



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
JOHN PEYTON
MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR LAUNCHES FISCAL YEAR 2011/2012 BUDGET COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Community budget workshops and updated city budgetary information on www.myjaxbudget.com provide opportunities for early engagement in the process

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 08, 2011 – Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton today announced opportunities for Jacksonville citizens to again actively engage in the fiscal year 2011/2012 budget preparation process with five upcoming community budget workshops and an update of the city's comprehensive budget website, www.myjaxbudget.com.

"Increasing transparency in the city's budgetary process is more important now than ever. We look forward to again engaging with our citizens about their service priorities and the process for preparing the budget. Based on valuable feedback from last year's series of conversations, we have put into place additional tools to help residents become more educated and involved in their city's budget process," said Mayor Peyton.

Based on feedback from last year's series, the city will again host Community Budget Workshops which will be facilitated by Jacksonville Community Council, Inc. (JCCI). At each of the five city-wide events citizens may review budgetary information for city services, speak directly with city departmental representatives about the services offered and provide their feedback.

An additional benefit for homeowners who register for a workshop will be a personalized analysis by the Budget Division of how their property taxes were affected by the millage rate going from 9.2727 to 10.0353 (change from fiscal year 09/10 to the current fiscal year 10/11).

Like last year, data collected at each budget workshop will be compiled by JCCI, and a report highlighting the results of the workshop will be posted on www.myjaxbudget.com.

Because seats are limited and vital information will be disseminated to participants in advance, those interested in attending the workshops listed below must register in advance by visiting the www.myjaxbudget.com or by calling (904) 630-CITY (2489).

Wednesday, Feb. 23, 6-8:30 p.m.

Regency Square Regional Library, 9900 Regency Square Blvd.

Thursday, March 10, 6-8:30 p.m.

Crown Point Elementary School, 3800 Crown Point Road

Wednesday, March 23, 6-8:30 p.m.

Jacksonville Beach Community Center, 2508 South Beach Parkway, Jacksonville Beach

Saturday, April 9, 9-11:30 a.m.

Clanzel T. Brown Community Center, 4545 Moncrief Road

Saturday, April 16, 9-11:30 a.m.

Cecil Recreation Complex, 13611 Normandy Blvd.



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The fiscal year 11/12 budget outreach plan also includes the launch of additional information to the city's comprehensive budget, www.myjaxbudget.com. The site offers visitors information about the City of Jacksonville budget process, revenue and expenses. It also contains descriptions of internal and external services provided by city departments and divisions and includes information on their respective budgets for both the current year, as well as last fiscal year.

In addition, City Council President Jack Webb, Council Finance Chair Warren Jones and the City Council will host a series of community engagement sessions on the fiscal year 11/12 budget. The dates and times for these meetings will be announced in the coming weeks and posted on www.myjaxbudget.com.

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To view and download photos following this event,
visit the city's photo sharing site on Flickr. All photos are public documents.



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