

Jacksonville Tree Commission

Minutes

Wednesday August 20, 2025, 9:32 AM- 10:31 AM

Via Zoom Platform & In Person

\*Recording of Meeting can be obtained by sending requests to  
Joe Rainey [jrainey@coj.net]

For approval September 17th, 2025

**Commissioners:**

Curtis L. Hart, Chair (Council Appointee; 2021-0033-A)  
William Burke Vice Chair (Mayor Appointee; 2023-0695-A)  
Susan Fraser (Council Appointee; 2022-0063-A)  
Vacant (Mayor Appointee; 2023-0696-A)  
Alden Howell (Council Appointee; 2024-0388-A)  
Raul Arias, Council Liaison  
Nina Sickler, Director of Public Works

**Advisors:**

Justin Gearhart - City Arborist  
Shannon MacGillis - Office of General Counsel  
Jose Regueiro - Accounting  
Jonathan Colburn - Urban Forestry Manager

**Staff:** Joe Rainey

**1. Call to Order**

Conducted by Chair

**2. Roll Call and Verification of Quorum**

Conducted by Curtis L. Hart, Chair,  
Commissioners present:

William Burke  
Alden Howell  
Nina Sickler

**Quorum present** (4, in person): Yes

**3. Call for Public Speakers (online & card):**

**Action Items:**

**4. Prior Meeting Minutes.**

**Issue:** Minutes from July 16 Meeting to be approved.

**Motion:** Approve, as modified by Fraser.

**Moved by:** Nina Sickler

**Second:** Alden Howell

**Vote:** approved, unanimous.

**5. Financial Report for Ordinance Tree Fund (15304), Charter Tree Fund (15305) and BJP (Attachment D) - Jose Regueiro**

1. Combined Revenues for Fiscal YTD are \$6.7 compared to \$5.03M July-24. An increase of \$1.67M year-on-year.
2. Combined Expenses for Fiscal YTD are \$2.8M compared to \$5.16M on July-24. A decrease of \$2.36M year-on-year.
3. Combined Revenues for Aug-25 were \$639K compared to \$679K for July-24, a decrease of \$39.5K. Meanwhile, expenses were \$150.8K and \$333.6K on July-25 and July-24, respectively.
4. Total unallocated funds were \$25M for July-25.

**6. Fund Status of 630-CITY, Remove & Replace and Level 2 Programs (Attachment E) - Justin Gearhart**

Total funds not appropriated at \$34.71M. Remaining in the four pools \$9.77M (R and R 3.01M; 630-City \$2.01M; Level 2 \$2.28M; and Level 3 \$2.47M).

Total obligated funds \$3.74M as of August, 2025.

**7. Level 3 Project Proposals: NONE**

**9. Level 2 Project Proposals:**

**i. SPAR 2025 Project Canopy**

A tree planting project has been requested for planting in the Right of Ways in the Springfield Preservation and Revitalization district. This project will take place in City Council District 7 and includes the planting of a variety of trees that will enhance walkability and the aesthetic character of the district. It will reduce the heat island effect, and will filter and slow down stormwater runoff before reaching the city's stormwater management infrastructure. This project includes the planting of 279 (280) total trees, with no tree removals necessary.

Discussion: school is located along planting area. Concerns regarding securing areas around new plantings, request for quotes on options to protect new and future trees being planted.

**Colburn:** There will be changes to plans if protection added.

SPAR: Is working on community outreach on this.

**Action Item: provide quote(s) for safety bollards at next meeting.**

**Motion:** Approve, as amended for \$279,629.37

**Moved by:** Alden Howell

**Second:** William Burke

**Vote: approved as presented, unanimous for \$279,629.37**

#### **10. Status of Level 2 Projects:**

Neptune Beach Phase 1- Install complete

Beachwood Blvd- Install complete

Genovar Park- Install complete

ACPS dog park- 90% Complete

Riverfront Park- Trees complete, Irrigation in progress

District 10:

CT Brown- Complete

Richardson Rd- In Progress

Northshore- In progress

Terrace Park- In Progress

**12. UFMP Update, Allison Boss:** Green Schools analysis Presentation. Please see supplemental documents for details.

Discussion regarding pros, cons and possible conflicts of the project and how this can be applied to Tree Commission business.

**13. Taskforce:** No update

**14. Old Business:**

**Annual Report: Expanded report provided**

Correction typo page 2 to be made

**Powell:** Is it possible to track the number of trees planted by Tree Commission? **Gearhart:** this information can be found in Nat Geo. A filter could be created for tree type. A "Planet Geo" basic training may be beneficial for commissioners and contributors.

**Hart:** Add a schedule of trees planted from Planet Geo to next meeting.

**14. New Business:**

END OF MEETING 10:31 AM

ATTACHMENT 1

APPROVED