



DISTRICT THREE NEWSLETTER

COUNCILMAN RICHARD CLARK

DECEMBER 2006

Message of the Newsletter

Residents of District 3 are blessed to live in a beautiful community with attractions such as the marshes of the Intracoastal Waterway, Patton Park, Castaway Island Preserve and many more. In part because of these attractions, our community has seen tremendous growth, thus necessitating the many roadway construction projects currently underway and planned. I am happy to report that District 3 received the needed Better Jacksonville Plan funding, but it does mean painful commutes as more orange cones spot our District. If you would like more information or if there is anything my office can help you with, please feel free to call at 630-1386.

City Council 2006-2007

City Council Committees meet the first and third weeks of the month while full City Council meetings are the second and fourth Tuesday at 5 p.m. However, City Council will not hold committee meetings or a City Council meeting the last two weeks of December. Councilman Clark serves on three committees, which all meet in the City Council Chambers.

Rules

Monday, 10 am

Audit, Chairman

Monday, 4 p.m.

Land Use and Zoning

Tuesday, 5 pm

Dredging Update

Isle of Palms dredging: While the actual dredging project was completed in 2005, the assessment will not be on this year's property taxes, but should be included next year.

Hogpen Creek dredging: Dredging work on Hogpen Creek started back up in August of 2006. Steady progress has been made and the project was 55 percent complete on November 8, 2006. The target completion date for the Hogpen Creek dredging project is January 2007.

District 3 Parks Update

Huffman Park

On June 8, 2006, Councilman Clark, Mayor John Peyton, and Parks, Recreation, Entertainment, and Conservation Director John Culbreth held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Huffman Park. Scheduled to be completed in March 2007, the park will feature a playground, multi-use fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, a picnic area and more.

Castaway Island Preserve

The education building at Castaway Island Preserve will be converted to an air conditioned building. The screen will be converted to glass which will allow for a more secured and enjoyable experience for field trips at the park. This project will begin in December 2006 and should be completed by March 2007.

New Fire Station

Fire Station #59, located on W.M. Davis Parkway just west of San Pablo Road, will receive a temporary emergency trailer in January 2007. This will help ensure a quicker response time for the residents in the area, including Cypress Village. The permanent fire station is tentatively scheduled to be completed by the end of 2007.

District 3 Roads Update

Girvin Road (Atlantic Boulevard to Mount Pleasant Road): The Girvin Rd project is approximately three miles long and runs from Atlantic Blvd to Mt. Pleasant Rd (Wonderwood Connector). The proposed road is a five lane section between Atlantic Blvd and Ashley Melisse Blvd and a three lane section between Ashley Melisse Blvd and Mt. Pleasant Rd. A new traffic signal is proposed at Joeandy Rd. Construction is scheduled to begin in the Summer of 2007 and end late 2008.

Hodges Boulevard (Beach Boulevard to Atlantic Boulevard): The Hodges Blvd project extends north from Beach Blvd to Atlantic Blvd for a distance of approximately 2.2 miles. The proposed road is a four-lane divided section with left turn lanes as needed. Design is 75 % complete. JEA has decided to leave the electrical cables overhead. A new traffic signal is proposed at Bentwater Dr. Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2006 and be completed early 2008.

Kernan Boulevard (Butler Boulevard to McCormick Road): The Kernan Blvd project extends north from Butler Blvd to McCormick Rd for a distance of approximately 6.6 miles. The proposed road will be a six-lane and four-lane divided section with left turn lanes as needed. Traffic signals will be added at Ashley Melisse Blvd, Matthew Unger Dr, Melrose apartments and Hunters Haven Ln. Currently, construction on signals north of Atlantic Blvd and south of Beach Blvd is happening, utilities from Beach Blvd to McCormick Rd and Wonderwood Connector is starting, and roadway between Beach Blvd and Atlantic Blvd has been bid and is being awarded. Construction will be done in stages, which have already begun with the traffic signals, and are scheduled to be completed in the Fall of 2010.

San Pablo Road (Beach Boulevard to Atlantic Boulevard): The San Pablo Rd project extends north from Beach Blvd to Atlantic Blvd for a distance of approximately 2.2 miles. The proposed road is a three-lane section. The project will include bike lanes and sidewalks. The existing shallow roadside drainage ditches will be replaced with curb & gutter and stormwater runoff will flow to inlets and a piped drainage system with retention ponds to control flooding and improve the quality of stormwater runoff. Design Phase has begun with 50% design due to be completed late 2006. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2008 and end in late 2009.

Overpasses: An overpass will be constructed at the Beach Blvd and Kernan Blvd intersection as well as the Atlantic Blvd and Kernan Blvd intersection. The overpass will be constructed with Kernan Blvd running over Beach Blvd. Construction is scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2007 and end in the third quarter of 2008. The Atlantic Blvd overpass will run over Kernan Blvd. Design for that overpass is scheduled to be completed in the second quarter of 2007.

Beach Boulevard Intra-coastal Waterway Bridge: The project will widen Beach Blvd from four lanes to six lanes between San Pablo Rd and Penman Rd. Included is the replacement of two existing two-lane draw bridges with two fixed high level bridges with three lanes each. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the second quarter of 2009.

FDOT Road Update: The Florida Department of Transportation is currently working on three major roadways affecting District 3. Beach Blvd is being widened to six lanes and is scheduled to be completed in early 2008. The 9A/JTB interchange is scheduled to be completed in the Fall of 2009, but there will be a series of lane and ramp closures during the construction process. To see a rendering of the interchange, please visit www.sr9A.info. Funding was recently secured to widen JTB from Kernan Blvd to San Pablo Rd. Bids will be done in 2007 with construction likely to start in 2007 as well.

For more updates on road improvements in District 3, please visit www.betterjax.com.

Sandalwood Canal

Secured in the Fiscal Year 2007 budget was the necessary \$3.8 million to finish the Sandalwood Canal Drainage Improvement Project. Phase I (29 acre borrow pit) of the project was bid together with the Kernan Boulevard project and is now under construction. Phase II, the actual improvements in the canal, are preliminarily scheduled to begin construction in December 2007. Phase III, the regional pond, is a Joint Participation Agreement with Beazer Homes.

Quote of the Newsletter

"Set your goals, stay focused and you will succeed."

-Ted Williams, Marine Corps combat pilot and Baseball Hall of Famer