



**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**TRUE COMMISSION  
LEGISLATIVE TRACKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
May 25, 2012  
10:00 a.m.**

**City Council Conference Room B  
Suite 425, City Hall  
117 W. Duval Street**

**Attendance:** Committee Members Joe Andrews (Chair), Greg Radlinski and Marcella Lowe

**Excused:** Diane Brown and Tom Martin

**Also:** Jeff Clements – Council Research Division

The meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m. by Chairman Andrews. The committee reviewed and staff answered questions about the following bills:

2012-290 (appropriating \$1,456,871 in Wallace Foundation grant funding and local match to the Children’s Commission to develop an out-of-school-time system network of care) – Commissioner Andrews spoke with Children’s Commission Acting Director John Kabat and understands that Jacksonville is one of 6 cities nationwide to get a Wallace Foundation grant to study best practices in children’s services.

2012-296 (amending the Ordinance Code to add “sexual orientation” and “gender identity and expression” as classes protected from discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations) – Commissioner Andrews questioned whether this is a TRUE Commission-relevant item. The intent of the legislation was discussed. Commissioner Radlinski felt that it presented a high likelihood of lawsuits challenging the ordinance by both proponents and opponents and therefore could be costly to the City.

**Motion** (Radlinski): that the Legislative Tracking Committee recommends that the TRUE Commission express opposition to the passage of 2012-296 – **approved 3-0**.

2010-297 (appropriating \$4,363,190 from the First Coast High School swimming pool account to the North Florida TPO for a rail corridor assessment study [\$100,000] and to a future JIA North Access Road project [\$4,263,190]) – Commissioner Lowe expressed support for the pool project because First Coast High School is the only high school in the county without a swimming pool and because it would be a welcome amenity for the Northside of Jacksonville. She noted that the current and former district council members seem to have very different opinions about whether the pool project should be done. Commissioner Andrews asked questions about the legitimate use of TIF funds and whether the First Coast High School campus and the proposed airport north connector road are within the JIA CRA tax increment district.

**Motion** (Lowe): that the Legislative Tracking Committee recommends that the TRUE Commission oppose passage of 2012-297 – **fails 1-2** (Lowe in favor).

2012-316 (amending the Ordinance Code to provide that contracts between the City and private companies to manage City venues and facilities must be approved by City Council) – the bill was passed on first reading as an emergency at Tuesday night’s City Council meeting; no further action needed.

2012-317 (amending the FY11-12 budget ordinance to remove a clause regarding transfer of excess funds remaining in the budgets of completed capital improvement projects) – the committee debated the actual effect of the ordinance and whether its passage would change the current practice now that mid-year CIP amendments require a 2/3 vote. If the funds are swept from a completed project account and are proposed to be reallocated to another capital project, wouldn’t the new ordinance require that reallocation to have a 2/3 vote regardless of whether 2012-317 is adopted? Staff was requested to as the Office of General Counsel for clarification.

2012-318 (appropriating \$1,474,834 in St. Johns River Water Management District grant funds to NAS Jacksonville for a wastewater re-use project) – Commissioner Andrews noted that this is the first ordinance to utilize the new mid-year CIP amendment process.

2012-347 (economic incentive agreement/QTI with Novitas Solutions, Inc.) – Commissioner Andrews opposes the bill on philosophical grounds and will pursue the matter individually with Council members.

2012-349 (Council expression of “no confidence” in General Counsel Cindy Laquidara) – not within the TRUE Commission’s purview.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Jeff Clements, Chief  
Council Research Division  
630-1405

Posted 5.25.12  
5:00 p.m.