

Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

April 12, 2021 Meeting Summary

Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. 32210

Zoom Meeting ID: 953 4177 6452 Passcode: 276301

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members In-Person: Dr. Willie Crosby, Chair; Christina Purdy, Vice Chair; Tom Martin, Watermill Masters HOA; Bernice Gremer, Fishweir Neighborhood Watch; Shirley Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace; Peggy Meyers, Hyde Grove Terrace; Dewey Walker, Springtree HOA; Bill Fonferek, Westland Communities HOA.

CPAC Members Via Zoom:

Visitors: Reginald Lucas, Paula Auzenne, Sonya Auzenne, Mary Rumph, Aisha Rumph, David Lowry.

Staff and Elected Officials: Michelle Worley, Executive Secretary to State Rep. Angie Nixon; Warren Jones, Duval County School Board; Lynne Baldwin, JPL; Sgt. Jamie Eason, JSO; Chief Brad Crenshaw, JFRD; Richard Ward, FL Department of Health; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Ernest Murphy, MCCD; Keith Meyerl, Parks, Recreation, and Community Services; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Andy Hetzel, Planning and Development.

Meeting Summary

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Crosby called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified a quorum.
- 2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The March 2021 summary was approved by the CPAC.
- 3. Elected Officials' Reports:**
 - Warren Jones, Duval County School Board, reported that the School Board has formed the sales surtax Citizen Oversight Committee. The Oversight Committee will monitor the district's spending of the new half-penny sales tax. The Committee has started meeting and will hold meetings once a month, reporting to the School Board once each quarter. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021 beginning at 10 a.m. at The Schultz Center for Teaching & Leadership, 4019 Boulevard Center Dr. 32207. Rutledge H. Peterson Elementary is one of the first projects in the master facility plan. Its design will serve as a prototype for other elementary schools. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2023. The plan for Westside High School to be completely torn down and rebuilt on what is now the athletic field has been approved. He also reported that a new K-5 elementary school is being planned for the Chaffee Road community because of the communities continued growth. Mr. Jones announced that if it makes financial sense, the School Board Headquarters will be moved to a new location. The request for proposals for a consultant who will assist the School Board with making a sound decision will go out this month. Mr. Jones reported that voting for school name changes will start on Monday, April 26, 2021. Robert E. Lee High School is one of nine schools on the list for a name change. Those residing in the attendance zone of Robert E. Lee High School may vote. Warren Jones may be reached at jonesw2@duvalschools.org
 - Michelle Worley, Executive Secretary to State Representative Angie Nixon, announced that their office hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Representative Nixon's contact phone number is 904-924-1500.
- 4. Presentation:** Richard Ward, Florida Department of Health Duval County, reported that the Health Department is still conducting testing at their location on 515 West 6th St., on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Walk-up testing is also available at Regency Center and the Legends Community Center, seven days a week, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mr. Ward also announced that the Pfizer vaccines may now be administered to Floridians aged 16 and older. The Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccine may be administered to Floridians aged 18 and older. Those who are ages 16 through 18 must be accompanied by an adult. He also announced that State sponsored sites located at Regency Mall and the Legends Community Center are administering the Pfizer vaccine seven days a week, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Celebration Church located at 955 RG Skinner Parkway, is providing the Pfizer vaccine from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mr. Ward reported that there is a lack of availability of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, but those sites that were offering the Johnson and Johnson vaccine will offer either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine while waiting for new shipments of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Duval County has administered up 500,000 vaccines so far. Mr. Ward announced that the

Florida Department of Health Duval County has partnered with the agency, Health Hero Florida. Those who are interested in scheduling a vaccination event in their community, church, or organization may contact Mr. Ward at Richard.Ward@flhealth.gov. Health Hero Florida provides the medical staff and the vaccines, and you provide the location, room, tables, and chairs.

Richard Ward may be reached at 904-253-2126 or Richard.Ward@flhealth.gov

5. **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** – Sgt. Jamie Eason reported that burglaries to autos are up, and violent crimes are down. Sgt. Eason announced that JSO is encouraging the community to follow the 9 p.m. routine. The 9 p.m. reminds residents to bring their valuables in from the car, lock car doors, homes, windows, garage, gates, as well as turn on exterior lights, and set security cameras and alarms. Sgt. Eason reported that the narcotics team arrested 35 suspects who were identified as drug dealers out of several hotels along Youngerman Circle and Blanding Boulevard.
Sgt. Jamie Eason may be reached at (904) 573-3165
6. **Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD)** – Chief, Brad Crenshaw, reported that fire engines and trucks will be staffed with a crew of four instead of three to better respond to calls. A new fire station is scheduled for construction at I-295 and Wilson Boulevard, and should be completed within the next two years. Chief Crenshaw announced that Insurance Services Office (ISO) ratings will take place this month. The Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD) has a class one rating, which is the highest rating possible, and assists with homeowner's insurance rates remaining low. Chief Crenshaw reminded members that June 1st through November 30th is hurricane season. Everyone should visit the JaxReady.com website or download the JaxReady app. JaxReady provides citizens with evacuation zones, weather threat levels, fire danger index, and provides access to the special need's registration link for those with special medical needs during evacuations. He also reminded CPAC members to make sure trees are trimmed and to check smoke detectors.
Chief Brad Crenshaw may be reached at (904) 630-0434 or crenshaw@coj.net
7. **Chair's Report:** Chair Crosby thanked those who were able to participate in the St. Johns River Celebration 26th Annual Cleanup. Chair Crosby reported that nine volunteers participated at the McGirts Creek Park location, and that a total of 11 bags of trash were collected at the site. Chair Crosby reminded CPAC members that if they have not already done so, they should reach out to their neighborhoods to identify one priority capital improvement project (CIP). The recommendations will be considered for inclusion into the proposed FY2022-2026 CIP. Chair Crosby also reminded CPAC members that they should submit their recommendations to Neighborhood Coordinator Michelle Godwin at michellegw@coj.net before the meeting on Monday, May 10, 2021. The final list will be created during the May 10, 2021 full CPAC meeting. Once the recommendations are compiled, they will be submitted by the May 21, 2021 deadline to be considered for inclusion into the FY2022-2026 Capital Improvement Project for funding.
8. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:**
 - **LUZ Subcommittee** – Chair Crosby reported that the subcommittee reviewed five applications, 2021-0170, 2021-0168, MM-2021-10, V-21-02, and SW-21-01. The LUZ subcommittee motioned to send a letter in opposition to applications 2021-0170, and 2021-0168. The full CPAC approved the motion.
Andy Hetzel may be contacted at (904) 255-7821 AHetzel@coj.net
 - **Cecil Field Report** – No report.
 - **T.R.U.E. Commission** – No report.
 - **Transportation** – Tom Martin reported on the April 7, 2021 North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting:
 - North Florida TPO CAC approved the request to amend FY2020/21 through FY2024/25 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). These changes (26 in total) are related to the difference in the start of the State and Federal fiscal year.
 - North Florida TPO CAC received a presentation on the draft of the FY2021/22 Unified Planning Work Program. Approval of the list will take place during May's meeting. The major change from previous years is an updated list of Special Planning Projects.
 - North Florida TPO CAC received a draft of the project sections of the proposed FY 2021/22 through FY 2025/26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A complete draft will be provided at the May meeting with the approval.
 - North Florida TPO CAC received a presentation by Hampton Ray on the status of several FDOT construction projects. These projects include the I-95/I-10 intersection improvement, I-10 widening from I-295 to I-95, and two sections of the First Coast Expressway under construction in Clay County.
 - North Florida TPO CAC received an update presentation on Smart North Florida by Jeff Sheffield.

The next North Florida TPO CAC meeting will be held Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 2 p.m.

9. Staff Reports:

- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Lynne Baldwin, Executive Assistant Library Services I, reported that Brown Eastside Branch, Maxville Branch, and Westbrook Branch will reopen in April. Each branch will be open three days a week from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Hours of operation can be found on the Jacksonville Public Library's website www.jaxpubliclibrary.org. Ms. Baldwin also reported that the West branch will be closed for three days while their chiller is being upgraded starting April 21st. AARP Tax Aide will be moved to the Charles Webb Westconnett Regional Library on Friday, April 23-2021 and Friday, April 30, 2021. She announced that the library is now accepting book donations at each branch location. Donors should call ahead of time to let the library know they will be dropping off books for donation. The donated books are used for the Friends of the Library Book sales, and the money generated from the sales goes directly to the library. Ms. Baldwin also announced that the West Branch has been a mobile vaccination site three times in the past two weeks, and 335 people were vaccinated on the first day. Lynne Baldwin may be contacted at (904) 338-4383 or at LBaldwin@coj.net.
- **Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA)** - Cheryl Riddick, Director Customer Engagement, reported that on March 19th JTA partnered with Agape Family Health to start the Wellness on Wheels program. Two buses act as mobile vaccination sites which go into various communities throughout the City to provide the vaccine to people who are having difficulty getting to a vaccination site. One bus is where the vaccine is administered, and the other bus is used for the 15-to-30-minute observation. Ms. Riddick also reported that JTA is offering a free one-day pass for those who need a ride to COVID-19 vaccination sites. The pass is good for one day, valued at \$4.25, and is available through the Token Transit website, the MyJTA mobile app, or in-person by visiting the Jacksonville Regional Transportation Center at LaVilla (JRTC) Ticket Center. More information can be found on JTA's website www.jtafla.com Cheryl Riddick may be contacted at (904) 632-5522 or Criddick@jtafla.com
- **Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** – Ernest Murphy, Senior Code Compliance Officer, reported that within the last 30 days, 340 snipe signs have been removed and a total of 1280 inspections were completed within Planning District 4. Municipal Code Compliance Division Zone 4 will conduct its next systematic inspection in the Hillcrest neighborhood starting April 19th. Mr. Murphy reminded CPAC members that the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program (JAR) is still available for those who need abatement services due to disability or economic disadvantage. To find out if you qualify for the JAR program, visit <https://www.coj.net/departments/neighborhoods/municipal-code-compliance/jacksonville-assistance-and-relief-program>. Ernest Murphy may be contacted at (904)255-7096 or Emurphy@coj.net
- **Parks, Recreation, and Community Services** – Keith Meyerl, Chief of Recreation and Community Programming, reported that Parks and Recreation are preparing for their summer camp programs. Summer camp will be held at 13 park locations this summer beginning June 21st through July 30th. Three Two-week sessions will be available. Each session will cost \$95, and vouchers will be available for families that need assistance. Voucher registration will begin April 19th. Mr. Meyerl announced that lifeguard positions are still available for the summer for those who are 15 years and older. Training for lifeguard positions will take place at Cecil Aquatics Center and Thomas Jefferson Pool. For more information reach out to the aquatic's office located at Blue Cyprus Park at (904)-744-5557. Mr. Meyerl provided an update on several projects taking place.
 - The Memorial Park Balustrade reconstruction is 30 percent complete and is scheduled for completion by the end of May.
 - Murray Hill Park has a small capital improvement taking place. A new playground is in the design phase, an additional basketball goal will be added, new bleachers for the softball field, and various improvements will be made.
 - McGirts Creek Parks Miracle League field is under construction. The asphalt underlay has been replaced. In 30 days, the rubberized surface that goes on top will be poured. The project is scheduled for completion in the spring or early summer.
 - A new kayak launch will be installed at Tillie Fowler Park. The Installation will begin in May and is scheduled for completion this summer.
 - The underground electrical for the lights located at Boone Parks tennis courts will be upgraded. The project is scheduled to be completed this summer.Keith Meyerl may be reached at (904) 255-7936 or kmeyerl@coj.net

- **10. Neighborhood Coordinator's Report** – Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Service Coordinator, thanked Chair Crosby for volunteering as Site Captain at McGirt Creek Park for the St. Johns River

Celebration 26th Annual Cleanup on Saturday, March 20, 2021. Ms. Godwin reminded CPAC members that they must complete Ethics Training every four years. Ms. Godwin will send the Ethics training information to those who need to renew their training requirements.

Michelle Godwin-Ware may be contacted at (904)255-8236 or michellegw@coj.net.

11. Unfinished Business - None

12. New Business – Capital Improvement Project Needs

- CPAC members expressed they would like to place Fiddlers Green on the CIP because it needs to be renovated. There was also some interest in finding out if a Police Athletic League (PAL) could be placed in Planning District 4 if the program could be added and qualified as a Capital Improvement Program. Ms. Godwin said she would try and find out if it would qualify to be placed on the CIP.

Capital Improvement Project request will be solidified and placed in order of importance during next month's meeting. CPAC member Bernice Gremer suggested that benches, and sidewalks be installed around Fishweir Park as a CIP item. Chair Crosby advised Ms. Grammar that the request would be added to the Southwest CPAC's CIP recommendation list submitted to Ms. Eichner.

13. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements

- Vice Chair Purdy asked if Mr. Meyerl could send park maintenance to Lake Fretwell Park. The grass is so overgrown you can no longer see the lake. Mr. Meyerl said he would send someone out to walk the property.
- Bill Fonferek motioned that a letter in opposition to the proposed gas sales tax, in its present form be sent to City Council members. The motion was seconded by Dewey Walker, and the CPAC passed the motion unanimously. Mr. Fonferek will draft the letter to City Council, and Chair Crosby will review the letter before it is sent to the Council Members.
- Bill Fonferek motioned that a letter in opposition be sent to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) regarding the resurfacing project proposed for State Road 134 (Timuquana Road) from Wesconnett Boulevard to U.S. 17. Dewey Walker seconded the motion, and the CPAC passed the motion unanimously. Mr. Fonferek will draft the letter and Chair Crosby will review the letter before it is sent to FDOT.

14. Adjourn: Chair Crosby adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Next CPAC Meeting: May 10, 2021 6:30 p.m. In person at Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 953 4177 6452 Passcode: 276301. A formal email notice will be emailed to members.

Next Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Subcommittee Meeting: May 10, 2021 5:30 p.m. In person at Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 953 4177 6452 Passcode: 276301. A formal email notice will be emailed to members.

Summary prepared by Michelle Godwin, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8236 or michellegw@coj.net.

A copy of the audio recording of this Southwest 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: [Public Records](#).

Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V (904) 630-4940, TTY-(904) 630-4933, or email your request to ADAAccommodationRequest@coj.net