

'Our city still has every reason to be optimistic'

Editor:

Here are a few observations on our great city:

—It takes time/effort to design/build a downtown from scratch, but City Council is doing a great job.

—A successful top-notch downtown redevelopment is pivotal to the future well being of our city.

—The community must start investing in itself again, our finest planning and architecture was done 84 years ago.

—Crime is not rampant; local crime reports stray outside city limits.

—The area often sees us as a sleepy community of affluent retirees whose children have relocated to south Tampa.

—Some of our "old guard," contrary to being mentors, angrily block efforts to rejuvenate our city.

—City Council's \$250/month stipend can't support young professionals, so they aren't on council.

—Public education is improving; perhaps we'll need our own School Board/District for true change?

—Based on our history of public office and local builders, should they be on City Council?

—There's a small band of angry citizens who persist based on our community's kindness. In the past, CDITT.COM has shot down Charter School relocations, initiated City Council recalls, spread Redevelopment misinformation, attempted to rewrite City Charters, supported ill-placed Wal-Marts, filed

frivolous lawsuits against the city/citizens, scared and misled senior citizens to obtain their vote, built inappropriately when they can, publicly slandered elected officials, and other acts of intolerance and disrespect towards the differing ideas of others and the common good of our community.

—Based on the above, we'd be foolish to elect any of "the angry few" to City Council in November.

—The arts are flourishing in Temple Terrace for the first time I recall.

—Our city still has every reason to be optimistic. We've rediscovered who we were: the first Mediterranean Revival golf course community in the country; we know our assets: winding river, majestic oaks, historic golf course/town plan/architecture, and dedicated/educated community; and we know where we're going - a rejuvenated Temple Terrace built on our strengths and with citizen involvement, insuring our prosperity into the 21st century.

For more on Temple Terrace's rejuvenation visit www.pfweb.com/CRTT.

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