

# Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

## August 8, 2022, Meeting Summary

Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. 32210

Zoom Meeting ID: 810 5805 6180 Passcode: 977007

### Meeting Attendance

**CPAC Members In-Person:** Dr. Willie Crosby, Chair; Christina Purdy, Vice-Chair; Bruce Tyson, Trinity Ministries; Len Burroughs, MHPA; Jackie Woods, Cedar Hills Estates Community Association; Bill Fonferek, Westland Communities HOA; Shirley Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace; Danny Graybill, Zealous Chaplain Notary Service; Bernice Gremer, Fishweir Neighborhood Watch.

**CPAC Members Via Zoom:** Chris Ramseyer, Watermill HOA.

**Visitors:** Jenny Watson, Cedar Hills. David Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace; Sandy Simpson; John Chapman; Patricia Garnecki.

**Visitors via Zoom:** Thomas Martin, Watermill HOA.

**Staff and Elected Officials:** Nikki Evans, Executive Assistant to Council Member at Large Group 2, Ron Salem; Lt. Russell Lloyd, JSO; Chief Allen Mason, JFRD; Randy Wishard, Mosquito Control, Derek Dixon, FDOT; Lynne Baldwin, JPL; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Andy Hetzel, Planning and Development; Michael Hoffman, MCCD; Christopher Billings, MCCD; Justin Gearhart, Arborist Public Works.

### Meeting Summary

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Crosby called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified a quorum.
- 2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The summary for June 13, 2022, meeting was approved by the CPAC.
- 3. Elected Officials' Reports:** Nikki Evans, E Nikki Evans, Executive Assistant to Council Member at Large Group 2, Ron Salem, reported that Council Member Salem was sworn in as Council Vice President last month. Finance budget hearings will start Thursday, August 11, and citizens are encouraged to send their opinions or concerns to Council Member Salem. Ms. Evans announced that Jacksonville is scheduled to receive close to \$47.5 million in abatement payments as part of a \$1.6 billion settlement for The State of Florida. The \$23.5 billion settlement was reached with four major drug companies for their role in the opioid epidemic. The money will be paid out over 18 years and must be used for the prevention, education, and treatment of opioid abuse.  
Nikki Evans may be reached at (904) 255 – 5146 or [nevans@coj.net](mailto:nevans@coj.net).
- 4. Presentation/Guest Speaker:** None
- 5. Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) –** Lt. Russell Lloyd reported that Zone 4 task force to date has made 262 felony arrests, 81 misdemeanor arrests, served 121 warrants, 28 notices to appear, 356 traffic citations, recovered 16 stolen vehicles, forfeited 14 vehicles, seized 146 guns, \$70,000, 273 grams of cocaine, 221 grams of fentanyl and almost 20,000 grams of marijuana worth of cash a deployment has been placed in the Five Points area to curb the various Car Clubs' dangerous street racing occurring during the evenings. Anyone caught spectating or participating in drag racing could face misdemeanor charges. Lt. Bradley Shivers may be reached at (904)573-3165.
- 6. Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department (JFRD) –** District Chief Allen Mason, Fire Prevention, reported that homeowners may purchase a Knox Box for their homes. The Knox Box eliminates barriers and allows Firefighters to quickly gain access to secured properties in an emergency without causing property damage. Currently, JFRD only supports the "Knox Residential Box" and is working on adding the "Knox Home Box." For more information on how to purchase a Knox Box, visit [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com). Chief Mason encouraged everyone to familiarize themselves with their evacuation zones and nearest shelter if they

haven't already done so. Citizens may register for AlertJax Notifications by visiting <https://www.jaxready.com/Alerts.aspx>. Chief Mason reminded CPAC members that JFRD provides and installs free smoke detectors for any qualifying Jacksonville resident who owns and lives in a single-family or two-family residence. The department will also install replacement batteries in existing smoke detectors at no charge. For a free smoke detector or to have batteries replaced in an existing device, please call (904) 630-CITY (2489) or register by visiting the MyJax website [MyJax Customer Help](#). District Chief Allen Mason may be reached at (904) 255-3281.

**7. Chairs Report:** Chair Crosby welcomed the visitors and asked each visitor to introduce themselves. Chair Crosby reported that the CPAC Chairs are scheduled to have their quarterly meeting with Brian Hughes, Chief Administrative Officer, on Friday, August 12, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. Dr. Crosby will be happy to take any of the CPAC members' concerns to Mr. Hughes. Please email your concerns to Michelle at [Michellegw@coj.net](mailto:Michellegw@coj.net).

**8. Staff Reports:**

- **Neighborhood Department: Mosquito Control** – Randy Wishard, Chief of Mosquito Control, reported that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) passed a permit called the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program no longer allows routine spraying for mosquitos. An investigation of the area must be done to justify the spraying of an area. To have an area investigated or tested, a resident must submit a service request through MyJax or by calling 630-CITY. A mosquito truck will be sent out to spray the area if a justifiable number of mosquitos are found. Mr. Wishard stated that to decrease the number of mosquito infestations, checking anything that can hold water, such as birdbaths, flowerpots, and gutters, is beneficial. Mosquitoes can lay 258 eggs in a bottle cap full of water.  
Chief Wishard may be reached at 904-6596 or [WRishard@coj.net](mailto:WRishard@coj.net).
- **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Derek Dixon, Transportation System Manager, reported:
  - Blanding Boulevard (State Road 21) from Allie Murray Road to Long Bay Road (CR220A) will be widened to six lanes as a continuation of the widening of the segment of Blanding Boulevard (State Road 21) from Old Jennings Road to Branan Field Road and from the south to Allie Murray Road. This project includes adding streetlights and constructing a new drainage system, inlets, and small ponds. Medians are being narrowed to allow for roadway widening and curb construction, and some intersection realignment work will be done to better facilitate traffic signals and new travel lane alignment. The project is expected to be completed by the end of August 2022.
  - The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has proposed converting the existing median on Blanding Boulevard (State Road 21) north of 105<sup>th</sup> Street into a directional median. The southbound and northbound turn lanes are designed to provide access to the proposed store and maintain left-in access for both directions of Blanding Boulevard (State Road 21). Public input regarding the proposed median modification may be sent to Maintenance Program Engineer Permits Manager Julian McKinley, P.E. at (904) 360-5458, via email at [julian.mckinley@cot.state.fl.us](mailto:julian.mckinley@cot.state.fl.us) or by mail at 2198 Edison Ave. 32204.  
Derek Dixon may be reached at [Derek.Dixon@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Derek.Dixon@dot.state.fl.us).
- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Lynne Baldwin, Executive Assistant Library Services I, reported:
  - Duval County students reached the summer reading goal and logged 100,000 hours of reading. Ms. Baldwin encouraged CPAC members to read with the youth in their lives for 20 minutes a day because it paves the way to success.
  - Early voting started Monday, August 8, 2022, at various library locations. Early voting runs through August 21 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, August 22, 2022. There is no early voting. Primary voting will take place on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Citizens must vote at their voting precinct on Tuesday, August 23, 2022.
  - The Jacksonville Public Library has partnered with the Duval County Extension Office, which offers gardening programs at different library locations. For a list of classes and sites, please visit the Jacksonville Public Library website <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org>.  
Lynne Baldwin may be reached at (904) 338-4383 or [LBaldwin@coj.net](mailto:LBaldwin@coj.net).

- **Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** – Christopher Billings, Code Compliance Senior Officer, reported that 2,477 inspections were completed From June 9, 2022, through August 8, 2022. A systematic inspection occurred in the Hillcrest neighborhood, resulting in 400 cases. The next systematic inspection will begin in the Hyde Park neighborhood on September 12, 2022. Mr. Billings announced that the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief (JAR) Program now covers dead trees. A homeowner's case must be closed, and the lien must be six months old. To qualify for the JAR Program, you must own and reside in the home, meet financial requirements, and have not used the JAR Program in a year. For more details about the JAR Program, please visit [COJ Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program](#).

Christopher Billings may be reached at (904) 255-7085 or [CBillings@coj.net](mailto:CBillings@coj.net).

Michael Hoffman may be reached at (904) 255-7104 or [LHoffman@coj.net](mailto:LHoffman@coj.net).

- **Public Works** – Justin Gearhart, City Arborist, reported that the 630-CITY Tree Planting program is still taking requests from residents to have trees planted in the city right away in their neighborhood. Citizens can call 630-CITY and request up to two trees be planted in front of their homes in the city right away. A site visit will be made to evaluate the site where the resident wishes to have the trees planted and discuss which trees would suit the area. Residents are asked to monitor and water the trees once a week.

Justin Gearhart may be reached at (904) 255-4327 or [JGearhart@coj.net](mailto:JGearhart@coj.net).

#### 9. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:

- **LUZ Subcommittee & Planning and Development** – Chair Crosby reported that the Southwest CPAC Land Use and Zoning subcommittee reviewed six Land Use and Zoning applications. The LUZ subcommittee made a recommendation to send a letter of recommendation for:

- **Ordinance 2022-0611(Z-4311)** - Rezoning: 0 Collins Road, north of Collins Road and east of Ortega Bluff Parkway – The applicant seeks to rezone approximately 4.86 acres of property to allow for commercial retail development. The CPAC is concerned that the lighting from the development may cause a disturbance to the neighboring residents. The Southwest CPAC opposes the application as presented and recommends the developer ensures a 30 ft. undisturbed natural buffer be added to the north and east sides of the development to eliminate the business lighting from shining into the homes next to the development.

Andy Hetzel may be contacted at (904) 255-7821 or [AHetzel@coj.net](mailto:AHetzel@coj.net).

- **Park Safety Council** – Bruce Tyson shared with the CPAC member that the Park Safety Council (PSC) is still determining the best way to fulfill its duties. He stated that the PSC's duties consist of reviewing and making recommendations about the Park Safety Report created by the Park Facility Safety Officer. The PSC then prepares a quarterly report based on the information found in the report, which is then given to Park Recreation and Community Services, the mayor's office, City Council, and the media. Mr. Tyson stated that presently, only four of the six seats on the PSC are filled. The two vacant seats are for Planning District 1 and Planning District 6. Mr. Tyson invited all interested citizens to attend the next meeting, which will be held on Monday, August 29, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the Ed Ball Bldg. 214 N. Hogan St., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor conference room 851.

#### 10. Unfinished Business - None

#### 11. New Business – None

#### 12. Neighborhood Coordinator's Report:

Michelle Godwin-Ware reported that the 2022 CommUniverCity Training has ended and was successful. It is hoped that graduates will take the information they've learned from CommUniverCity and apply it to benefit their neighborhoods.

Michelle Godwin-Ware may be reached at (904)255-8236 or [Michellegw@coj.net](mailto:Michellegw@coj.net).

#### 13. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements: None

#### 14. Adjourn:

Chair Crosby adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

**Next CPAC Meeting: September 12, 2022, 6:30 p.m.** In-person at Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 810 5805 6180 Passcode: 977007. A formal email notice will be emailed to members.

**Next Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Subcommittee Meeting: September 12, 2022, 5:30 p.m.** In-person at Mary

Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 810 5805 6180 Passcode: 977007. A formal email notice will be emailed to members.

**Summary prepared by** Michelle Godwin, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8236 or [michellegw@coj.net](mailto:michellegw@coj.net). A copy of the audio recording of this Southwest CPAC meeting is available through a Public Information Request by calling 630-CITY. Details about Public Records can be found on the City's Website: [Public Records](#).

**Under the Americans with Disabilities Act**, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days of notification to process; last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at VM (904)255-5466, TTY-(904)255-5475, or email your request to [ADAaccommodationrequest@coj.net](mailto:ADAaccommodationrequest@coj.net).

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