

**Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee
May 14, 2026**

Hybrid Meeting: Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Drive, 32208 and via ZOOM Webinar.

Meeting Attendance:

CPAC Members: Sallie Barnes, Cynthia Brown, Robinson's Addition Neighborhood Association; Elaine Billups, Better Living Community Association, Inc.; Victor Coleman, Central Fairfax Community Association; Roxsan Currier, Marietta Senior Center; Constance DeVaughn, Woodstock Neighborhood Association; Dr. Amaris Fuller-Avellan, Woodlawn Presbyterian Church; Jacqueline Harrington, Grand Park; Bervinda Mincey, Moncrief Springs Neighborhood Association; Velma Rounsville, Timber Oaks HOA; Rochelle Gross, Woodstock Neighborhood Association; Leroy Kelly, Carver International; Pamela Strickland, North Jax Trout River Manor; Rhonda Boyd, NW CPAC Chair & Timber Oaks HOA; Henry Scott, North Riverside CDC.

Excused: Ginny Winters, Pickettville Civic Club and Vanessa Cullins-Hopkins, NW CPAC, Vice Chair and Pebo Corp.

Staff and Elected Officials: Lieutenant Scott Holechek, JFRD; Yuri Blackburn, JPL; Commander Harry Massey, JSO; Paula Renfro, DCPS; Jenell Milton, JEA; Dana Krizar, KHA; Chad Owens, MCCD; Stephen Nagbe, Planning and Development; Vanessa Jefferson, Neighborhood Services Coordinator.

Guests: Tenisha Bradham, City Rescue Mission; Ernest Smith, Urban Core CPAC; Carol Gamble, Moncrief Springs Neighborhood Association; Jeanette Coleman, Central Fairfax; Yvonne Day, Riverside Collective Community Organization (RCCO); Terrence McGee, St. Paul Catholic School and Church; Leo Brown, Marilyn Brown, Metro Gardens; Larry Solomon, Carver Manor; Carolyn Griffin, Robinson's Addition Neighborhood Association; Worley Richards, The PACE Place; LaShaundra Sawyer, Lincoln Villa; Dr. Antonia Bryant, Lake Park; Leola Williams, Sherwood Forest; Russell Jackson; Lincon Villa; Christopher Perry, Murray Hill Perseveration Association; Latrina Dowdell, Kelly Frazier Mayor's African American Advisory Board; Clanzzeria Brown.

ZOOM: Doretha Tompkins, Riverview; Brad Straley, Rolling Hills Neighborhood; Lana Champion, Carver International; Roxie McLeod, Panama Park Neighborhood Association; Dr. Brenda Boston-Hudson, Marie Barney Boston Scholarship Foundation; Dwayne.

Meeting Summary:

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** The Northwest CPAC Chair, Rhonda Boyd, called the May 13, 2026, meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Vanesa Jefferson verified that a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Summary:** Summaries from the April 9, 2026, and May 14, 2026 NW CPAC meetings will be reviewed for approval at the June 11, 2026, NW CPAC Meeting.

3. Presenter: No presenter scheduled. Chair Rhonda Boyd granted Ms. Worley Richards of The PACE Place the opportunity to provide an overview of the organization and the services it offers. Ms. Richards reported that The PACE Place program is uniquely designed to provide all-inclusive care for older adults. The program specifically serves underserved individuals who are Medicaid-eligible and age 55 or older. The services are structured to relieve stress on caregivers of individuals with chronic illnesses by offering comprehensive, coordinated services that enhance quality of life. These services include access to physicians, nurses, occupational, speech, and physical therapists, medication management, transportation, in-home care, meals, and respite care. If a patient qualifies, there is no cost for services. Ms. Richards encouraged anyone interested to contact her and she would be happy to provide a tour of the facility. The PACE Place is located at 5450 Ramona Boulevard. [PACE Place – Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly](#)
Worley Richards wrichards@thepaceplace.org or (904) 410-6881.

4. Elected Officials Report: None present.

5. Staff Reports:

DCPS: Paula Renfro- Ms. Renfro reported that, as a follow-up to a request from the May 14, 2026, meeting, she has provided copies of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) catalogue, which lists all technical program offerings available. Ms. Renfro reported the last day of school is Thursday, May 28, 2026. She also shared that there will be a slight change to high school dismissal times for the upcoming 2026–2027 school year. High school students will be dismissed 15 minutes later, at 2:05 p.m., to accommodate the transition to a seven-period day; however, the start time will remain 7:10 a.m. Additionally, beginning next school year, any Florida student wishing to participate in high school sports for the first time will be required to obtain an EKG screening. This requirement is part of the Florida Law known as the “Second Chance Act” and will become state law on July 1, 2026. This law was enacted to help save lives, by detecting undiagnosed heart problems. The school district has partnered with “Who We Play For” to provide free screenings. More information can be obtained from each school’s athletic director or by visiting the DCPS website. Ms. Renfro encouraged everyone to spread the word about the free EKG screenings." [New state law will require first-time high school athletes to get heart screenings | Duval County Public Schools](#)
Paula Renfro renfro@duvalschools.org

Public Works: Dana Moore- reported that her division, where she serves as a Traffic Engineer, is responsible for maintaining street markings, signs, traffic signals, and other traffic control devices on city-owned roads. She reported several upcoming projects in District 5 and shared that speeding and safety concerns near Sally B. Mathis Elementary, Jean Ribault High School, and Jean Ribault Junior High School have generated formal traffic-calming requests. These requests, including petitions for speed tables, are in progress, and the Traffic Engineering Division is working with District Council Members to schedule a public hearing. Crosswalk markings at all school driveways are also under review for improvements such as refreshing

faded markings and adding school zone signage. Ms. Moore advised residents can request traffic-calming studies in their neighborhoods by calling (904) 630-2489 or emailing trafficeng@coj.net Ms. Moore reported on additional upcoming projects: installation of a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at A. Philip Randolph, with construction expected in summer 2027; near-completion of the Chaffee Road widening design phase; and turn-lane improvements at Commonwealth Avenue and Pickettville Road. The department is also reviewing potential intersection improvements with the Nelson–Broadhurst team based on crash data and traffic volumes. Recent safety enhancements include new all-way stops at Old Plank Road and Bulls Bay Highway and at Baker Avenue and Broadway Avenue.

Dana Moore- hawesd@coj.netjacksonville.gov

JEA: Jenell Milton- reported that the Riverview Septic Tank Phase Out Project reached the required minimum of 70% owner participation in November 2025, allowing the project to move forward. The project remains in the design phase and residents within the Riverview project boundary may still enroll through Project Outreach at 904-665-7500 or by emailing projectoutreach@jea.com. Additional project updates are available at jea.com [Riverview Septic Tank Phase Out Project | In Our Community | JEA](#) Riverview is the largest neighborhood JEA has supported for this type of construction. Due to current market conditions, Phase 1 is expected to begin in two to three years, with full buildout projected over eight to ten years.

Concerns were raised about a riverfront neighborhood not being included in Phase 1. Ms. Milton explained that the city uses a scoring matrix to determine priority areas, and any neighborhood not included did not score high enough to qualify for the current phase. She offered to make herself available after the meeting to further discuss the matter and provided her contact number (904) 347-6547 for follow-up. She also provided informational packets on JEA programs.

A question was also raised about the removal of an abandoned septic tank and a possible sinkhole. Ms. Milton explained that the property owner is responsible for removing the tank. MCCD Supervisor Chad Owens assisted by requesting the address and stated he would have staff from his office investigate the issue. Regarding the question about how JEA determines electric and water rates for unoccupied homes, Ms. Milton advised that she would need the specific address to research the matter and would follow up with providing a response.

Jenell Milton – Miltjl@coj.net

JPL: Yuri Blackburn- reported upcoming activities and events:

- May 16, 2026, 2 p.m. -4 p.m. at the Main Library: History Chat Stanton, Florida’s oldest African American school.
- June 26–27 ,2026 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bradham and Brooks Library: Book Sale.
- May 19, 2026, from 6:30 p.m. –7:30 p.m. Brentwood Branch Library “Research Your Historic Home” workshop.
- May 18, from 7 p.m. –8 p.m., Highlands Regional Library: screening of “The Little Brown Bird.

- Thursday, June 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Highlands Regional Library: Summer Reading Kickoff Party.
- Main Library located provides a Memory Lab where patrons can digitize items such as VHS tapes and audio cassettes. More information is available on the library's website at jaxpubliclibrary.org under "Services," listed as the Memory Lab. [Memory Lab | Jacksonville Public Library](#)
Yuri Blackburn- Blackburn-yjewitt@coj.net

KHA:Dana Kriznar- reported that the search for a new CEO for Kids Hope Alliance is nearing completion, with a candidate expected to be selected the week of July 13, 2026. She also highlighted the Mayor's Youth at Work Partnership Program, a summer internship initiative for students ages 16–21, or up to 22 for students with special needs. Applications are due online by May 20, 2026. Kids Hope Alliance provides funding for student wages; however, additional business partners are urgently needed to offer supervision, mentoring, and meaningful work experiences. Ms. Kriznar requested assistance in helping to disseminate this information and support the program's outreach efforts.

Ms. Kriznar shared information about the Youth Travel Trust Fund, which is available to provide up to \$50,000 annually to support youth participating in unique travel opportunities, such as performing arts events or national competitions. Anyone knowing of unique opportunities for students to travel abroad is asked to contact the KHA office. Ms. Kriznar also provided flyers with information regarding upcoming summer camp listings. Lastly, she advised that the Request for Proposal (RFP) cycle will begin in January of 2027 for those interested in seeking funding to provide summer camp and other activities for students in 2027. More information can be found on the website. [KHA - Welcome](#) ; [KHA - How We Fund](#)
Dana Kriznar-DKriznar@coj.net

JSO: Commander Harry Massey- addressed previous concern about overweight trucks on Commonwealth Avenue. Officers conducted several days of monitoring and while no overweight vehicles were observed during that period, they did issue eleven citations for other violations. He stated that enforcement efforts will continue. In response to ongoing speeding concerns on Kinlock Drive, traffic officers deployed a stealth box to measure speed and traffic volume. While a few violations were recorded, none were excessive. Citations were issued, and officers will continue periodic enforcement. Commander Massey reported that due to the Ironman Race being held on Saturday, May 16, 2026, beginning at 7:30 a.m., drivers can expect significant detours and delays. Impacted areas include Riverside, Five Points, Brooklyn, and the downtown area. He reported District Five's thirty -day statistics, which are also available on www.jaxsheriff.org - [Jacksonville Sheriff's Office \(JSO\) Homepage](#)

- Calls for service: 9,456 this period, compared to 9,542 last month.
- Traffic citations: 1,947 issued, up from 1,765.
- Year-to-date crime has increased slightly, largely due to simple assaults and thefts.
- Property crimes increased 8.37% over the past 30 days, with 314 incidents, up from 284.

- Burglaries: 42 incidents, up from 34, with four arrests.
- Thefts: 206 incidents, up from 195, with 26 arrests.
- Theft from motor vehicles: 32 incidents, up from 29.
- Motor vehicle thefts: 32 incidents, up from 25, with four arrests.

Commander Massey encouraged concerned residents to continue reporting recurring issues, as consistent reporting helps ensure that officers are aware of ongoing problems. He advised residents to use the non-emergency number, 904-630-0500, to report issues that do not require an immediate emergency response. Chair Boyd also encouraged residents to attend their Sheriff watch meetings. www.jaxsheriff.org - [Sheriff's Watch](#)

Commander Harry Massey- harry.massey@jaxsheriff.org

MCCD: Chad Owens- reported that over the past month, his team has made significant progress in enforcement within the Northwest CPAC area, completing more than 1,400 inspections. The primary focus has been on condemned structures particularly vacant properties, being used unlawfully by transient individuals. Staff are working to identify and secure these locations as quickly as possible. In the coming months, MCCD has targeted projects scheduled in the Biltmore area for June 2026 and along 45th and Moncrief for July 2026, aimed at getting ahead of seasonal increases in activity. As warmer weather approaches and school is out, typically there are more issues with overgrowth, trash, and debris. Supervisor Owens encouraged residents to take pictures of areas of concern and submit an email, and his staff will follow up.

Chad Owens- ChadO@coj.net

JFRD: Lieutenant Scott Holechek- reported that Hurricane season runs from June 1, 2026, through November 30, 2026. He advised that now is the time to prepare. He encouraged residents to review local shelter options, noting that the Legends Center is a designated shelter. If you need to bring pets, confirm in advance which shelters are pet-friendly. Homeowners should also review their insurance policies. Once a storm is named, insurance companies cannot issue new homeowners' policies, so it is important to address any coverage concerns now. Tree trimming is another critical preparedness step. High winds frequently bring down trees, making it difficult for emergency units to access neighborhoods. Trim trees on your property or contact Code Enforcement if assistance is needed.

Lieutenant Holechek emphasized generator safety, reporting that generators should not be in the garages or near air condition units. Generators must be operated outdoors, and it's suggested to have a carbon monoxide detector. Additional information can be found on [JaxReady - Welcome](#). If you plan to shelter in place, prepare a hurricane kit with three to seven days of supplies, including one gallon of water per person per day and all necessary medications. A burn ban has been in effect since April 21, 2026. While recent rain has helped, the ban remains active. He reminded attendees that JFRD will install smoke alarms free of charge.

Scott Holechek- scottbh@coj.net

Neighborhood Services Office: Vanessa Jefferson announced a Visit Jacksonville virtual meeting scheduled for May 27, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. –10:00 a.m. and encouraged members to review Northside’s representation on the Visit Jacksonville website. Advised that this would be a great opportunity to ask questions and have a voice in how visitors view the Northwest district. The registration link will be sent to members. She also reminded the CPAC to begin planning for the District 5 Block Party and encouraged members to attend the District 3 Block Party on June 27, 2026, to gather ideas and observe the event structure.

Vanesa Jefferson -Vjefferson@coj.net

6. Chair’s Report: Chair Rhonda Boyd announced that Mayor Donna Deegan has appointed Rochelle Gross of the Woodstock Neighborhood Association and Dr. Amaris Fuller-Avellan of Woodlawn Presbyterian Church as new members of the Northwest CPAC. Chair Boyd also introduced Fuller Avellan, who is the son of Dr. Avellan. as a youth ambassador to the CPAC and requested that the coordinator seek approval to have a nameplate prepared for him for the next meeting.

7. Old Business: None.

8. New Business: Ms. Velma Rounsville, Chair of the T.R.U.E. Commission, announced that her term has ended and moved to have CPAC Member Victor Coleman appointed as her replacement. The motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously. Mr. Coleman’s nomination was confirmed.

9. Subcommittee and Liaisons Reports:

Land Use and Zoning- Chair Roxsan Currier: reported that of the six applications reviewed two had actions taken during the subcommittee meeting:

- **Conventional Rezoning 2026-0304 located at 5450 Cleveland Road-** The application seeks to rezone approximately 0.37 acres from CCG-1 to CCG-2. A motion was made and seconded to oppose.
- **2026-0311Text Ordinance Amendment** This text amendment identifies a target Growth Area (TGA) to promote the construction of resilience and attainable housing and accommodate diverse housing options. Introduce definitions with the Comp Plan for affordable Housing and Target Growth (TGA) and add the Target Growth Area Maps to future land Use Maps Series. A motion was made and seconded to oppose.

Taxation, Revenue & Utilization of Expenditures (T.R.U.E.) Commission: Representative Velma Rounsville advised report will be turned into Neighborhood Coordinator, Vanessa Jefferson.

Blight Subcommittee: Subcommittee did not meet due to the absence of a quorum.

9. Public Comments and Announcements: Ms. Kelly Frazier gave an overview of the African American Advisory Board; advising the purpose of the board is to communicate with and advise the city about matters impacting the African American community. The board meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at City Hall 117 West Duval Street, Suite 400 in the Naomi T. Glover Conference. Ms. Frazier shared that the board is currently offering a survey requesting feedback and ideas to help guide further initiatives. [Jacksonville.gov - Mayor's African American Advisory Board](https://www.jacksonville.gov/mayors-office/african-american-advisory-board)

10. Adjourn: It was properly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday June 11, 2026, at 6 p.m. the Legends Center at 5130 Soutel Drive.