

## **Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**

### **June 12, 2023, Meeting Summary**

Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, Jacksonville, FL 32225

#### **Meeting Attendance:**

**CPAC Members:** Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Pointe HOA; Robert Beckham, Pelican Bay HOA; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Mary Jane Brewer, Live Oak Manor Neighborhood Association; Pamela Brown, Osprey Pointe HOA; Scott Cowitt, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Lenore Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Delmas “Dedee” Harper, POISE, Inc.; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Michael Journey, City Council District 4; Tim Keeley, Chair, Kensington Association; Shelia Litwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Nina Pougliouklidis, Ibis Point Owners Association; Debra Wagner, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA

**Excused:** Michael Corcoran, Kensington HOA; Nicole Hamm, Southern Grove Condominium; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization

**Visitors:** Marion Anglin, Charter Point; Mary Castor; 904-631-6401

**Staff:** Nikki Evans, Executive Council Assistant, At-Large Group 2; Robert Bautochka, Municipal Code Compliance; Mia Brack, JPL; Kathleen Brunner, JPL; Connor Corrigan, Planning and Development Department; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Kevin Jones, JFRD; Steve Long, Public Works; Holli Martin, Mosquito Control Division; Michael Nguyen, JSO; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office; Randy Wishard, Mosquito Control Division

**Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Keeley called the June 2023 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary** – Approval of the April 2023 meeting summary was made with the edit request made by CPAC member Amita Agnihotri to note that the GAB CPAC discussed the insufficient lighting in the PAL parking lot in Ed Austin Regional Park as a CIP recommendation.

**Presentation(s): Cantrece Jones, Acuity Design Group**, informed the CPAC about the COJ Long Term Transportation Plan project called Venture Out Jacksonville.

The City of Jacksonville Transportation Planning Division, which focuses on transportation policy, long-range planning, and project development, is undertaking an outreach effort to identify transportation infrastructure and safety issues throughout Jacksonville. These can range from fixing sidewalks and addressing flooding issues, to potentially identifying new roadways.

This website will allow you to provide feedback to the Transportation Planning Division that will help to identify problems and issues and guide resources to address these issues that residents of the City of Jacksonville are facing in their day-to-day travel. Please visit the interactive map and leave us your thoughts. The web address is: <https://ventureoutjax.com/>

To interact with the map and provide information about a project or issue you would like to see addressed, click on the map, then click on a specific location. A pop-up window will appear with specific information fields allowing you to provide information on your issue.

#### **Elected Officials Report:**

**Nikki Evans, At-Large Group 2, Executive Council Assistant**, provided the following updates:

- Councilmember Salem was elected to serve as City Council President. Those duties will begin on July 1, 2023, and Councilmember Salem is working on a few initiatives to implement.
- Council Vice President Salem's pilot composting program (for Riverside/Avondale restaurants) is working well. Two participants have dropped from the program, but the program is doing so well City Council will investigate extending the program. This program is also catching the attention of other Florida cities.

Ron Salem, City Council Vice President – 255-5216 or [Rsalem@coj.net](mailto:Rsalem@coj.net)

#### **Staff Reports:**

**JSO – Lieutenant Mike Nguyen** announced:

- Zone 2, year to date overall violent crime is down 2.5%, property crime is up 5%. In the past 30 days violent crime is down 21% and property crime is 12%.
- Citywide, auto thefts are up, and the criminals are targeting Kia and Hyundai vehicles. There is a glitch in the vehicle's computer software, that allows the vehicles to be stolen quite easily. Both car manufacturers will offer recalls to update the computer software soon. JSO encourages all Kia and Hyundai owners to take advantage of the recall as soon as possible.
- Lieutenant Nguyen confirmed that JSO does have a process in place to contact the Public Works Department and/or JEA to fix/repair and traffic lights or city owned property after a car accident.

JSO Zone 2 – 630-8166 or [JSOZone2@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:JSOZone2@jaxsheriff.org)

**JFRD – Chief Kevin Jones** shared:

- Hurricane Season is upon us. Early preparedness was encouraged. Everyone was reminded to download the JaxReady app prior to an approach of a storm.
- Confirmed that Duval County has a burn ban 365 days a year. This burn ban excludes backyard grills, meat smokers and small recreational fires. It is illegal to burn in 55-gallon metal drums.
- A Florida State statute changed legislation pertaining to fireworks a couple of years ago. With that change there are three days that it is legal to shoot off fireworks, the Fourth of July, Veteran's Day, and New Year's Eve.
- To prevent a cooking fire, advice was shared for those that cook with a deep fryer. It was stated each time you cook/fry in the same oil in the deep fryer, the boiling temperature of the oil is lowered, and it will warm up faster with each use. To avoid a grease fire, it was recommended to change the oil in deep fryers after a few uses.

Chief Kevin Jones – [Kjones@coj.net](mailto:Kjones@coj.net)

**Jacksonville Public Library (JPL) – Kathleen Brunner and Mia Brack** provided the following updates:

- The Free Summer Lunch program will be offered at the Regency Square Branch Library, Monday through Friday from 12:45 pm to 1:45 pm. The lunch program is for children 18 and under.
- The library will be hosting a Lit Chats with author Beatriz Williams at the Regency Square Branch Library on July 10, 2023, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Please visit the JPL website for complete details or call 904-255-2665.
- JPL offers a summer reading programs for readers of all ages. To learn more about the reading program visit [jaxpubliclibrary.org/summer](http://jaxpubliclibrary.org/summer)

**Neighborhoods, Holli Martin – Mosquito Control** Manager shared the following tips to control mosquitos:

- Remove standing water and cover water storage containers.
- Tip and toss water from anything that can hold water.
- Repair septic tank leaks.
- Clean gutters.
- If there is an influx of mosquito, please call 630-CITY to request to have a mosquito technician to spray your neighborhood for mosquitos.

**FDOT – Derek Dixon** shared the following updates:

- The Arlington Expressway is in the early phases of a resurfacing project. In addition to resurfacing, the project will address drainage issues, complete sidewalk repairs and work on the bridge over Red Bay Branch (on the north side service road). This project should be completed by the summer of 2024.
- The intersection at Atlantic Boulevard and Third Street will receive operational and pedestrian improvements. Some resurfacing will also be completed. This will be completed in Fall 2023.
- Beach Boulevard and Southside Boulevard there is a large-scale interchange project underway, and the project should be completed this summer.
- I-295 (between Beach Boulevard and St. Johns Bluff Road) will be resurfaced, drainage improved, and new guardrails installed. Completion is expected in the Summer of 2024.
- Steel work on the Mathews Bridge will be completed in the next few weeks.
- The Cesery Boulevard Bridge (over the Arlington River) will receive a restoration project; this project will be completed in the Summer of 2024.
- For more information on these projects, visit [NFLRoads.com](http://NFLRoads.com) and click on the active or future links.

**Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD) – Robert Bautochka** shared the following updates:

- In the past 30 days, 1540 inspections were completed, and 164 snipe signs were removed.
- A proactive inspection was completed in the North Beach Community. This generated 43 new cases.
- The Jacksonville Assistance and Relief or JAR program was discussed. The purpose of the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program is to facilitate a means of compliance to those who would otherwise be unable to achieve it due to disability or economic disadvantages. The program’s objective is to provide the abatement services required at no cost to those citizens

who qualify, thereby achieving compliance and beautification of the city while not unduly burdening its most vulnerable citizens.

If you cannot comply with the violations on your property due to a disability or economic hardship, please feel free to visit: <https://www.coj.net/departments/neighborhoods/municipal-code-compliance/jacksonville-assistance-and-relief-program>

- Florida Senate Bill 60 prohibits code inspectors from initiating investigations of potential violations of codes and ordinances by way of anonymous complaints. The tickets will be closed if they are submitted anonymously.

Robert Bautochka – [RBautochka@coj.net](mailto:RBautochka@coj.net)

**Public Works – Steve Long** shared the following updates:

- Everyone was encouraged to keep their storm drains clean so the water can move freely and drain properly. Never put yard waste down the storm drains.
- We are in the rainy season, if you notice a drain that is not functioning properly, please call 630-CITY to report it.
- It is also the growing season, if you see any city owned property that needs to have the grass mowed, please call 630-CITY or use MyJax to submit a request to have the property mowed.
- Director Long confirmed that the Public Works Department has staff on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The department is staffed in this manner to be able to respond/repair the different emergencies that occur all over the city.

Steve Long – [Slong@coj.net](mailto:Slong@coj.net) or 904-255-8786

**Planning and Development Department – Connor Corrigan** – no report

Connor Corrigan – [Ccorigan@coj.net](mailto:Ccorigan@coj.net) or 904-7844

**Subcommittee Reports (3-minute time limit):**

**LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs** – On behalf of Michael Corcoran, Chair Keeley conducted the LUZ Subcommittee meeting. The LUZ subcommittee reviewed three LUZ applications and made a motion on each application. The motions were:

- **Denial of Ordinance# WRF-23-07 / 2023-239** waiver of road frontage from 32 feet to 0 feet at 0 Merrill Road (behind 8300 Merrill Road) and **Denial of 2023-0328** conventional rezoning, PBF-2 to RMD-A at the same location for the following reasons:
  - It creates a bad precedent, opening the area to clutter and that would essentially change the city's comprehensive land use plan.
  - Accessibility:
    1. The present acreage appears to be land locked without access to thoroughfares and would create significant traffic issues and does not make sense to rezone this location.
    2. The current frontage protects the area from overflow traffic.
    3. Rezoning this parcel would change public facilities usage to possible single-family zoning or to multiple family zoning without adequate access to the parcel.

The motion passed unanimously.

- Denial of Ordinance MM-23-13 minor modification to allow the installation of an arched structure spanning the entry/exit driveway, the arch structure would advertise the name of the structure at 13723 Atlantic Boulevard for the following reasons:
  - This proposed sign would create a carnival atmosphere and perhaps begin a competitive drive for future developments signage. It was not part of the approved concept and appears to be too close to the road and a distraction to motorists.
  - The current signage provides adequate identification of the development without going overboard and becoming garish.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Beautification/Parks** – Larry Belge – no report

**Environment** – Lad Hawkins – no report

**Membership** – vacant

**Ad Hoc Committees:**

**North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO)** – Scott Cowitt – no report

**Park Safety Council** – Mary Jane Brewer – no report

**TRUE Commission**- vacant

**Neighborhood Services Office Report** – Rosemary Wesolowski reminded the CPAC that in October, CPAC's will celebrate their 30th Anniversary. To commemorate this milestone, there was a request for any CPAC memorabilia, especially items, pictures, or appointment letters from the 1990's.

The annual Neighborhood Awards Program which is designed to recognize organized and registered neighborhood groups is still accepting applications. Hardcopies of the applications were available, and copies will be emailed again. The deadline to submit an application has been extend to Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

Rosemary Wesolowski – 255-8261 or [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)

**Chairs Report** – Chair Keeley stated he did not have a report but shared a request that was generated from the LUZ Subcommittee meeting. Member Lad Hawkins has requested that GAB CPAC add a Traffic Subcommittee. Chair Keeley led a brief discussion about adding the subcommittee. It was noted that the subcommittee would need to have three members in-person, a subcommittee chair would need to be identified as would a day/time and location for the subcommittee meeting. If you are interested in creating and joining this subcommittee, please let Rosemary know.

**Old Business** - none

**New Business** – CPAC Member Nina Pougliouklidis stated she has plans to schedule a meeting with her new City Councilmember to discuss the challenges their community has faced with maintaining their weir and retention pond(s)/drainage system. It was noted that the maintenance of ponds is a complex and expensive endeavor; a subject matter that most homeowners are unfamiliar with. Ms.

Pougiouklidis stated she would like guidance from her City Councilmember to get in touch with the correct types of construction companies that handle this type of work. Ms. Pougiouklidis will extend an invitation to all the GAB CPAC members when the meeting is finalized.

CPAC Member Nell DeCoursey stated she would like have education and financial assistance from the City of Jacksonville to assist with the maintenance of the ponds and weirs.

**Public Comment** – none

**Motion to Adjourn** – there was a motion and a second; the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, July 10, 2023 - the meeting will be held in-person at Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm and the meeting will be available virtually on Zoom.