

# District #1 - Urban Core

## Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Meeting Location: Ed Ball Building – Training Room 110 – 214 N. Hogan St.

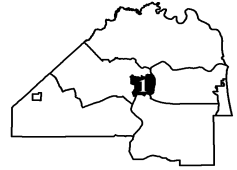
**Chair:** Gloria De Vall 449-4340 [gloria.cpac@gmail.com](mailto:gloria.cpac@gmail.com)

**Vice Chair:** Greg Radlinski 354-8080 [giradlinski@bellsouth.net](mailto:giradlinski@bellsouth.net)

**Mayor's Liaison:** Michelle Barth 630-2456 [mbarth@coj.net](mailto:mbarth@coj.net)

**Mayor's Representative:** Carolyn Shehee-Williams 630-1636 [cshehe@coj.net](mailto:cshehe@coj.net)

**Neighborhood Coordinator:** Rosemary Wesolowski 255-8261 [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)



## Meeting Summary Monday, June 2, 2014

### Members

Arnold, Ruth – 02<sup>nd</sup> Mile Ministries  
Demopoulos, Dimitri – Churchwell Lofts at East Bay Condo Assoc. Inc.  
DeVall, Gloria – Preservation SOS  
Hamilton, William C. – St. John's Lutheran Church  
Harris, Darcel – Mother Midway AME  
Partlow, Levoyus – Good Neighbor M.A.N.I.A.  
Radlinski, Greg – Parks at the Cathedral HOA  
Redmon, Michael – Parks at the Cathedral HOA  
Vanderlaan, Doug – SPAR Council

### Excused –

Merrick, Dorothy – Plaza Condominiums

### Guests

Pryor, Kim – PSOS	Holzendorf, Mike
Holzendorf, Honey	Kellen, Brittany – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mile
Kahn, Jake – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mile	Lewis, Richard
Holman, Bill – Project New Ground	Frahat, Jay
Tappani, Michelle – SPAR/SAMBA	Colbert, Daphne – COJ, Planning Department
Roberts, Barney	

### Staff/Resource

Barth, Michelle – Mayor's Liaison	Foster, Jeff – Public Works
Ricks, Lt. Jimmy – JSO	Hartley, Mark – JaxParks
Wesolowski, Rosemary -HCDD	Cody, Devron, MCCC

### Call to Order

Chair DeVall called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.; it was established that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone.

### Approval of the Minutes

*Member Demopoulos made a Motion to accept the minutes as presented from the May 2014 meeting and a second was made by Member Arnold. The motion passed unanimously.*

### Guest Speakers:

**Jeff Foster, Chief of Solid Waste, Public Works Division and Operation Urban Blight**, provided some updates on Public Works projects: The Crowne Plaza Hotel has agreed with using concrete in front of the hotel as part of the Southbank Riverwalk reconstruction project. The Everbank Stadium upgrades are on schedule and should be completed by July 2014. The Brooklyn Development is on schedule and the Fresh Market is scheduled to open in either September or October of 2014. The first phase (310 residential units) at 100 Magnolia Street will have the club house completed and open on Labor Day weekend; the retailers should be open shortly after that, maybe November or December of 2014. 2020 Riverside is a little bit behind schedule, but they are still saying that they will be open by Labor Day weekend. The Compressed Natural Gas automated trash collection system that we discussed last month for

the City of Jacksonville had the RFP sent to the Procurement Division; everything is still on schedule for a October 1, 2014 start date for the single stream recycling. The Confederate Park remediation, there is no change at this time. The EPA has not issued any comments or approved the feasibility study. The only change is we filed motion for a stay that includes the other parties that have been identified for cost sharing. Jacksonville Groundworks USA; we will become a 501c3 to establish a trust so we can get funds for Hogan Creek, Deer Creek, Eastside and Springfield clean up. There are 10 or 12 sites that fit the Brownsfield designation and we will begin working with them before we expand out to other creeks in the city.

Project Urban Blight has 3 types of activity involved: 1. illegal dumping, 2. mowing 3. municipal code and compliance. The city has just completed looking for any and all illegal dumping in 32204 and will be moving to 32277. We have a plan that will be submitted to Councilmember Lee in regard to illegal dumping. The new plan has modifications from the previous plan in how to combat illegal dumping. One of the biggest changes addresses illegal dumping in high profile areas. It has been recommended to increase vehicle patrols, security fencing and high resolution security cameras. Unfortunately, security cameras that provide quality resolution images that are good enough to make a conviction cost approximately \$7000 per camera. Mr. Foster stated that he was uncertain if this would be a financially feasible option.

***There was a question inquiring how long Project Urban Blight last and in what areas will it be conduction?*** The Urban Blight task has scheduled all areas of town to go through the process and it has been broken down by zip code. Zip codes 32208, 32209, 32206, 32223, 32257 and 32258 have been completed. They team is finishing up in 32204 and then they will focus on 32277. Again, the plan is to visit each zip code in the city. The Blight Plan is a 2 year plan at this time and it may be revisited to extend.

***Are there any financial provisions or services to offer people that are elderly or poor to help fix up their properties?*** That hasn't been discussed to that degree just yet. At this time we are busy identifying problem areas and the city is trying to do what we can to make improvements. This will be brought up in the near future.

***Can you bring our concerns about financial assistance were brought up?*** Yes, we have touch on this subject, but we are really trying to assess the needs and challenges at this stage.

***I heard Councilmember Lee on TV speaking about Project Urban Blight and I believe she stated that there is a 2 year window for home owners to fix their properties or correct the citations that were identified as a result of this initiative. Is that correct?*** There is a recommendation to submit legislation to change the current time frame that a homeowner would have up to 2 years. Several Councilmembers and City Staff members are looking at this.

***The term Human Blight has raised some concern about that label and find the term offensive, why are you using that term? No human being should be called or referred to with that term. If that is an official City term I feel it is very offensive.*** It was explained that it was a phrase that was coined to identify those in the community that are involved in illegal activity or drug dealers it was not intended to offend anyone.

The CPAC had a serious discussion and the majority of the CPAC voiced their concern with term "Human Blight". Member Arnold made a motion that we send a letter to all the Councilmembers and to the Mayor that would express our concern and suggest that they find more appropriate language and respect the dignity of human life. The motion was seconded by Member Hamilton. There was some additional discussion and then the CPAC members voted 6 to 1 to send a letter.

## **Elected Officials Reports –**

None

### **Staff Reports:**

#### **JSO Zone 1 – Lt. Ricks**

Lt. Ricks immediately received a question about all the homicides in Durkeeville? Lt. Ricks informed the group that he can only share so much information because Homicide Division is working the crimes. JSO has completed a walk for crime in Durkeeville and have implement a program called Operation Cease Fire in the Durkeeville area. Also due to the amount of crime 20 officers have been assigned to do “knock and talks” every day until they have made contact every home in the area. They have increase man power in the area and have added additional bicycle patrol in the area.

Starting in July, JSO will increase patrols. The Urban Core District will get getting an additional 8 officers and 1 Sargent. They plan to utilize these additional officers in the form of a bicycle squad and increase bicycle patrols Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. Monday through Friday and additional 70,000 people come to Downtown; the additional manpower will be a great help to assist with this large influx of people.

***How often is a flyer passed out about that identifies Sex Offenders and Pedophiles in our neighborhoods?*** JSO does not distribute that information to the community. Usually the various neighborhood leaders or ShAdCo members are creating the flyers and sharing that information with the communities they live in. This information can be obtained from the state website.

For assistance and information call the JSO Zone 1 Sub Station at 924-5361 or [JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org)

**Mayor’s Representative** – Ms. Shehee Williams – not present

#### **Mayor’s Liaison – Michelle Barth**

Brought and distributed several flyers for upcoming events, activities and programs. Ms. Barth informed the CPAC that there will be a Job Fair on June 16, 2014, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Prime Osborne Convention Center. On June 21, 2014 the Ask-A-Lawyer program will be available. This event will be held from 9:00 am to Noon at the NJCDC Offices at 3416 Moncrief Road, 32209. Downtown Lights Up Your Summer Nights; everyone is invited to enjoy free fireworks on the St. Johns River every month this summer featuring live music, food/drink specials and fireworks. The firework dates are June 7<sup>th</sup>, July 4<sup>th</sup> and August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Duval County Public Schools** – not present

#### **Regulatory and Compliance Department (Cope Compliance) - Devron Cody**

Informed the CPAC that a bus tour has been completed of the Urban Core District with Councilmember Lee to identify areas of concern within the Urban Core and they are currently working with the property owners to correct those issues. He also recommended that neighbors that have concerns about properties in their neighborhood to call 630-CITY so a Code Compliance Officer can go out and check it out. Recently in Durkeeville, Code Compliance has shut down 2 rooming houses; they are illegal. Code Compliance has also completed 16,500 inspections since October 2013 in the Urban Core area.

***It was questioned, if there is an area that is nothing but overgrown lots are we to call 630-City?***  
Yes, we will send someone out to look at it. If it is private property the home owner will be responsible for the mowing.

***If there is illegal dumping do we call 630-CITY?*** Yes, if it is on private property, Code Compliance will take care of it, but if it is city property, Public Works will follow up.

**Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Jim Green passed out a copy of the North Florida TPO Fiscal Years 2014/15 – 2018/19 Urban Core CPAC FDOT Projects Draft. All the Urban Core projects were highlighted and ranged from street resurfacing, street re-stripping and a couple of bridge project.

Several concerns were brought to Mr. Green's attention: it was noted that the NFTPO needs to make sure that funding for projects are in their plans to make improvements in the Urban Core district to include pedestrian and cyclist accommodations and safety. Also, it was reported that the light at Tallulah and main Street cycles too fast for pedestrians to cross. There was an inquiry if Main Street will be turned into a 2 way street between State and Union Streets? Mr. Green stated yes, that is part of the resurfacing project; there will be 1 lane north and 2 lanes south.

**Mr. Green can be reached at 360-5684 or [James.green@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:James.green@dot.state.fl.us)**

**Planning and Development** – Planner Lisa Ransom, sent a report that stated that there are no new applications at this time. If anyone has a question or concern, please contact her.

**Ms. Ransom can be reached at 255-7834 or [lransom@coj.net](mailto:lransom@coj.net)**

*A meeting attendee inquired if the property located at the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Walnut has been sold? Rumor has it that it will be used as a Vocational Rehab. Is that true? If so, the area is very congested and parking/road safety at that intersection is horrible can something about the parking be addressed. Vice Chair Radlinski recommended that we ask if a condition be placed on the Vocational Rehab that parking be limited to 2 car lengths from the intersection.*

**Project New Ground** – Bill Holmon, Hester Group no report

**Project New Ground can be contacted at 630-CITY (2489) or the Outreach Center at 357-8077.**

**Parks & Recreation** – Mr. Hartley informed the group that Daryl Joseph in the Interim Director of JaxParks; Kelley Boree has vacated the position and is in Tallahassee now. He also announced that long time JSO/Parks Officer Lori McEwen has retired and the position was filled Darren Schmidt. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> JaxParks will be rolling out Rec N Roll. Rec N Roll will be held at 11 parks throughout Jacksonville neighborhoods and the city's urban core will offer supervised activities for local youth through a new urban parks initiative called "Rec N' Roll Jax". The Jacksonville law firm of Pajcic & Pajcic donated \$50,000 to fund the program as a pilot project that will employ "old school" practices to keep youth engaged in healthy activities and out of trouble during their school vacation. Waterproof Jacksonville is expanding its mission to reduce accidental drowning in Northeast Florida. This countywide campaign provides swim lessons to youth whose families are facing financial difficulty. This year's campaign will offer lessons to more than 1,500 area youth - more than double last year's lessons. Thanks to a generous donation from Attorney Wayne Hogan of the Terrell Hogan Law Firm, all students attending Woodland Acres Elementary School this summer will receive free swim lessons, along with 150 active military families. The Police Athletic League is funding lessons for 200 of its summer participants and Safe KIDS Northeast Florida is funding scholarships for lessons through JaxParks. Jacksonville Day Resource Center (JDRC) will host a "Day of Service" cleaning-up and greening-up in ten locations around downtown on Thursday, June 12, 2014 in Jacksonville, Florida. Volunteers from area companies and agencies will team with clients of JDRC to pick up trash, pull weeds and plant flowers. Mr. Hartley also gave an update on the date palm in Confederate Park; the tree will be removed within 10 days and the re-plant will occur after the contamination clean-up is completed. Lastly, the Do Not Feed Duck sign was installed last Friday.

Mr. Hartley can be reached at 472-2865 or [mhartley@coj.net](mailto:mhartley@coj.net)

Jacksonville Public Library – not present

Public Works – Jeff Foster, Chief of Solid Waste – guest speaker

**Housing and Community Development Division** – Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Coordinator informed the group that a job posting to fill the Urban Core / Northwest Neighborhood Coordinator position has been posted; hopefully they will get some strong candidates. Next week, Ms. Wesolowski will go to the DCPS Warehouse to pick up backpacks that were donated for the clientele at the JDRC. It was confirmed that the Urban Core CPAC will hold a July meeting on July 7<sup>th</sup> in the same meeting room at 5: 30 pm. An updated calendar will be sent to all CPAC members.

A request was made to have the DIA give a presentation at the July CPAC meeting.

Ms. Wesolowski can be reached at 255-8261 or [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)

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### Chair's Report

- No report
- Subcommittee Reports
  - **Preservation** – Chair DeVall ~ no report
  - **Transportation** – no report, but Chair DeVall asked meeting attendee Michelle Tappani to share what occurred at a recent transportation meeting that was held in Springfield. Ms. Tappani stated that a community meeting was held and it a series of stations that represented a number of issues. The attendees were given chips to place in the stations that the attendees were most interested /concerned with. She stated that she was aware of a presentation. Ms. Tappani stated that she would look into this meeting a little bit more and share this information with Rosemary
  - **Parks** – Greg Radlinski - no report
  - **TRUE Commission** – Greg Radlinski – no report

### Unfinished Business:

### New Business:

### Public Comments/Announcements:

Jay Farhat introduced himself to the CPAC and informed them he was running for Sheriff.

Michelle Tappani informed the CPAC that the Gas Tax Extension was passed.

An attendee stated that in Springfield it appears that the City of Jacksonville has decided to maintain the CROWS (city right of ways). Many in the community had flowers planted in the CROWS and they now have been weed wacked. We need to get confirmation as to who is going to maintain the CROWS. Also, the oak trees are losing their leaves; Springfield needs street sweeping to come through the neighborhood. Lastly, she stated that she wanted to thank Preservation SOS and everyone else that has worked with Mr. Foster, the 89 year old veteran that needs to have his house painted.

Mr. Mike Holzendorf introduced himself and his wife Honey. He informed the group that he submitted his application for become a member of the UC CPAC. Mr. Holzendorf informed the group that he is very involved in the Eastside and he looks forward to being involved with CPAC.

### **Adjournment**

*Member Vanderlaan made a Motion to adjourn and was Member Arnold seconded.  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.*

The next Urban Core CPAC meeting is on  
**Monday, July 7, 2014** at 5:30 p.m.,  
at the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Training Room