





TAMPA CITY FLAG

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CITY FLAG ARE THE VISUAL SOUL FOR A CITY



A great city flag is a symbol of civic pride and identity. It shows up everywhere that matters: on neighborhood murals, local business windows, and embossed on sport team jerseys. When residents see their flag, they see themselves.

For Tampa in the midst of transformation, a new flag can unite longtime residents and newcomers around a shared symbol. It provides visual continuity through change while signaling the city's ambition for what comes next.

Need for Change

TAMPA'S FLAG IS A CENTURY OLD

Created in 1927 by a local engineer, it depicts colonial histories that predate Tampa itself rather than celebrating what the city has become and its trajectory. Henry B. Plant's ship, the Mascotte, at its center recalls an era of trade long since evolved into modern commerce and innovation.

Today's Tampa bears no resemblance to the small port town of 1927. The city has transformed into a major metropolitan center defined by its sports, entrepreneurial spirit, and distinctive blend of tradition and progress.



FOUNDATIONAL FORCES

500k+

Visitors on
Gasparilla

40%

Florida's energy
from the port

\$12B

MacDill
economic
impact

Tampa's identity rests on three powerful pillars that define its character. Henry B. Plant birthed the port moving 37 million tons of cargo annually as Florida's largest port, Ybor City pulses with revolutionary spirit in century-old cigar factories, and MacDill Air Force Base hosts two combatant commands spawned from Fort Brooks.

Gasparilla celebrates the city's pirate heritage. The port supplies 40% of Florida's energy needs, and MacDill's 16,000 military personnel strengthen the region's connection to global affairs.



VISION



A new flag must capture what makes Tampa unmistakably Tampa, a city that reinvents itself without losing its soul. It should speak to the entrepreneur launching a startup downtown and the family celebrating their fifth generation in the same neighborhood. This design needs to bridge Tampa's past and future through symbols from Ballast Point to the Port.

The right flag will become a rallying point for civic pride, appearing on everything from corporate towers to food trucks, from Gasparilla floats to Little League uniforms. When someone sees this flag, whether they're from Hyde Park or East Tampa, they should instantly recognize it as theirs—a shared emblem that says we are one city moving forward together.



The flag features a three maritime compasses fixed with Lightning bolts. These three stars represent Tampa's foundational forces: the Port, Ybor City, and MacDill Air Force Base.

At the base of the flag, a golden crescent curves around a navy blue field. This abstract form represents a cigar - the golden crescent serving as the wrapper and the navy blue as the cigar body. This references Tampa's historic cigar industry and Ybor City's role as a major cigar manufacturing center.



The central maritime compass, larger and more elaborate with its extended starburst pattern, draws immediate focus. This prominence could represent whichever foundational force is being emphasized - perhaps the Port as Florida's largest, or MacDill as home to two combatant commands, or Ybor City as the cultural heart that gave Tampa its unique character. The equal horizontal placement shows these forces work in partnership, none subordinate to another.

The eight-pointed stars connect to Tampa's maritime tradition - these are navigation stars, the same type used by ships entering Tampa Bay for over a century. They reference both the port's commercial significance and the military's strategic presence.



The flag features a bold rooster at its center, which connects to Ybor City's heritage. This rooster stands proud and vigilant, representing Tampa's industrious spirit and its working-class roots that built the city.

The three yellow maritime compasses represent Tampa's three foundational forces - the Port, Ybor City, and MacDill Air Force Base. Their eight points echo nautical navigation stars, connecting to Tampa's maritime heritage and role as a major port city.

The color palette is striking and purposeful. The sky blue represents Tampa Bay's waters and endless Florida skies, while the deep navy anchors the design with strength and stability. The golden yellow brings warmth and optimism, reflecting both Tampa's sunshine and its golden age of growth.



The City of Tampa deserves a flag that reflects who we are today and where we're headed tomorrow. As we work toward proposing a new city flag, your perspective is essential to this process.

WHICH DESIGN RESONATES WITH YOU?

- ☐ Design 1: Abstract cigar with three stars and sun
- ☐ Design 2: Horizontal bands with three stars
- ☐ Design 3: Rooster with three stars

YOUR THOUGHTS

Please share any feedback about these designs or what you'd like to see in Tampa's flag.

ADD YOUR VOICE

If you believe Tampa would benefit from a flag that better represents our community, please add your information below:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Contact (optional): _____

- ☐ Please keep me informed about this initiative
- ☐ I'm interested in sharing this with my community
- ☐ I would consider displaying a new city flag



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Return signature to either the Edition Residence or email