

## **Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**

### **September 25, 2023, Meeting Summary**

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

#### **Meeting Attendance:**

**Members:** Susan Bailey, Linkside Baymeadows; Nancy Barry, Brierwood Neighborhood Association; 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; Cliff Green, The Arc Jacksonville Village; Joanne Griffin, Villa San Jose Civic Association; Donna Herrin, Sweetwater by Del Webb; William Herron, Shiloh Creek; Jim Hill, Greater Hood Road Community Association; Scott Koslowski, James Island Homeowners Association; Joe Luczak, Bartram Springs HOA; Jon Malmind, Oak View Corner Oaks Owners Association; Sherry Marks, Kernan Mills Community Association; Rowena Nagales, Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA; 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:** 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; Kathleen Perera, Alumni Civic Association

**Visitors:** John Nooney; MJ Beck, MSC; Elizabeth Filippelli; Fred Atwill; Andrew Lisella, Wells Creek HOA; Jacqueline Parenteau; Shelley Heaney, PPCA; Rebecca Bullard, e-Town; Matt Igou; MJB; Ann Clapp; 904-660-4021; Ricard Skule

**Staff:** The Honorable Raul Arias, City Council District 11; Lieutenant J.R. Brannock, JSO; Jared Chemay, Municipal Code Compliance; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Captain C.R. Johnson, JFRD; Paul Soares, DCPS; Eric Soriano, JPL; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office

#### **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 August 2023 summary was approved.

**Presentation(s):** David Johnston, Office of Inspector General, Director of Audit, informed the CPAC about the duties of the Office of Inspector General.

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) is authorized in the City Charter and was established to:

- Provide independent oversight of publicly funded activities, transactions, and other local government operations.
- Investigate, audit, and provide contract oversight to promote economies and efficiencies; improve agency operation; and prevent and deter fraud, waste, and abuse.

- Receive, review, and investigate any complaints regarding projects, programs, contacts, or transactions of any office, agency, department, or part of the entire consolidated government.
- The OIG jurisdiction includes the offices and employees of the Consolidated Government of the City of Jacksonville, its Constitutional Officers, and Independent Agencies.

Items to be reported to the OIG include fraud, waste in government, potential fraud, or abuse. The OIG conducts presentations and trainings designed to inform the citizens of the OIG's role and responsibility. To request a presentation or training, please call 904-255-5800.

Audit, Contract Oversight, and Investigative Reports are available for review on the OIG website:

<https://www.coj.net/departments/inspector-general/reports>

### **Elected Officials Report:**

**The Honorable Raul Arias, District 11**, shared the following updates:

- One of his first priorities since taking office is to obtain funding for the installation of a traffic light at the intersection of Wells Creek Parkway and U. S. 1 (Philips Highway). The full City Council will discuss and vote on \$1.3 million requested for the traffic light installation project tomorrow night.
- Councilmember Arias is working on a bill to mitigate homelessness in Jacksonville.
- Councilmember Arias has met with Baymeadows Community Improvement District (BCID) and future meetings are planned. In the future, Councilmember Arias will extend an invitation to Mayor Deegan to meet with BCID.

Raul Arias – 904-255-5211 or [AriasR@coj.net](mailto:AriasR@coj.net)

### **Staff Reports:**

**JSO – Lieutenant Brannock**, shared the following information:

- Crime statistics are down in all crime categories except property crimes. Thefts from parked vehicles and theft from businesses remain a problem district wide.
- Everyone was encouraged to participate in the 9 pm Routine. Please keep your vehicles locked if you are not in them. Never store valuables in your car, especially firearms.

Zone 3 Substation – 904-828-5463

**JFRD – Captain Charles Johnson**, informed the CPAC that local fire hydrants are painted specific colors to indicate the water flow volume the hydrant can produce. This is vital information to the firefighters when they need to use a fire hydrant. Captain Johnson encouraged homeowners not to paint the hydrants in their community. It was confirmed that JEA monitors and maintains all fire hydrants.

Captain Johnson – [JohnsonC@coj.net](mailto:JohnsonC@coj.net) or 904-255-8560

**Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) – Paul Soares**, shared the following updates:

- Announced his retirement from DCPS. Mr. Soares will transition his duties to his successor over the next few weeks.

- Due to the DCPS Master Facilities Plan, a new school will be built to consolidate the Southside Estates Elementary and Windy Hills Elementary. The new school will come online in April 2024 and will provide classroom space for 1000 students.
- Another part of the master facilities plan is to build additional wings/classrooms to various schools so the portable classrooms can be removed. In the Southeast District, Mandarin High School will be the first school to receive the newly constructed addition.
- Loretto Elementary School is under renovation and the project is expected to be completed by August 2025.
- Englewood Elementary and Spring Park Elementary schools will also be consolidated. Construction should begin in late 2024.
- There is still a teacher and bus driver shortage. DCPS and the local school bus companies are hiring.

Duval County Public Schools - <https://dcps.duvalschools.org/>

**FDOT- Derek Dixon** – The State of Florida is celebrating its eighth annual statewide Mobility Week from October 27 through November 4, 2023. During this week, counties, cities, and transportation agencies will host events and offer special promotions to encourage Floridians to try new transportation options. To learn more about the program visit:

<https://www.fdot.gov/projects/mobilityweek/mobilityweek2023.shtm>

**JPL – Eric Soriano**, shared the following information:

- The Americans and the Holocaust national touring exhibit sponsored by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is still at the Main library. If you haven't done so, please register for a free docent-led tour at the Main Library until the exhibit's last day on October 12, 2023.
- September is National Library Card sign-up month. You may sign up in person or online at [jaxpubliclibrary.org](http://jaxpubliclibrary.org) and click "Get a Library Card"
- Automatic Renewals - Jacksonville Public Library has started automatically renewing borrowed materials for you as the due date approaches; this service began on August 1, 2023. Three days before an item is due, the library will attempt to renew the item(s). If successful, your loan period will be extended from the existing due date. If the item is unsuccessfully renewed, you will continue to receive notices about upcoming due dates and overdue items. For more information about Automatic Renewals, please visit:

<https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/blog/automatic-renewals-jacksonville-public-library>

Eric Soriano – [esoriano@coj.net](mailto:esoriano@coj.net)

**Municipal Code Compliance Division – Jared Chemay on behalf John Williams, Zone 3 Supervisor**, stated in the past 30 days, Code Compliance Officers completed 635 inspections. A pro-active inspection was completed on University Boulevard. The section of University Boulevard inspected began at I-95 and ended at Beach Boulevard. This corridor inspection generated 32 new cases.

If you have an old Code Enforcement concern or complaint that was reported to 630-CITY and you are dissatisfied with how it was handled, please send an email to: [codeenforcement@coj.net](mailto: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](mailto:KaysieC@coj.net)

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

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

**North Florida TPO – Jim Hill** – no report

**Park Safety Council – Walter Bryant** – no report

**TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission** – Ramon Day – no report

**Neighborhood Coordinator Report – Rosemary Wesolowski** – informed the CPAC that one additional subcommittee member is needed to form the Nomination Subcommittee. Nominations are still needed. Please submit your nominations to Rosemary to be shared with the subcommittee members.

The upcoming Neighborhood Awards Program and the CPAC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2023, at the Main Library, 303 Laura Street, 32202. Invitations will be sent soon. All that plan to attend the event must RSVP.

Currently, we are waiting to hear back from the Mandarin Senior Center about room availability for the December 2023 SE CPAC meeting.

Rosemary Wesolowski 904-255-8261 or [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)

**Chairs Report – Chair Griffin** asked if any of the CPAC members had a presentation request or a topic that would like to learn about at a future meeting. Please send your request to Rosemary.

**Unfinished Business** – None

**New Business:** - None

**Public Comment –**

- Visitor Elizabeth Filippelli, Bird Friendly Program, Light Out Northeast Florida, introduced herself and the program. Lights Out Northeast Florida is a national initiative to encourage business owners, building managers and homeowners to turn off or reduce artificial lighting at night to ensure birds safe passage during their migration in the spring and fall. If you would like to learn more about the topic or request a presentation, please email the organization at [lightsoutnf@gmail.com](mailto:lightsoutnf@gmail.com)
- John Nooney expressed his concern about an LUZ application, 2023-0594 to rezone 39 acres to permit up to 640 multi-family dwelling units. Mr. Nooney stated 17 of the 39 acres are wetlands. Mr. Nooney mentioned the raw sewage was spilled into Pottsburg Creek at a JEA lift station and has exacerbated the water quality problem. This is a great concern as Mr. Nooney lives on Pottsburg Creek.

**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, October 23, 2023**, at 6:30 pm. Join us in-person at the at the Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, 32257 or virtually on Zoom.