



Commissioner Sandy Murman spoke to the Economic Club of Tampa recently. Sandy informed local business leaders on Hillsborough County's budget, economic development, job creation, transportation, addressing the opioid crisis, infrastructure improvements through the Tampa Augmentation Project (TAP), and other issues facing our local government.

[10 years of change: Urban scene evolves in downtown Tampa, St. Pete](#)

In Tampa Bay's two largest cities, times have changed, to say the least. St. Petersburg's reputation as a retirement haven, the city of green benches, and downtown Tampa's status as a ghost town after 5 p.m. appear gone for good. Today, Tampa's downtown hums with activity at night and on weekends. On sunny Saturday afternoons, 20- and 30-somethings descend on the Tampa Riverwalk to bask in the weather and participate in the latest festival while foodies head to new food halls at Armature Works and on North Franklin.

[Help needed: Hillsborough animal shelter out of room](#)

Hillsborough County's pet shelter has too many dogs, and shelter managers are asking Hillsborough County residents to open their hearts – and homes – to help alleviate the overcrowding. As of Friday morning, the Pet Resource Center at 440 N. Falkenburg Road had 255 dogs and was at 104 percent of the shelter's capacity.

[Tampa area 2019 Top 100 Best Places to Live](#)

A killer beer scene, superior Cubano sandwiches (just don't tell Miami we said that) and glittering bay views – what's not to love? This city-on-the-rise received high ratings in the economics category, which is especially notable due to the fact that Tampa was hit so hard by the recession in 2008. Tampa has made an astonishing comeback, boasting a low unemployment rate and becoming a popular relocation destination for people from other cities in Florida (and beyond).

[Editorial: Hillsborough saves money by offering indigent health care to felons](#)

Hillsborough County commissioners righted a moral wrong last month by reversing a "three strikes" policy that barred felons from the county's indigent health care plan. The policy, enacted in 2005, was as mean-spirited as it was fiscally irresponsible. By ending it, the commission took an important step toward improving public health and safety.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY

Wednesday, April 3, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting at County Center

Tuesday, April 9, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Land Use Meeting at County Center

STAY CONNECTED



WHAT'S ON THE BOCC AGENDA?

[Click on this to see a list of BOCC Agendas](#)