

## SOUTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Florida State College at Jacksonville, Kent Campus

3939 Roosevelt Blvd. Jacksonville, FL

Monday, Feb. 13, 2012

### MEETING SUMMARY

#### Members and Representatives

Chair - Bruce Tyson	<b>MEMBERS EXCUSED</b>
Vice Chair - Len Burroughs	Argyle Comm. Garden - Sandi Newman
Charter Member - Chuck Mann	Armstrong & Bosh - Opal Burgstiner
Charter Member - Don Ingram	Armstrong & Bosh - Bruce Burgstiner
	Springtree Village HOA - Dewey Walker
Cedar Hills Estates - Johnny Carter	The Village Salon - Steve Shaffer
Confederate Point - James Nolting	Westside Business Leaders - Jane Miller
Crystal Springs - Marilyn Lehman	
Gleaners Dispatch - Jim Kelly	<b>ABSENT</b>
Hyde Grove Terrace - Shirley Lowry	Duval School Board - Becki Couch
Hyde Grove Terrace - Peggy Myers	Mayor's Liaison (unassigned)
FL State College at Jax Cecil North - Paul McNamara	N. E. FL Equestrian Society - Olwen Busch
Oak Hill Estates - Rosanne Vernon	
Tree Top Estates - Russell Carlson	<b>GUESTS</b>
Timuquana Manor North - Alice Turknnett	Alberta Hipps - Hipps Group
Timuquana Manor North - Polly Walker	Ethel Nolting - Confederate Point
Watermill Master Association - Thomas Martin	Scott King - Westside Business Leaders Association
Westside Area Residents - Charles Kelley	Kathy Budd, Hyde Grove Creek Side
West Jacksonville Civic - Ric Dill	
<b>MEDIA/STAFF/OFFICIALS</b>	
FDOT - Doreen Joyner-Howard	
JSO - Sheriff John Rutherford	
JSO - Assistant Chief Ron Lendvay	
JSO - Lt. James H. Pendley	
JSO - Sgt. C.B. Reynolde III	
Municipal Code Compliance - Maria Buchwalter	
Neighborhoods - Mary Beth Ridderman	
Planning and Development - Andy Hetzel	
Recreation and Community - Jackie Gregson	

#### 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Bruce Tyson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting. A quorum was verified by Mary Beth Ridderman, Neighborhood Coordinator, Housing and Community Development Division.

- Chair Tyson asked everyone to refrain from conversations during the meetings. If you need to talk, please step outside.
- Please state your name for the record before speaking, making a motion or seconding a motion.

#### 2. Approval of the Meeting Summary:

James Nolting made a motion to approved the January summary. Rick Dill seconded the motion. The vote: all in favor. The January summary was approved.

#### 3. JSO Report:

Assistant Chief Lendvay said it was good to see so many residents at the meeting.

- Following a string of armed robberies to Kangaroo Stores, JSO had officers staked out at several stores. On Jan. 14 JSO had stake outs on Old Middleburg Road at the Kangaroo Convenience Stores. The robber had what appeared to be a

- firearm but did not follow directions to drop the weapon. Officers shot and killed the person.
- Zone 4 led the city in crime reduction in 2011.
  - JSO has been involved in several large traffic initiatives.
    - After a crime analysis for the Argyle Forest Boulevard area, JSO had a saturation deployment in the area. There was a 19.2 percent drop in traffic fatalities and a 13 percent drop in crashes.
  - Their most recent initiative was in the 9900 block of Normandy Boulevard, a high speed corridor. JSO focused on traffic safety and stopped vehicles with non-functioning tail lights or head lights out. Officers made 2 DUI arrests, 1 arrest for habitual driving without a license. They issued 42 warning citations and 31 paying citations for traffic violations. They contacted 147 people with an average delay of 2 minutes per vehicle.
  - Officers were reassigned to cover the Argyle/Blanding area. In a one week period, between the hours of 6 – 9:30, 167 traffic violation citations were issued. The most common was blocking the intersection after the traffic signal. Most tickets were warnings.
  - A copy of the Argyle Area Traffic Safety Campaign was provided.
    - Residents expressed their concerns about heavy traffic on Collins going well over the speed limit. Chief Lendvay said he will look into it.
    - A question was raised about cameras on Argyle Forest Boulevard. Chief Sheriff Rutherford said JSO has just awarded a contract to a builder to install cameras at Youngerman and Argyle as well as other locations in the area. The cameras will be operational within 4- 5 months.
    - A concern was expressed about safety and beautification on Argyle Forest Boulevard – drivers drive over the trees in traffic accidents, but the trees do not get replaced. Please instruct officers to add damage to community property when they write traffic accident or incident reports.
    - Safety issue – a consistent speed limit is needed on Argyle Forest Boulevard.
  - If you have an emergency, call 911. If you see suspicious activity, call 630-0500.

**Introductions and Acknowledgments:** Chair Bruce Tyson welcomed guest Scott King. He welcomed visitors who regularly attend CPAC: Alberta Hipps, Kathy Budd and Ethel Nolting. He thanked JSO Chief Lendvay, JSO Lt. Pendley and JSO Sgt. Rimolde for being present and for their work in the community. Chair Tyson introduced and welcomed Sheriff John Rutherford.

**Presentation:** Sheriff John Rutherford presented information on a solution to the homeless issues in Jacksonville. He discussed three types of homeless persons: people who have lost their home due to job or health issues (these people want help and want to get back into a home), people who are mentally ill or drug-addicted and the chronically homeless (“hoboes” by their own choice because they do not want to follow the rules or be identified in shelters). Homelessness is not just a downtown problem, it is citywide. It affects the a number of things in the city, including the number of crimes in the city, such as loitering, panhandling, littering, trespassing and breaking/entering. Since 2008, two JSO officers and a crew of inmates have removed 350.9 tons of trash and recovered stolen property from homeless camps across the city. Officers located 2 unregistered sex offenders and 1 registered sex offender. Many of the chronically homeless persons have been arrested numerous times and jail is not a deterrent. He sees it as inhumane to allow human beings to live in homeless camps under such filthy conditions. Sheriff Rutherford proposes building a misdemeanor release center for the homeless and, adjacent to it, a

homeless shelter and assessment center near. He proposes building the facility on Highway 301 near the Trail Ridge Landfill. When homeless persons are arrested on misdemeanor charges, they will be released at the center, where service providers can perform assessments and provide services. At the 301 location, homeless persons will no longer be in a "target rich environment" (TRE), where there is opportunity for them to beg, panhandle or steal. Homeless persons housed at the Sulzbacher Center, Trinity Rescue Mission or Clara White would be fed there. All other feeding of the homeless would be required to take place at the Hwy 301 location. A copy of the H.O.M.E Team/Task Force report was provided.

CPAC Members expressed the following concerns:

- o Funding and resources for a homeless misdemeanor release center/assessment center.
- o Lack of existing adequate, humane treatment for mentally ill homeless
- o How donations of time and money to Sulzbacher, City Rescue Mission and Clara White Mission will be impacted by proposed misdemeanor release center

**Public Comments:**

- Kathy Budd expressed her appreciation to the CPAC for its letter of support for the neighborhoods' position regarding the R&R Auto Parts proposed land use change. In addition to the letter, the Chair and several other CPAC members attended the Town Hall Meeting.
- Chuck Mann invited members to attend the annual meeting of the Friends of the Murray Hill Library. The meeting will be held Feb. 16, 6:30 p.m. at the Edgewood Bakery. Refreshments will be served. JCCI will study independent funding for libraries

**Staff Reports and Announcements:**

- Mayor's Liaison: No liaison has been appointed.
- Council Members' Reports: No Council Member or Aide was present.
- Duval County School Board - No representative was present. Becki Couch may be contacted at [couchr@duvalschools.org](mailto:couchr@duvalschools.org).
- Planning and Development - Andy Hetzel provided a written report. Mr. Hetzel may be contacted at 904-255-8721 or [AHetzel@coj.net](mailto:AHetzel@coj.net)
- Municipal Code Compliance -Maria Buchwalter reported:
  - o Officers conducted a Systematic Inspection of the Hillcrest Neighborhood with the following new cases: 3 commercial, 1 Illegal sign, 31 junk vehicles, 3 nuisances, 3 nuisance board up, 8 residential and 10 zoning residential.
  - o Officers are working on the numbers of signs advertising income tax services. Officer issue citations for littering at a cost of \$50 for each sign. It is very time-consuming process. Last week, officers wrote 15 sign violations. The Sanitations Division helps clean up sign. If residents see clusters of signs, please call 630-CITY.
  - o A concern was raised regarding the number of snipe signs on Old Middleburg Road and other Westside locations
  - o Please report suspected code violations and snipe signs to 630-CITY (2489).
- Recreation and Community Services - Jackie Grayson reported:
  - o Fall - Winter 2011 JaxParks Activity Guides are available.
  - o March 3 - 4 is the first Triathlon at the Cecil Recreations Center.
  - o Flyers are available for Zumba, aerobics and Junior Tennis.
  - o For more information about parks, please visit the department's website and see their newsletter : JaxParks.com (click on the JaxParks Now Icon)
  - o John Kelly may be contacted at 904- 255-7918 or [jkelly@coj.net](mailto:jkelly@coj.net).

- Florida State College at Jacksonville, Cecil North – Paul McNamara announced:
  - The corner of Normandy and New World Avenue has been cleared. There is a better view of the campus from both roads.
  - The Commercial Driver’s Training educational building has begun construction. Preparation is being made for the concrete slabs. The building will be ready for occupancy is late Fall.
  - FSCJ Cecil North has full enrollment.
  - For more information about FSCJ Cecil North, please visit <http://www.fscj.edu/mydegree/campuses/cecil-center/cecil-north/index.php>.
  - Paul McNamara may be contacted at 779-4030.
- Jacksonville Aviation Authority – Alberta Hipps thanked members for attending the Cecil Airport Advisory Committee meeting last week.
- Florida Dep’t. of Transportation – Doreen Joyner Howard reported:
  - The Collins project is progressing.
  - The rehabilitation project on I-10 at US 17 is expected to be completed in Spring or Summer, 2012.
  - Two additional projects are planned for Spring, 2012: Woodmere to I-10 and Yorktown to Timuquana.
  - The Normandy project is expected to be completed in Spring, 2012.
  - A number of concerns were raised by members:
    - A safety issue exists in the Normandy construction site – there is a large dip in the road but there are no signs to alert motorists to the change.
    - Proposed tolls on Brannan Field Chafee Road – taxpayers in Duval voted on no more toll roads. If Clay County wants a toll road, start the tolls in Clay County.
    - Traffic and pedestrian safety will be impacted on Old Middleburg Road when tolls begin on Brannan Field Chaffee Road.
    - Proposed tolls on Brannan Field Chafee Road. There have been no public meetings in Duval County to allow public input. Posting signs without contact/input information on the signs is insufficient notice.
    - Funding for the St. Johns River Ferry – the ferry should be funded by the State and the City.
  - Doreen Joyner Howard may be contacted at 360-5684.
- Neighborhoods Department – Mary Beth Ridderman reported:
  - The name of the department changed to Neighborhoods. CPAC staff members are currently in the Housing and Community Development Division . Elaine Spencer is the new Division Chief.
  - The duties of neighborhood coordinators are changing due to a funding issue. Instead of being full time with CPACs and neighborhoods, half of their time will be spent monitoring grant compliance for CDBG, HOPWA and other grants. An Administrative Services staff person will transcribe all CPAC recordings into summaries. That is the reason for the change in announcing names and voting results during the meeting. Changes will be made to the agenda and summary to make them uniform for ease of transcription.
  - Neighborhood Coordinators have been temporarily assigned to attend board meetings and transcribe minutes for three boards: Jacksonville Housing and Finance Authority Board, The Jacksonville Housing Community Development Committee and the Northwest Trust Fund Board.
  - Ms. Ridderman may be reached at 255-8260 or [marybeth@coj.net](mailto:marybeth@coj.net)

**Subcommittee Reports and Announcements**

- Education, Youth and Recreation –
  - Bill Shy has been appointed by Mayor Alvin Brown to study the Jacksonville Economic Development Commission (JEDC).
  - Duval County Schools – Ed Pratt Daniels proposes a pay for play program for sports.
  - Teach America is a recruiting program for teachers.
  - Senator Wise suggest school funding will be shared with Charter Schools

- The University Christian Academy is eliminated books altogether. Student will use I-Pads.
  - The KIPP School – Knowledge is Power Program is on-going.
- Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission – Tom Martin provided a detailed oral and written report. Mr. Martin may be reached at 778-2265.
- Economic Development – Jim Kelly provided a detailed written report. Mr. Kelly may be reached at 742-4903.
- N. Florida Transportation Planning Organization – Tom Martin reported the NFTPO has two new members, 1 for Clay and 1 for St. Johns Counties. Mr. Martin may be reached at 778-2265.
- Beautification, Community Facilities and Services – Johnny Carter announced he has a park clean-up project planned for April. He asked members to suggest 3 sites and to volunteer. More information will be announced next month. Mr. Carter may be reached at 786-2535.
- ShAdCo- Alice Turknnett reported:
  - A flyer is available for the Sheriff’s Walk on Feb. 28. The walk is will begin at 8985 Normandy Blvd. It was rescheduled last time because of rain.
  - ShAdCo J meets on Feb. 23.
  - ShAdCo K meets on March 5. State Attorney Angela Corey is the scheduled speaker.
  - The following is a list of ShAdCo meeting dates:
    - ShAdCo Sector J meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Ortega United Methodist Church. Visitors and new members are welcome.
    - ShAdCo Sector K meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Lane Wiley Center. Visitors and new members are welcome.
    - ShAdCo Sector L meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Maxville Community Center. Visitors and new members are welcome.
- Land Use, Zoning and Transportation – volunteers are needed.
- Cecil Area– Bruce Tyson announced
  - He attended the Cecil Airport Advisory Committee meeting on Feb. 6. Cecil is very busy. Every space is under lease to military and private businesses.
    - In the last two weeks, carriers have been off-shore and pilots have been training from the ships to Cecil.
    - The East-West Runway will be improved with a taxi-way to adjoin the existing facility.
    - The ground has been cleared for the East-West runway project.
    - Hangar specs are being developed for KCI (full name?)– to service and repair decking jets.
    - Cecil is involved with other companies regarding new hangars.
    - FlightStar attracts business from all over the world. Lake Fretwell is being deepened.
    - Unexpended ordinance exists on Cecil.
  - He attended the Feb. 7 public hearing regarding the Space Port. Representatives from development and design were there.
  - The Northeast corner of the North – South runway will have a new taxiway to the runway.
  - For more information or to join the Cecil area subcommittee, please contact Mr. Tyson at 771-4924.
- Membership –Rosanne Vernon’s absence was excused.
- Safety – Bruce Tyson was present. He had no safety report.
- Chair’s Report – Chair Tyson announced:
  - On Feb. 2, he attended a Town Hall hosted by Council Members Reginald Brown and Doyle Carter. The meeting was regarding a proposed zoning change to the R& R Auto Parts. A lot of people spoke. The nearby neighborhoods do not want the business in the neighborhood. The owner has not been a good neighbor. The CPAC sent a letter to oppose the application to change from Medium Density Residential to Heavy Industrial.

- On Feb. 9, he attended a meeting for stakeholders in the Argyle Safety Campaign. JSO, COJ and FDOT were there. On Argyle Forest Boulevard, in the past 5 years, 2761 crashes, 1479 crashes with injuries and 18 fatalities occurred. The majority of drivers are ages 25-55. Only 10 percent of the drivers were teenagers. Most crashes occur between the hours of 4 - 7 p.m. A public awareness campaign is planned.

**Unfinished Business/New Business:**

- Alberta Hipps announced the North CPAC called her to ask about her position on the St. Johns River Ferry. Funding for the ferry has become an issue. JTA is discussing shutting down the ferry altogether. The North CPAC supports keeping the ferry.
- Len Burroughs said a petition to save the ferry is on-line. The ferry should be funded by the State and the City.

**Adjournment** - The next meeting is March 12, 7 p.m. FSCJ Kent Campus, Building E-112-F. A motion to adjourn was made by Ric Dill and seconded by Chuck Mann. The vote: all in favor. Chair Tyson adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

**The next SW CPAC meeting** will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 12, 2012, at Florida State College at Jacksonville, Kent Campus, 3939 Roosevelt Blvd., and Building D-120. For more information, please contact Bruce Tyson at 813-0661 or Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260. CPAC meetings and subcommittee meetings are open to the public.

**The following provision is required by Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes:** If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

*Summary prepared by Mary Beth Ridderman, Neighborhood Coordinator, Housing and Community Development Division, Neighborhoods Department.*

**Southwest CPAC Monthly Planning and Development Department Report - February 13, 2012**

Type*	Hearing Date	Planning Dist.	Council Dist.	Application**	Development/Location	Owner/Agent	Request	Status / Companion Application
PC	1/26/12	4	11	E	5110 U.S.Highway 301 South	Bill Joyce, P.E. COJ	Borrow Pit (Trail Ridge Landfill)	A
		5	9	E	Mc Duff Avenue	Wyman Duggan	Kipp School	A
		4	9	E	5017 Timothy Lane	Michael J. Bueme, P.E.	Outside Sales and Service	A
		4	14	E	5391 Collins Road	Frank Andrews	Private Club	A
		4	12	P	12-0020 Yellow Water	Jerry Ramsey	allow M/F	2011D-001 in comm.
PC	2/16/12	4	11	MM	MM-11-14 Argye Village	Staci Rewis	Land swap / Semi-annual	LUA adoption pending
		4	11	V	12-001 8630 Walden Road	Lance Logan	Accessory structure exceed 50% of primary structure	
AD	2/24/12	4	14	AD	AD-11-74 5150 Arabahoe Ave.	Richard Guertin	inc. height 4' to 7' and red. WPL from 20' to 4'	deferred from 1/20
LUZ	2/22/12	4	11	WRF	12740 Old Plank Road	JoAnn Capps	reduce road frontage from 80' to 0'	
PC	3/1/12	4	12	P	12-0057 Chaffee Rd/Edinburgh Village	Ken LaPointe	Allow office and personal self storage uses	2011C-013
		4	12	CTW-12-01	10500 103rd Street	Laura Belflower	150 ft camouflaged south of Bishop Snyder H.S.	
		4	12	P	12-0063 Taylor PUD/R&R Auto	Charles Mann	allow junkyard/existing use	2011C-017
AD	3/9/12	4	14	AD	AD-12-05 4291 Roosevelt Blvd.	Al Lopez/Edwards Eng	Increase parking from 12 to 26 spaces and reduce LS	For Drs. Office
PC	3/15/12	4	12	P	Shaw 103rd Street	Justin Hart	Awaiting Ord. no. Request is to allow go-cart track	

\* AD = Administrative Deviation; PC = Planning Commission; LUZ = Land Use & Zoning Comm.

\*\* P = Planned Unit Development Rezoning; C = Conventional Rezoning, E = Exception; V = Variance; AD = Admin. Deviation; CTW = Cell Tower

JP&DD Contacts:

Rezoning/Exceptions	Ken Avery	255-7818
Variances/Waivers:	Andy Hetzel	255-7821
	Folks Huxford	630-7033
PUD Rezoning and	Andy Hetzel	255-7821
Minor Mod.:	Bruce Lewis	255-7820
Cell Towers:	Bruce Lewis	255-7820
	Andy Hetzel	255-7821
Admin. Deviations:	Ken Avery	255-7818
Site Plan Review:	Mike Sands	255-8575

TRUE COMMISSION REPORT

to the

SOUTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following major items were discussed at the last meeting of the Commission on Feb 2, 2012:

- Jacksonville Economic Development Commission: JEDC Acting Executive Director Paul Crawford was invited to discuss the recent Council Auditor's recent audit of the JEDC. The Commission is working on the audit recommendations, developing standard operating procedures, and cross training its staff to cover all of the responsibilities and operate efficiently. Mr. Crawford gave an overview of the JEDC functions and its partnership with other organizations such as Chamber of Commerce in attracting new businesses to Jacksonville. The JEDC is in a difficult position in being business-friendly job creation facilitator while being an overseer in holding these firms accountable.
- Performance Committee: The committee will turn its attention to the Jacksonville Children's Commission and Jacksonville Journey. The JCC has not been audited in several years and Jacksonville Journey has never been audited. The Mayor has announced plans to merge the two organizations so this should be a timely topic.
- Audit Review Committee: The committee in reported on Audit Report #709-Independent Agency Quarterly Summary for the Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2011, #710-City of Jacksonville General Government Quarterly Summary for the Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2011, #711 - Jacksonville Economic Development Commission Audit, and #712 Report on Statement of County Funded Court-Related Functions. The Commission voted to accept all five audit reports without comment.
- Council Auditor's Office: Notice of the recently availability of following report: #712 Report on Statement of County Funded Court-Related Functions.

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 4:00 P.M.



NORTH FLORIDA TPO  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT  
to the  
SOUTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following major items were discussed at the last meeting of the Committee on Wednesday, February 1, 2012:

- Approved the addition of two new members to the Citizens Advisory Committee. They will represent Clay and Saint Johns Counties.
- Approved the Scope of Services as part of the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Update process.
- Approved the FDOT requests to amend the FY 2011/12 through FY 2015/16 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- Approved the Saint Johns County requests to amend the FY 2011/12 through FY 2015/16 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- Received notification that the FDOT is soliciting potential FY 2018 transportation enhancement projects.
- Received a presentation on the JTA Regional Transportation Center.

The next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at 6:00 PM

## Economic Subcommittee Report – Jim Kelly

### LPS: Home prices declined 0.8 percent in October 2011

Jacksonville Business Journal by Michael Clinton, Web Producer

Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2012, 1:50pm EST

**Michael Clinton**, Web Producer - *Jacksonville Business Journal*

Home prices nationally fell to levels not seen since 2002 in October, according to the Lender Processing Services. Prices fell .8 percent to late 2002. The national average home price for transactions during October 2011 was \$200,000, marking the fifth consecutive month of prices falling. LPS reported that partial data in November suggests a more moderate price decrease of about .5 percent. The October national average price is down 2.7 percent from the average at the beginning on 2011.

**Lynch departure could signal move of Winn-Dixie HQ** - Winn-Dixie CEO Peter Lynch intends to leave the company when its merger with BI-LO is complete. - 01/16/2012 - by Mark Basch

When Winn-Dixie Stores Inc. last month announced an agreement to be acquired by BI-LO LLC, it left open the question of where the merged Fortune 500 Company's headquarters will be: Winn-Dixie's home in Jacksonville or BI-LO's offices in Greenville, S.C.

While the companies still haven't answered that, we may have received a clue Friday when Winn-Dixie CEO Peter Lynch announced he will leave the company after the merger, with BI-LO Chairman Randall Onstead taking over as president and CEO of the combined company.

The plan is for Winn-Dixie and BI-LO to continue to operate their combined 690 supermarkets under their current names, and they have said they will continue to maintain a strong corporate presence in both Jacksonville and Greenville after the merger. But if Onstead is the head of the company, it seems reasonable to speculate that Greenville will be the official headquarters.

Shoppers might not notice any difference. Like Winn-Dixie, BI-LO has been undergoing a store remodel program to turn the company around after emerging from Chapter 11 bankruptcy (Winn-Dixie in 2006 and BI-LO in 2010). Both Winn-Dixie and BI-LO offer shoppers the "fuelperks!" program that allows customers to earn gasoline discounts as they buy groceries.

#### **Vulcan - Formerly Florida Rock**

In December, Vulcan announced a corporate restructuring into four divisions, including a South

region headquartered in Jacksonville. The other divisions are an East region headquartered in Atlanta, a Central region based in Birmingham and a West region based in Los Angeles.

But in an investor conference call last week, Martin Marietta CEO Ward Nye derided that restructuring plan.

"We don't believe a company with a national footprint should locate three of its four division headquarters in the Southeast. One could probably drive from their new division headquarters from Jacksonville to Atlanta or Atlanta to Birmingham on a single tank of gas, with minimal bathroom breaks," Nye said, according to a transcript of the call posted in a Securities and Exchange Commission filing.

It sounds as if Nye doesn't see much need for the Jacksonville office.

Bubba Burger President and CEO William "Billy" Morris added to his corporate menu with the purchase of Jacksonville-based candymaker Peterbrooke Chocolatier.

Daily Record 1/18/12

The Northeast Florida Association of Realtors reported Tuesday that single-family and condo sales fell 5.1 percent to 1,393 in December from December 2010. Of those, 721 were traditional sales and 672, or 48 percent, were lender-mediated sales. Pending sales, however, rose almost 25 percent. The median sales price dropped 2.7 percent to \$126,500 from \$130,000. Inventory dropped almost 32 percent, indicating absorption. The months'

supply of homes reached 6.7 in December. The association said a market is considered balanced when there is a five- to six-month supply of homes.

Michael Clinton

Web Producer - Jacksonville Business Journal  
After adopting the Local Preference Program last year, the **Jacksonville Aviation Authority** continued to flex its muscles by pouring \$29.1 million into the local economy through direct contracting relationships with local businesses. That was 75 percent of JAA's \$38.7 million in total direct contract awards, up from 60 percent in fiscal 2009.

"These contracting dollars are spent locally and generate business opportunities beyond the value of JAA's direct contracts," said Steve Grossman, JAA's executive director/CEO. "Each additional dollar circulated locally results in increased economic activity, employment growth and retention and increased tax revenue."

#### **BAE Systems hiring for more than 100 jobs**

*01/25/2012 Jax Daily record*

by Karen Brune Mathis, Managing Editor  
BAE Systems Southeast Shipyards in Jacksonville wants to hire more than 100 employees, of which 60 will be full-time and the remainder will be temporary workers for current and upcoming projects.

BAE has posted 50 openings for full-time jobs at [www.baesystems.com/careers/](http://www.baesystems.com/careers/).

Openings include positions for welders, painters, pipefitters, supervisors, finance positions and more.

#### **Web.com to create 200 jobs**

*01/25/2012*

staff Jax Daily Record

Jacksonville-based **Web.com Group Inc.** plans to create more than 200 jobs over the next two years, with most of those at the Southside headquarters. The new positions include writers, editors, graphic designers and web fulfillment as well as managerial positions in marketing, finance and information technology. The compensation packages range from \$25,000 to \$150,000.

Web.com has more than 1,700 employees and operations in 14 locations throughout North America, South America and the United Kingdom. With its recent acquisition of Network Solutions, the company is adding resources in Jacksonville to accelerate the marketing outreach to new customers and reinforce office support for the customers it already serves.

Its Jacksonville employee base has increased by 10 percent in the past two months.

"We already know first-hand the reasons Jacksonville is the best location for growing our headquarters. The quality of life, cost of living and workforce are top notch," said David L. Brown, Web.com chairman, CEO and founder.

Web.com provides Web services for small businesses worldwide. The publicly traded company has steadily grown since its start in Jacksonville in 1997 and it now has 450 employees in the area. "We are proud that Web.com represents the entrepreneurial spirit of our city and region," said JAX Chamber Chair Tom Van Berkel.

After the acquisition of Register.com in 2010 and Network Solutions in 2011, Web.com tripled its sales volume and increased its number of customers from 275,000 to nearly 3 million.

**Florida has the highest rate of long-term unemployment in the U.S.**, with 53 percent of jobless Floridians out of work for six months in 2011, according to Brookings' Hamilton Project, CNN Money reports.

The implosion of the housing market throughout Florida was the biggest culprit in the high number of unemployed workers, helping take the state's unemployment rate to a high of 12 percent in December 2010.

Since that time, about 130,000 jobs have been created, and unemployment now stands at 9.9 percent statewide.

**Metro Jacksonville's unemployment rate dropped from 9.5 percent in November to 9.2 percent in December, the fifth consecutive month of decreases.** Michael Clinton JBJ

## **Florida has 72 banks at risk for failure over the next two years,**

according to a new analysis by Invictus Consulting Group, which conducts stress and sustainability tests on all FDIC-insured banks for regulators, banks and investors. The FDIC failed Jacksonville-based First Guaranty Bank & Trust Co. last week.

The Florida banks, which were not identified by Invictus, have average assets of \$539 million each and represent almost 25 percent of Florida's total bank assets of \$158 billion. Florida tops all states with the number of most at-risk banks.

Nationwide, 758 banks are at risk for failure over the next two years, with about 200 of them subsidiaries of publicly traded bank holding companies, Invictus said.

Other states with the largest number of most vulnerable banks include Illinois (69), Georgia (66), Minnesota (37) Missouri (33) and Tennessee (31).

## **More doom and gloom on the housing front**

Jacksonville Business Journal by Ashley Gurbal Kritzer,  
Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2012,

It looks like the housing market is getting even uglier.

Home prices nationwide fell more than expected in November; The New York Times reported this morning.

That's mirrored in Northeast Florida, where fewer homes sold at lower prices in December. One economist succinctly summed up the region's housing market as "just not good."

## **Jacksonville added 5,500 jobs in past year**

Jacksonville Business Journal by Michael Clinton,  
Monday, February 6, 2012,

Metro Jacksonville added 5,500 jobs last year, ranking it No. 48 on a new list of the best private-sector job gains in 2011 compiled by On Numbers.

Jacksonville trailed the three other biggest Florida metro areas — which all made the top 25. Miami

came in at No. 11, adding 21,600 jobs in 2011; Tampa at No. 20 after adding 12,600; and Orlando at No. 22, adding 12,200 jobs.

Texas continued to post the biggest employment gains across America, as the state's largest markets, Houston and Dallas-Fort Worth, added more private-sector jobs than any other U.S. metropolitan area during the past year.

Michael Clinton

Web Producer - Jacksonville Business Journal

Jacksonville gas prices rose 5 cents in the past week, despite oil prices remaining below \$100 a barrel for the fourth consecutive week.

The average cost of a gallon of regular gas is \$3.56 in Jacksonville, up from \$3.51 ; \$3.60 in Florida, up from \$3.54; and \$3.47 nationally; up from \$3.41.

Those prices mark the highest a motorist has ever paid for a gallon of gas in January, according to AAA's Fuel Gauge Report. January's monthly average was \$3.37, 28 cents higher than January 2011 and 66 more than January 2010 — when the average was \$2.71.

CNN: Gas prices may hit \$4 per gallon this summer.

## **Mayport Aircraft Carrier Delayed**

"The good news is that the Navy has reiterated its commitment to the aircraft carrier dispersal and to making Jacksonville the home of a nuclear powered aircraft carrier. The proposed FY13 budget does not include funding for the aircraft carrier as planned in 2019; however, the Navy remains committed to stationing the carrier at Mayport when economic conditions improve.

*But other Navy ships coming sooner:*

"The addition of more ships and sailors will be another opportunity to showcase Jacksonville as the most military friendly city in the United States." - Mayor Brown, news release today.

## **BLS Florida unemployment Rate EOY**

Florida

9.9%(p) in Dec 2011

Jacksonville Jobs - Hiring in some categories

Jaxbiz journal Feb 10;

Major employers in Jacksonville are putting out "help wanted" signs as the economy and prospects for business growth continue to improve.

unemployment rate in the Jacksonville area dropped to 9.2 percent in December from 9.5 percent in November, and a Feb. 6 Labor Department report that said job openings nationally stand at a three-year high.

"The jobs coming back don't have the same earning power and some areas, like manufacturing and construction, haven't really started coming back yet," Moody said. "When we start seeing those jobs coming back, we'll really be in recovery."

Six hospital systems — Shands Jacksonville, Baptist Health, Memorial Healthcare, St. Vincent's HealthCare, Orange Park Medical Center and Flagler Hospital — have a total of nearly 600 openings among 13 locations, according to their websites. EverBank Financial Corp., which had the second most open positions in Jacksonville at 167, has been growing consistently over the past few years.

#### TIDBITS

David Miller, CEO of Brightway Insurance, expects to hire 80 people at the company's Jacksonville headquarters in 2012 in areas ranging from customer service to accounting and management.

Enterprise Integration, based in Jacksonville, is hiring 50 new employees locally this year. Company spokeswoman Amy Iracki said the new employees are needed to service new clients as it continues to grow.

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#### CIVIC OPTIMISM

## Jacksonville voters have a brighter outlook

by [Cynthia Barnett](#)

Jacksonville voters are more optimistic about civic matters, according to a poll by the University of North Florida's Department of Political Science and Public Administration. Among the reasons they cited: Budget cutting and a new administration.

**63%**

approval rating for Mayor Alvin Brown, with 10% disapproval and 27% approval.

**40%**

approval rating for Gov. Rick Scott, with 43% disapproval and more approval.

**69%**

percentage of residents optimistic that the city is headed in the right direction; 27% pessimistic; and 13% were undecided.

Source: University of North Florida Department of Political Science and Public Administration. November poll had a margin of error of +/- 4.09%.

News in this paper comes from:

Jacksonville Business Journal;  
Jacksonville Daily Record;  
Florida Times Union;  
Florida Trends Magazine;  
The Week Newspaper  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Leading Economic Indicators Newsletter - UNF

"And so, Dorothy and Toto set out for Emerald City, with the Tin Man, The Scarecrow and the cowardly Italian ship captain following behind." -Blatantly stolen