

# Urban Core Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC)

## May 4, 2026

Hybrid Meeting: Main Public Library, 303 N Laura Street 32202 and via Zoom Webinar

### Meeting Attendance:

**CPAC Members:** CPAC Chair Ernest Smith, Northside Coalition of Jacksonville; Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts at East Bay Condo Assn. Inc.; Becca Dinger, 2nd Mile Ministries; Maria Ellison, New Town Success Zone; Cory Haynes, JASMYN; Juanita Senior, Planet Watch Neighborhood Association; Terry Canty, Planet Watch Neighborhood Association

**Excused:** Vice Chair Tiffany Clark

**Staff and Elected Officials:** Williams Hanks, Zone 1 Supervisor – MCCD; Martinique Glover, Neighborhood Services Office; Captain Charles Johnson, JFRD; Lieutenant Fleeman, JSO; Keli Likens, JPL; Cheryl Mock, JEA; Dana Krizner, Interim CEO-KHA; Charles Gibson, Public Works; Jenny Hinton, Resilience Office

**Guests:** Ariane Randolph, Historic Eastside Residence Alliance; Hanif Kissoonlal, Real Ting Cafe; Kim Black, HERA; Dan Reynolds, Plaza Berk; Ivan Mote, Mike Meier, John J. Nooney

**Zoom:** Kim Pryor, Preservation SOS; Bryant Shumaker, SPAR Council; Haley Spring, Blue Zones Jax; Joni Alexandre, Groundwork Jacksonville, Chelsea Baily Washington

### Meeting Summary:

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Ernest Smith called the May 4, 2026, Urban Core CPAC Meeting to order at 5:32 pm and Martinique Glover verified that a quorum was present.
- 2. Approval of Previous Meeting Summary:** April 6, 2026, meeting summary was approved.
- 3. Elected Official Report:** No Elected Officials Present
- 4. Chair's Report:** Chair Smith announced an upcoming quarterly meeting with the Mayor and CPAC Chairs and shared upcoming presentation schedules. Michael Haskins of Springfield Preservation and Revitalization (SPAR) will present at the June meeting, there will be no CPAC meeting in July, and Dr. Barbara Darby, Chair of the Mayor's African American Advisory Board, is scheduled to present in August.
- 5. Presenter: Jenny Hinton**  
The Office of Resilience is currently leading three major initiatives. The Urban Forest Management Plan analyzes Jacksonville's tree canopy, which currently covers approximately 44% of the city, while also addressing significant canopy loss since 2010. The plan identifies more than 110,000 acres of potential planting areas, including 51 high-priority public sites within the Urban Core, and seeks community feedback on future planting locations. The grant-funded Community Wildfire Protection Plan focuses on

identifying high-risk wildland urban interface areas and prioritizing mitigation efforts, including prescribed burns, to improve long-term wildfire resilience and forest management. Additionally, the Green Infrastructure Prioritization Project is developing a framework to guide future investments in nature-based stormwater solutions such as rain gardens, bioswales, and green roofs, with the Riverfront Plaza green roof highlighted as a local example of sustainable infrastructure.

**Jenny Hinton-**[JMhinton@coj.net](mailto:JMhinton@coj.net)

## 6. Staff Reports:

- **JPL: Keli Likens:**

- Announced an upcoming Jacksonville Public Library history program titled “Stanton: Florida’s Oldest African American School,” featuring Ronald E. Galvin. The presentation, scheduled for Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 2:00 pm. in the Main Library Special Collections Department, will explore the history and evolution of Stanton High School

**Keli Likens:** [KLikens@coj.net](mailto:KLikens@coj.net)

- **Public Works: Chuck Gibson**

- Provided an overview of ongoing and recently completed Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) throughout the Urban Core and downtown Jacksonville.
- Shared updates on several major initiatives, including:
  - Emerald Trail connections and streetscape improvements
  - McCoy’s Creek Greenway and outfall projects
  - Riverfront Plaza development
  - Park Street Pedestrian Safety Improvements
  - Northbank Riverwalk enhancements
  - Florida Theatre facility renovations
  - Metropolitan Park Marina projects
  - Two-way street conversion along Forsyth and Adams Streets
- Discussed ongoing remediation work at the JAX Ash Site, 1093 West 6th Street, Jacksonville, FL 32209
- Highlighted progress on additional infrastructure, drainage, and public facility upgrades across the city

**Chuck Gibson:**[CGibson@coj.net](mailto:CGibson@coj.net)

- **JEA: Cheryl Mock**

- Provided updates on infrastructure, public safety, and operations for JEA. She discussed the proposed sale of the former JEA headquarters due to costly repairs and annual maintenance expenses of about \$800,000. She also reminded residents to follow burn bans, conserve water during drought conditions, and prepare for hurricane season using JEA resources.

**Cheryl Mock:** [mockcw@jea.com](mailto:mockcw@jea.com)

- **KHA: Dr. Dana Krizner**

- Reported that summer camp registration opened on May 1, 2026, with 35 camps available across the Urban Core CPAC. She noted that families can access camp details through the organization’s website, and that most programs are intended to remain affordable, with costs generally kept under \$100 for the full six-week session, aside from minor fees for items like T-

shirts or field trips. She also provided an update on the ongoing CEO search, stating that a new leader is expected to be selected by late June or early July, with the next search committee meeting scheduled for May 13, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. and is open to the public in person or via Zoom. For more information visit <https://www.kidshopealliance.org/find-a-program/summer-programs>

**Dr. Dana Krizner:** [DKriznar@coj.net](mailto:DKriznar@coj.net)

- **JSO: Lieutenant Fleeman**

- Provided an update on Jacksonville Sheriff's Office efforts to address ongoing concerns in the Bay Street area, including excessive noise, illegal parking, street racing, and reckless driving activity. In response to prior community concerns, JSO adjusted officer schedules over the past several weekends to increase late-night patrols and targeted deployments in downtown hot spot areas. These enforcement efforts have resulted in numerous traffic stops and significant parking enforcement activity, including more than 100 parking citations during one weekend. Lieutenant Fleeman stated that the increased presence has been effective in reducing disturbances and that JSO plans to continue the deployments in the coming weeks.

**Williams Freeman:** [William.FreemanII@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:William.FreemanII@jaxsheriff.org)

- **MCCD: Williams Hanks**

- Provided an update on FDOT's statewide "Watch for Motorcycle" safety campaign. He explained that FDOT identified 350 locations across Florida for temporary motorcycle awareness signage in areas where motorcycle fatalities have occurred, including 48 locations within Duval County. Mr. Hanks stated that Code Enforcement is supporting the campaign by allowing the temporary signs, including those placed within city right-of-way areas, to remain in place through the end of May, after which FDOT will remove them at the end of the of the campaign.

**William Hanks:** [WHanks@coj.net](mailto:WHanks@coj.net)

- **JFRD: Charles Johnson**

- Discussed hurricane preparedness and generator safety, emphasizing the importance of keeping generators a safe distance from homes to prevent carbon monoxide exposure. He encouraged residents to use the JAX Ready app for hurricane preparation, burn band updates, wildfire preparedness resources and guidance on protecting homes and yards from wildfire risks.

**Charles Johnson:** [JohnsonC@coj.net](mailto:JohnsonC@coj.net)

- **Neighborhoods: Martinique Glover**

- Provided updates on recent and upcoming community engagement efforts. She announced the successful completion of the District 2 Block Party, highlighting it as a well-attended event that supported neighborhood connection and engagement. She also shared plans for an upcoming Southwest CPAC block party scheduled for June 2026, aimed at continuing efforts to bring residents together and promote community resources.

**Martinique Glover:** [Mglover@coj.net](mailto:Mglover@coj.net)

**7. Old Business: None**

**8. New Business:** Chair Smith provided an overview of the Downtown Investment Authority Evaluation Committee's April 30, 2026, review of proposals for the Riverfront Park restaurant parcel located near the Great Lawn. He explained that two applicants submitted proposals: PK Hospitality Group (Pizza Alley's) and Atlas Restaurant Group. Following evaluation scoring, Atlas Restaurant Group received the higher score (approximately 90 points compared to PK Hospitality Group's 71) and was recommended by the committee as the preferred developer for the site. Chair Smith noted that the proposal will move forward through the Downtown Investment Authority process and is expected to come before City Council and the Downtown Development Review Board for further review and design considerations.

**9. Subcommittee and Liaisons Reports:**

- **Governmental Affairs, Land Use & Zoning Subcommittee: Dimitri Demopoulos**
  - The subcommittee reviewed proposed zoning code changes in Ordinance 2026-0364 and raised concerns about reduced public participation, including the elimination of public hearings for administrative deviations, removal of required posted notices within 300 feet of impacted properties, and the addition of fees for citizens to appeal approved deviations.
  - Following discussion, the subcommittee recommended opposing the ordinance and sending a formal letter to City Council expressing CPAC's opposition. A motion to adopt this recommendation was made and passed unanimously.
- **Blight and Code Enforcement: Juanita Senior**
  - No Report
- **Homelessness: Cory Haynes**
  - The Homelessness subcommittee did not meet but continues work on a draft letter supporting homelessness initiatives and affordable housing funding.
- **Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditure (TRUE) Commission: Kim Pryor**
  - The TRUE Commission report included updates on audits of city grant spending and financial oversight activities. Members reviewed testing of 743 grant-related invoices totaling about \$11.4 million, with a subset of 87 invoices selected for detailed review. Discussion also focused on the City Comptroller's timeline for closing the fiscal year books, which drew concerns from the commission chair regarding the length of the government reporting cycle.
  - Additionally, Kim Pryor explained her absence due to an ongoing ethics matter submitted to the Ethics Office. She requested time to receive a determination before any decision is made to replace her on the commission, and the CPAC agreed to allow her to follow up and report back before taking further action.

**10. Public Comments and Announcements:**

- John J. Nooney: Commented on environmental topics, including waterways, parks, and public access to recreational resources. He expressed concern that certain assets—such as kayak launches and natural areas—are not fully reflected in city mapping or promotional materials, despite their use and value to residents., and emphasized the importance of equitable access to parks, waterways, and urban core resources.

**11. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm

**Next Meeting June 1, 2026, at 5:30 pm; the Governmental Affairs subcommittee will meet at 5:00 pm at the Main Public Library, 303 N Laura Street 32202**