

STREETCAR VEHICLES



HISTORIC REPLICAS



BREEZER CAR



THE BIRNEY

HART purchased nine 400 series replica streetcars from the Gomaco Trolley Company of Ida Grove, Iowa. The streetcars are based on a design created by HART resembling the double-truck Birney Safety streetcars used on Tampa's streets between the 1920s and 1946. The numbers on the streetcars picked up where the original Tampa system left off, the final car in the original system was #427, we begin with #428.

TECO Line Streetcar Specifications:

- 46-feet long and 48,000 pounds
- 8-feet 6-inches wide by 12 ½-feet high
- The capacity of each vehicle is 74 passengers (44 seated and 30 standing).
- Factory-installed air conditioning

A Breezer is an open-air streetcar where passengers board directly into their row, there is no one main entrance onto the car. Weather blinds are located at the ends of each row in case of inclement weather. A safety barrier is lowered after all patrons are seated. Breezer streetcars originated with flatbed, horse drawn wagons fitted with benches which first appears in the U.S. in the 1830s. Tampa's original streetcar system included 50 Breezers as of 1914. The streetcar is used in regular service, weather permitting. The Breezer comfortably seats 78 passengers with room for an additional 10 standing passengers in the cab area at each end. A motorman and conductor are needed to operate this car, whereas the regular streetcars only require a motorman. This Breezer streetcar was built in 1984 by the Gomaco Trolley Company, the same manufacturer who built the other streetcars in the fleet. Accessible for one patron with a wheelchair.

The Tampa & Ybor City Street Railway Society Birney #163 is a fully restored original Tampa streetcar that ran on the system from 1923 to 1946. It is similar in style to our historic replicas, but smaller. This is the only restored operating streetcar in the State of Florida. It was salvaged from a backyard in Sulphur Springs in 1991, where it was first used as an apartment and then as a storage shed. Some of the wood used to restore #163 are: ash on the roof, oak flooring, cherry seats, and mahogany wall panels, window frames, and doors. It took over 10,000 volunteer hours to put #163 back on the tracks. All monies and materials were donations from our generous community.

Tampa's only "Open-Air" Streetcar!