



**RENEW ARLINGTON COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT  
AREA ADVISORY BOARD**

City Hall at St. James  
117 West Duval Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Conference Room 2C  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Wednesday, July 10, 2019 – 3:30 p.m.

**RENEW ARLINGTON COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA (RA/CRA)  
ADVISORY BOARD**

**Wednesday, July 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** City Hall at St. James, located at 117 West Duval Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Conference Room 2C, Jacksonville, FL 32202

**RA/CRA Advisory Board Members Present:** Advisory Board Chair Matt Tuohy; Danyuell Newkirk; Delmas Harper, Stephen Matchett

**Staff Present:** Kirk Wendland, OED Executive Director; Karen Nasrallah, Redevelopment Manager; Angie Slayton Recording Secretary

**Advisory Board Members Absent:** Randall Goodwin, Vice Chair, Raj Adhikari

**Representing the Office of General Counsel:** Susan Grandin

**Others Present:** Ron Salem-Councilmember, Joyce Morgan – Councilmember, Alan Varnes, Joan Varnes, Taylor Mejia, Jim Gilmore, Laurie Santana, Josh Reichert, Chester Aikens, Margaret Dees

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum was confirmed and Chair M. Tuohy called the Renew Arlington Community Redevelopment Area (RA/CRA) Advisory Board meeting to order at approximately 3:32 p.m.

**II. ACTION ITEMS**

**APPROVAL OF THE MAY 1, 2019 RENEW ARLINGTON COMMUNITY  
REDEVELOPMENT AREA (RA/CRA) ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

***A MOTION WAS MADE BY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER S. MATCHETT AND  
SECONDED BY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER D. HARPER APPROVING THE MAY 1,  
2019 RENEW ARLINGTON COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA (RA/CRA)  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 4-0.***

**APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 17, 2019 RENEW ARLINGTON COMMUNITY  
REDEVELOPMENT AREA (RA/CRA) ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

***A MOTION WAS MADE BY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER S. MATCHETT AND SECONDED BY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER D. HARPER APPROVING THE JUNE 17, 2019 RENEW ARLINGTON COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA (RA/CRA) ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 4-0.***

**Review of the Complete Streets Scope of Work and Fee Proposal**

Ms. Nasrallah welcomed Laurie Santana, Chief of Transportation Planning, and Josh Reichert, Metric Engineering, and provided some background on their expertise on the Complete Streets Project. Ms. Nasrallah reported that we should have some idea of a grant award in the fall for the Highway Transportation Grant where Metric Engineering assisted on the application for Merrill Road.

Mr. Josh Reichert, Metric Engineering, provided a presentation on the Merrill Road Comprehensive Study. There have been several partial traffic studies conducted in this area. The largest concern for this area is pedestrian safety. This includes, lighting, sidewalks, ADA standards and bicycle lanes. Mr. Reichert advised the current study will take about one year to complete and will include mobility, operational efficiency and safety.

Councilman Salem asked if the funding for this study will be paid for by TIF funds. Mr. Wendland responded, yes. This study will be paid for by funding that was previously approved and set aside in prior year's budget for this purpose.

Councilman Salem also asked if improvements are to be made to the roadway, will TIF fund the improvements or will there be additional sources. Ms. Nasrallah replied, TIF money will be used in the beginning and additional grants and state funding will be requested.

Renew Arlington CRA Advisory Board Member Matchett asked if the eastern terminus would include the merger of I-295 and Merrill Road. Mr. Reichert replied the area could be looked at for inclusion.

Renew Arlington CRA Advisory Board Member Newkirk asked how this study would impact the intersections with a high number of traffic accidents. Mr. Reichert replied the main focus is safety in the area. Ms. Santana added there is a database that will allow them to see what type of accidents are happening in the area and this will allow them to alter the infrastructure to reduce the number of accidents.

Ms. Santana also suggested pedestrian level lighting be included in the redesign of the area to contribute to pedestrian safety. Also, JSO has reached out to request the fiber optic cables be updated so they can include surveillance cameras in the same systems used for the traffic signals. This would be at the cost of JSO.

Mr. Wendland asked for the estimated timeframe of the study. Mr. Reichert replied it would begin after school begins around August or September, to include pedestrian and vehicle traffic during those hours and would take around a year.

***A MOTION WAS MADE BY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER S. MATCHETT AND SECONDED BY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER D. HARPER TO RECOMMEND TO THE RENEW ARLINGTON CRA AGENCY BOARD TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FROM FUNDS PREVIOUSLY ALLOCATED FROM THE COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 4-0.***

### **III. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

#### **Next Steps Façade and Property Improvement Grant Program**

Chairman Tuohy reminded the room the Zoning Overlay Program was approved by City Council at a recent meeting. Ms. Nasrallah added the Zoning Overlay was approved with the condition there would be a Façade Renovation Grant with adequate funding available for the improvements to landscaping, signage, and fencing requirements. Mr. Wendland added that the five year amortization will not begin until the Façade Grant Program has been approved.

### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

No Old Business

### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

Councilwoman Morgan will hold a Town Hall meeting on July 25, 2019 located at River City Baptist Church at 6801 Merrill Toad, Jacksonville, FL 32277 at 6:00 p.m. a second Town Hall meeting has been scheduled for August 15, 2019.

### **VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Allan Varnes, Arlington resident, voiced concerns that the Zoning Overlay with greatly diminish business in the area and is concerned this will cause many businesses to close. Mr. Varnes is also concerned with the total cost of the improvements and being unsure of what he is going to be required to upgrade. Mr. Wendland responded there will be a point when there are definitive costs and expectations, however, there will be flexible timeframe for completion of these requirements.

### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair M. Tuohy adjourned the RA/CRA Advisory Board Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

The written minutes for this meeting are only an overview of what was discussed. For verbatim comments of this meeting, an audio file of the meeting is available in its entirety and is available upon request. Please contact Angie Slayton at (904) 255-5444, or by email at [aslayton@coj.net](mailto:aslayton@coj.net).