

**North District  
Citizens Planning Advisory Committee  
Chair: Rex Neidlinger**

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**MEETING SUMMARY**

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus  
4501 Capper Rd. Building C-136  
March 11, 2015

**Attendance:**

**Members:**

Chair – Rex Neidlinger  
Vice Chair – Joseph Tate  
Charter Member – Richard Berry  
Charter Member – Dot Mathias  
Charter Member - David Spruill  
Amelia View – Gay Septon  
Blue Grass Northwood – Sharon Bivins  
Blue Grass Northwood – Pastor Mark Bivins  
Council Appointee District 11 – Tommy Ruffin  
Duval County PTS/PTA – Vicki Drake  
Edwards Creek – Danny Ferreira  
Johnson Community Civic Association – James Shronce  
National Park Service – Shauna Allen  
The Cape Association – Delores Spruill

**Excused:**

Ashford Wood - Evelyn "Kathy" Myers  
Betz Realty, Inc. - William Baker  
Black Hammock Island Civic Association - Mary Thompson  
Copper Hill - Bessie Williams  
Eagle Bend – Mike Getchell  
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Fran Beach  
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Gerie Leigh  
Highlands- Jack Stuart  
Northlake Homeowners Association – Josephine Fiveash Porter  
Northside Lions – Harry Wagner  
San Mateo – Roland Biederer

**Absent: Pending Removal**

Northside Business Leaders – Patrick Bennett  
Tasti D'Lite – Nancy Burnett  
Turtle Creek Village – Arthur Sullivan

**Three consecutive unexcused absences will result in removal from CPAC membership.  
Please contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260 or [marybeth@coj.net](mailto:marybeth@coj.net) if members will be absent.**

**Elected Officials:** none

**Staff:**

Florida Department of Transportation – Jim Green  
Parks and Recreation – La'dora Taylor  
Planning & Development, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman  
Public Works, Mowing and Landscaping – Dave Mc Daniels  
Regulatory Compliance, Municipal Code Compliance – Timothy Myers  
Regulatory Compliance, Consumer Affairs – Valerie Williams

**Staff Excused:**

Mayor's Liaison – Mike Sweat  
Mayor's Representative – David DeCamp  
Parks and Recreation – La'dora Taylor  
Planning & Development, Planning – Marvin Echols

**Guests:**

Tom Byrnes – Katherine Road  
Patricia Cooper – Easy Street  
Val Bostwick  
Alberta Hipps, Hipps Group - Eagle LNG Partners  
Dario Alvarez – Eagle LNG Partners

Matt Stone- Marshwinds  
George Spencer  
Reginald Gaffney  
Donald Drake

## 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Rex Neidlinger called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

## 2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

A motion to approve the February summary was made by Tommy Ruffin and seconded by Joseph Tate. The vote: All were in favor.

## 3. Staff Reports

- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** – No report
  - Please call 630-0500 if suspicious activity is observed.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – Agriculture Extension Office Director Mike Sweat's absence was excused.
- **Mayor's Representative** – David De Camp's absence was excused.
- **Planning & Development**
  - **Planning** – Marvin Echols' absence was excused.
    - Please contact Mr. Echols at 255-7823 or [MEchols@coj.net](mailto:MEchols@coj.net).
  - **Housing and Community Development Division** – Mary Beth Ridderman reported:
    - FSCJ North Campus will continue to host the North CPAC meetings and Governmental Affairs meetings.
    - The division staffed an outreach/informational table at Washington Heights Apartments during Community Development Days.
- **Regulatory Compliance - Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Tim Myers reported:
  - Since last month's CPAC meeting, Zone 6 officers completed 1085 inspections. City wide, officers conducted 8053 inspections.
  - Inspections along Dunn Avenue corridor resulted in 40 new cases.
  - Inspections along the Edgewood Avenue corridor resulted in 45 new cases.
  - The division is in the hiring process. Zone 6 has one new employee and one in training.
  - Municipal Code Compliance was thanked for their intervention to reduce neighborhood blight by working with the property owner to stop semi - trucks parking at the Fifth Third Bank building.
  - A concern was expressed about illegal dumping on Baisden Road near Main Street. Contributing to the problem are over-flowing garbage dumpsters. A recent Times Union article mentioned the issue. A brief discussion was held. Luis Flores, Chief of Public Buildings, Public Works, said he will follow up with the appropriate staff person.
  - A comment was made that blight is created by leaving solid waste containers near the street instead of putting containers out of sight until the next collection date. (Please report addresses to CARE/630-CITY.)
  - Please call 630-CITY (2489) to report and track CARE concerns.
- **Parks & Recreation** – Parks, Recreation and Community Services representative, La'dora Taylor's absence was excused.
- **National Park Service** – Shauna Allen announced:
  - She has been working on a Federal Access Grant to build a bridge across Pumpkin Hill Creek.
  - Enjoy Yoga in the Park on Saturdays.
  - National Parks is celebrating 100 years of National Park Service and activities are planned to get more people in to parks. Ft. Caroline National Memorial activities include guided tours at 1 p.m. and nature walks at 1 p.m. through April.
  - Access to all state and city parks is free to residents of all ages.
  - Seniors may obtain free Senior Access passes to visit any national park for free.
  - Barbara Goodman retired. City Council will present a resolution to Ms. Goodman for her work and community service. Ms. Goodman will continue to serve on the Friends Board.
  - For information about National Parks, visit <http://www.nps.gov/state/fl/index.htm?program=all>
- **Jacksonville Electric Authority** – no report. For JEA information, please visit the JEA website <https://www.jea.com>.
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Jim Green reported:
  - FDOT projects are continuing.
  - A concern was expressed that roadway edges are deteriorating along Main Street near Pecan Park Road and the railroad tracks, making it unsafe to drive in the area. Heavy trucks may be the cause. Mr. Green said he will follow-up with maintenance.

- A concern was expressed about the ramps at I-295 and Dunn Avenue. Accidents have increased since the change. The new ramp configuration does not facilitate a safe merge into traffic. A stop is needed.
- A discussion was held and several concerns were expressed about Love's Truck Stop. Construction is underway, yet no changes have been made to the intersection of I-295 and Pecan Park Road. Love was required to widen the road East of I-295. Unless lanes are widened, exiting truck traffic will cause safety hazards on the interstate and make Pecan Park Road unsafe and impassable for local traffic. FDOT will raise the issue at the next transportation coordinators' meeting and report back to CPAC.
- Regional traffic information: [www.northfloridaroads.com](http://www.northfloridaroads.com)
- 511 websites: [www.jax511.com](http://www.jax511.com) and [www.fl511.com](http://www.fl511.com)
- **Public Works** – Dave Mc Daniels, Chief of Mowing and Landscaping, reported:
  - The first cycle of mowing has begun.
  - The city is responsible for 3600 miles of roadway with 1000 miles under a mowing contract. Road side.
  - A cost-savings plan is in place. A plant growth regulation program will be implemented for all areas.
  - 643 miles of roadside ditches are not covered by contracts. Those ditches will be sprayed 5 times each year to kill vegetation.
  - A new contract is in place for mowing 600 of the 2600 COJ-owned 2600 properties. These properties will be mowed during April – November.
  - Contractors will be required to spray a plant growth regulator behind the mowers.
  - The Tire and Signs Buy Back event is March 28 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at EverBank Field. Mary Beth provided fliers.
  - A concern was expressed about the environmental impact of increased spraying to kill ditch/roadway vegetation. Florida's water, waterways and wetlands will be negatively impacted by COJ's plans to reduce mowing costs by implementing a plant growth regulation program.

**4. Presentation:** Eagle LNG Partners by Dario Alvarez, Manager of Public Relations

- Partners are GE Ventures and Ferus Natural Gas Fuels
- Natural gas is the cleanest hydrocarbon fuel. It is reliable, efficient and safe. It is more affordable and cleaner than diesel. For more efficient transportation, natural gas is compressed to 1/600 of it's original size and becomes liquefied natural gas (LNG).
- A world class LNG production facility is planned for Heckscher Drive. The facility has water and rail access. Natural gas is available on-site by pipeline. The gas will be compressed then transferred to trains or carriers. The facility is designed to accommodate smaller LNG transfer vessels up to 30' draft and 700'long. At full production, the facility will load 3 LNG trains or carriers every 9 – 10 days.
- The facility is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).
- In the engineering process now, the facility's first production is anticipated in about 18 months. The facility will provide high-paying jobs for maintenance personnel.
- A brief discussion was held. A concern was expressed about the facility's safety and security. Mr. Alvarez explained that safety protocol will be in place.
- Mr. Alvarez may be contacted at 1-844-253-2453 or [darioalvarez@eaglelng.com](mailto:darioalvarez@eaglelng.com).
- Mr. Alvarez traveled from another state to present to the CPAC. He recognized JIA as one of the nicest airports in the United States.
- Chair Neidlinger thanked Mr. Alvarez for his presentation and thanked Alberta Hipps for coordinating arrangements for the speaker.

**5. Chair's Report** – Chair Rex Neidlinger reported:

- His concern that several COJ employees, including JSO, were absent.
- A public meeting was held regarding the St. Johns River dredging project. The St. Johns River Keeper expressed serious concern for the health of the river and nearby ocean. The Chair expressed serious concerns about the impact of dredging on the quality and life of the St. Johns River and the Florida Aquifer.

- Erosion on Ramoth Drive is causing property owners to lose their yards and docks. The erosion, left unchecked, may cause the loss of homes. Property owners believe the erosion is caused by dredging.
- A discussion was held.
- A concern was expressed that marine life will be adversely affected by the silt caused by dredging – silt from the Miami dredging project is causing the death of marine life (coral and other species).
- A concern was expressed about the impacts of the Rodman Reservoir Project/Ocklawaha Restoration project on the Timuquana Preserve. The Ocklawaha River is a principal tributary to the St. Johns River. The existing watershed properties need to be protected and preserved. Purchasing new conservation lands will not ameliorate environmental damage to the Timuquana Preserve.

## 6. Subcommittee Reports

- **Governmental Affairs** – Joseph Tate and Tommy Ruffin co-chaired the Governmental Affairs portion of the meeting. The following items were discussed or voted upon:

2015-0095	Deny	An ordinance amending chapter 656 (zoning code), part 3 (schedule of district regulations), ordinance code, regarding residential zoning districts, to set forth development standards for single-family dwellings in the medium density residential category to reflect the residential low density-40 (RLD-40) zoning district standards.
2015-0099	Approve	An ordinance amending chapter 636 (traffic and parking), part 1 (parking violations), section 636.104 (payment of parking citations and parking facility fees; late charges; final notice) and chapter 804 (Jacksonville traffic code), part 10 (parking), section 804.1012 (unauthorized parking in disabled parking space prohibited), ordinance code, so as to authorize current and future transfers by the office of public parking of all dismissal fees collected or to be collected pursuant to section 318.18(6), Florida statutes, to the handicapped parking trust fund; providing for city oversight by the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services.
2015-0102	Approve	An ordinance appropriating \$309,037 from the inmate welfare trust fund to sheriff's capital projects to provide funding for costs associated with construction of the Montgomery Correctional Clinic, as initiated by b.t. 15-029; providing for a carryover of funds into subsequent fiscal years; amending the 2015-2019 five-year capital improvement program approved by Ordinance 2014-467-e to provide funding for the project entitled "Montgomery Correctional Clinic.
2015-0105	Discussion. No Action	An ordinance appropriating \$869,486 from the 2014/2015 Stormwater Utility budget; approving and authorizing the execution of an agreement between the city and JEA regarding the transfer of water quality credits in compliance with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP); approving an agreement between the City and the Florida Department of Transportation for the trade of total nitrogen credits in the marine section of the lower St. Johns river basin; authorizing the Mayor, or his designee, and Corporation Secretary to execute and deliver, for and on behalf of the City, all other documents necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purpose of this ordinance.
2015-0109	Approve	An ordinance approving and authorizing the Mayor, or his designee, and corporation secretary to execute and deliver in accordance with section 122.421(b), ordinance code, (1) a city deed conveying to the State of Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) parcel 108.1, a fee parcel, and (2) a temporary easement granting to FDOT a temporary construction easement in, over, and under parcel 701.1, a fee parcel, both at the I-95 and I-295 interchange North in Council District 11 and needed by FDOT for the construction of interchange improvements at the I-95 and I-295 interchange North and for improvements to Cole Road where it crosses under I-95, together with all documentation necessary to convey said fee parcel and grant said temporary construction easement.
2015-0113	Approve	An ordinance closing out completed Better Jacksonville Transportation projects; acknowledging no waiver of the provision of section 8.2 of the 2014-2015 budget ordinance, 2014-466-e, is required due to council action.
2015-0114	Discussion. No Action	An ordinance authorizing the Mayor or his designee, and the Corporation Secretary to execute a modification to the home loan agreements between the City and the Towers of Jacksonville, Inc. to shorten the period of affordability from 10 years to 7 years so that the Towers of Jacksonville, Inc. and its partners may obtain rehabilitation financing that will lower resident income levels to better serve the city's low income residents.
2015-0123	Approve	A resolution honoring and commending Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve Superintendent Barbara Goodman upon the occasion of her retirement from the National Park Service.
2015-0127	Approve	An ordinance creating Chapter 222, ordinance code (Transportation Network Companies); creating regulations for operations including: licensing, background checks, minimum standards for operators, vehicle inspections, minimum insurance requirements, records retention and confidentiality; creating code enforcement, civil remedies, violations, seizure, impoundment and forfeiture regulations and providing authority to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the City's parking division and the Jacksonville Airport Authority to seize and impound or immobilize vehicles used in violation of Chapter 222, ordinance code.
2015-0128	Approve	An ordinance concerning the local option discretionary sales surtax authorized by section 212.055(8), Florida Statutes; expressing the intent of the council as to the utilization of revenues derived from the levy of the discretionary sales surtax; levying and imposing a discretionary sales surtax in the amount of one-half cent per dollar on all transactions occurring in Duval County which are subject to the state tax on sales, use, rentals, admissions and other transactions as imposed by part 1, chapter 212, Florida Statutes, subject to the limitations imposed by section 212.054, Florida Statutes; amending Title XXII, ordinance code, to add a new chapter 776 entitled discretionary sales surtax for emergency fire rescue services and facilities; providing for referendum approval of this ordinance; directing the supervisor of elections to place the referendum question on the May 19, 2015, the 2015 second general election; providing for a financial impact statement to be developed and placed on the ballot; providing for severability.
2015-0146	Discussion. No Action	An ordinance appropriating \$2,400,000 from general capital projects- investment pool earnings accounts to Public Works various capital projects - other construction – old federal courthouse/state attorney account to allocate funds to complete the renovation of the far east area of the building; providing a carryover of funds into fiscal year 2015-2016.
None	Discussion. Defer	Exception for an establishment or facility which includes the retail sale of beer or wine for on-premises consumption in conjunction with a restaurant.

The next Governmental Affairs meeting is April 2, 2015, 5:30 p.m. at FSCJ North Campus, C-136.

- **Membership** – Pastor Bivins and Sharon Bivins reported:
  - They received electronic CPAC nomination forms from Mary Beth.
- **Transportation** – Richard Berry reported:
  - Traffic may be affected by a March 12 inspection of the Trout River Main Street Bridge.

- Heckscher Drive and Sister's Creek Bridge construction is in progress and expected to be completed in 2018.
- Owens Road is closed because of the construction on the North Access Road, which should be completed by 2017.
- **TRUE** – Danny Ferreira reported:
  - Laura Stagner, Director of Finance, Housing and Community Development Division, reported to TRUE on the Northwest Jacksonville Economic Development Fund projects. The City is actively processing several projects and has filed lawsuits against existing projects not in compliance. One proposed project is to refund infrastructure costs for a Church's Restaurant.
  - TRUE wants a re-audit and investigation of the legality of the pension fund.
  - TRUE is responsible for audits, for example the Port Authority Accounts Payable, JTA payroll audit and COJ payroll audit.
  - Chair Neidlinger thanked Mr. Ferreira for his report.

**7. Unfinished Business:** none.

**8. New Business:** none.

**9. Public Comments:**

- Reggie Gaffney introduced himself as a candidate for City Council District 7.
- George Spencer introduced himself as a candidate for City Council District 7.
- Dick Berry announced the North CPAC had sponsored a candidate forum and candidates were welcome at the CPAC.
- Valerie Williams, Consumer Affairs Manager, introduced herself and explained the role of the Office of Consumer Affairs.
  - Enforces [Jacksonville, Florida, Code of Ordinances](#), Chapter 250; Miscellaneous Business Regulations; Chapter 696; Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices and Chapter 804; Charitable Solicitations by Permit.
  - Issues and enforces ice cream truck permits, which require the operator to pass a background check.
  - Issue permits to feed the homeless, for example at parks or churches.
  - Investigates and mediates consumer complaints that cover a myriad of areas as they pertain to consumer fraud and/or protection, for example nuisance street vendors and peddlers.
  - Please call 630-CITY to report concerns.
- Tommy Ruffin announced this is the fiftieth anniversary of the Edmund Pettus Bridge demonstration where approximately 25,000 people marched for voters' rights. Voting is a sacred right and an obligation. Vote!

**10. Motion to Adjourn** – Dick Berry made a motion to adjourn. Tommy Ruffin seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

The North CPAC will meet on April 8, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. –  
FSCJ North Campus, 4501 Capper Rd. Building C-136.

The Governmental Affairs Subcommittee will meet on April 2, 5:30 p.m.  
FSCJ North Campus, 4501 Capper Rd. Building C-136.