

Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

August 8, 2019 Meeting Summary

The Legend's Center, Community Room, 5130 Soutel Drive, 6 p.m.

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members: Doretha Tompkins, CPAC Vice Chair; Elaine Billups, Better Living; Roxsan Currier, Marietta Senior Center; Jacqueline Harrington, Grand Park; Carlotta McIntosh, Moncrief Springs; Bettye Scott, Ribault Manor; Rhonda Boyd, Timber Oaks HOA; Brenda Ford, New Town Success Zone; Linda Kittles, Ribault Manor; Bertha Richardson, Better Living.

Excused: Tyrona Clark-Murray, CPAC Chair; Velma Rounsville, Timber Oaks HOA.

Visitors: Christian Gonzalez-Orbegno, New FL Majority; Regina Moment, Marietta/Sherwood; Thomas Parrish, Harborview; Waynetta McGraw, Jacksonville Ranch Club; Barbara McKnight; Roalisa Harden: Carver International; Vivian Bradford; Kim Perry, Lake Forrest; Cynthia Lazenberry; Henry Scott, North Riverside Community; Janice Williams

City Staff: Samuel Newby, City Council At Large Group 5; Warren Jones, Duval County Public School Board; Nikki Evans, City Council Assistant At Large Group 2; Dana Kriznar, Duval County Public Schools; Berdell Knowles, JEA; Nick Damone, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Zone 5; Brandon Smith, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue; Sharon Kirkes, Jacksonville Public Library; Stephen Shore, Municipal Code Compliance; Arimus Wells, Planning and Development; Kaysie Cox, Planning and Development; Chiquita Moore, Neighborhoods; Chris LeDew, Public Works; Brian Jefferson, State Attorney's Office; Amy Holliman, Neighborhood Services Office

Meeting Summary

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Vice Chair Doretha Tompkins called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The meeting began with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, after which staff confirmed that a quorum was present. Carlotta McIntosh motioned to approve the June 13, 2019 meeting summary. Roxsan Currier seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- 2. Elected Officials Reports:** Samuel Newby, At Large Group 5 Council Member (snewby@coj.net; 630-1387), welcomed Chiquita Moore in her new role as Operations Director of the Neighborhoods Department. Ordinance 2019-380 proposes a special election for the half-cent sales tax referendum, which would provide revenue for Duval County Public Schools' capital improvement plan. Ordinance 2019-380 will be available for public comment at the City Council meeting on August 13, 2019 beginning at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers in City Hall on the first floor at 117 W. Duval St. The Crime and Safety Task Force has been made permanent and is now the Crime and Safety Commission.

3. **Land Use and Zoning/Governmental Affairs:** Arimus Wells, City Planner I (ArimusW@coj.net: 255-7824) assigned to the Northwest District, submitted four applications for CPAC members review. In the future, they will be sent to CPAC members prior to the meetings.

Applications and Ordinances:

- **2019-0459:** Sign Waiver at 6920 Pearl St; RE# 035129-0010 seeks to increase the square footage of a sign from 24 square feet to 32 square feet and reduce the setback from 10 feet to 1 foot in the Residential Low Density-60 Zoning District.
- **E-19-52:** Exception at 13522 Pritchard Rd; RE# 004625-1000 seeks to allow for outside storage in the PUD 2007-0394 Zoning District.
- **2019-0484:** Companion Land Use Amendment at 6549 Robinson Rd; RE# 004462-0000 seeks to amend 14.29± acres of land from LDR to LI in order to bring the existing use into conformance.
- **2019-0485:** Companion Conventional Rezoning at 6549 Robinson Rd; RE# 004462-0000 seeks to rezone 14.29± acres of land from RLD-60 to IL in order to bring the existing use into conformance.

4. **Staff Reports**

- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office:** Lt. Nicholas Damone (Nicholas.Damone@jaxsheriff.org: 630-2324), reported that schools are conducting active assailant drills during the first week of school and then once a month throughout the school year.
- **Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department:** Chief Brandon Smith (BrandonS@coj.net: 630-0434), reported that Jacksonville Fire and Rescue is hiring. The department recently hired 40 recruits who have completed training and plans to hire 60 to 70 more. Please spread the word to anyone who may be interested in becoming a fire fighter.
- **Public Works:** Chris LeDew, Chief of Traffic Engineering (cledeew@coj.net: 255-7533), reported that a road diet on Edgewood Avenue from Roosevelt Boulevard to Lennox Avenue has been approved. Through collaboration with the Florida Department of Transportation the project is scheduled to be completed within two years. The Moncrief Road beautification project has been approved and is currently in the development process. "No Trucks" signs have been installed at 44th Street near Buffalo Avenue to keep them from driving through the Pearl Court neighborhood. The proposed Soutel Drive road diet lacks public support, but there are improvements that will be implemented, beginning with additional street lights and speed limit signs. Mid-block pedestrian crossings will be added at Moncrief Road and Rowe Avenue, 45th Street and Voorhies Avenue. At the

intersection of Van Gundy Road and Champlain Road, two additional stop signs will be installed making it an all-way stop. The traffic signal will be replaced at Pearl Street and 44th Street.

□ CPAC member Brenda Ford asked about the pedestrian crossings that FDOT proposed on Kings Road at Spires Avenue, University Street, McMillan Street, and Fairfax Street. Chief LeDew said he would work with FDOT to test the intersections and to determine the need for additional crossings.

□ CPAC member Linda Kittles reported that there are semi-trucks parking in a residential area. Because they are parking on nights and weekends, Municipal Code does not catch them. She would like “No Trucks” signs placed on Van Gundy Road to keep trucks out.

□ CPAC member Rhonda Boyd asked about the fading road striping on I-95 near the Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church on-ramp where the merge begins on the interstate. Is there some other color than white that can be used to differentiate the merge lane? There are things that can be done and Chief LeDew will share the concern with FDOT.

□ CPAC member Ms. Boyd also asked about the manhole covers that are both raised and lowered into the asphalt along Soutel Drive. These cause very bumpy uncomfortable driving along several roads in the area. Other members mentioned several other streets in the district with this issue; Beaver Street, Soutel Road, and Howell Drive.

- **JEA:** Berdell Knowles, Director of Government Relations (knowb@jea.com: 665-4524), reported that JEA is prepared for storm season. Over the past few years JEA has made considerable infrastructure improvements. JEAs storm plan is called Restoration 1-2-3. The plan prioritizes electrical restoration after a storm. JEA has storm preparation flyers available and additional information can be found at jea.com. CPAC member Rhonda Boyd asked about having a home assessed for energy conservation options. JEA provides free energy assessments for energy conservation; call 665-6000 to make an appointment.
- **Municipal Code Compliance:** Stephen Shore, Municipal Code Compliance Officer Senior (SShore@coj.net: 255-7122), reported that there were three systematic inspections in the Northwest district last month. The Ribault neighborhood resulted in 336 cases in, the Allendale neighborhood resulted in 219 cases and the Paxon neighborhood resulted in 91 cases. Throughout the district last month, there were 216 citations for junk vehicles, 358 residential cases, 199 unsafe structure citations, and 1,735 nuisance cases. Doretha Tompkins asked about junk vehicles that people have backed into their yards and covered so that Municipal Code Compliance Officers cannot see them to cite them.

Officer Shore stated that the only thing that can be done is to change the municipal code to allow them to be cited.

CPAC visitor Kim Perry reported that the grass is overgrown in the ditch at Kenya Street and Edgewood Avenue, and that several places within the small section of the Lake Forest neighborhood south of Edgewood Avenue and East of I-95 are overgrown. Officer Shore will have a staff member check it.

A CPAC visitor reported that there is a residence on Van Gundy just off Winton Drive (she did not have the address) that has no windows or doors yet appears to have people living in it. Officer Shore will have a staff member check it.

Another visitor reported that the lot at the corner of Ribault Road and Soutel Drive is overgrown.

5. **Elected Officials Report:** Warren Jones, Duval County Public School Board Member District 5 (jonesw2@duvalschools.org: 390-2372), reported Duval County Public Schools is hosting a back to school event at the Fair Grounds on Saturday, August 10, beginning at 9 a.m. On Wednesday, August 14, at 9 a.m. Duval County Schools is having a joint meeting with the City Council to address budget issues and questions about the district's request for a half-cent sales tax increase. Mr. Jones also reported active assailant training and fire drills will occur monthly at Duval County Public Schools. A new identification system is being installed in all schools. These require a scan of school IDs for entry. Early release has been changed to once a month. State Rep. Jason Fischer, sent a local bill titled J-1 to School Board members, proposing a mayoral-appointed School Board. The bill would replace the School Board's elected members with mayoral appointees and would change district lines to make them more "equal in population." The "J" bill proposes that the Mayor be allowed to appoint the Duval County School Board Members in lieu of an election. Council members Tommy Hazouri and Matt Carlucci submitted a resolution to City Council in opposition to the "J" bill. The bill will be voted on at the October meeting of the Duval Delegation.

6. **Neighborhood Services Office:** Amy Holliman, Human Services Planner II (aholliman@coj.net: 255-8260), reported that the Matching Grant Program will be accepting applications soon. They will be emailed to everyone on the Northwest CPAC email lists. Several classes to assist with filling out the grant application and meeting the grant requirements will be held both during the day and in the evening. The list of dates and times for the classes are listed in the grant application. The calendar of staff rotations for the Northwest was explained and copies of the schedule are available. Next month a nomination subcommittee will be formed to present a slate for the November 14, 2019 meeting elections. Please inform Amy

Holliman if you are interested in serving on the subcommittee or running for CPAC Chair or Vice Chair.

7. **Neighborhood Department:** Chiquita Moore, Director of Operations (chiquitam@coj.net: 255-5006), reported that Neighborhood Services will work to get answers to the questions posed at the CPAC meeting. All answers will be backed by ordinances, statutes or policy.
8. **At Large Group 2 City Council Member:** Nikki Evans, Council Assistant (nevans@coj.net) announced that she is planning to continue to attend the CPAC meetings and share information discussed at the meeting with Council Member Ronald Salem. All are welcome to contact her or Council Member Salem with their concerns (RSalem@coj.net: 255-5216).
9. **Jacksonville Public Libraries:** Sharon Kirkes, Dallas Graham Branch Manager (skirkes@coj.net: 630-0922 X 220), reported that she represented the libraries at the New Town Success Zone Back to School Event held last Saturday, August 3, 2019 at the Edward Waters' Emmett Reed gymnasium. The summer programs were very successful at Dallas Graham Library. There are five libraries that are receiving new air conditioning systems. A schedule of their closures is listed at jaxpubliclibrary.org.
10. **Adjourn:** Vice Chair Doretha Tompkins adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

**Next CPAC Meeting: Thursday, October 10, 2019, 6 p.m. at
The Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Dr., Community Room**

To receive supplies for your neighborhood clean-up, please contact Dan Durbec with the City of Jacksonville Clean It Up, Green It Up program at 255-8276 or ddurbec@coj.net.

A copy of the audio recording of this Urban Core CPAC meeting is available through a Public Information Request by calling 630-CITY. Details about Public Records can be found on the City's Website here: [Public Records](#).