

SOUTHEAST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY February 28, 2011

6:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Hospital, 4201 Belfort Rd., Main Hospital, Auditorium C, Jacksonville, FL.
32216

Call to Order

Pat Corrado, SE CPAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Speakers

James Bennett, FDOT presented an updated plan for the I-95 Overland Bridge Project. The Overland Bridge Project is the replacement bridge area that spans land (instead of water) from Hendricks Avenue to Kings Avenue and to Montana Avenue. This stretch of I-95 is a series of overpasses. In order to complete this project the area will lose 56 houses, 6 businesses and 2 churches. Currently FDOT is working on land acquisition. To date it is the most expensive FDOT project in Northeast Florida; approximately \$213 million dollars.

To date, FDOT has hosted several community meetings, which has spawned a lot of community input and several changes to the project. FDOT states that the changes will reduce construction time, keep traffic flowing close to normal and provide a safer work zone. Additionally, the changes will remain as permanent features and will increase the overall safety, operation and access of I-95.

The bridge is being replaced due to structural deterioration which is causing frequent repairs. Mr. Bennett used a PowerPoint presentation which allowed us to have an aerial view of the project explained to us. The complexity of this project needs visual aids (for the majority of us) to allow us to understand the scope and plan of this project. FDOT has established a website that focuses on this project with very detailed aerial maps, project schedule and project expenses; the website is: www.i95overlandbridge.com. Viewing the website is recommended to better understand the scope and detail of the project. Construction is expected to begin in 2012.

Staff Reports

- **Bill Killingsworth, Mayor Liaison, Planning & Development Department:** no report
- **Jim Green, FDOT:** The lights on the Hart Bridge are almost completely restored; the Hart Bridge project is expected to be completed in March or April 2011. The pavement rehab project on I-95 from JTB to Atlantic Blvd. will begin soon; paving of I-95 from Greenland Road (south of I-295) to JTB should begin this summer. 9A has officially been changed to 295; the new signs will be going up this summer.
- **Eddie Christian, Duval County Public Schools:** introduced himself and informed the group that he oversees 11 high schools and 7 middle schools and he is active

in the AVID program. The AVID program targets students in the academic middle — B, C and D students — who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. The program puts these students on the college track: acceleration instead of remediation. For example, Terry Parker Senior High School last year had 54 students enrolled in the AVID program; 53 were accepted at a University and 1 went into the military.

- **Aaron Glick, Planning & Development Department:** not present, Rosemary can forward any questions or concerns to him.
- **Rosemary Wesolowski, Housing & Neighborhoods Department:** informed the group that on March 10, 2011 JTA will host a public meeting from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. on the BRT at the Florida State College at Jacksonville Deerwood Campus. March 26, 2011 there will be a free HOA Training at the Southpoint Marriott 4670 Salisbury Road at 8:30 a.m. and free condo association & certification for board members on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan St, 32202. Pre-registration is required for both; please contact Rosemary for more information or to pre-register. The group was also reminded that CD's are available for the 2030 Vision Plan that was presented at the January CPAC meeting. The group was informed that long time CPAC member Ray Alecsic moved to Las Vegas, NV to be closer to his sister. Jim Hill is home from Mayo Hospital and is getting stronger each day. Jim is available for phone calls or emails.
- **Lt. Jesse York and Lt. James Judge, JSO, Zone 3:** informed the group that JSO is focusing on high traffic fatalities in the area. The intersections of Beach Blvd/ Southside Blvd. and Baymeadows Blvd / Southside Blvd. are problem intersections. In effort to reduce the fatality problems there will be a higher prescience of JSO officers working these area and giving warning and citations. JSO is also cracking down on curfew violations by juveniles. The Sheriff is asking the community to participate and report curfew violators, truants and inappropriate juvenile behavior. To report these activities, please call 630-0500.
- **Bob Crawford, Code Compliance Supervisor:** Most recently Code Officers completed a systematic sweep in Englewood, in the Englewood area there were 98 violations. In the past month, code compliance conducted 1184 inspections in district 3. Political sign are a problem with each campaign. The candidate needs to inform his volunteers where to place the signs. If the political signs are placed improperly, the city will not removed them but call the candidate and inform them they need to remove the signs. If there are any questions or you need help, Bob can be reached at 255-7042.
- **Shorty Robbins, Recreation & Community Services Department:** reminded the group that Duestch Bank presents Arts on the Go on March 18, 6-8 p.m. at the Balis Center; Great Outdoor Adventure's 3rd Annual Great Jacksonville Campout will be held March 26-27th at Losco Park. The Great Campout is an opportunity

to learn how to camp. Tent rental is available and food will be provided for the first 500 individuals that sign up. The 7th Annual JaxParks ... Get Out There Festival will be held on April 2nd at Hanna Park, Movies in the Park will kick off on Friday, April 8th at Jessie Dupont Park. Spring Break Camp will be held March 28 to April 1; to register for camp or view any of the events visit www.jaxparkds.com

Chair's Report

- Verified quorum.
- Voted and approved January 2011 CPAC meeting summary.
- Announced that Pickwick Park will be renamed the Elizabeth "Betty" Wolfe Park. For 24 years, Betty has worked to for her neighborhood, Mandarin and for this park to be developed. A re-naming ceremony will be held on March 12, 2011 at 11:00 a.m., please come out and join Betty for this honor.
- Recognized City Council candidates Lori Boyer, District 4 and Danny Becton, District 13.

Subcommittee Chair Updates:

Beautification and Environment – Chairperson: Dick Cardell: recognized that political signs are often placed illegally in/on right away areas; anyone can remove these illegal signs and dispose of them. Electronic billboard dilemma was brought up last month at the CPAC meeting; this month the Beautification subcommittee would like to state that they support the LUZ Subcommittee discussion and motion on this issue.

Economic Development– Chairperson: No Chair

Education – Co-Chairmen: George Banks and John Waddell: George recognized John for his continued commitment to the subcommittee and for working so hard to get a representative from Duval County Schools to the meetings.

Growth Management – Chairman: Frank Morgan: no report

Land Use & Zoning – Co-Chairmen: Michael Lashbrook and Jim Hill: the subcommittee reviewed & discussed all the new applications. The subcommittee discussed 2010-900 in length and the subcommittee made a motion to send an opposition letter that will mirror the opposition letter that the Southwest CPAC sent. The letter from the Southwest CPAC was read, there was additional discussion and the CPAC voted unanimously to send an opposition letter. A copy of the letter is attached at the end of this summary.

Membership Recruitment – Chairman: Kathleen Perera: encouraged each of the CPAC members to extend an invitation to any of their adjoining neighborhoods or non-active neighborhoods to attend a CPAC meeting or to become a member.

Safety – Chairman: No Chair

Transportation Development – Gloria Stephens: informed the group that JTA plans to buy 8 hybrid buses; the funds for the hybrid busses are a result of a federal grant.

JaxPort has received \$10 million for dock repairs. The Port needs an additional \$1.1 million to update the port for future business. High speed rail in Florida remains a topic of discussion and locally gasoline went up .22 this week.

T.R.U.E. Commission – Gamal Lyons: not present.

The floor was opened to all in attendance:

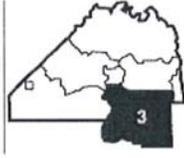
The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Monday, March 28, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

at

St. Luke's Hospital, 4201 Belfort Road,

Main Hospital – Auditorium C



Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee
Chair: Pat Corrado Vice Chair: Gloria Stephens

March 14, 2011

The Honorable John Crescimbeni
Chair, Land Use and Zoning Subcommittee
City Hall at St. James
117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Reference: Ordinance 2010-900

Dear Council Member Crescimbeni:

On February 28, 2011, the Southeast CPAC voted to oppose Ordinance 2010-900 in its present form, but voted to:

- Support the Planning Commission's two amendments to Ordinance Number 2010-900 that (1) prohibits scrolling signs and (2) establishes the hold time for a changing message board as 3 minutes rather than eight seconds.
- Support an amendment to Ordinance Number 2010-900 that would prohibit digital billboard faces
- Urge Mayor Peyton to veto Ordinance 2010-900 should these amendments not be incorporated into the final version of Ordinance Number 2010-900 by the City Council.

The members of the Southeast CPAC appreciate your request for our input on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Gloria J. Stephens
Vice Chair

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 would allow electronic changing message signs in Jacksonville to change every eight seconds (10,800 times per day) or to scroll continuously, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 reverses the interpretation of the City's Building Inspection Division and Planning Department that such signs may legally change only once every three minutes, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 will also apply to digital billboards, if erected in the City, and

WHEREAS, Clear Channel Outdoor seeks to erect more than a dozen digital billboard faces (i.e., 672 square foot and 300 square foot TV-like screens) at nine locations around the City, with more to come in future years at unknown locations, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 could result in flashing, scrolling on-premise signs at tens of thousands of locations in Jacksonville, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 does nothing to regulate the brightness or spacing of electronic message signs or their proximity to signalized intersections, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 creates traffic safety problems as drivers' attention is diverted from the highway, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 will hurt the many small businesses which, unlike large businesses and national retail chains, cannot afford this more expensive sign technology, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 is out of step with many other cities around the state and nation that only allow electronic changing message signs to change once an hour or once a day, if they are allowed at all, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 will irrevocably damage the City's scenic landscape through the proliferation of rapidly changing electronic signs, and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2010-900 is a giant step backward in the City's 25-year effort to improve our scenic environment by reducing visual pollution, and

WHEREAS, the Jacksonville Planning Commission has held public hearings and meetings in January and February 2011, heard from a wide range of speakers, and considered written material submitted in connection with the proposed Ordinance 2010-900, and

WHEREAS, the Jacksonville Planning Commission has recommended approval of Ord. No. 2010-900, only as amended so that: 1) Scrolling signs be prohibited and 2) the hold time for a changing message board be 3 minutes instead of 8 seconds,

WHEREAS, there are no digital (internally illuminated/light emitting diode) billboard faces/displays in Jacksonville, and the City of Jacksonville has the authority to prohibit such display faces for reasons of traffic safety, or aesthetics, or both;

Now therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

1. Supports the Planning Commission's two amendments to Ordinance Number 2010-900 that (1) prohibit scrolling signs, and (2) establish the hold time for a changing message board as 3 minutes rather than 8 seconds,

2. Supports an amendment to Ordinance Number 2010-900 that would prohibit digital billboard faces, and

3. Urges Mayor Peyton to veto Ordinance 2010-900 should these amendments not be incorporated into the final version of Ordinance Number 2010-900 by the City Council.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2011

By: _____
Gloria J. Stephens, Vice Chair