



CITY OF TEMPLE TERRACE NEWS RELEASE

11250 North 56th Street
Temple Terrace, Florida 33617
813.506-6400
813.506-6401 fax
www.templeterrace.com

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Michael Dunn, City of Temple Terrace PIO @ (813) 506-6406

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TAMPA MAYOR TO TOUR REDEVELOPMENT AREA

TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – (2/24/11) – Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio will visit Temple Terrace on Thursday, March 3, 2011 to get a first-hand look at the City's burgeoning downtown redevelopment area.

Iorio will have lunch with Temple Terrace Mayor Joe Affronti around 11:30 a.m. at the popular Spanish restaurant *Café Don Jose*. The two mayors will then take a walking tour around the 29-acre redevelopment site, beginning at 1 p.m.

City Manager Kim Leinbach and Michael Vlass of Vlass Temple Terrace, LLC, the City's master developer, will be on hand to answer questions about the project, along with representatives from Sweetbay Supermarket.

The Temple Terrace City Council broke ground on the redevelopment project on July 2, 2010. It is the biggest municipal-improvement project in Temple Terrace history.

Phase I of the \$160-million project now is under way on the southeast corner of Bullard Parkway and 56th Street. A Sweetbay store has been renovated, a new U.S. Post Office is under construction, and work has begun on a new "Main Street" through the site.

Over time, the developer will construct a New Urbanism-style development incorporating retail, residential, office, restaurant and civic/cultural components, including a modern *Center for the Arts*.

56th Street also is undergoing extensive modifications from the Hillsborough River to 98th Avenue, with new medians, lighting, landscaping, crosswalks, decorative pavers, underground utilities and other improvements. The \$4-million roadwork project was funded by federal, state and local grants. The road project should be completed by April.

Iorio grew up in Temple Terrace and attended area schools. She was first elected mayor of Tampa in 2003 and is wrapping up her second term. She must leave office April 1 due to term limits.

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