

Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

June 26, 2023, Meeting Summary

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

Meeting Attendance:

Members: Susan Bailey, Linkside Baymeadows; Joyce Brown, Pine Forest Community Action Corp.; Walter Bryant, St. Nicholas Area Preservation; Richard Cardell, The Lakewood Community; Ryan Colvin, Bayard Community Association; Ramon Day, Timberland Ridge HOA, Inc.; Carol D’Onofrio, Deercreek Owners Association; Carol Eichling, Village Green Two Condo Association; Jose Gonzalez, Mandarin Community Center; Joanne Griffin, Villa San Jose Civic Association; Blake Hakimian, Northwest Quadrant Equity Owners; Donna Herrin, Sweetwater by Del Webb; William Herron, Shiloh Creek; Jim Hill, Greater Hood Road Community Association; Rich Horvath, Cypress Trails HOA, Inc.; Abby Howard Murphy, Hampton Glen at Deerwood HOA; Steven Hutra, East Hampton HOA; Debbie Johnson, The Gables Homeowners Association; Dolores Landrum, Campfield Masters Homeowners Association; Andrea Letizia, Williamstown HOA; Joe Luczak, Bartram Springs HOA; Jon Malmind, Oak View Corner Oaks Owners Association; Sherry Marks, Kernan Mills Community Association; Kathleen Perera, Alumni Civic Association; Craig Shoup, Council At-Large Group 2; Kathy Soares, Highland Glen HOA; Marcie Turner, Kernan Mill Community Association, Inc.; Gary Weise, Secret Cove Civic Association

Excused: Nancy Barry, Brierwood Neighborhood Association; Cliff Green, The Arc Jacksonville Village; John Reed, Linkside at Baymeadows

Visitors: Linda Becton; John Nooney; Sharyn Myles, LMHOA; Richard Skule; Ann Clapp; 904-631-5782; Karen Smith

Staff: The Honorable Danny Becton, District 11; The Honorable Michael Boylan, District 6; Lieutenant J. Brennock, JSO; Kaysie Cox, Planning and Development; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Joe Johnson, District 11, Executive Council Assistant; Kevin Jones, JFRD; Chiquita Moore, Neighborhoods Department; Paul Soares, DCPS; Jackie Spiritas, JPL; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office; John Williams, Municipal Code Compliance

Call to Order/Verify Quorum:

Chair Griffin 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 May 2023 summary was approved.

Presentation(s): **Garold Smith, Acuity Design Group**, informed the CPAC about the Parks Master Plan Update.

The City of Jacksonville, in partnership with GAI Consultants, is updating the Jacksonville Parks Master Plan to create a 10-year vision for the City’s future parks system. By developing recommendations and action plans that improve, grow, and maintain the City’s parks, trails, and recreations facilities, the Plan will help the City continue providing recreation options to the Jacksonville community.

The new Master Plan will examine the parks system's needs and address social and environmental resilience, climate adaptation, build social capital, and enhance social cohesion.

The first phase of the Jacksonville Parks Master Plan was completed in 2022. During the first phase, the project team assessed the existing conditions of the park system and developed a list of improvement priorities. The second phase has just started. During the second phase, public input will be instrumental to compiling the recommendations that will be a part of the final recommendations.

Public input will be obtained through CPAC meetings, City Council Townhall meetings, Public Workshops, and an online survey. The web address for the survey is: www.imaginejaxparks.com

The Jacksonville Parks Master Plan update contacts are:

- Daryl Joseph, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, (904) 255-7907 or DJoseph@coj.net
- Jill Enz, Chief of Natural and Marine Resources, (904) 255-7907 or JEnz@coj.net
- Cantrece Jones, Public Involvement, 904-619-8605 or hello@adgmark.com

The final Master Plan is expected to be completed by Summer 2024.

Elected Officials Report:

The Honorable Michael Boylan, District 6, shared the following updates:

- The playground equipment at Rogers Park and the Tommy Hazouri Sr. Park has been removed. Installment of new playground equipment is underway at Rogers Park and installation of new playground equipment at Tommy Hazouri Sr. Park will follow.
- Work is underway to straighten Orange Picker Road. With the additional land created from this road project, Alberts Field will receive additional parking and a dog park.
- Council Member Ron Salem, At-Large Group 2, will serve as the 2023/2024 City Council President.
- City Council members and their staff will take a break during the first two weeks of July.
- On Monday, July 17, 2023, Mayor Deegan will present the 2023/2024 City of Jacksonville Budget to City Council.

Michael Boylan – 904-255-5206 or MBoylan@coj.net

The Honorable Danny Becton, District 11, reflected on his past eight years of service in office and his past 20 years involvement with the SE CPAC. Council Member Becton was proud of his accomplishment that include two new fire stations, numerous road projects, a new bridge, several pieces of legislation, numerous improvements to several District 11 parks and the acquisition of land for two future parks. SE CPAC Vice Chair Craig Shoup presented Council Member Becton with a commemorative thank you gift. The CPAC meeting took a brief break to thank Council Member Becton personally and to partake in some refreshments.

Staff Reports:

CPAC Chair Griffin recognized that Charles Moreland, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, City of Jacksonville was in attendance, and he stated he did not have a report.

JSO – Lieutenant J. Brennock, stated in Zone 3 crime statistics are looking very good overall. JSO is in the education phase of new solicitation laws. Everyone was encouraged to continue reporting panhandling to the JSO non-emergency number at 904-630-0500. The officer clarified that new concealed carry legislation will go into effect on July 1, 2023.

Zone 3 Substation – 904-828-5463

JFRD – Chief Kevin Jones, provided the following updates:

- Hurricane season is here, and it is time to prepare and develop a plan for your home and family.
- Everyone was encouraged to stock up on non-perishables items (food, water, batteries, medication, pet supplies) and follow the guidance and warnings provided by the experts if a storm develops.
- Legislation was changed a couple years ago to allow the use of fireworks on July 4th, Veteran’s Day, and New Years Eve. Be safe if lighting fireworks at home.
- There is a year-round ban on burning. This excludes recreational fires (in a fire pit or chimenea) and the use of a bar-b-que grill (which should be 10 feet from your house).
- Charging Lithium-Ion batteries was mentioned. Do not charge Lithium-Ion batteries overnight or unattended. Everyone was encouraged to verify that they are only using batteries that are UAL certified.

Chief Kevin Jones – Kjones@coj.net

Neighborhoods – Chiquita Moore, Director, shared the following updates:

- Recognized Council Member Becton and Deputy Chief Administrator Charles Moreland for their dedication to the City of Jacksonville.
- Animal Care and Protective Services (ACPS) will celebrate National Pet Adoption Week with free pet adoptions. There will be a \$20 pet licensing fee.
- There are volunteer opportunities at the ACPS. Call 630-CITY or visit the shelter at 2020 Forest Street, 32204 for a volunteer application.
- Everyone was encouraged to use 630-CITY or use the MyJax app to report concerns and issues in their neighborhood.
- To request Mosquito Control to inspect or spray your property and/or neighborhood contact 630-CITY and an operator will assist you. Due to environmental impacts, certain justifications must be met before they can spray your community. This evaluation will be conducted to meet the criteria established by the Duval County Health Department.
- The Neighborhoods Department is hopeful that the Matching Grant program will be offered this year. The application process typically opens in either October or November, with the application submittal deadline in December.

Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) – Paul Soares, informed the CPAC that:

- Thanks to the funds generated by the Half Cent Sales Tax increase, all Duval Public Schools (that will not be demolished) have received security and safety enhancements. The safety enhancements include security vestibules, many cameras, parking bollards, lighting, and fencing.
- All classroom doors have locks installed that can be locked automatically if there is an incident.
- New interior and exterior loudspeakers were installed for emergency situations.
- All deferred building maintenance issues will be corrected.
- The first new school/rebuild to come open will be Rutledge H. Pearson elementary school. The new school will combine Henry F. Kite, Martin Luther King Jr., and Rutledge H. Pearson elementary schools into one large elementary school. This school is the prototype for all new elementary schools.
- Southside Estates Elementary School will be rebuilt. This rebuild will combine Southside Elementary and Windy Hills Elementary with a total of 1000 students. The new school is expected to open in August 2024.
- In 2025, a new wing at Mandarin High School will be completed. Once the new wing has been completed, all portable classrooms will be removed from the school.
- Loretto Elementary will receive a modernization update, but the historic front of the school will be maintained.
- A new elementary school will be constructed in the Bartram Park/Bartram Springs area in 2030.
- In 2031, Atlantic Coast High School will have a new wing constructed. Until the construction is completed, portable classrooms will be added to better accommodate the students.
- There is a national search for a new Superintendent.

FDOT – Derek Dixon, provided updates on the following FDOT projects:

- Construction on Beach Boulevard (from Southside Boulevard to Eve Drive) is expected to be completed by the end of summer 2023.
- Philips Highway resurfacing (University Boulevard to Baymeadows Road) is expected to be completed by the summer of 2024.
- San Jose Boulevard (I-295 to Julington Creek) was landscaped; this project was recently completed.
- A large-scale interchange improvement project is underway at J. Turner Boulevard (S.R. 202) and Kernan Boulevard. This project will include new exit/entrance ramps, additional lanes, lighting, and signage. The speed limit has been lowered to 55 mph in the construction zone. This project is expected to be completed in 2025.
- The intersection improvement at Southside Boulevard (S.R. 115) and Gate Parkway should be completed by the end of summer 2023.
- Lighting improvements are expected on U.S. 1; these improvements should be completed by winter 2023.
- Currently an intersection improvement project is underway at the intersection of Beach Boulevard and St. Johns Bluff Road. This project is expected to be completed spring 2024.

- A pedestrian safety project was started at the intersection of Beach Boulevard and Hodges Boulevard. This project is expected to be completed in late 2023.
- The resurfacing of Southside Boulevard (from J. Turner Butler Boulevard to the Avenues Mall) has gone out to bid. FDOT is hopeful the project will begin Fall 2023.
- Mr. Dixon encouraged the CPAC members to visit www.NFLRoads.com for more information and updates on local FDOT projects.

JPL – Jackie Spiritas, Regional Manager, on behalf of Eric Soriano, shared the following information:

- Summer learning and summer reading programs for all age groups will begin on June 1st and ends on August 12th.
- There is a large variety of summer programs at each library. Please visit any library for details on summer programming. Or for more details on branch-specific programming, please visit www.jaxpubliclibrary.org/summer

Eric Soriano – esoriano@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance Division – John Williams, Zone 3 Supervisor, stated in the past 30 days, Code Compliance Officers completed 860 inspections and conducted a commercial corridor inspection on Emerson Street which generated 31 new cases with 44 violations.

Snipe Signs: Code Compliance Officers actively remove litter (snipe) signs and fine those responsible for placing litter (snipe) signs in the wrong locations. Fines for litter (snipe) signs range from \$50 to \$500. Citizens can remove and dispose of illegally placed litter (snipe) signs or call 630-CITY to request to have the signs removed.

If you have an old Code Enforcement concern or complaint that was reported to 630-CITY and you are dissatisfied how it was handled, please send an email to: codeenforcement@coj.net. Please include the case number/reference number, the address where the concern is located, explain why you do not like how the issue was handled, provide your contact information and a Code Compliance Officer will contact you to discuss the issue.

The Jacksonville Assistance and Relief or JAR program was reviewed. 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. 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.

John Williams – 904-255-7000

Planning & Development Department – Kaysie Cox - no report

Kaysie Cox – 904-255-7853 or KaysieC@coj.net

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

LUZ– Craig Shoup – stated the subcommittee reviewed four new LUZ applications and no motions or recommendations were made.

North Florida TPO – Jim Hill – no report

Park Safety Council – Walter Bryant – stated there was a Park Safety Council meeting today, but they did not have a quorum. The Park Safety Council is currently missing three members. Once new members are added, the council can resume conducting business. Until that time, the remaining council members will continue to review safety inspections. Currently in the Southeast District there are 60 park violation; none of the violations are significant.

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Ramon Day stated that TRUE Commission met on June 8, 2023, and the commission worked on revising their by-laws. At this time, the TRUE Commission is hoping that the new administration and city council will fill all the vacant positions. Mr. Day stated that he personally continues to work on funding for JSO. Additionally, Mr. Day feels that the lack of defined benefit system is also a hinderance to hiring and retaining new JSO officers.

Neighborhood Coordinator Report – Rosemary Wesolowski reminded the CPAC about the upcoming Neighborhood Awards Program that will occur in October this year. Hard copies of the award nomination forms are available on the sign in table.

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

Chairs Report – Chair Griffin presented new member packets to Carol Eichling, representing Village Green Two Condo Association and Andrea Litzia, representing Williamstown HOA. Welcome to the SE CPAC Carol and Andrea!

Chair Griffin reminded the CPAC members that the CPAC will skip a presentation at the July 2023 CPAC to create a shorter meeting to be followed by dinner out as a CPAC. The CPAC will meet at Leci’s Italian Restaurant on Philips Highway immediately following the July meeting.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business: - None

Public Comment – Visitor John Nooney reminded the CPAC that his home is on Pottsburg Creek which is Category 1 wetlands and next to a FEMA house. Mr. Nooney expressed concern for the lack of access for those that canoe or kayak. It was recommended that waterfront park land and waterfront launch areas are needed citywide. Mr. Nooney brought a container of fiddler crabs to show the CPAC. Mr. Nooney also commented on the new marine fire station that will be located off Scott Mill Road.

Motion to Adjourn – there was a motion to adjourn and a second.

The next meeting of the District 3 CPAC will be a hybrid meeting on **Monday, July 24, 2023**, at 6:30 pm. Join us in-person at the at the Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, 32257 or virtually on Zoom.