

**The Better Jacksonville Plan
Citizens Oversight Committee
Quarterly Meeting
September 30, 2004**

Co-chair Ron Salem called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and introduced the Mayor.

The Mayor presented the Courthouse Presentation.

Chair Ron Salem opened the floor for questions.

Q. \$15 Surcharge – Is it a Users Fee or a Tax?

A. It is a User Fee.

Q. Why not build the Courthouse upward rather than out?

A. Orlando and Orange County both went upward when building their Courthouses. This required more elevators causing more wasted time to citizens and employees waiting on elevators. The City is will build up 7 floors.

Q. How will these ideas get to the public?

A. Town Hall Meetings. Lisa Rowe is currently working on other ways to get this information to the public.

Q. What if the contractor comes back with more than \$268M to build the Courthouse?

A. They are off the project.

BJP Presentation

Q. The Lenox Avenue Project (Normandy to Lane) – Company went bankrupt and had to start over. Where are we on this project?

A. Rex Holmlin will get back to Ralph with an answer.

Q. Beaver Street to I-95 – Did funding shift take place?

A. Councilman Alvarez was supposed to check into this.

JTA Presentation

Q. Originally there were 12 overpasses to be built. Is JTA recommending only 10 or the 12 be built?

A. Yes, JTA is considering taking out Atlantic and Hodges overpass, Atlantic and University overpass, or Beach and University overpass.

Q. If the Atlantic and University overpass is not built, how can traffic be improved?

A. There is a way to build the Atlantic and University overpass, but it will be very expensive.

Q. Will there be a study the Timaquana/I-17 project and is it a high priority.

A. Yes, there will be a study. We can only do so many at once

Q. Is there a priority on interchanges?

A. No.

Q. How is increased maintenance on roads factored in?

A. 75% of roads are maintained by DOT.

Ron Salem thanked the Citizens Oversight Committee and invited them to continue to contact him with their questions and comments.

The meeting was adjourned.