

## Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

### May 13, 2021 Meeting Summary

Lincoln Villa Senior Center, 7866 New Kings Rd., 6 p.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 945 4736 3670 Passcode: 583430

### Meeting Attendance

**CPAC Members** – Rhonda Boyd, Chair; Tyrone Clark-Murray, Vice-Chair; Elaine Billups, Better Living Community Association; Roxsan Currier, Marietta Senior Center; Velma Rounsville, Timber Oaks HOA; Jaqueline Harrington, Grand Park; Lana Suggs, Carver International

**Visitors** – Lillie Riggins; Leroy Kelly; Nabaa Ali; Antonia Bryant; Tiphonie Mattis; Michael Mattis; Henry Scott; Shirley Thomas; Kim Stephens-Perry; Patrice Motague; Thomas Parrish; Ondreia Harden; Jennifer Mitchell

**Elected Official and City Staff** – Warren Jones, Duval County School Board; Dana Kriznar, DCPS; Lt. John Gay, JSO; Gene Klingbeil, JFRD; Julie McNeil, JPL; Berdell Knowles, JEA; Brian Jefferson, State Attorney's Office; Kiara Nixon, State Attorney's Office; Brian Naples, Municipal Code Compliance; Chris LeDew, PW; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Jessica Denson, NSO; Kaysie Cox, Planning and Development.

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Rhonda Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Jessica Denson confirmed a quorum was present.
- 2. Presentation:** Dr. Jennifer Mitchell, Public Communication Coordinator at the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), gave a brief overview of how the SJRWMD works to balance the needs of humans and nature. SJRWMD is one of five Waterfront Management Districts in the state of Florida. SJRWMD covers the entire 310-mile watershed of the St. Johns River. The mission of the St. Johns River Water Management District is "to protect our natural resources and support Florida's growth by ensuring the sustainable use of Florida's water for the benefit of the people of the District and the state." Dr. Mitchell explained the District's four core missions: water supply, water quality, flood protection, and natural systems. The SJRWMD provides permitting for stormwater infrastructure and a cost-share program that assists local governments with funding projects involving the four core missions. SJRWMD is responsible for Environmental Resource and Consumptive Use permitting. Dr. Mitchell informed the CPAC members SJRWMD offers monthly one-hour training about stormwater, conservation easement, and irrigation to the community. Dr. Mitchell announced SJRWMD has a Blue School Grant Program offered to middle and high School students to do water-related projects to educate the next generation on the importance of protecting water resources. For more information, visit [www.sjrwmd.com](http://www.sjrwmd.com)

Dr. Mitchell may be reached at [jmitchell@sjrwmd.com](mailto:jmitchell@sjrwmd.com).

### 3. Elected Officials:

Warren Jones, Duval County School Board, reported the following:

- The Sales Surtax Oversight Committee meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Each CPAC will have the opportunity to be appointed to serve on the committee for two years. The Greater Arlington /Beaches CPAC will be the first CPAC to serve on the committee. The selection of which CPAC to help first was determined by alphabetical order.
- DCPS currently has job opportunities for small business owners. For more information, visit [www.duvalschools.org](http://www.duvalschools.org).
- Superintendent Greene will distribute a survey to parents to determine whether DCPS will enforce a mask mandate for the next school year.
- Duval County School Board will examine the school's name change at the next board meeting on June 1, 2021. The meeting will be open to the public.

- Superintendent Greene appointed a new program called the African American History Taskforce, and will be comprised of teachers, students, historians, and citizens. The task force will develop a local African American History Booklet that teachers can provide high school students. Elementary school teachers will implement the booklet into the curriculum to allow the students to develop in Jacksonville learning African American History.
- DCPS will have a sneak preview Prototype Elementary School at Rutledge H. Pearson located at 4346 Roanoke Blvd. on May 20, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.  
For more information, visit [www.dcps.duvalschools.org](http://www.dcps.duvalschools.org).  
Warren Jones may be reached at (904) 390-2372 or [Jonesw2@duvalschools.org](mailto:Jonesw2@duvalschools.org).

**4. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The CPAC approved March and April meeting summaries.

**5. Unfinished Business:** None

**6. New Business:** None

**7. Chairs Report:** Chair Boyd announced that the Mayor's Community Based Crime Reduction Program (CBCR) will host a Community Impact Day. The Community Impact Day will include Amazon hiring and drive-thru grocery giveaway event. The event will be held at the New Town Success Zone (1658 Kings Road) on May 22, 2021, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

**8. Subcommittee and Liaison Reports**

- **Land Use and Zoning Subcommittee:** Roxane Currier reported that LUZ Subcommittee members reviewed four new Land Use and Zoning applications, and no changes were recommended.

- **TRUE Commission:** Velma Rounsville reported that the Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission met Thursday, May 6, 2021. The TRUE Commission continued discussing the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) budget as compared with other cities. The commission will also compare capital assets, revenue, expense, and total City's population. The commission will continue to review data with the hopes of a representative from JSO to answer their concerns at the next meeting. Ms. Rounsville report that the commission examined an audit report, number 846- Kids Hope Alliance (KHA) Grant. The report showed that KHA receives \$8-10 million per year in Federal and State grants, but after reviewing the city's auditor's notice, there were significant issues with KHA grant management. KHA is currently reorganizing employees and implementing recommendations made by the auditor. The TRUE Commission's next meeting will be on June 3, 2021.

- **Transportation:** Vice-Chair Tyrone Clark- Murray reported the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) CAC met on Wednesday, May 5, 2021. The NFTPPO CAC continued discussing the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) projects that will be implemented over the next five years and approved amendments for the upcoming fiscal years projects.

- **Capital Improvement Projects (CIP):** Vice-Chair Tyrone Clark- Murray reported the subcommittee conducted three meetings to allow neighborhoods in the Northwest District to submit CIP recommendations. The subcommittee received eleven requests. The CPAC Members discussed the CIP criteria and the eleven proposed CIP recommendations. After further review, the Northwest CPAC approved nine CIP recommendations to be considered for inclusion into the City proposed FY2022-2026 Capital Improvement Program. Vice-Chair Tyrone Clark- Murray will forward Jessica Denson the UC CPAC CIP recommendation letter to Teresa Eichner, Capital & Budget Operations Administrator, by May 21, 2021.

**9. Staff Reports**

- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO):** Lt. John Gay reported that crimes in the Northwest District are low compared to last year. He invited CPAC members to become a part of Zone 5 Sheriff's Watch. Members may obtain information from Teresa Anderson-Wright by calling the Zone 5 Sub-station at (904) 470-8900 or email [Teresa.Anderson-Wright@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:Teresa.Anderson-Wright@jaxsheriff.org). Lt. Gay reminded CPAC Members to lock their car doors because auto burglary theft is high. JSO is currently hiring for several positions. Visit [www.JoinJSO.com](http://www.JoinJSO.com) to apply.  
Lt. Gay may be reached at (904) 384-8028

- **Jacksonville Fire and Rescue (JFRD):** Captain Gene Klingbeil reminded the CPAC Members that hurricane season starts June 1, 2021. He encouraged members to download JaxReady app for hurricane season updates, evacuation routes and to register for assistance in the event of a hurricane.
- **Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA):** Berdell Knowles provided an update regarding Vice-Chair Tyrone Clark- Murray request at February's Northwest CPAC meeting regarding the Septic Tank Phase Out program initiative. The City of Jacksonville and JEA agreed in 2016 to phase out 35 neighborhoods with failing septic tanks identified by the Florida Department of Health and created an evaluation matrix where they prioritize the neighborhoods. The three neighborhoods identified to be first are Biltmore, Beverly Hills, and Christobel.
  - The Biltmore neighborhood is currently under construction to remove septic tanks and well water on 350 lots. The project construction bid was \$16.1 million, with \$7.1 million used thus far. The project is scheduled to be completed by December 2021.
  - The Beverly Hills neighborhood is divided into two phases (Beverly Hills East and West). Beverly Hills West has 473 lots with septic tanks; most of Beverly Hills Neighborhood utilized JEA water. Beverly Hills West construction started in April 2021 and is expected to be completed by August 2023. Beverly Hills East has 255 residential and commercial lots that have septic tanks but used JEA water. The construction will start in January 2022 and is expected to be completed by January 2023. The estimated cost for Beverly Hills East is \$10.7 million.
  - The Christobel neighborhood has 509 lots on septic tank and well water with the estimated cost of \$21.5 million. JEA is conducting outreach in the community to gather the number of residents who want to have their septic tanks and water-well removed. 70% of the residents must agree to the project before starting. The project is presently in need of funding.

Velma Rounsville requested a representative from JEA to speak at a future meeting concerning the septic tank and sewer water project. Mr. Knowles asked Ms. Rounsville for more information regarding her request. Ms. Rounsville will forward more details to Jessica Denson.

- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL):** Julie McNeil, the Executive Assistant of Library Deputy Director, reported the following:
  - All 21 library branches are open.
  - JPL will conduct an Urban Branch Study to improve library services at the Brown Eastside, Bill Brinton- Murray Hill, Brentwood, Dallas Graham, and Westbrook libraries. She encouraged the members to complete the Urban Branch Study online survey or attend one of the community meetings. The purpose of the meetings is to allow the community to provide feedback about use of the library's space. The meeting will include a survey and walk-through of the libraries participating in the study. Ms. McNeil will forward the online survey link to Jessica Denson.
  - Highlands Regional Library, Children's Department is in the process of being renovated.

For more information, visit [www.jaxpubliclibrary.org](http://www.jaxpubliclibrary.org).

Julie McNeil may be reached at (904) 255-6061 or [jmcneil@coj.net](mailto:jmcneil@coj.net).

- **Municipal Code Compliance (MCCD):** Brian Naples, Municipal Code Compliance Supervisor Zone 5, reported 1,880 inspections (473 in the Lackawanna Area) have been completed in the Northwest District. MCCD has completed 11,705 in the Northwest District year to date. There are no systematic inspections in Zone 5 for May. Brian Naples may be reached at (904) 255-7083 or [bnaples@coj.net](mailto:bnaples@coj.net).
- **Public Works (PW):** Chris LeDew, Chief of Traffic Engineering, encouraged the CPAC members to visit Smart Growth America, a nonprofit organization website. The organization issued a report called Dangerous by Design. The report states Jacksonville,

Florida ranked number ten out of the top hundred worst cities in the United States for pedestrian danger and other fatality statistics. Based on cities population, Jacksonville, Florida is tied with the second-worst city for pedestrian danger in the United States. Recently, data show Jacksonville, Florida, as the second-best/most improved city in the United States. Chief LeDew stated regarding pedestrian fatalities, the solution is the four E's (engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency rescue). The Traffic Engineering Division has a Calming Traffic Program that controls the speed of motorists and a Pedestrian Crossing Program that will install marked pedestrian crossings with flashing yellow lights. Chief LeDew asked the CPAC Members to inform him of areas in the Northwest District with serious pedestrian accidents; the Traffic Engineering Division is installing more pedestrian crossing and speed hump in high traffic areas. For more information, visit [www.smartgrowthamerica.org](http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org).

The CPAC members informed Chief LeDew of a concern reported to the CPAC at last month's meeting. CPAC Member Elaine Billups stated she submitted MyJax service request number 200819-000059 on August 19, 2020, requesting a sidewalk replacement at the corner of Logan Street and Minnie Street leading towards Voting Precinct 912. She was informed the sidewalk would be replaced before June 2021, but recently she was told the project would be completed by September 30, 2021. Chief LeDew stated he will ask the appropriate division for the request and will provide an update.

Chief LeDew may be reached at [cle Dew@coj.net](mailto:cle Dew@coj.net) or (904)255-7528

- **Duval County Public Schools (DCPS):** Dana Kriznar, Deputy Superintendent, reported the Florida Standards Assessment to students is waived; however, students were required to take the test to be considered for the waiver. Deputy Superintendent Kriznar announced that Mandarin High School educator Jim Schmitt was selected as a top-five finalist for the state 2021 Teacher of the Year. The winner will be announced in July. The commencement for the 12th-grade students will start May 17, 2021, through the first week of June.

For more information, visit [www.dcps.duvalschools.org](http://www.dcps.duvalschools.org).

Deputy Superintendent Kriznar may be reached at [kriznard@duvalschools.org](mailto:kriznard@duvalschools.org).

- **State Attorney Office:** Brian Jefferson, the liaison for the Community and Law Enforcement, announced the Community Crime Strategy Unit is fully staffed, and he introduced Kiaira Nixon, the new Community Crime Strategies Unit Coordinator.

Kiaira Nixon informed the CPAC members that the Community Crime Strategies Unit's mission is to create community partnerships and liaisons between the law enforcement mechanism and the communities throughout Jacksonville. Ms. Nixon invited the CPAC members to attend the City Council, final Safer Together Workshop on May 21, 2021, at 9:30 p.m. The workshop is open to the public.

Kiaira Nixon may be reached at [knixon@coj.net](mailto:knixon@coj.net) or (904)255-2500

- **Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA):** Cheryl Riddick, Director, Customer Engagement, encouraged the CPAC members to visit the JTA website for complimentary rides to vaccination sites. Ms. Reddick stated JTA is currently hiring for numerous positions. For more information, go to [www.jtafla.com](http://www.jtafla.com). Cheryl Riddick may be reached at (904) 632-5522 or [Criddick@jtafla.com](mailto:Criddick@jtafla.com).

## 10. Public Comments

- Vice-Chair Tyrone Clark- Murray stated each City Council At-Large Members will host a Town Hall Meeting regarding the Local Option Gas Tax. She reminded the members of the importance of the meeting and encouraged CPAC members to participate.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

**The next CPAC Meeting:** Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 6 p.m. 7866 Lincoln Villa Senior Center, 7866 New Kings Rd.

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**The next Land Use and Zoning Meeting:** Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. 7866 Lincoln Villa Senior Center, 7866 New Kings Rd.

**Zoom:** Meeting ID: 945 4736 3670 Passcode: 583430

**Summary prepared by** Jessica Denson, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8260 or [Jcdenson@coj.net](mailto:Jcdenson@coj.net). A copy of the audio recording of this Northwest CPAC meeting is available through a Public Information Request by calling 630-CITY. Details about Public Records can be found on the City's Website: [Public Records](#).

**Under the Americans with Disabilities Act**, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at V (904) 630-4940, TTY-(904) 630-4933, or email your request to [ADAAccommodationRequest@coj.net](mailto:ADAAccommodationRequest@coj.net)