



Sandy Murman

January 6, 2020

HEADLINES FROM HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY



I wish you all a Safe and Prosperous New Year! May 2020 bring you each Happiness & Blessings to share with your family, friends & community.

-County Commissioner Sandy Murman



Commissioner Sandy Murman kicks off the CareerSource Tampa Bay Business and Education Summit

CareerSource Tampa Bay will hold a business and education summit on Friday, February 28, 2020. Vision 2020: Business and Education Summit will be held at the Tampa Marriott Waterside. Check-in starts at 7:30 a.m. with business networking. This year’s forum is expected to attract more than 250 business, education and community leaders and will feature industry recognized speakers sharing their insights on the current economic positions and vision for the future of work.

Confirmed speakers for the event include:

- Hillsborough County Commissioner, Sandra Murman (*welcome remarks*)
- Mayor of Tampa, Jane Castor (*morning keynote speaker*)
- Chairman & CEO Sage Policy Group, Inc. Anirban Basu (*lunch keynote speaker*)

[CLICK HERE](#) for event information



Tampa among least expensive cities for startup costs

Tampa ranked as the third best city for startup costs behind Denver and Phoenix. The Big Guava’s rank was helped by its 1.6 percent job growth rate and yearly median rent of \$13,497. It also had yearly energy cost under \$1,000 and state filing fees of \$70. Overall, the Big Guava had an annual startup cost of \$67,128. Tampa also ranked as the third least expensive city for office space. Only Portland, Oregon and Salt Lake City were cheaper.

Attendance up for 2020 Outback Bowl in Tampa

Fans of the [University of Minnesota](#) Golden Gophers cheered on their team as they beat the [Auburn University](#) Tigers. The Outback Bowl is the longest-standing title sponsorship in college football. This year's bowl drew a crowd of 45,652 fans, up from 40,518 last year. That is still down from the average attendance of 48,000. The bowl has been in Tampa for three decades now, bringing over 1 million visitors and an estimated economic impact of \$1 billion. In May, Outback [extended its sponsorship](#) of the bowl until 2026.



Hillsborough Public Works Projects Finished in 2019



It's been a busy 2019 for Hillsborough County's Public Works teams. While hundreds of projects are underway at any moment in Hillsborough County, here are five selected projects that finished in 2019 that illustrate the diversity of infrastructure improvements across the County.

A Selection of the Most Impactful Public Works Projects of the Year

Project: Hillsborough County Fire Rescue Station 32

Why it's good for Hillsborough residents: To centralize Hillsborough County Fire Rescue's response unit for some of the County's most dangerous calls, Station 32 was built to house the HCFR's most sophisticated emergency response equipment and its trained hazardous response team.

Project: Bruce B. Downs widening project

Why it's good for Hillsborough residents: For many in New Tampa and Tampa Palms, it is the most significant Hillsborough County Public Works project ever. The Bruce B. Downs Boulevard expansion to eight lanes was completed in January of 2019, improving travel options for residents in the northern part of Hillsborough County. Construction on the four segments of the project began in 2010 and included a major interchange with I-75.

Project Name: Middle School Safe Crosswalk Project

Why it's good for Hillsborough residents: After the final bell rang on the school district's 2018-2019 school year, Hillsborough County Public Works began a massive school crossing improvement program aimed at making it safer for pedestrians and bicyclists to get to 21 middle schools in the unincorporated parts of the County. Improvements include new crosswalks, repaired crosswalks, new roadway markings, new and replaced school warning signs, new pedestrian-activated signals, new multi-use paths, raised delineators to help separate pedestrians from car traffic, blank out signs to prohibit vehicle movement while pedestrians are in crosswalks, refined timing of pedestrian crossings, and sidewalk repairs.

Project Name: Nine Eagles Turn Lane Extension

Why it's good for Hillsborough residents: The new turn lane at Nine Eagles Drive near the driveway for Bryant Elementary School and Farnell Middle School is a great example of using existing right-of-way to create a solution to traffic congestion. The traffic on southbound Nine Eagles in the mornings on school days was backing up so far that it created a safety hazard. So, a new turn lane was added to get student-drop-off traffic out of the main traffic lanes so more commuters could get past the schools in the morning.

[Read more...](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY

Wednesday, January 8th – 9:00 AM

Thursday, January 9th – 1:30 PM

Regular BOCC Meeting, County Center

BOCC Land Use Work Shop, County Center

STAY CONNECTED



WHAT'S ON THE BOCC AGENDA?

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