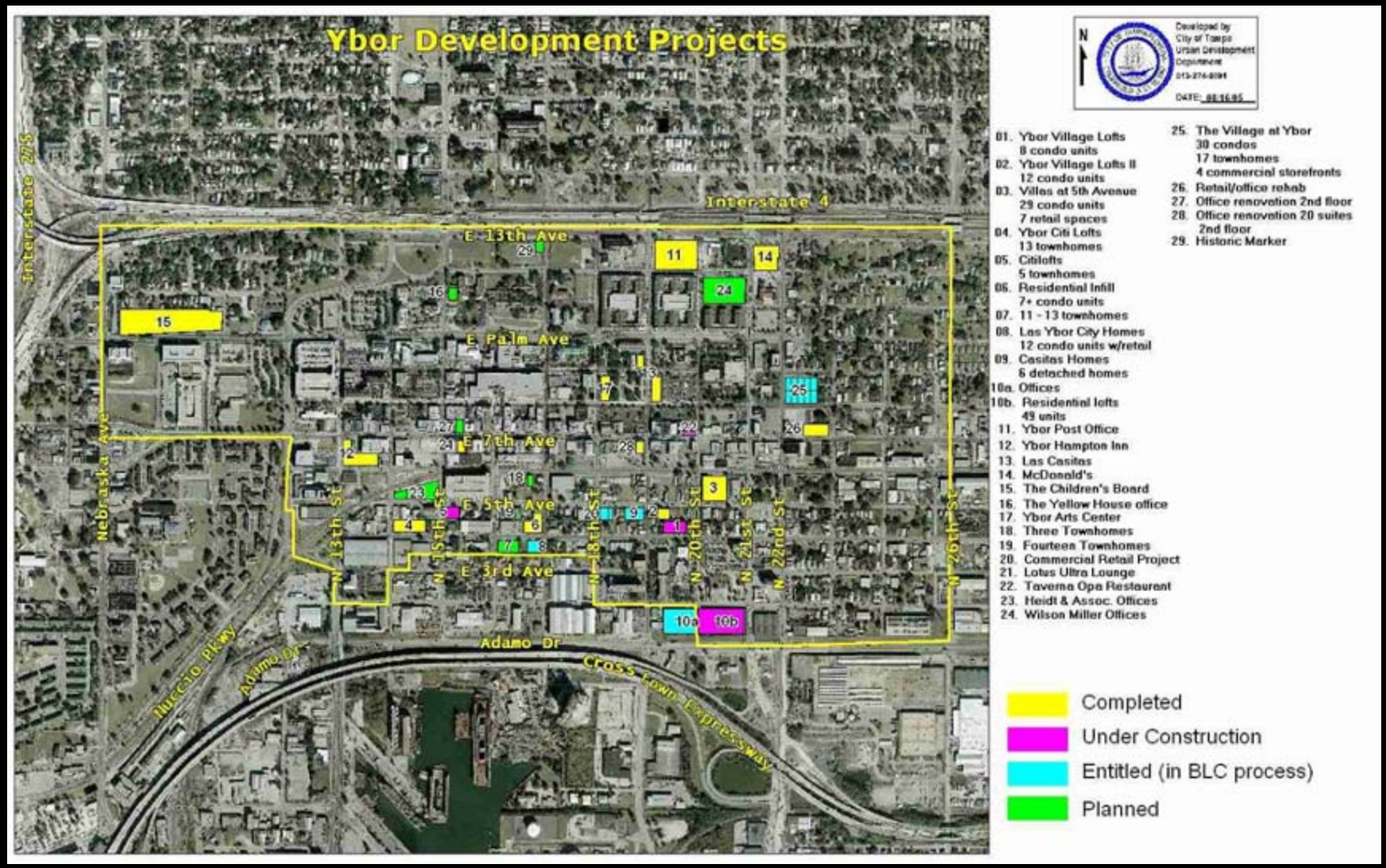
The Shoppes at Channelside

Retail – entertainment complex, cruise ship port south end of downtown

Representative New Development
Streetcar Corridor

- Hampton Inn Hotel at Ybor City (Historic District hotel located facing the streetcar car barn)
- Grand Central at Kennedy (412 units, mixed-use)
- The Place at Channelside (227 units, retail/dedicated art studios)
- Towers at Channelside (269 units, 30 story twin towers, mixed-use)
- Downtown Channelside (250 units, 30 story, retail)
- Victory Lofts (89 units)
- Seaboard Square (387 units, mixed use)
- Seaport Village (680 units, rental apts)
- Ventana (84 units, 11 story, retail)
- Cobalt (280 units, 8 story)
- Meridian (37 units, 6 story)
- Lafayette Lofts (30 units, 6 story)
- Embassy Suites Hotel (400 suites, 300 rooms)

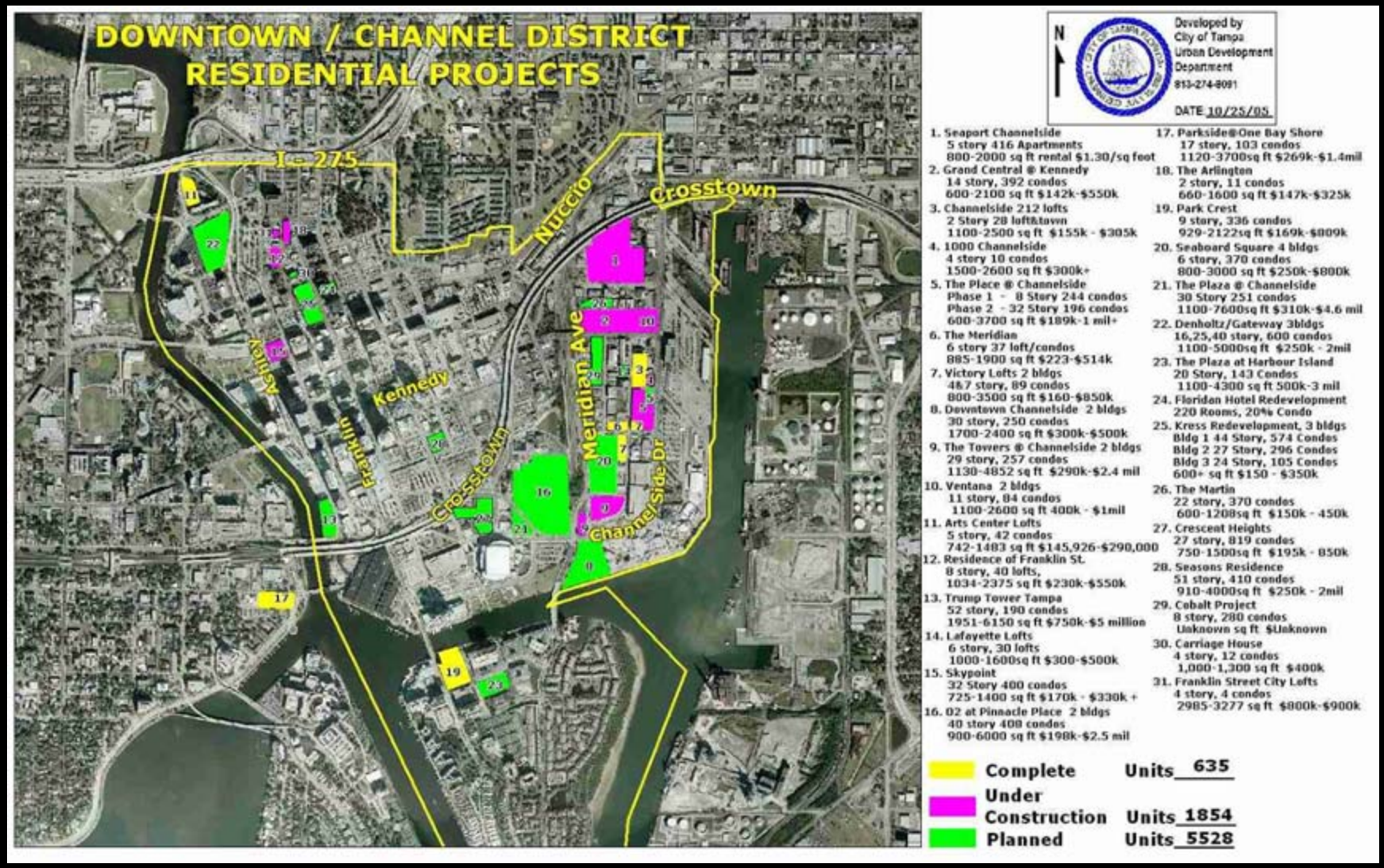
Ybor Development Projects
Streetcar Corridor



New Development
Ybor Historic District

Hampton Inn Hotel under construction (completed in 2005) beside streetcar tracks and facing streetcar car barn

Downtown / Channel District
Residential Projects



New Development
Channel District

North Ybor Channel

- 1100 residential units, mixed use, 300,000 sf office, 50,000 sf retail Phase 1
- new streetcar stop to be constructed

New Development
Channel District

Grand Central

- 412 residential units, mixed use
- 1 block from streetcar line

New Development
Channel District

The Place
model center

TECO Streetcar Line

The Place at Channelside

- 227 units retail/ artist lofts

New Development
Channel District

Victory Lofts

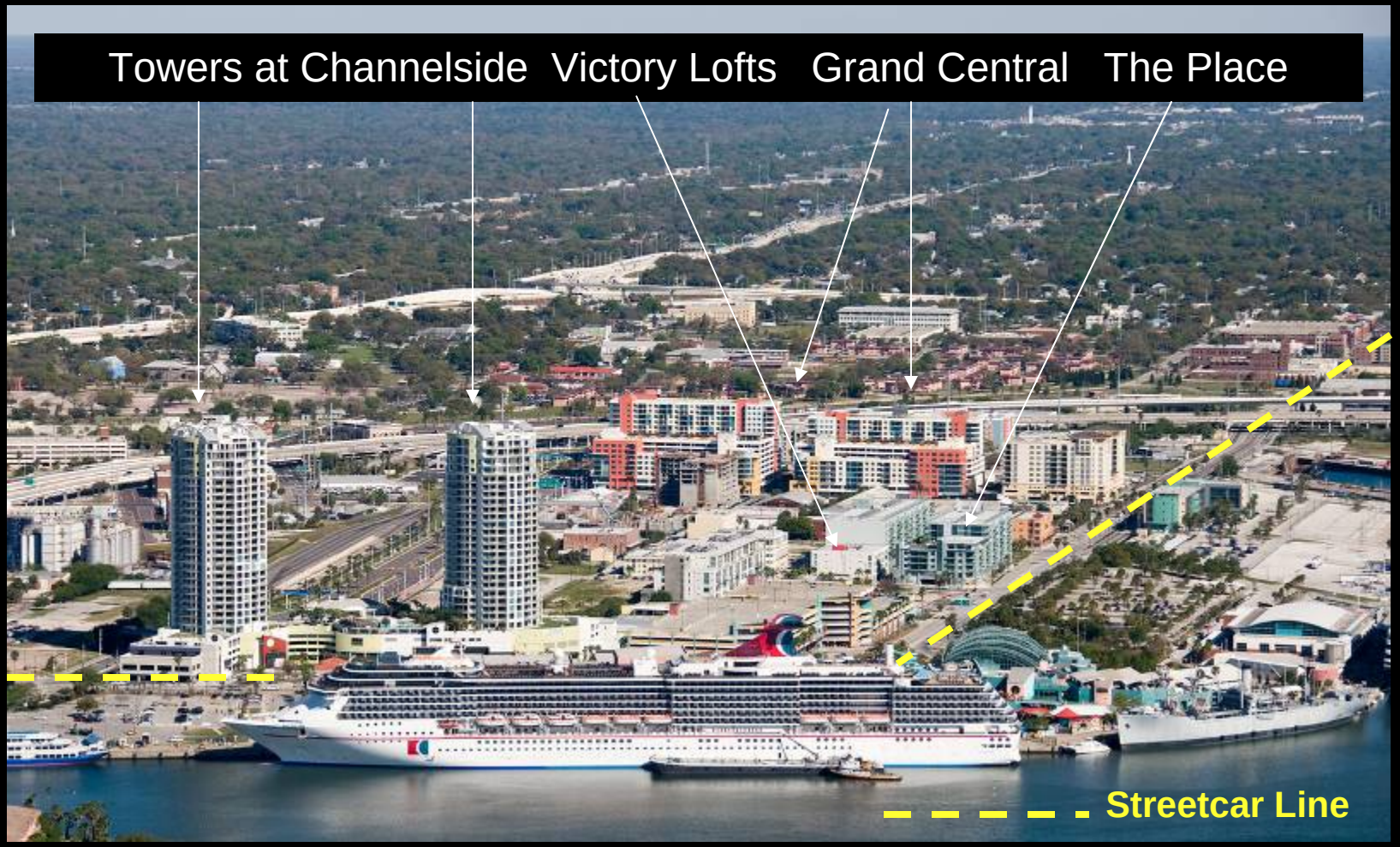
- 89 units
- 1 block from streetcar line

New Development
Channel District

Towers at Channelside

- 269 units, retail
- Twin 30 story towers with water views

New Development
Channel District



Channel District Development Overview

New Development
Downtown

Embassy Suites Hotel

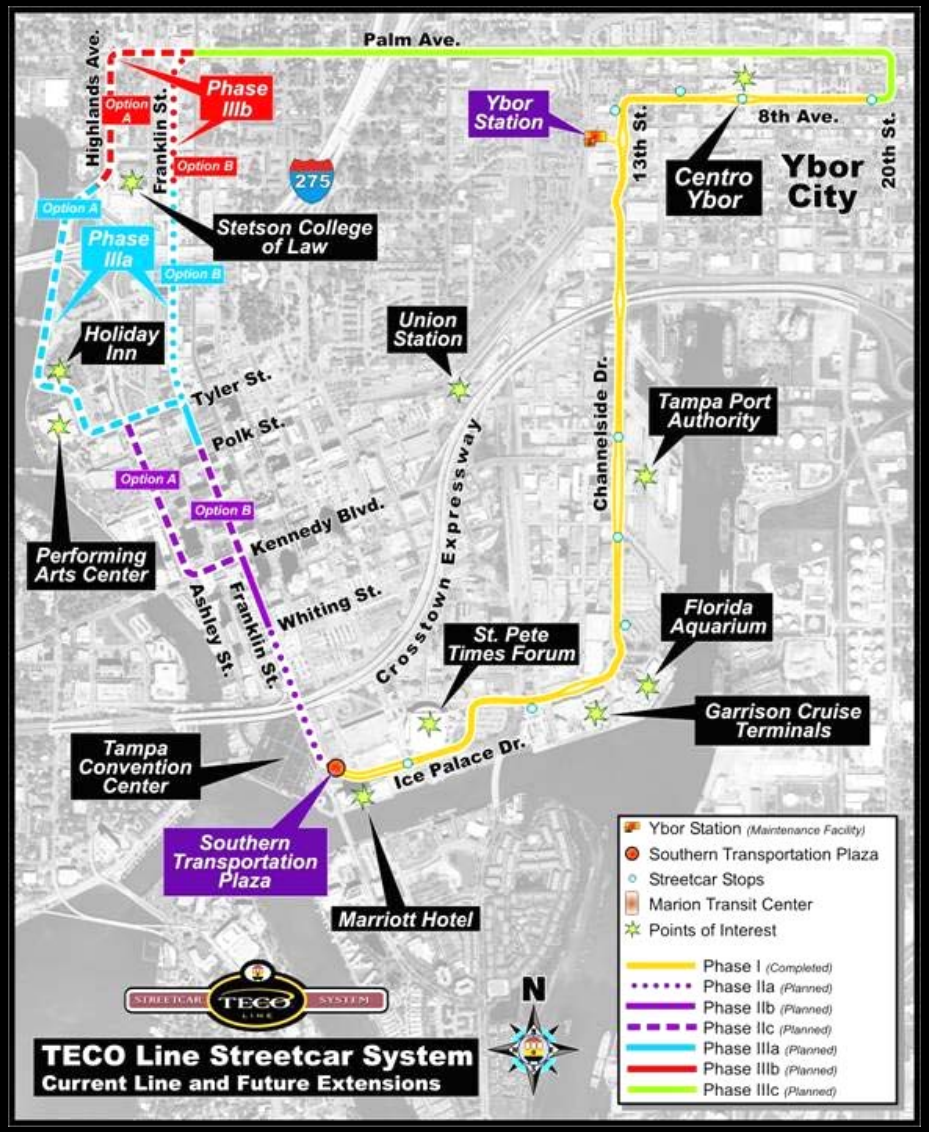
- Adjacent to Convention Center, HQ Marriott, Streetcar Plaza
- Completed 2007

New Development
Downtown

Embassy Suites Hotel

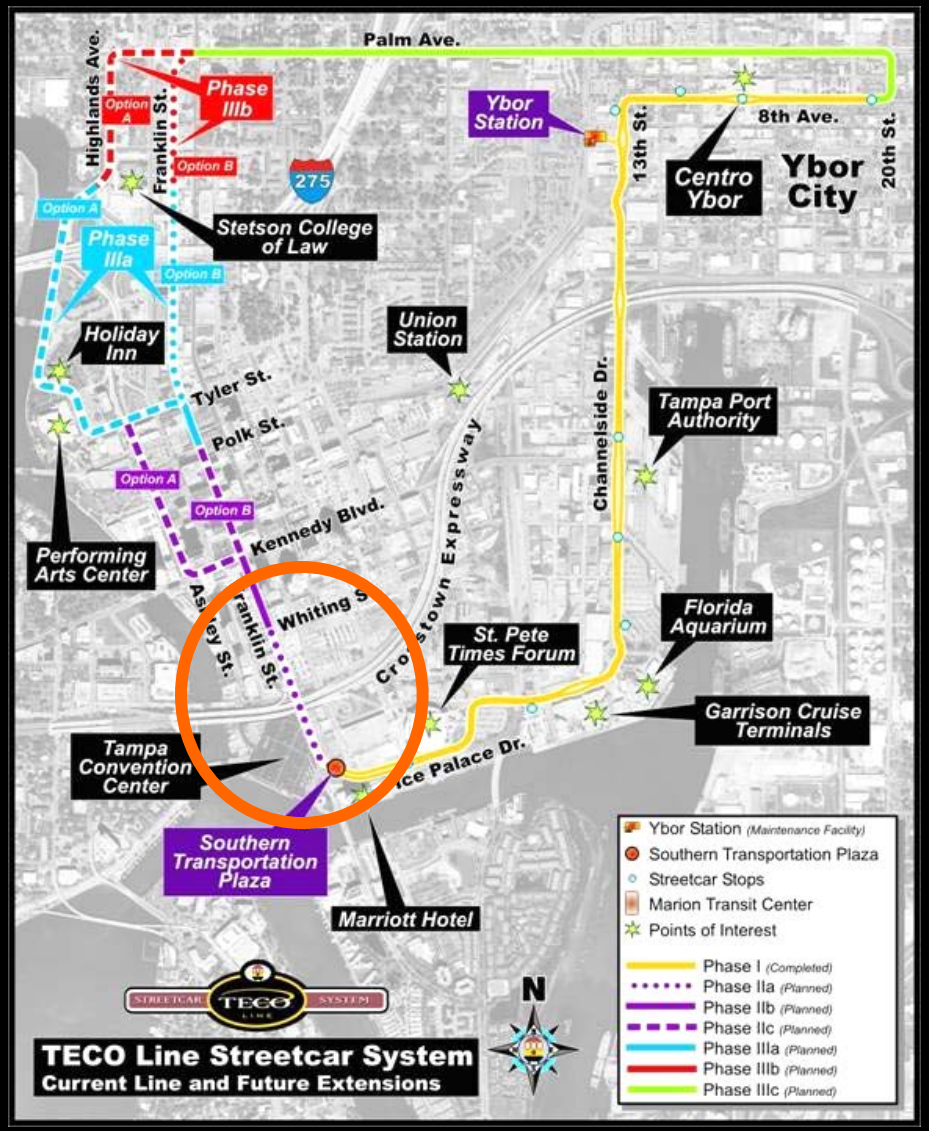
- view looking north from Southern Transportation Plaza

Future Expansion
Tampa Streetcar System



Expansion plans take the streetcar north to the new cultural arts district and create new opportunities to grow and infill a dead zone in the north end of downtown.

First Extension
Tampa Streetcar System



- First Extension – 0.35 mile extension from Southern Transportation Plaza to downtown Core
- Design 2008
- Construct 2009-10
- Open 2010

First Extension
Tampa Streetcar System

- EA accepted by FTA – February 2008
- Interlocal agreement between City and HART defines project roles - completed
- Grant funding in place!

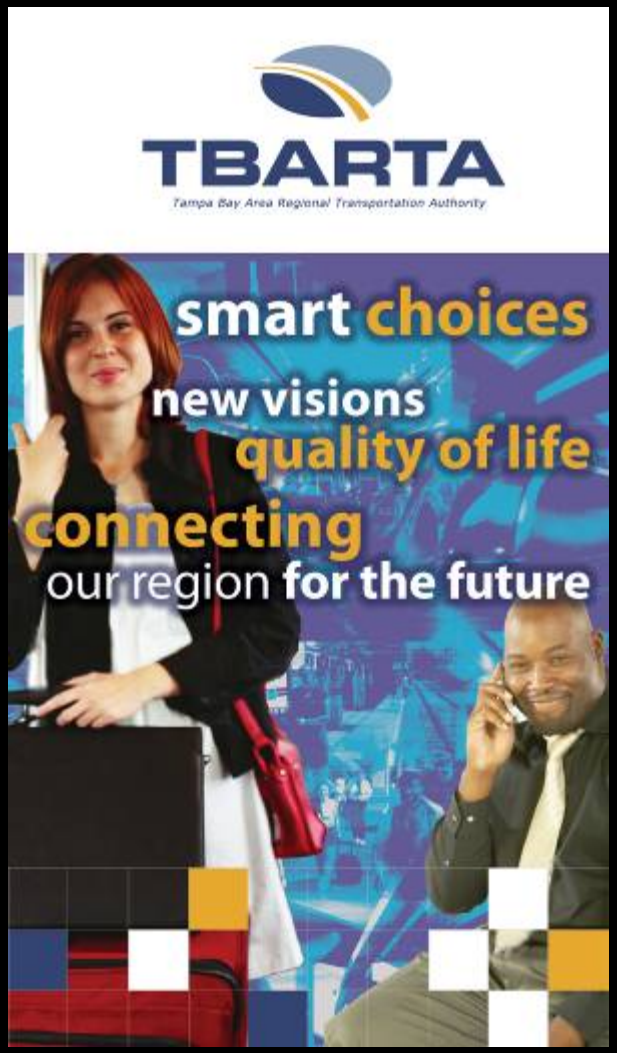
Recommended Capital Funding Program

Funding Program	Funding Amount	Detail
Surface Transportation Program	$1,400,000	FY 2008 funds not yet obligated in an approved grant
Federal Discretionary	$980,000	FY 2008 discretionary funds recently approved by Congress, not yet obligated in an approved FY 2008 funding originally programmed to Ybor city Streetcar Museum; not yet obligated in an approved grant
Surface Transportation Program	$2,000,000	
TOTAL	$4,380,000	

The Bigger Picture
Tampa Streetcar System

The Tampa Bay Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA)

Regional Initiatives
TBARTA



The Tampa Bay Regional Transportation Authority was created by the Florida legislature on July 1, 2007 with the ability to plan and develop a multi-modal transportation system connecting seven Florida counties.

Regional Initiatives
TBARTA

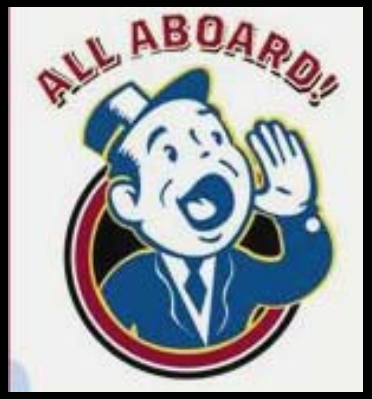
TBARTA is charged with developing a Regional Transportation Master Plan by July 1, 2009.

- Only solution for light or commuter rail

Promise of the Future
Tampa Transit

Extending Tampa streetcar is next step to light rail viability.

Along with TBARTA initiatives, exciting changes are in store for Tampa Bay area regional transit.



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