

Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

August 23, 2021, Meeting Summary

Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257

Meeting Attendance:

Members: Nancy Barry, Brierwood Neighborhood Association; K. LuCi Bennett, Mandarin Community Club; Joyce Brown, Pine Forest Community Action; Walter Bryant, St. Nicholas Area Preservation; Richard Cardell, The Lakewood Community; Ramon Day, Northwest Quadrant Equity Owners, Inc.; Carol D’Onofrio, Deercreek Owners Association; Sharon Ervin, Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA, Inc; Joanne Parker Griffin, Villa San Jose Civic; Donna Herrin, Sweetwater by Del Webb; Jim Hill, Greater Hood Road Community Association; Ralph Hodges, Council-At-Large Group 4; Abby Howard Murphy, Hampton Glen at Deerwood HOA; Richard Horvath, Cypress Trails HOA Inc.; Debbie Johnson, The Gables HOA; Eric Laner, East Hampton HOA; Joe Luczak, Bartram Springs HOA; Jon Malmind, Oak View Corner Oaks Owners Association; Sherry Marks, Kernan Mills Community Association, Inc.; Kathleen Perera, Alumni Civic Association; Craig Shoup, Council At-Large Group 2; Kathy Soares, Highland Glen HOA; Denise Torres, The Arc Jacksonville Village; Marcie Turner, Kernan Mills Community Association, Inc.; Gary Weise, Secret Cove Civic Association

Excused: Debbie Johnson, The Gables Homeowners Association; Marcie Turner, Kernan Mill Community Association, Inc.

Visitors: Michael Beck; John Nooney; Morgan Roberts; Brandon Anderson, Villa San Jose; Robert Klecak, Timberland Ridge; Rowena Nagales; Gary Monahan; Ann Clapp; Richard Skule

Staff: Danny Becton, City Council District 11; Bradley Clayton, MCCD; Lieutenant Dash, JSO; Chief Davidson, JFRD; Jill Enz, Parks, Recreation and Social Services; Allan Funez, Municipal Code Compliance; Angela Gaff, JSO Recruiting Administrator; Lieutenant Glossman, JSO; Retired/Auxiliary Officer Keith Powers, JSO; Keli Likins, JPL; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Arimus Wells, Planning and Development Department; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office.

Call to Order/Verify Quorum:

Chair D’Onofrio called the SE CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting at the Mandarin Senior Center and on Zoom. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The July 2021 meeting summary was approved by the CPAC.

Presentation(s): Chelsea Kavanagh, Public Information Office, Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT) provided an overview of JAXPORT.

JAXPORT is governed by a seven-member board, has 150 employees at JAXPORT. There are an additional 26,282 jobs that are on the private sector side and indirect private sector maritime jobs reliant on port facilities. In total, JAXPORT has a \$31.1 Billion total economic impact for the region and state.

JAXPORT operates primarily as a landlord, managing the upkeep, improvement and expansion of Port Authority facilities and coordinating their use by private companies. The physical facilities are owned by JAXPORT; this includes docks and wharfs, cranes, a passenger cruise terminal, warehouses, paved open storage areas and road connections to the public highway system. The Port Authority provides and maintains the terminals and their equipment and manages the overall use of the facilities, but not the actual cargo. There are five port terminals in three locations. The terminals are: Blount Island Marine Terminal; Rail Terminal; Dames Point Terminal; Talleyrand Marine Terminal and Downtown Jacksonville.

JAXPORT and its maritime partners handle any type of cargo. The cargo that comes through JAXPORT include:

- Containers - representing about 60 percent of all cargo tonnage handled at JAXPORT, dry and refrigerated containers ranging in length from 20 feet to 53 feet carry a variety of consumer goods. Longshoremen move these boxes via crane from ship to truck and back.
- Roll On-Roll Off (ro/ro): Ro/Ro cargo, including vehicles, construction equipment and recreational boats.
- Breakbulk: Raw materials such as lumber, rolls of paper, wood pulp, pallets of boxed items and steel comprise the breakbulk.
- Liquid bulk: cooking oil, corn syrup, molasses, and other bulk liquids.
- Dry bulk: Dry bulk materials such as limestone and gravel are carried in a ship's hold and poured into piles on port property at Dames Point.
- Project cargo (heavy lift): Specialty cargoes like locomotive engines, air conditioning chillers for skyscrapers, massive rolls of power cable and other "heavy lift" items.

One of the major reasons JAXPORT has had so much success attracting new cargo business, as well as cruise business, is due to the excellent geographic location of Jacksonville. Jacksonville is a one-day truck drive to more than 70 million people and Florida is now the nation's 3rd most populous state, with more than 116 million visitors each year. This is a very attractive market for cargo shippers. In addition, there are three interstates and three railroads servicing our port (I-95 and I-10 intersect in downtown Jacksonville, and I-75 is only about an hour west of us). The railroads are CSX, Norfolk Southern and Florida East Coast Railway. This is attractive to importers and exporters, including U.S. manufacturers needing a major port capable of handling raw materials or finished products.

Recently, the largest ship ever to visit JAXPORT stopped at Blount Island Marine Terminal. The ship was the Cape Sounio and it was over 1,100 feet long. For scale, if you stood this ship on its end, it would stand almost as tall as the Empire State building. These are the size ships which are being deployed in global trade. These huge vessels sit very low in the water, which means they need deeper ship channels in which to operate. Due to the trend of larger vessels, JAXPORT has been working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on a project to deepen the St. Johns River.

After a decade of study, independent review, public input and full regulatory approval, contractors for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began deepening the St. Johns River in February 2018. The project will take the river from its current depth of 40 feet to a final depth of 47 feet. The project is more than halfway completed through to the Blount Island Terminal. The project is authorized to deepen the channel all the way to Dames Point Terminal, but JAXPORT is prioritizing the first 11 miles (through Blount Island) to provide return on investment for the community as soon as possible. Deepening will

not only allow JAXPORT to handle the larger container ships, but also keep JAXPORT competitive with competition from other ports in South Carolina and Georgia, who also are deepening their harbors as well. The deepening is ahead of schedule, and anticipated to be complete in 2022

In addition to deepening the harbor, JAXPORT has invested in other upgrades to their facilities to remain competitive. The enhancement projects include:

- Berth enhancements will be completed around the same time as the deepening project.
- There will be two newly reconstructed 1,200-foot-long container berths capable of simultaneously accommodating two post-Panamax vessels.
- The berths are electrified to handle a total of 10 state-of-the-art environmentally friendly electric-powered 100-gauge container cranes, including three currently in use.
- Deepening also includes construction of a vessel turning basin to allow larger ships to turn at Blount Island.

JAXPORT is still a port for cruise service. JAXPORT has a three-year contract with Carnival Cruise lines. Before the Covid-19 outbreak, 200,000 cruise passengers annually departed from Jacksonville. JAXPORT expects the first cruise ship to set sail from Jacksonville on October 31, 2021. This will be the first cruise to sail since March of 2020.

Ms. Kavanagh was available for questions and encouraged everyone to visit [www. JAXPORT.com](http://www.JAXPORT.com) to learn more about them.

Elected Officials Report:

Danny Becton, City Council District 11 –informed the CPAC members and attendees that:

- This week will be the last week of budget hearings. So far it has all be going very smoothly.
- It appears that the trash transfer station that was proposed at Columbia Park will not happen.
- The Special Committee on Redistricting has formed. Council Member Becton is serving as the Vice Chair of this special committee and Bill Killingsworth, Director of Planning and Development and his staff will serve as the Redistricting Consultant for the committee. The process is slightly behind schedule as the Census data was released a little late. The committee has a 30-day deadline for submission of a proposed plan. Census numbers has revealed that two city council district that are in the SE CPAC boundaries grew the most in the past 10 years. City Council District 11 has grown by 90,000 people followed by City Council District 4 which grew by 76,000 people. Council Member Becton provided an overview of the guidelines that the committee must follow to complete redistricting. The Special Committee on Redistricting meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be held tomorrow, August 24, 2021, 1-3 pm in City Council Chambers.

Council Member Becton – Dbecton@coj.net or 904-255-5211

Staff Reports:

JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) – Lieutenant Dash provided Zone 3 (Southeast) crime statistic for the past 30 days. Overall, all crime is down; except there has been an increase in auto burglaries. Everyone

was encouraged to participate in the 9 pm Routine; remember to remove valuables and firearms from your unattended vehicles. Remember to lock your car doors when you are not in the vehicle.

Lieutenant Dash announced that this would be his last SE CPAC meeting and he introduced Lieutenant Randi Glossman, she will be his replacement at the CPAC meetings.

Angela Gaff, Recruiting Administrator, JSO and Auxiliary Officer Keith Jowers spoke to the CPAC about the need for School Crossing Guards. In Jacksonville, School Crossing Guards are employed by the Sheriff's Office and are assigned to roadways near elementary schools throughout the city to assist children in traveling to and from school safely. School Crossing Guards are part-time employees, who work one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon for a maximum of 10 hours a week and receive \$10.75 an hour. It is preferred that the applicant's home address be in a reasonable proximity to the location of the position, to avoid excessive and costly travel time. Please call 904.885.5518 or email JSOCivilianRecruiter@jaxsheriff.org to learn more. Ms. Gaff also announced that JSO is hiring across the board, please visit the JSO website to learn about more positions.

There were questions about shoots being fired at the intersection of Southside Boulevard and Baymeadows Road and at Fort Family Regional Park. Lieutenant Dash requested the case numbers associated with the incidents/shoots to review and provide an update.

Zone 3 substation – 8875 Liberty Ridge Drive, Suite 110, 32256 – 904-828-5463

JFRD – Captain Davidson announced construction on new Fire Station 63 is expected to be completed by the end of September. Plans are in place to build Fire Station 74; this fire station will be built off 9B.

The CPAC was reminded that we are heading into the peak of hurricane season, and everyone was encouraged to download the JaxReady app. The app will help you monitor weather threats and plan for evacuation in the event of a natural disaster.

Captain Davidson informed the CPAC that the Regeneron Clinic has opened at the Main Library, 304 North Main Street, 32202. The site is open seven days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Free parking is available at the library parking garage located at 33 West Duval Street, 32202 or at the specifically bag parking meeting on Duval Street and Monroe Street. Appointments are not required but patients can register ahead of time at www.patientportalfl.com

JPL – Keli Likins, South Regional Manager, announced that JPL will host an Author Talk /Lit Chat at the Willow Branch Library and on Zoom, Tuesday, September 14, 2021. The featured author is Michael Ray Fitzgerald and he will discuss his new book *Jacksonville and the Roots of Southern Rock*. Seating is limited, pre-registration for booth in-person and Zoom participation is required.

Keli Likins – Klikins@coj.net

JTA – Cheryl Riddick – stated Gameday Xpress has returned for Jaguars games. Service begins two hours before kickoff and operates one hour after the game ends. Gameday Xpress passes may be purchased in advance at 904-630-3110, online at www.jtafla.com, via the MyJTA mobile ticketing application.

Cheryl Riddick -904-632-5522 or criddick@jtafla.com

Municipal Code Compliance Division – Bradley Clayton stated throughout the SE District this month over 1200 inspections were completed.

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 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>

Mr. Bradley reminded the CPAC about State Bill 60 (SB 60). SB 60 amends the county and municipal code enforcement statutes to prohibit county and municipal code inspectors and code enforcement officers from initiating an investigation into violations of city or county codes or ordinances based upon an anonymous complaint. It also requires that an individual making a complaint of a potential violation provide his or her name and address to the local government body before an investigation may occur.

The prohibition does not apply if the code inspector or code enforcement officer has reason to believe the alleged violation presents an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare or imminent destruction of habitat or sensitive resources. The Bill went into effect July 1, 2021.

Bradley Clayton – bclayton@coj.net

Parks, Recreation and Community Services – Jill Enz provided the following updates:

- All Senior Citizen Centers in Duval County are open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you need transportation to one of the Senior centers, please call 255-6828.
- The Jacksonville Senior Games, an Olympic-style event series is designed for mature athletes to participate on a competitive level and to promote healthy and active lifestyles for First Coast seniors. The games will be held September 24 - October 2, 2021, pre-registration is required.
- The Duval Extension Office is a part of the City of Jacksonville Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department and they are offering a lot of programs. To learn more about the programs available, please visit <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/duval/>
- The Mandarin Museum located at the Walter Jones Historical Park is currently closed and under construction. The museum will be expanded to include a larger exhibit about the Maple leaf steamboat and to house archive material.
- Mandarin Park will get an adoptive ADA compliant kayak launch; construction will begin mid fall. Additionally, the boater access dock will be expanded; upon completion it will be double its current size.
- Palmetto Leaves Regional Park hiking trail has been expanded. The hiking trail now connects the north and south entrances to the park.
- Julington – Durbin Creek Preserve parking lot expansion has been completed.
- Walter Anderson Memorial Park (formerly Flynn Park) pickleball courts are completed
- Cuba Hunter Park has a new playground for children and musical play equipment.

- It was confirmed that the Henry T. Jones Community Center they are in the design process, and it should reopen in late 2022 or early 2023.

Jill Enz- jenz@coj.net

Planning & Development Department – Arimus Wells did not have a report but was available for questions.

Arimus Wells – 904-255-7824 or ArimusW@coj.net

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports (3-minute time limit):

LUZ– Joanne Parker Griffin and the LUZ Subcommittee reviewed 9 LUZ applications. No motions or recommendations were made by the LUZ Subcommittee.

North Florida TPO – Jim Hill – At the August NFTPO CAC meeting one item in the Southeast District was discussed. Construction of a left turn lane from Kernan Boulevard onto J. Turner Butler (SR 202) was moved up and is expected to be completed in 2022.

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Ramon Day informed the CPAC that the TRUE Commission reviews a few audits each month and this past month they had concerns with five of the audits. The concerns varied from COJ staff not following protocol to items not clearing their accounts. There is also a concern about the CARES Act and ARP funded project. The TRUE Commission has requested a list of projects/items that were funded with this revenue source. The TRUE Commission continue to review JSO. Areas of concern include risk management; accidents involving staff and vehicles; under staffing and training. The peer city comparative analysis of JSO and with 11 other law enforcement agencies continues. At recent meetings, the TRUE Commission has received several public comments/concerns. Most recently, there was public comment that expressed concern about the proposed bonuses to COJ staff and the funding of a special parks committee.

Neighborhood Coordinator Report – Rosemary Wesolowski – reminded the CPAC that it was time to form the Nomination Subcommittee. We need to have three individuals to form a subcommittee. If you are interested in participating in the subcommittee, please contact Rosemary. At the November 2021 CPAC meeting, we will elect the 2022 CPAC Chair and Vice Chair. Rosemary also introduced member Walter Bryant as the SE CPAC Park Safety Committee representative and today was their first meeting. On the September 2021 meeting agenda, Mr. Bryant will be added to the agenda to provide a report.

Rosemary Wesolowski 904-255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net

Chairs Report – Chair D’Onofrio stated she attended the quarterly meeting with the Mayor’s Staff and received clarification on a few topics. The SE CPAC will continue to meet at the Mandarin Senior Center. The CPAC meetings will continue to be held in a hybrid manner. The CPAC Executive Order and By-laws have not been updated. All of the CPAC Chairs have requested that one sentence be changed so the Zoom attendees can vote on CPAC issues. Redistricting and the size of CPAC district were discussed. All of the CPAC Chairs expressed their concern about the missed collection of yard waste throughout their districts. The Mayor’s staff shared that the missed collections have their attention, and they are working on the problem. Lastly, political campaigning at CPAC meetings was discussed. Campaigning will not be allowed. During the Public Comment portion of a meeting, a candidate can introduce themselves and announce what position they are running for, but nothing else.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business: - None

Public Comment – Visitor John Nooney stated he wanted to inform the CPAC about an environmental issue that is occurring the Greater Arlington Beaches District. Mr. Nooney stated silt is currently being pumped into wetlands along Pottsburg Creek. Developers working on a project for a Wawa gas station on Baymeadows Road needed fresh dirt and a place to dump the soil from the build site. The land behind several homes on Grove Park Boulevard was purchased to swap the soil. Council Member Carrico will host a Town Hall meeting to address the concern of the neighbors and those concerned about the environment.

Member Craig Shoup informed the CPAC about the joint Jacksonville Bar Association, Vets4Vets, and Vietnam Veterans Association (VVA) event to provide Vietnam Veterans the welcome home that many never received. The event will be held on Sunday, November 14, 2021, at Vystar Veterans Memorial Arena from 1 – 3 p.m. Rocky Bleier, Vietnam Veteran and Pittsburg Steeler Superbowl Champion will be the guest speaker. Free lunch and parking in lot Z for Veterans and their families. A flyer will be sent to Rosemary to share with the CPAC.

Motion to Adjourn –

The next meeting of the District 3 CPAC will be a hybrid meeting on Monday, September 27, 2021, at 6:30 pm. Join us at the at the Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, 32257 in person or virtually on Zoom.