URBAN CORE CITIZENS
PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1999
CATHEDRAL TERRACE AUDITORIUM

Committee Members
Dr. Janetta Norman, Chair
JoAnn Smith
Carlon Robinson
Flossie Brunson
Michael Bryant
Ann Thompson
Donna Rash-Sawyer
Henrietta Hill-Murray
Rev. R. F. Langford

City Staff/Public/Media
Thelma Jackson
Surya Teeple
Victor Cora
Asst. Chief Pete Mittleman
Matt Thompson
Flo Johnson
John Fleming
Councilwoman Pat Lockett-Felder
Councilman Lad Daniels
Celeste Hicks

Call to Order
Dr. Janetta Norman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

Approval of Minutes
Approval was deferred until a quorum was present.

Presentations
Matt Thompson of the Jacksonville Children's Commission presented the group with information regarding the "New Ways Initiative" grant process. He stated each CPAC will have $25,000 in funds and any unused monies from the previous grants will be rolled over into that district's account. Committee member Michael Bryant inquired as to whether they can anticipate any changes in the time line and would there be stipends for disadvantaged youth. Matt responded that March would be the deadline for applications and the advisory committee would review stipends for youth.

Chairperson Janetta Norman introduced Councilwoman Pat Lockett-Felder, Councilman Lad Daniels and his aide Celeste Hicks.

Old Business
Surya Teeple of the Florida Department of Transportation responded to inquiries from a previous CPAC meeting, reported on progress of existing projects in the Urban Core and fielded other questions from the group. Items discussed were:

- -7th & Main Street crossing signal
- -Proposed crosswalks at 14th Street (too expensive); 50th Street (sufficient right-of-way); 68th Street (too close to Trout River) and Heckscher Drive (too costly)

-Mathews Bridge grating replacement is back on time
-I-95 & Myrtle Ave. Bridge prep has begun for painting to be completed in December
-Councilwoman Felder inquired about a crosswalk on 7th & Franklin Streets; the traffic light at Main & 27th is timed too short for pedestrians to walk across (they have to run across) and 32nd & Main Streets need a traffic light
-Flossie Brunson asked about a traffic light being put back at the intersection of Union Street and A. Philip Randolph Blvd.
-Henrietta Hill-Murray told the group about the traffic light bring removed from Alder Street and returned after numerous complaints
-Donna Rash-Sawyer expressed her concern regarding trains stopping on the railroad tracks during rush hour

Ms. Teeple responded that she would look into the concerns and report back though some of the concerns are city related. Thelma Jackson, Neighborhood Coordinator, will contact Traffic Engineering to have a representative at the October CPAC meeting to address those concerns that are city related.

New Business

Victor Cora, a Media Specialist with the U. S. Census Bureau, discussed the need to "energize the community" over the next 180 days regarding census data. He stated the Census Bureau will mail out 90 million forms to residents to complete. In addition, he said that 80% of the forms will be short forms with 7 questions and the other form will have 32 questions. He also stated that 20% of the state was under reported and the Census Bureau is partnering with the U. S. Post Office to match addresses. Councilwoman Felder asked if the churches were being used for the census and volunteered to work with the churches and the census count. Henrietta Hill-Murray commented that sometimes the smaller churches respond better than the larger churches. Councilwoman Felder suggested the use of block captains in the census count. Flossie Brunson commented that many residents are reluctant to fill out the forms because they feel they are used to get money but the money is used elsewhere and not in their community. Donna Rash-Sawyer asked if the Census Bureau was hiring. Cora yes and to contact Milton Ali at the same number as his, the number is 726-5716.

Old Business

Michael Bryant requested an update on the Downtown Master Plan.

Announcements

Henrietta Hill-Murray announced a prayer breakfast would be held at the Grand Park Community Center on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

Thelma Jackson, Urban Core Neighborhood Coordinator, told the group she had contacted a post office representative regarding the concern of the lobby hours at the Springfield Post Office Branch raised at the previous meeting. She explained that the area is rented from First Union Bank and since it is their building, for security reasons, the bank chooses the hours of accessability.

John Fleming, Chief of Neighborhood Services, announced that JCCI is recruiting volunteers for

the Affordable Housing Study. He also mentioned he had brought new issues of the Neighborhoods Magazine for distribution.

Flossie Brunson told the group that HabiJax held a dedication of homes in East Jacksonville the previous Saturday.

Chairperson Norman told the group that the letter Springfield resident Jerry Uselman had requested to be sent to Councilman Matt Carlucci was delivered to him.

Committee member Rev. Langford moved for the minutes to be approved. The minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.