Urban Core Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC)
September 8, 2026

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

Meeting Attendance:

CPAC Members: Ernest Smith (Chair), Northside Coalition of Jacksonville; Tiffany Clark (Vice Chair), Parents Who Lead; Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts at East Bay Condo Assn. Inc; Juanita Senior, Planet Watch Neighborhood Association, Terry Canty, Planet Watch Neighborhood Association; Marcia Ellison, New Town; Marlo Zarka, Blue Zones- Project Jacksonville; Tajuana Carmichael, Parents Who Lead

Excused: Cory Haynes**,** JASMYN

Staff and Elected Officials: William Hanks, MCCD; Captain Charles Johnson, JFRD; Keli Likins, JPL; Rudy Jamison, Chair of Eastside Grants Committee; Lieutenant Jeffry Adkins, JSO; Daniel Piastuck, Parks, Recreation. And Community Services; Jessica Pitts, KHA; Tiffany Morales, MAVD; Cory Wright; DCPS; Lisa Sheppard, Planning and Development; Stephen Nagbe, Planning and Development; Martinique Glover, Neighborhoods

Guests: Richard Lewis, Katie Hathaway, Samuel Kirkland, Ariane Randolph

ZOOM: Chelsea Bailey-Washington, Central Metropolitan Baptist Church

Meeting Summary:

1. Chair Ernest Smith called the September 8, 2026, Urban Core CPAC Meeting to order at 5:40 pm and
   Martinique Glover verified that a quorum was present.

2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Summary**: The August 3, 2026, meeting summary was approved

3. **Presenter: Dr. Rudy Jamison Chair of East Side Grants Committee:** outlined the Community Benefits Agreement and its grant process for the Historic Eastside. He reported that the agreement provides $40 million from the city over 7 years and $75 million from the Jaguars over 30 years. The committee reviews applications addressing housing, economic development, and homelessness in the designated Out East area. Of the 34 applications received, 28 were expected to advance to scoring after appeals. Members discussed eligibility, housing preservation, accountability, and scoring. Dr. Jamison said lessons from the first funding cycle would help improve future application processes.

4. **Elected Officials Report:** No Elected Officials Present.

5. **Chair's Report**: Chair Smith reported that Urban Core Capital Improvement Plan projects, including Spa Road, Planet Watch Drainage, and Brentwood Park, were presented to the City Council Finance Committee on August 4 and subsequently submitted for further budget review. Funding updates will be shared with the CPAC when available. The Chair also

discussed District 7 Legislation, transportation and development projects, neighborhood improvements and preservation efforts, Eastside grants, and stadium redevelopment.

6. **Staff Reports:**

- **Parks, Recreation and Community Services: Daniel Piastuck**
  - Mr. Piastuck provided updates on several park and riverfront projects. He reported that groundbreaking for Shipyards West and Metropolitan Park was anticipated by the end of 2026, possibly in November. Construction on Riverfront Plaza Phase 2 is expected to continue over the following year. Groundbreaking for James Weldon Johnson Park could occur the following summer, depending on the progress of design updates. Mr. Piastuck also reported on a successful Senior Summer Swim season and discussed teen programming at the Kennedy Center and Emmett Reed. Parks staff are exploring ways to continue programs such as Hoops Night Plus throughout the year.
    For more Information https://www.jacksonville.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/jaxparks

Daniel Piastuck: DPiastuck@coj.net

- **Jacksonville Transportation Authority: Cheryl Riddick**
  - Cheryl Riddick provided information regarding the U²C Phase 2 Skyway Rehabilitation and Downtown Expansion Project Development and Environment Study. Public meetings were scheduled for September 10, 15, 17, and 22, with sessions from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at various downtown locations. Informational rack cards were made available. Mrs. Riddick also reviewed the Game Day Express service for Jaguars games, including service from the Kings Avenue parking garage and wheelchair-accessible shuttle operations. She advised that a bus route service change was anticipated for October 10, with updated schedules to be distributed once available.
    For More Information: JTAFLA - U²C Phase II Skyway Rehabilitation and Downtown Expansion Project Development and Environment Study Public Meetings

Cheryl Riddick: criddick@jtafla.com

- **Military Affairs and Veterans Department: Tiffany Morales**
  - Announced that applications for participation in the Veterans Day Parade were being accepted through September 15,2026 at 11:59 p.m. She also promoted the 10th Annual VeteraPoneur Summit, scheduled for December 4,2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at FSCJ's Downtown Advanced Technology Center. The

summit is intended for veterans who own or are interested in starting a business and will include business resources and professional feedback on business plans **For More Information:** https://www.jacksonville.gov/departments/military-affairs-and-veterans-department

Tiffany Morales: TMorales@coj.net

- **Jacksonville Public Library: Kelly Linkins**
  - announced the library's annual Book Fest, scheduled for September 19,2026 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Main Library, 303 N. Laura Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. The free event will feature more than 120 local and national authors, author talks, book sales, and activities for all ages. Attendees were encouraged to reserve seats in advance for featured author discussions.

    For More Information: https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/bookfest

Keli Likins: Klikins@coj.net

- **Kids Hope Alliance: Jessica Pitts**
  - Reported that KHA supported more than 96 summer camps serving over 13,000 students. After-school programs began on August 17,2026. KHA staff also participated in back-to-school outreach events to assist school personnel. MS. Pitts announced that Penny Zuber was scheduled to begin as KHA's new CEO on September 22,2026 . A one-page informational handout regarding the impact of Amendment 3 on KHA was made available

    For More Information: https://www.kidshopealliance.org/

Jessica Pitts: Jpitts@coj.net

- **Jacksonville Sherrif's Office: Lieutenant Jeffry Adkins**
  - Provided year-to-date 2026 crime statistics. Citywide, crimes against people decreased 1.83% and crimes against property decreased 1.36%. In District 1, crimes against people increased 4.77%, crimes against property decreased 4.51%, and total crime decreased 0.13%.
  - He reported that 52 individuals participated in the Homeward Bound initiative in August, bringing the year-to-date total to 453. As of August 18,2026, camping violation enforcement included 612 warnings, 410 arrests, and 117 notices to appear. He also discussed Bay Street weekend deployments and parking enforcement.
  - Substation 1 was scheduled to relocate to 450 Magnolia Street on September 25, 2026. In response to a question about the East Bay Street shooting, Lieutenant Adkins stated that the investigation was ongoing and no additional information was available.

    For More information: https://www.jaxsheriff.org/Neighborhood.aspx

Lieutenant Jeffry Adkins: Jeffrey.Adkins@jaxsheriff.org

- **MCCD: William Hanks**
    - reported 67 cases completed during the previous 30 days

Case type	Completed
Residential	10
Junk vehicle	3
Nuisance	46
Residential zoning	1
Commercial	4
Nuisance tree	1
Nuisance board-up	2
Total	**67**

William Hanks:WHanks@coj.net

- **Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department: Captain Charles Johnson**
    - Provided a September public safety reminder regarding open burning. He explained that permits for commercial land-clearing burns are issued through the Regulatory and Environmental Services Department's Air and Water Quality Division and are site-specific. Captain Johnson reviewed examples of permitted recreational or cooking fires and emphasized that burning yard waste, leaves, or brush is not allowed in residential yards in Duval County. He also noted that bonfire permits may be issued through the Fire Marshal's Office for qualifying events.

Captain Charles Johnson: JohnsonC@coj.net

- **Duval County School Board: Deputy Superintendent, Corey Wright**
    - provided information on career and technical education programs and reported that initial air-conditioning issues had largely been resolved. District enrollment was just over 97,000 students, with increases in Family Empowerment Scholarship and home education enrollment. He also discussed family engagement related to school consolidations, including R.L. Brown and Long Branch.

      For More Information: https://www.duvalschools.org/page/career-and-technical-education/

Corey Wright: wrightc8@duvalschools.org

- **Neighborhoods Department: Martinique Glover**
    - announced the Northwest Block Party on October 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00p.m. at Lonnie Miller Park in conjunction with JFRD's Fire Safety Prevention Week, as well as the North Block Party on November 14. She reminded members of upcoming CPAC elections and the need to establish a nominating committee. Members were also encouraged to

consider a holiday activity. Ms. Glover introduced Natasha Johnson, the department's fourth coordinator, who attended to observe the CPAC meeting process.

Martinique Glover: mglover@coj.net

7. **Old Business**: None

8. **New Business**:
    - **Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (T.R.U.E) Commission Representative**: The Chair opened the floor for a nomination to serve as the Urban Core CPAC representative to the True Commission. Terry Canty was nominated. The Chair called for discussion and a vote. The nomination passed, and Ms. Canty was selected as the Urban Core CPAC's True Commission representative.

    - **CPAC Elections Nominating Subcommittee:** The Chair requested volunteers to serve on the nominating subcommittee in preparation for the November CPAC elections. The three members will have to coordinate with Martinique Glover to arrange an off- site meeting and develop the slate of nominees.

9. **Subcommittee and Liaison Reports**
    - **Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Subcommittee: Dimitri Demepoulos, Subcommittee Chair**
        - The LUZ Subcommittee reviewed rezoning application 2026-0654 for a PUD at 1905 Walnut Street. Concerns were raised that the broad range of proposed uses could create parking demands that the property may not be able to adequately accommodate. Based on the uncertainty surrounding the proposed uses and associated parking needs, the subcommittee recommended denial while expressing support for adaptive reuse of the property.
    - **Homelessness:** No Report
    - **Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (T.R.U.E) Commission:** Vacant

10. **Public Comments: None**

11. **Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm. The next UC CPAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5, 2026, at 5:30 pm, at the Main Public Library 303 N. Laura Street.