



Commissioner Sandy Murman proclaims January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Hillsborough County. Accepting the proclamation are Dotti Groover-Skipper, Beth Potter, Jennifer Marks, Donna Lancaster, Edie Rhea, Connie Rose, Niki Cross, Joanna Winters, Jo Ann Rollins, Renee Mulder, and Drew Weatherford.

Hillsborough County announces finalists for Access to Capital Summit

Hillsborough County announced the four finalists Thursday for its business pitch competition. The finalists will compete at the county's Access to Capital Summit on Jan. 15. The winner will receive at least \$5,000 in start-up funding.

BOCC approves resolution supporting USF Med School and Heart Institute relocation

Hillsborough County Commissioners voted unanimously to pass a resolution supporting USF for its decision to co-locate the University's new Heart Institute and Morsani College of Medicine facilities in downtown Tampa. Tampa Bay Lightning owner, Jeff Vinik, has donated land for the project, and the proposal goes to the Florida Board of Governors next.

County Commissioners evaluate intersection and sidewalk safety along U.S. Highway 41

The BOCC approved a report from Hillsborough County Public Works and the Florida Department of Transportation that included additional proposed safety improvements to U.S. Highway 41 in Ruskin. Bicycle lanes and sidewalks will be provided in the current resurfacing project along the roadway from the Manatee County line to 15th Avenue NE.

Hillsborough County now home to Big Brothers Big Sisters

The relocation of Big Brothers Big Sisters is expected to generate about 20 new jobs in its first year in Tampa, according to Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corp. CEO Rick Homans. "There is going to be such a spillover effect," Hillsborough County Commission Chair Sandy Murman. She said Tampa Bay can expect conferences as well as visits from executives across the country who serve on the organization's board.

County expands program tackling foreclosed properties

Hillsborough County Commissioners voted to expand the County's abandoned property registration program to include townhomes, condominiums, and similar units. The County created the registry in 2009, when the housing market bust increased the amount of vacant homes, neglected properties, and unkempt yards.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 1:30 p.m. – Transportation for Economic Development Policy Group at County Center

Thursday, Jan. 15, 8:30 a.m. – Hillsborough County Access to Capital Summit at Sheraton Tampa East

Thursday, Jan. 22, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Meeting at County Center

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