



Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission

Joe Andrews, Chair
Diane Brown, Vice Chair
Patti Anania, Secretary

August 5, 2013

City Council
President appointees

Patti Anania
Joe Andrews
Daniel Blanchard
John Campbell
James Edwards
Theodore Wendler

Mayoral appointees

Diane Brown
Marc El Hassan
Keith Johnson
Alex Marrero
Ernest McDuffie
George Spencer, Jr.

CPAC appointees

Danny Becton
Leroy Kelly
Marcella Lowe
Thomas Martin
Greg Radlinski

TRUE Commission
c/o Jeff Clements
Suite 425, City Hall
117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville FL 32202

904-630-1405

Honorable City Council Members
Suite 425, City Hall
117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville FL 32202

Dear Council Members:

At its monthly meeting on Thursday, August 1st the TRUE Commission made the following recommendations regarding legislation pending before the City Council:

2013-465 (adopting 2014-18 Capital Improvement Program)

Motion (Andrews): the TRUE Commission recommends that City Council amend 2013-465 prior to passage to delete the Ordinance Code waiver regarding the definition of a “capital improvement” so as to permit routine road resurfacing to be treated as a capital improvement for FY13-14 – **approved unanimously.**

2013-485 (amending Ordinance Code Chapter 111 to change reporting requirements for expenditures from the Sports and Entertainment Board Trust Fund)

Motion (Andrews): the TRUE Commission recommends that City Council approve 2013-485 - **approved unanimously.**

2013-492 (appropriating \$364,500 from stormwater project capital funding to purchase and demolish 3 flood-prone homes)

Motion (Andrews): the TRUE Commission recommends that City Council *not* approve 2013-492 on an emergency basis and that the Council exercise its due diligence to determine if the City has any liability for the flooding problems experienced by these homes, if the owners share in the liability for the flooding situation, and if the prices proposed to be paid for these homes are fair and equitable before voting on the legislation – **approved unanimously.**

2013-518 (appropriating \$150,000 from the Special Council Operating Reserve fund to promote the 2014 Florida Country Superfest concert in Jacksonville)

Motion (Andrews): the TRUE Commission recommends that City Council *not* pass 2013-518 on the grounds that public funding should not be used to

benefit the events of particular for-profit promoters, although the Commission would approve of using public funding to advertise the availability and quality of the City's public assembly facilities to all event promoters to encourage increased use of the City's assets – **approved 12-1.**

The TRUE Commission also makes the following recommendations with regard to recently released Council Auditor's Office audits:

Council Auditor's Audit #732 (Purchasing Card Audit)

Motion (Lowe): the TRUE Commission accepts the audit with two recommendation to the City Council and the Mayor: 1) that all travel-related expenses paid with a purchasing card should be documented on a single travel expense reconciliation form with all receipts attached following the completion of City employee travel, including a description of the purpose of the travel, to be signed by both the traveler and the traveler's approving manager upon submittal of the form; and 2) that the annual purchasing card expense authorization cap be reduced from \$2 million to \$350,000 to more closely reflect actual usage – **approved 12-1.**

Council Auditor's Audit #733 (Quarterly Budget Summary for the Quarter Ending March 31, 2013)

Motion (Lowe): the TRUE Commission accepts the report without comment – **approved unanimously.**

Council Auditor's Audit #734 (City Council Sunshine Law Compliance)

Motion: (Lowe): the TRUE Commission accepts the report without comment – **approved unanimously.**

The TRUE Commission thanks you for your consideration of the Commission's opinions on these important matters. As always, the Commission stands ready to be of assistance in any way. Please feel free to call on us at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J.E. Andrews". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name "Chairman".

Chairman