

District 4 Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Abner Davis

Vice Chair: Len Burroughs

MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville Kent Campus
3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Room E-112F
March 14, 2016

Attendance

Members:

Acting Chair – (Murray Hill Preservation) Len Burroughs
Acting Vice Chair (Trinity Ministries) – Bruce Tyson
Charter Member – Don Ingram
Budget Automotive – Linda Barrows
Budget Automotive – Darrell Barrows
Confederate Point Civic – James Nolting
FSCJ Cecil North - Paul McNamara
Hyde Grove Creek Side – Kathy Budd
Hyde Grove Terrace – Shirley Lowry
Hyde Grove Terrace – Peggy Meyers
St. Ives Townhomes – Sandra Tucker
Timuquana Manor N. – Alice Turknett
Watermill Master - Thomas Martin

Excused:

Chair - (Clara White Mission) Abner Davis
Charter Member – Chuck Mann
Fishweir Neighborhood Watch – Bernice Gremer
Springtree Village - Dewey Walker
Westside Area Residents – Charles Kelley

Absent/Pending Removal:

Blue Lakes Estates – Annette Brown
Camalot – Pierce Rumph

**Three consecutive unexcused absences will result in the organization's removal as a CPAC member.
Please contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260 or marybeth@coj.net if members will be absent.**

Elected Officials:

Honorable Doyle Carter – Council Member District 12
Honorable Jim Love – Council Member District 14
Honorable Becki Couch, Duval County School Board
Kevin Kuzel – Executive Assistant Council District 14

Staff:

City of Jacksonville Military Affairs – Ashley Rogan
City of Jacksonville Parks, Recreation and Community Services – Keith Meyer
City of Jacksonville Planning and Development – Neighborhood Initiatives - Mary Beth Ridderman
City of Jacksonville Planning and Development – Andy Hetzel
City of Jacksonville Public Libraries – Jane Harris
City of Jacksonville Public Works – Carlton Knotts
City of Jacksonville Public Works – Hamilton Abreu
City of Jacksonville Regulatory, Municipal Code Compliance – Dennis Steele
Florida Department of Transportation – Scott Clem
Jacksonville Fire & Rescue (JFRD) – Chief Jesse General
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Lt. Steven Spates
JTA – Cheryl Riddick
Mayor's Liaison – E. Denise Lee

Guests:

Alberta Hipps – Hipps Group, Representing JAA
James Justice – FSCJ Kent Student Government Association
James Gandy – Abundant Life Community Center
Jenna Emmons – Ability Housing
Brandi Moore
Rae' Walker – ShAdCo

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Acting Chair Len Burroughs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the SW CPAC meeting. He explained Chair Abner Davis arrived before the meeting, but left due to a medical issue. Mary Beth Ridderman verified a quorum.
2. **Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** A motion was made by Tom Martin and seconded by Kathy Budd to approve the February summary. The vote: all were in favor.
3. **Presentations:** Council Member Doyle Carter presented District 12 information:
 - He was a Charter Member of the Southwest CPAC (1993).
 - President Obama visited Cecil Airport, Cecil Commerce Center and Saft.
 - Marietta and I-10 interchange construction is scheduled to be completed in June 2016.
 - Over 300 persons are employed at GE, in the Cecil Commerce Center.
 - Two new hangars are being constructed at Cecil Airport. Both are pre-leased. One hangar is being built to specifications.
 - 150 acres were cleared on the Eastside of Cecil Airport.
 - New World Avenue will connect Chaffee Road to New World South and Normandy Boulevard.
 - The beltway will open the area to new commercial development.
 - A hospital is expected to begin construction soon in the Cecil area.
 - The Argyle Forest (Old Middleburg Road and Collins Road) fire station is at the top of the list in the Capital Improvements Plan.
 - Fire station 36 will move to 103rd Street. JAA will give JFRD a long lease and will receive one crash truck.
 - JFRD's ISO (Insurance Service Office) rating decreases Jacksonville residents' insurance premiums.
 - He commended Denise Lee for her efforts reducing blight, which is a citywide issue.
 - The City Council is working on an ordinance to build homes on city-owned vacant lots instead of paying contractors to mow them.
 - The Neighborhoods Department is being reorganized. He recognized and commended Neighborhoods for connecting neighborhoods and being the driving force in CPACs.
 - A discussion was held about the beltway construction schedule, which is behind due to inclement weather and contractor issues. Council Member Carter said the beltway construction from I-10 to Beaver street will be ahead of schedule. Discussion continued about State Road 23 tolls and the toll collection method, which is only electronic via Sun Pass or through sending bills to vehicle owners who do not purchase Sun Pass in advance.
 - A concern was raised: adequate infrastructure is not in place to handle traffic congestion near the Collins Road/I-295 Walmart. A signal light is needed before Walmart opens.
 - A concern was raised at the February meeting, but no response has been received from the person who said he would follow up. Twelve new homes are being constructed with 12 new septic tanks adjacent to Wills Branch Creek (corner of Navaho and Hyde Grove Avenue although other residents who live in the same neighborhood in existing homes near the creek will be forced to connect to City sewer. New developments should be required to connect to City sewer before applications are approved or before certificates of occupancy are issued. Council Member Carter said he will check on it and report back to the CPAC.
 - A question was raised about drain lines stored on Hamilton Street near Lambs Yacht Basin. Council Member Carter said he will check on it and report back to the CPAC.
 - Council Member Carter may be contacted 630-1380 or doylec@coj.net
4. **Elected Officials' Reports:**
 - **Council Member Jim Love** reported:
 - The ½ cent sales tax extension will go before City Council. Jacksonville residents will vote on it. This will continue existing sales from 2030-2060 and funds received will make the pension fund solvent. Approval of this extension will provide additional funding for paved roads, increased library hours, more police officers, etc.. It is important to vote for this extension of the existing sales tax.
 - He commended Mayor Curry for his diligence and hard work in Tallahassee in advocating for this sales tax extension.
 - Ernst & Young, a Multinational CPA Accounting firm will bring 450 new jobs to Jacksonville over three years. The firm chose this location because Jacksonville's great school system.
 - Commander Apartments – the PUD was not approved. The Chance Group is deciding whether to refurbish or demolish the existing apartments.
 - The following projects are being completed:
 - Community Garden
 - Dog Park, which will be run and maintained by RAP.
 - Boone Park Playground, which was partially funded by Dolores Weaver.

- A question was raised about the list of Capital Improvements Projects. Council Member Love explained the city will prioritize projects on the list.
- A concern was expressed that Wills Creek has not been dredged for 9 years, although it is required to be done every 5 years. The creek causes flooding to nearby homes and yards. A brief discussion was held. Wills Branch Creek is in Council Member Brown's area. Council Member Carter commented Wills Branch Creek causes flooding in the Normandy Boulevard area. Council Member Love said he will look into the issue.
- Council Member Love may be contacted at 630-1380 or jimlove@coj.net.
- **Duval County School Board Member Becki Couch** reported:
 - Discover Duval tours Westview K-8 on March 16 at 9 a.m. She thanked Mary Beth Ridderman for electronically distributing the Discover Duval invitations.
 - Boundary and program changes are in progress. Westside High School completed their changes, which were reported last month. R.L. Brown is a gifted magnet school. Jackson, in addition to existing programs will become a dedicated Information Technology and Cyber Security school. Emory Riddle partnered teaching and Drone technology.
 - No additional school uniform proposals have been made. Over 50 schools currently have uniforms. Parents' interest is needed. Ed White will have uniforms for freshmen and next year, the uniform program will "roll up" a grade.
 - A question was raised about Lakeshore, which is listed as an International Baccalaureate (IB) school, but has a "D" rating. Ms. Couch explained the IB program is being strengthened and the AVID Program helps students improve skills. A new principal improved the school overall, but the State raised its standards, so Lakeshore received another state low grade, although it had actually improved from the past year. The school needs investment from parents and from the community.
 - The most effective way to reach Ms. Couch is by e-mail: couchr@duvalschools.org

5. Staff Reports:

- **Mayor's Liaison:** E. Denis Lee reported:
 - JFRD Kurt Wilson was commended for JFRD's outreach participation with Blight. JFRD, and Council Members will go door-to-door in targeted neighborhoods to check or install smoke detectors. Door hangers will be left at residences where no one is at home.
 - City of Jacksonville is moving to Led lighting. Lighting will be installed first in areas with high crime rates. Information is based on JSO's crime analysis maps.
 - Sam Mousa has arranged an extension of the lighting program - Municipal Code Compliance, Parks & Recreation, Mowing & Landscaping will go into the same neighborhoods. The work may be tracked by each Council Member.
 - Jacksonville Journey funds several programs which will positively impact neighborhoods.
 - Ordinance 2016-59 allows individuals and non-profit organizations to bid on city-owned vacant lots, to build new houses and reduce neighborhood blight.
 - Neighborhoods Department is being reorganized. Neighborhood coordinators help organize communities where previously there were no organizations. JSO's mapping indicates crime is higher in areas where there are no existing neighborhood organizations. More neighborhood associations are needed.
 - Crime infested apartments at 13th and Moncrief were demolished and will be replaced with 12 single family homes by the Northwest Jacksonville Community Development Corporation, Paul Tutwiler.
 - A letter was mailed to the CPAC Chairs requesting neighborhoods' input into the Capital Improvement Plan. Council Member Love explained it.
 - Ms. Lee may be reached at 630-1874 or edenisel@coj.net.
- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office** Lt. Steven Spates reported:
 - The JSO officer who was shot while in his JSO car is recovering out of the hospital.
 - Zone 5 ShAdCo is hosting a Safety Fair on March 26, 2016 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Charles Clark Park, 8793 Sibbald Rd.
 - JSO publishes information on social media, such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.
 - Thirty new officers are in training. The Sheriff's plan is to hire 200 new officers within 2 years.
 - For JSO information, call the JSO Zone 4 Office at 513-3165. The Zone 4 office is located in the Cedar Hills Shopping Center. <http://www.coj.net/departments/sheriffs-office/patrol-division/zone-4.aspx>.
 - To report suspicious activity, call 630-0500.
 - To report a crime in progress, call 911.
- **Jacksonville Fire & Rescue** – Chief Jesse General reported:
 - The City of Jacksonville JFRD received the highest Insurance Service Officer (ISO) rating, which will reduce residents' insurance premiums. The Class 1 distinction, held by only 140 out of 48,000 fire departments throughout the country, makes Jacksonville the largest city in the nation with the top classification, and one of only 19 fire and rescue departments in the state. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.coj.net/welcome/news/jacksonville-receives-iso-rating-of-class-1.aspx>.

- Council Member Carter reported the City Council is preparing a resolution to acknowledge JFRD's work to improve their ISO rating.
- JFRD website: <http://www.coj.net/departments/fire-and-rescue.aspx>
- The JFRD non-emergency number is 630-0434.
- To report an emergency, please call 911.
- **Neighborhoods Department:** Municipal Code Compliance Division – Dennis Steele reported:
 - In 20 working days, 4 Zone 4 officers completed 1,215 new cases. Zone Inspections were completed in the Jacksonville Heights area, with 438 properties cited.
 - For comparison, code compliance officers worked 1215 cases in Southeast, 746 in Southeast, 1413 in Urban Core, 1291 in North, 1592 in Greater Arlington-Beaches, and 2205 in Northwest.
 - A question was raised about mobile home parks. Officer Steele reported mobile home parks are private property and permission must be obtained from the owner to enter the property.
 - To report concerns, please call 630-CITY (630-2489), email 630city@coj.net or use the MyJAX app.
 - Mr. Steele may be contacted at 255-7041 or dsteeler@coj.net.
- **Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ):** Paul McNamara reported:
 - April 16 is Astronomy “Discover Your Universe” Day at FSCJ Cecil. Kids Space Activities 1 – 5 p.m., special program and, weather permitting, observing with a telescope at 7:30 p.m. All activities are free and the public is cordially invited. The flier will be sent to Mary Beth Ridderman for distribution.
 - Mr. McNamara may be contacted at 779-4030 or pmcnamar@fscj.edu.
- **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT):** Scott Clem introduced himself and reported:
 - Jim Green was previously alternating between the Southwest CPAC and Greater Arlington Beaches CPAC, which meet on the same night. He also staffs other CPAC meetings. Mr. Clem is now assigned to the Southwest CPAC.
 - I-10 and US 301 interchange is beginning a 3 year major reconstruction project. Major improvements are being planned for the I-10 Eastbound entrance ramp. A Baldwin by-pass will extend 301 around Baldwin. Public meetings are being scheduled.
 - The Florida Legislature approved a record-breaking 410.7 billion budget for roadway work.
 - A new transportation bill allows FDOT to accept the Assignment of the USDOT Secretary's responsibilities for all National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document types and all environmental regulations/laws for highway projects.
 - A question was raised about traffic signal malfunctions. Mr. Clem said all traffic light malfunctions should be reported to 630-CITY.
 - A concern was expressed about traffic congestion at I-295 and Collins Road. A red light is needed before Walmart opens. An inquiry was made about a back entrance from the Walmart parking lot. Mr. Clem said he will inquire and report next month.
 - A question was raised about the style selection of sound (wall) barriers. Mr. Clem reported FDOT has 7-8 styles. The District is looking at alternative styles. A brick wall on I-95 will begin next year.
 - A question was raised about the SR 23, the new toll road. The road will have no toll booths. Vehicles will pay fees via pre-purchased Sun Pass cards. Those who do not purchase cards, including out-of-state visitors, will receive tickets by mail. Some states have reciprocal fee cards with Florida.
 - Interstate express lanes will have similar toll systems, through Sun Pass. Existing interstate lanes remain free. The Florida Turnpike Authority is the financing system for the express lanes.
 - Scott Clem may be contacted at 904-360-5681 or scott.clem@dot.state.fl.us
- **Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA) :** Alberta Hipps reported:
 - President Obama honored Cecil Airport and the Cecil Commerce Center with a visit and tour. The Cecil staff did a terrific job and everything went smoothly.
 - Cecil Aviation Advisory Committee meeting is Monday, May 2 at 11:30 a.m. Ms. Hipps will send a notice.
 - The Navy planes and support staff will leave Cecil and return to NAS Jax by mid-summer 2016.
 - Congressman Yoho visited and toured the Cecil area.
 - Acting Chair Burroughs thanked Ms. Hipps for her report.
- **Parks & Recreation:** Keith Meyerl reported:
 - Friday – free movies in Boone Park. The Rec & Roll van and staff will facilitate activities at 6 p.m. before the movie starts around sunset. Different parks will host movies all summer.
 - Saturday – Klutho Park Eggstravaganza, 1-5 p.m. Photos with the Easter Bunny.
 - April 9, 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament at Charles Clark Park.
 - Saturday – Naval Air Station Jax volunteers are cleaning up Tillie Fowler Regional Park.
 - In one month, Parks picks up 44 tons of brush and limbs and 12 tons of garbage from cans.
 - Mr. Meyerl may be contacted at 255-7936 or kmeyerl@coj.net.

- **Planning and Development Department: Planning** – Andy Hetzel provided a written report. One pending item is a solar farm on Old Plank Road.

PC	4/7/16	4	14	E	16-012	6500 Youngerman Cr	016503-0900	Doug Skiles	church
PC	4/21/16	4	14	E	16-015	4265 Roosevelt Blvd	069324-0010	Brian Pleinski	2COP - Beer and Wine sales for Starbucks
AD	4/22/16	4	14	AD	16-13	1600 Edgewood Av S	078642-0000	Lee Wedekind	Increase height of fence in front yard from 4 ft to 6 ft

- Mr. Hetzel may be contacted at 255-7821 or ahetzel@coj.net.
- **JTA**- Cheryl Riddick announced:
 - Service changes will begin April 4. Rack cards and schedules are being printed. The Outreach Team will be out. Ms. Riddick said she will share the information electronically with Ms. Ridderman to pass along to the CPAC.
 - St. Johns River Ferry is back on service. The kick-off celebration is April 16. Ms. Riddick said she will share the information electronically with Ms. Ridderman to pass along to the CPAC. A discussion was held. The ferry works in partnership with the National Parks Service.
 - Dedicated bus lanes and queue jumps have been installed downtown. Brochures were distributed.
 - US 17 Campus Loop will have 2 shelters removed and replaced with 5'x15' silver and red, wind compliant shelters.
 - JTA will maintain the Skyway.
 - New RAP Night Trolley service is available Fridays and Saturdays from 6 p.m. – 2 a.m. for a figure 8 loop through the RAP area. Tickets are \$4, available by smart phone on the MYJTA app. The trolley relieves traffic and parking. Residents over 65 may apply for a free pass.
 - CM Love thanked JTA. Area merchants share the trolley's cost.
 - A discussion was held about possible trolley route expansion.
 - A question was raised about trolley ridership. Ms. Riddick will report at the next meeting.
 - For more information, please visit www.myjta.com.
 - Ms. Riddick may be contacted at 632-5522 or criddick@jtafla.com.
- **Military Affairs and Veterans (MAV)**: Ashley Rogan reported:
 - Northeast Florida Women Veterans - a week of events is schedule march 14 – 19. A flier was provided.
 - Veterans' career counseling is offered free 3- 6 p.m.
 - The office is open from 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
 - Career services are available from 8 a.m. noon Monday through Friday.
 - Presentations are available to interested groups.
 - Ashley Rogan may be contacted at arogan@coj.net.
 - Harrison Conyers may be contacted at 630-3521 or hconyers@coj.net.
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- 6. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:**
 - Membership and Public Relations – Abner Davis' absence was excused. Mr. Davis may be contacted at 566-2278 or adavis@nissystems.us.
 - Transportation - Tom Martin reported:
 - The North Florida Transportation Organization (NFTPO) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) met on March 2, 2016. The committee:
 - Approved the 2016 Joint Certification Statement on the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process.
 - Received draft of the NFTPO Public Involvement Plan Update.
 - Received list of Untied Planning Work Program candidate projects for fiscal year 206/2017. Of particular interest to the SW CPAC: a Travel Time & Congestion Analysis (Collins Road and Argyle Forest Boulevard), and a Corridor Study - Truck Traffic – Toll Road Impact (Old Middleburg Road from 103rd St. to Argyle Forest Boulevard).
 - Received a report on the ChargeWell program, about electric vehicle charging stations.
 - Received a presentation on the JAXPORT Truck Survey regarding a Clean Truck Program which would focus on truck or engine replacement for eligible dray trucks.
 - The next NFTPO CAC regular meeting will be held on April 6, 2016 at 2 p.m.
 - Mr. Martin may be contacted at 778-2265 or trm36@bellsouth.net.
 - ShAdCo – Alice Turknnett reported:
 - A JSO officer was shot – his condition is improving.

- Increase in the number of reported vehicle burglaries, many are because vehicles were left unlocked or with valuables in plain sight.
- Increase in the number of business break-ins.
- 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 Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Cecil Recreation Center – Aquatic Center. Visitors and new members are welcome.
- For more information, please visit [http://www.coj.net/departments/sheriffs-office/citizen-involvement/sheriff-s-advisory-councils-\(shadcos\)](http://www.coj.net/departments/sheriffs-office/citizen-involvement/sheriff-s-advisory-councils-(shadcos)).
- Ms. Turknett may be contacted at 778-2686 or aturknet@bellsouth.net.
- Cecil Area – Bruce Tyson was present. He had no report.
 - Mr. Tyson may be contacted at 778-2686 or bjtsr@netzero.net.
- Governmental Affairs and Economic Development – Volunteers are needed.
- Taxation, Revenue & Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission - Abner Davis' absence was excused.
 - Mr. Davis may be contacted at 566-2278 or adavis@nissystems.us.

7. Neighborhood Coordinator's Report: Mary Beth Ridderman reported:

- Housing and Community Development Division has a new Acting Chief, Diana Seydlorsky.
- Mayor Curry is very supportive of CPACs and Neighborhoods. He supported reorganizing the Neighborhoods Department, which will include CPACs, neighborhoods and Neighborhood Coordinators. Neighborhood Coordinators are very pleased about the renewal of the Neighborhoods Department!
- Mayor's Community Conversation originally scheduled for March 24 was changed to April 1, 6 p.m. at 100 Festival Park Ave.
- Research shows crime follows blight. Blight is increasing the SW District and JSO reported the SW has the highest number of violent crimes in the city. JSO mapping indicates crime is higher in areas with no neighborhood associations. Ms. Ridderman is available to assist residents to form new neighborhood associations or renew former associations.
- She commended COJ Mowing & Landscaping, Public Works, and Solid Waste litter crews for their help in improving the appearance of Lenox Avenue from Normandy Boulevard to Lane Avenue. She thanked JSO Assistant Chief Gayle and other officers who talked with Madelyn Apartments management about bags of household garbage being dropped onto Lenox Avenue by vehicles exiting Madelyn Apartments. The bags were being hit by other vehicles and household garbage was being strewn along Lenox. Management said they would clean up litter along both sides of Lenox near the apartments. Since JSO met with management, the number of bags thrown on Lenox significantly decreased.
- She commended Kathy Budd, who walks with her little dog, Nicky, and picks up litter daily in the Hyde Grove area.
- Mayor Curry has planned several Community Conversations. The Mayor's Community Conversation originally scheduled for March 24 was changed to April 1, 6 p.m. at 100 Festival Park Ave.
- A brief discussion was held about blight reduction efforts in the Murry Hill Preservation Association neighborhoods and commercial areas. Ms. Lee suggested residents download and use the MYJAX app to report blight. CM Love explained photos taken and submitted to MYJAX app automatically records the address. Tom Martin suggested submitting requests via e-mail to 630-CITY.
- Ms. Ridderman may be contacted at 255-8260 or marybeth@coj.net.

8. Chair's Report: Acting Chair Burroughs discussed the city's request for lists of proposed projects for the Capital Improvement Projects list. He asked residents to submit projects from each neighborhood, street or park to marybeth@coj.net. Ms. Ridderman will compile the list of projects for submission by the CPAC Chair. The deadline for the Chair to submit the CPAC's is April 22, 2016.

9.

10. Unfinished Business: none.

11. New Business: none.

12. Public Comments/Announcements (3-minute time limit):

- Kevin Kuzel commended Council Member Love, who walks and picks up litter in his neighborhood.
- Len Burroughs announced the PHINS Gumbo Cook-Off, April 2, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Jacksonville Landing. Tickets are \$10 to sample all gumbos. Proceeds benefit Gleaners Dispatch.
- Kathy Budd announced the PHINS Gumbo Festival features the Eager Beaver Band on April 1 from 8 p.m. – 1 a.m. and the George Aspinall Band on April 2 from noon – 4 p.m. Residents are asked to bring non-perishable food items for the food drive to be entered in a special prize drawing.

- A question was raised about the roll-off dumpsters placed on Old Middleburg Road in the right of way. Dennis Steele said he will check and report at the next meeting.
- A brief discussion was held about the proposed fire station on Old Middleburg Road near Collins Road and a traffic light at Watermill and Argyle Forest Boulevard.

12. Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Martin and seconded by Kathy Budd. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

NEXT CPAC MEETING: April 11, 2016~ 7:00 p.m.

Florida State College at Jacksonville, Kent Campus
3939 Roosevelt Blvd, E-112 F

Summary prepared by Mary Beth Ridderman, Neighborhood Coordinator (904-255-8260, marybeth@coj.net).