

Ramond A. Chiamonte, AICP
Annotated Resume

EDUCATION (5.4.1)

- 1982 University of South Florida – Bachelor of Arts in Social & Behavioral Science**
With a customized curriculum including American Studies, Political Science, and Public Administration, Urban and Regional Planning, Urban Anthropology, and assisting Dr. Robert Catlin, Director of the Political Science Department, with special studies including the 1981 Study Rail Transit for Tampa published in *Florida Environmental and Urban Issues*. Ray was initiated into Phi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society.
- 1975 Hillsborough Community College, Associate of Arts**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (5.4.2)

- Present-2015 Executive Director, Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority, Tampa, FL**
- 2015-2012 Executive Director
Hillsborough County Planning Commission and Hillsborough County MPO, Tampa, FL**
- 2012-2008 Executive Director
Hillsborough County MPO, Tampa, FL**
- 2008-1996 Assistant Executive Director
Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, Tampa, FL**
- 1996-1991 Director of Comprehensive Planning/Community Design Department
Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, Tampa, FL**
- 1991-1989 Director of County Planning/Urban Design Department
Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, Tampa, FL**
- 1989-1987 Senior Planner/ Principal Planner/Senior Planning Manager/Executive Planner
Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, Tampa, FL**
- 1987-1979 Planner Project Manager
Walter J. Wright Company, Tampa, FL**
- 1979-1972 Planning Technician
Hillsborough County Planning Commission, Tampa, FL**

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS (5.4.3)

INTRODUCTION

Philadelphia Planning Director Edmund Bacon believed that a planner should find the community that he or she loved and dedicate their career to that community. Ray Chiamonte has practiced that sentiment for his entire career. His roots in Tampa, Florida date back to ancestors that came to Tampa from Sicily in 1895.

As a child, Ray always had an intense love for and interest in cities. Two events changed his life forever. The first was leaving the rural area living on 15 acres outside of Tampa in 1959 to move to Chicago where

his father's extended family resided. Although he loved Chicago, his heart remained in Tampa. In 1970, he heard a speech about the promise of Tampa. At the age of 21, Ray knew his destiny was to live and work in the Tampa Bay Area.

Ray headed to Tampa with a '58 Impala and \$600 in his pocket. Within a year and a half of his arrival, he discovered the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission. His planning career began in 1972 when a technician position opened at the agency. Ray's long tenure with the Planning Commission enabled him to become a well-respected voice for good planning, which helped guide the urban fabric of much of this large metropolitan community. Tampa is consistently ranked as one of the best Cities to live in America. He eventually became the Executive Director of the combined Hillsborough County Planning Commission / Metropolitan Planning Organization and is now the Executive Director of the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA), covering the 7 county region of Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, and Manatee. Ray learned planning from the bottom to the top over his career.

PLANNING CAREER NARRATIVE

For four decades, Ray championed the importance of planning and provided powerful leadership to propel planning to new levels in Tampa Bay. The following summary of Ray's career demonstrates how his award winning work has created a path to great communities for Hillsborough County and the Tampa Bay Region.

Through his patience, persistence and persuasion, Ray Chiamonte changed the paradigm of planning in Tampa/Hillsborough County. He implemented innovations in historic preservation, urban design, new urbanism, urban service boundaries, transportation and public participation. Through Ray's leadership and efforts, he changed the course for many Tampa area developments resulting in new, impactful planning concepts, improved land development codes, and different ways of looking at transportation options in a major U.S. City and County. In addition to inspiring new urbanist concepts and approaches, Ray has left a lasting legacy which can be found in the Community Design component of the Hillsborough County Comprehensive Plan. His work in developing neo-traditional and form based development regulations led to the incorporation of new urbanist principles into the planning of all four local jurisdictions in Hillsborough County, including the City of Tampa. Many of these efforts won APA local and Chapter awards.

Ray's planning career began in 1972 and he set about making a significant impact on the community immediately. Ray worked extensively on the 1990 Plan for Hillsborough County, Florida resulting in the first comprehensive countywide local planning effort. This effort brought about the concept of "modified compact growth", which is the foundation of planning efforts in Hillsborough County, and today supports the protection of 3 different development patterns over a 1,000 square miles and 1.3 million people. Ray also worked on the Horizon 2000 Plan for the City of Tampa, Florida.

Ray played a major role in the development of Hyde Park Plan's urban village concept. This became the core and impetus of the redevelopment and revitalization that turned this neglected neighborhood around to become one of Tampa's most desirable neighborhoods. Additionally, Ray was directly instrumental in the creation of the Hyde Park Historic District and Plan by developing the first photo and written documentation of historic structures in the City of Tampa neighborhoods. In addition to the Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan, Ray played a major role in the creation of the Davis Island Neighborhood Plan. Ray was responsible for the documentation necessary to nominate selected homes on Davis Island and in Hyde Park to the State and National Register of Historic Structures. These were the first such plans done in Hillsborough County.

These planning efforts led to the ever expanding role of historic preservation in bringing about a respect for the unique history of Tampa/Hillsborough County and its contrast to many other parts of Florida. Tampa and Hillsborough County continue to make historic preservation an important aspect of protecting their unique and substantial history. From the creation of one of Florida's 3 out of 50 nationwide National Historic Landmark Districts in Ybor City, Ray's efforts have played a significant role in identifying and protecting neighborhood and cultural assets throughout his career.

Ray worked extensively with other planners to begin the first sector planning effort in Tampa/Hillsborough County to guide land use and transportation planning in fast growing Northwest Hillsborough County. This plan set a direction that identified appropriate areas for growth and environmental protection and was a model for other areas. This effort provided a foundation for future planning efforts that Ray managed including the planning and implementation of over 22 community and neighborhood plans.

During Ray's early career, he was effective in educating school students in environmental and planning concepts. He assisted in the creation of a teacher's guide to be used by elementary school instructors to introduce environmental and city design principles to students. Additionally, Ray regularly lectured elementary and high school students on careers in city planning through the volunteer organization called "Serve."

Ray was an influential member of a team, which included the University of South Florida Political Science Department that laid the foundation for planners to better understand how to address the inherent conflicts that occur in the planning process. The knowledge gained from this effort helped to form the political culture of the agency and created a framework for the culture of planning in Hillsborough County that strives to respect the property rights of individuals while planning for the good of the overall community.

Ray left the public sector in late 1979 to lead development efforts as the Planner and Project Manager for an innovative development company where he focused on the incorporation of community design concepts and coordination of various land uses within developments. Ray was able to ensure project completion centered on the formulation of an overall community design concept and effective coordination of various land uses within each development. Ray was responsible for managing the creation of over 3,000 residential lots.

Ray designed a residential home series that won awards from the Tampa Homebuilders Association, Greater Tampa Parade of Homes, Merit Award in 1986 for innovation in entry level housing. Ray's personal home was featured in the "Home & Design" section of The Tampa Tribune in 1985. Ray's design showed how an existing tract home could be changed into a truly custom home. After this experience he went on to design many homes for builders which were constructed throughout Hillsborough County. The communities Walter J. Wright (WJW) Company developed with Ray as Planner/Project Manager, became very successful. The communities preserved trees, created a variety of home designs, established strong deed restrictions, and mixed in other uses within the neighborhoods long before other developers had even thought of doing so. These communities were considered cutting edge in Hillsborough as well as surrounding counties and respected by government leaders and the private sector as high quality and successful neighborhoods.

Ray's private sector experience made him a much more effective public sector planner in proposing positive planning for development and creating accompanying regulations. As a public sector planner his experience also made him an effective opponent to inappropriate development by redirecting or stopping questionable projects. His varied experience made him a respected voice in the planning community whose ideas and advice were taken very seriously by citizens, the private sector, and elected officials.

Ray returned to the Planning Commission in 1987, taking the lead in the update to the comprehensive plans for the four jurisdictions of Hillsborough County. These plan updates were required to comply with Florida's new cutting-edge planning legislation – The Growth Management Act of 1985. Ray was directly responsible for the Future of Hillsborough County Comprehensive Plan, the first of a group of plans completed under Florida's new Growth Management Act.

Within two years of his return to the Planning Commission, Ray was promoted four times, ultimately to Executive Planner in 1989 to lead the comprehensive plans adoption process at the local level and through the state review process. This resulted in one of the state's first comprehensive plans for a large county to be adopted in July of 1989. Ray used his numerous positions with the Planning Commission, coupled with his private planning experience, to completely change the direction of the comprehensive plans for all of the jurisdictions in Hillsborough County. With persuasion and persistence, Ray steered the plans through a time of great controversy, as there were many contentious hearings since the new growth management act had just taken effect. Under Ray's leadership and direction, the principles of three lifestyles being protected in a large county have survived and remain the foundation for the plan today. The new comprehensive plans resulted in land development code changes developed under Ray's direction. The code changes provided a foundation for community and neighborhood planning in all four jurisdictions of Hillsborough County.

Ray's management of the comprehensive planning process for the local government jurisdictions in Hillsborough County led to one of his greatest and most significant achievements – the creation of one of the first nationwide visioning efforts in the early 1990s, laying the foundation for a community planning effort that is still being used. Involving "average" citizens in the planning process has long been a goal for Ray. He often uses his own life experiences to highlight to people what a difference participation in the planning process can make in the quality of our lives. As his staff began the process to collect citizen input on the nature of Hillsborough County, Ray led them towards the use of unconventional methods, such as "Town Call" meetings, social media and public input kiosks scattered around town.

Ray led an extensive visioning effort that involved all aspects of major issues effecting Hillsborough County including development patterns, infrastructure, education, arts and culture, governance, economic development, education and many other subjects. This two-year effort involved hour long private interviews with over 300 experts in many diverse fields from health care to education as well development and future trends. Hillsborough County's first youth vision conference and interviews with all elected officials were added before the new plan was developed. This was the first effort to tie true visioning to the comprehensive planning process.

This "Vision for our Community" with its 12 major goals, became the adopted preamble for jurisdictional plan updates. It included the Urban Service Area concept, and the introduction or strengthening of major concepts such as allowing accessory dwelling units, livable roadways landscaping guidelines, community planning, and neighborhood design concepts. Many of the ideas expressed in the vision have come to pass

through focused implementation. The plan was the first plan supported by development interests, as well as environmental and citizen groups. The Vision itself won the ICMA Savvy Excellence Award in 1996.

Through the comprehensive plan update process established by Ray, a growth pattern concept was established that emphasized major urban nodes to prepare for more effective transit in the future. He developed the criteria for clustering neighborhood commercial uses to minimize strip development patterns. These criteria were incorporated into the comprehensive plans and have guided commercial development for the past 20 years.

Another significant planning concept resulting from these comprehensive plan updates is the creation of hundreds of accessory dwelling units that have been constructed throughout the ensuing years, providing the ability to care for relatives or provide additional income for homeowners. This plan was the first comprehensive plan to be supported by all the groups involved in the process including citizen groups, environmental organizations, homebuilders, and business groups.

Ray's planning and community consensus skills proved invaluable with his management of a three-year "Zoning Conformance Process" which involved making recommendations on 180,000 parcels in Hillsborough County. Hillsborough County government had been trying unsuccessfully to achieve zoning conformance for several years. Ray developed a plan and strategy to manage the system that brought new Hillsborough County zoning regulations to all parcels that existed under the former code. This was a tremendous accomplishment since much of Hillsborough County remained unzoned as late as 1982.

The City of Tampa, after three decades of stagnant growth, increased its population by over 40,000 people after the new comprehensive plan was completed in 1995. Millions of dollars of taxpayer's money was saved by beginning to focus development back to areas with existing infrastructure. This foundation of the Urban Service Area, after many challenges over the years, has held fast for 20 years.

To make the Plan a reality, Ray led multiple new planning projects` as the Director of the County Planning and Urban Design Department between 1989 and 1991. One of these projects included the Livable Roadways program by Hillsborough County, a guide for a new direction in transit, pedestrian and bicycle movement, rather than total orientation toward private vehicles. This innovative program engendered a comprehensive interdisciplinary concept of roadway design and construction and mandated a certain amount of funds be set aside for landscaping on local roadways, required urban design features such as sidewalks and urban curb design, and began to transform suburban development into a more urban character. The Livable Roadways concepts resulted in the creation of a powerful standing committee on the MPO, the Livable Roadways Committee that currently reviews bike, pedestrian, and roadway design issues to improve the transportation system to this day.

One of Ray's most significant accomplishments as the Planning Commission's Assistant Executive Director was his direction and leadership in the establishment of an Urban Service Area (USA) and helping to manage the redevelopment of areas within the cities of Hillsborough County. Population within Tampa has increased from about 280,000 prior to the establishment of the USA to 345,000 people today. Fully 87 percent of growth now occurs within the USA, exceeding the plan goal of 80 percent. Additionally, Ray led the effort to create the Temple Terrace Central Business District Urban Design Study now being physically built. He also led the Kennedy Boulevard Plan, completed and now setting standards for development along one of Tampa's most important streets.

Ray created, directed and acted in the role of host of over 70 episodes of a national award winning public television show on planning, "Beyond Today." This television program, which was shown to a wide audience several times during each month, included many guests of both local and national standing to discuss planning trends. The show not only educated the public on planning issues but also involved local elected and business leaders which helped them better understand planning issues and helped to influence thinking and political support in favor of good planning. Highlights of the series included the tour of Celebration attended by elected officials, government and private sector planners, school board officials, developers and citizenry. Ray included Disney planners to assist in the education of Hillsborough County attendees about the concepts of New Urbanism. This tour and show led to concrete changes to the comprehensive plans in Hillsborough County. It served as a catalyst for a completely new planned development in Hillsborough County of almost 2000 residential units combined with mixed-use, pedestrian oriented commercial development.

The "Beyond Today" program continued for 10 years and won a National Telly Award for transportation in 2004 as well as the National Hometown Video Festival Winner in 2001. Expanding his involvement in film, Ray supported Tampa cultural heritage by producing a documentary on Tampa's unique Italian heritage, where 90% of Tampa's Italian immigrants who came at the end of the 19th Century were from one small area of Sicily. The film was an extensive effort on Ray's part, with assistance from Hillsborough County's government television station, to create a living history of the Tampa Italian Community through interviews of 50 elderly Tampa Italian descendants. The Italian community played an important role in the development of Tampa's unique cultural mix, which is unlike any in the Southern United States. Ray's documentary film went on to win the Tampa Italian Film Festival Award.

Ray went to a new level of combining planning practice with personal experience in 1996 when he uprooted his family from his home of 18 years in Tampa to an apartment in Florida's first New Urbanist community, Celebration. Ray maintained his job as Planning Commission Assistant Executive Director in downtown Tampa, about 65 miles from his new home, by organizing an eight-member vanpool as an alternative means of transportation for the commute. Ray wanted to understand the concepts of what New Urbanism meant on a personal level rather than only as an academic concept. This experience enhanced his commitment to the New Urbanism movement.

Having learned first-hand how New Urbanist principles affect a community and the people living there, Ray organized a major tour of Celebration in 1997. He invited elected officials, planning commissioners, government staff, citizens, and developers on the tour. As a direct result of this tour, Hillsborough County's first New Urbanist community, West Park Village, a 200 acre mixed-use development was created. West Park Village, which was built in collaboration with Ray, was completed in 1999 and Ray moved his family from Celebration to live in their second Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) community. Ray helped create the new codes and identify the variances needed that made this type of formerly illegal development possible.

As a result of Ray's personal and professional experiences, he has become an expert in the physical design of New Urbanist communities, as well as the impact the movement has on community building. Other similar communities now exist in Hillsborough County and more are under construction or planned. As a recognized expert in New Urbanism, Ray has been a frequent speaker at APA and AIA national and state conferences. Ray played a major role in the creation of APA's New Urbanism Division and served as the new Division's first Vice-Chair, 2003-2005, and Division Chair, 2007-2009.

In the early 2000s, Ray began to expand his planning knowledge into the transportation field, developing expertise in multi modal transportation and the link between land use planning and transportation. In 2008, Ray was appointed Executive Director of the Hillsborough County MPO, which serves as the official long range transportation planning agency for a total population of 1,280,000. Once again, Ray took an opportunity to introduce new planning concepts to the community and led the 13-member MPO board in a fresh, multi modal direction, emphasizing a renewed look at transit and bike-pedestrian issues. The result was a plan that included a call for additional funding through a referendum dedicating a one cent sales tax for transportation improvements. After thirty years of discussion, this was the first time a transportation-only referendum was proposed in the history of Hillsborough County. While the referendum carried in the City of Tampa, it did not pass countywide.

Not one to accept defeat, Ray used this opportunity to better study the issues for future efforts and gleaned a tremendous wealth of information from the failed referendum. Ray immediately assumed a leadership role and convinced the Board to incorporate private sector focus group concepts of analysis and surveys to drill into public attitudes so that the present plan update would have the attributes needed for better public support. His research work helped frame the effort for a new referendum proposal being considered for November 2016. The study effort has received strong acclamation from the federal government agencies that review MPO planning as excellent practice that should be a model nationally and won the only Florida Chapter of APA Award of Excellence in 2012.

While serving as MPO Executive Director, Ray directed an unconventional Public Participation Plan for the MPO, including “Town Call” meetings involving thousands of participants listening and asking questions. He used creative literature tailored to the average citizen, and extensive use of video and social media networking. The new multi modal MPO 2035 Plan was adopted unanimously by the MPO Board in December of 2009. This Public Participation Plan has been recognized nationally by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration as a best practice and model of creative public engagement.

In 2012, Ray was named Executive Director of the Planning Commission, while continuing his role as MPO Director. He convinced the MPO and Planning Commission governing boards he could do both jobs and bring land use and transportation planning together, thereby once again changing the planning paradigm in Hillsborough County. Ray completely reorganized the structure of both agencies into a coordinated total long-range planning entity that shares talents and skill sets across jurisdictional lines, saving over \$90,000 in the first year. Under Ray’s leadership, the mission of the merged organization shifted its planning focus from managing growth to proactively creating a plan to promote job creation, redevelopment, and integration of transportation and land use planning with the goal of sustainable economic development.

Ray’s initial focus was combining the update of the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan and the update of the four jurisdictional comprehensive plans into one process to be completed together. This combined effort had never been attempted before and produced tangible benefits in terms of public participation. The Planning Commission was able to combine federal and local planning dollars to create a seamless public participation process that met the requirements of both planning efforts in one process. The Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration have already spoken about Ray’s joint planning efforts being a national model of best practices. Ray oversaw the process that has been created through the use of the new Metro-Quest software to create what is referred to as the “gamification” of public participation by using social media, iPads, computers, newspapers, flyers, and moveable kiosks to give a

much larger demographic of citizens a chance to participate in planning. The information yielded the creation of a hybrid scenario combining all the public input into the appropriate percentages of the different visions they expressed. This project won a Florida State APA award for best practices in 2015.

As part of the plan update process, Ray led the first effort to involve the jurisdictions early on, creating ownership on their part, as well as educating the jurisdictions on the long range planning process. The result is the most integrated planning effort in the history of Hillsborough County with a public participation process using the latest social media technology that reached the largest number of citizens possible.

Under Ray's guidance, the combined MPO/Planning Commission has achieved additional significant accomplishments:

- ❖ An innovative Bicycle Safety Action Plan for the City of Tampa and Hillsborough County. A truly bicycle friendly environment will emerge as the two jurisdictions build a system of detailed safety improvements.
- ❖ The Interactive Transportation Improvement Program website shows the status of hundreds of transportation projects in a way citizens can easily understand.
- ❖ Established new partnerships with other local agencies to produce right-of-way preservation plans, transit ridership forecasts, and market studies for the Tampa Port Authority and for rail feasibility and water transit feasibility studies.
- ❖ Incorporated innovative transit oriented development principles into the Tampa Comprehensive Plan. The resulting overlay, which linked the future transit envelope plan amendment, was the first of its kind in Florida.

In 2014, Ray was awarded the Florida APA Chapter Lifetime Service Award for Outstanding Achievements. The Chapter recognized Ray for coordinating land use and transportation planning, preserving lifestyle choices, creating a community planning program, introducing livable roadways and innovative public outreach.

Ray was named Executive Director of the Tampa Bay Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA) in February 2015. This agency services the seven county Tampa Bay Region with the goal of creating one vision and priority list to represent the transportation goals of the area. In the first few months of his tenure, he has redirected the agency to help the individual counties work better together to promote a regional vision that includes both large and small jurisdictions. He is now working to expand TBARTA's Regional Commuter Vanpool Program. Ray is collaborating with the seven transit agencies on the implementation of a regional fare card system; and promoting region wide adoption of a mobile app that provides real time transit information for customers. He has successfully united the regional West Central Florida Metropolitan Planning Organizations Chairs Coordinating Committee organization with TBARTA so long range regional planning can be part of one agency. Ray is directing the expansion of the regional school commute program as well as ride matching efforts within the entire region.

The most important accomplishment under Ray's supervision and direction has been the final adoption of the Regional Master Transportation Plan Update for the agency. With the support of the MPOs in the region, regional priority projects at different levels have been identified and the MPO plans have been incorporated into the TBARTA master plan. This plan will provide the basis for the development of express bus connections between the major activity centers of this complicated metropolitan region of almost

4,000,000 people. TBARTA's role of collaboration, bringing about one vision and voice for the counties, is the biggest challenge of Ray's career. Moving this relatively young agency forward to take a lead role in the region will test all the skills he has acquired in his extensive career of Community Service and Leadership.

APA/AICP ACTIVITIES (5.4.4)

Ray has been a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners since July 1987 and has been at the forefront of the New Urbanist movement since its beginning in the late 1980s. He has been instrumental in bringing positive changes to the community by using the plan amendment process to incorporate New Urbanist principles into both county and neighborhood planning efforts

An early member of the Congress of New Urbanism, Ray was elected the first Vice-Chairman of APA's New Urbanism Division. As Vice-Chair, Ray played a major role in the development and creation of a DVD entitled *An Introduction to New Urbanism*, designed to educate elected officials and the public on the basic concepts of New Urbanism. The DVD won the Division Special Project Award for 2006. In 2007, Ray was elected chairman of the APA's New Urbanism Division. In 2008, he worked with local APA Chapters to design an educational tour of Central Florida New Urbanism which provided 10 CM credits for attendees. This tour became a model for APA Division and Chapter cooperation in continuing educational opportunities. The project won the APA Division Council Award at the 2009 APA Conference for Best Division Project.

Ray has been a frequent presenter at many national, state, and regional conferences, including both APA and AIA, leading efforts to educate professionals and citizens on the real life principles of New Urbanism. He regularly takes advantage of opportunities to address students and civic organizations on the topic of planning.

Perhaps one of the strongest impacts, and it may be Ray's legacy with APA, is his strong, unwavering support for the planners who work for him to participate in APA events, activities and leadership roles. Ray "grows" new planners in his organizations. He encourages planners to go beyond being just planners, but to become leaders in their community and the planning profession through their participation in APA Chapter and Section affairs. You would need to go back a very long time to find a period when a staff member working for Ray was NOT serving in a leadership capacity at either the state or section level, not only in elected positions but as volunteers. Ray routinely treats these volunteer efforts as "part of the job" for his planners. For over 30 years he has set the tone for service in APA.

HONORS, AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS (5.4.5.1)

- ❖ Lifetime Service Award for Outstanding Achievements in the Field of Planning, Florida Chapter of APA 2014
- ❖ Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration 2012 Transportation Planning Excellence Award for Hillsborough Countywide Bicycle Safety Action Plan
- ❖ 2035 Plan Post Referendum Study – Florida Chapter of APA only Award of Excellence 2013
- ❖ National Telly Award, “Beyond Today” TV Show – Alternative Transportation 2004
- ❖ National Hometown Video Festival Winner 2001 – “Beyond Today” TV Show “Channelside”
- ❖ National Association of County Information Officers Award of Excellence 2001 - Beyond Today TV Show “Channelside”
- ❖ Best Urban Planner Tampa Bay, Weekly Planet Magazine – 1997
- ❖ Suncoast Chapter Florida APA Award of Excellence for “Beyond Today” 1996
- ❖ ICMA Savvy Excellence Award for “A Vision for Our Future 1996”
- ❖ Suncoast Chapter Florida APA Award of Merit for “A Vision the Future of Our Community 1993” and “North Dale Mabry Corridor Plan 1990”
- ❖ Rotarian of the Year (1991) - Ybor City Rotary Club

PUBLIC & COMMUNITY SERVICE (5.4.4.2)

For over ten years, Ray has served as a judge for the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council’s Regional Awards. He has also judged the Orange County Awards Program in Orlando. Ray was a leader in the organization of the Planning Commission’s Community Design Awards Program, which recently celebrated its 30th Anniversary.

- ❖ Hillsborough County Cultural Arts Plan Committee which identified sites for new museum, 2006
- ❖ Tampa Downtown Vision Plan Committee, 2005
- ❖ Tampa Chamber of Commerce Enterprise Task Force, 2003-2006
- ❖ Leadership Hillsborough Class of 1994; Board of Directors, 1995-1997
- ❖ Founding member of the Town and Country Impact Committee, 1985 (first use of impact fees)
- ❖ Chairman Design Committee Celebration ‘74 and Art’s Festival ‘76 – three-day community arts festival
- ❖ Ybor City Rotary Club, Board of Directors.
Ray was honored as Rotarian of the Year (1991) for creating a program to distribute thousands of tree saplings at Earth Day celebrations and for the development of a calendar highlighting the Hillsborough River. The calendar included suggestions on how to save the environment and was distributed throughout Central Florida as a guide. The tree saplings have now matured and can be enjoyed along area roadways, in parks and on private properties.
- ❖ SERVE – Resource Organization for Hillsborough County Public School System 1972-1979
- ❖ Congress for the New Urbanism
- ❖ Tampa Downtown Partnership
- ❖ Urban Land Institute