

Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

October 13, 2025, Meeting Summary

Lane Wiley Senior Center, 6710 Wiley Rd. 32210

Zoom Meeting ID: 885 0647 5589 Passcode: 864564

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members In-Person: Christina Purdy, Chair; Bruce Tyson, Trinity Ministries; Shirley Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch; David Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch.

CPAC Members Via Zoom: Chris Ramseyer, Watermill HOA; Ernest Surmons, Glenda Meadows HOA; Sandra Simpson, Chimney Lakes HOA; Sandy Simmons, Blue Lake Estates HOA; Jason Roberts, District 4 Sheriff Watch.

Visitors: Rae Walker, District 4 Sheriff Watch; John Chapman, Freedom at Arbor Mill; Deborah Lowe; Ann Staley; JoAnn Prescott; Elizabeth Reyes; Kendra Roberts; Stefanie Walter, Fishweir Neighborhood Watch.

Visitors via Zoom: Linda and Darell Barrow; Cheyenne Grace Watts; Chincia Kenner.

Staff and Elected Officials: Council Member Rayman Johnson, District 14; Kwasi Dingle, JFRD; Commander Eric Redgate, JSO; Christie Rogers, JPL; Andy Hetzel, Planning and Development; Jared Chemay, MCCC; Tiffany Morales, Military, Veterans Affairs; Tourea Robinson, Parks, Recreation and Community Services; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Al Ferraro, Blight Initiative; Dan Durbec, Keep Jacksonville Beautiful.

Meeting Summary

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Purdy called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified a quorum.
2. **Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The CPAC approved September's meeting summary.
3. **Mayor's Staff Reports:** No Report
4. **Elected Officials:** Council Member Rahman Johnson, District 14, provided the CPAC with the following updates:
 - He has proposed the Wonderland Corridor project. The project aims to revitalize and transform the business corridor along 103rd Street and Blanding Boulevard to Cecil Field. The first phase of funding would be allocated toward beautification projects, including signage, lighting, and cleanups, as well as branding efforts and the establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID). The goal is to create spaces for placemaking on the west side of town.
 - He is seeking to codify the Neighborhood Bill of Rights (NBR) and embed it into Jacksonville's Municipal Code Compliance ordinance, making the resolution legally impactful. Councilman Johnson believes there would be many benefits to codifying the NBR and expects to file an ordinance by the third quarter of 2025.
 - Phase 2 of the Old Middleburg Road widening project was approved. The estimated completion date is 2027.
 - The plan is to replace the Argyle Forest Neighborhood entryway sign at Blanding Boulevard and Argyle Forest Boulevard. The sign is in terrible condition. The design may include solar-powered lighting.
 - The City of Jacksonville's Matching Grant application session is open. The grant is for beautification projects in your communities. Michelle will provide more information regarding the grant.
 - Unfortunately, the funding from the state to assist with bringing a community/senior center to the Argyle Forest area did not come through. Representative Dugan will help advocate for the project and its funding during the new fiscal year.
 - Council Member Johnson will be sending out a survey to solicit recommendations for projects that are needed in District 14.

Council Member Rahman Johnson - (904) 613-6820 or Rahman@coj.net.

5. Guest Speaker/Presentation:

Al Ferraro, Manager of Blight Initiatives, spoke on the Fight Blight initiative and the various ways the program, along with JFRD, assists with the Providing Assistance to Homeless (PATH) program. Many services are provided through the PATH programs, including mental health and substance abuse assistance. The Blight Initiative also collaborates with the Public Works Department to address issues such as clearing ditches and replacing damaged signs. Al Ferraro – (904) 255-8746 or AlbertF@coj.net.

6. Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Commander Redgate reported:

- Crime in District 4 continues to drop. Crimes in all categories have dropped except in kidnapping, which is at 38 and was also 38 this time last year.
- JSO officers respond to many calls for service, go out, and do proactive policing. The Violent Crimes Task Force has taken more than 100 guns off the streets so far.
- During Halloween, the Offenders Tracking Unit, which conducts visits to 2,000 predators citywide in addition to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, will be going out to ensure every single sexual predator in the county does not try to participate in Halloween by giving out candy or having their porch lights on, which they are prohibited by law from doing.
- A Sheriff's Walk is scheduled for Saturday, October 18th, at 10:15 a.m. in the Ortega area, west of HW17. The walk will begin at John Stockton Elementary School, located at 4827 Carlisle Road. Residents will have the opportunity to meet Sheriff T.K. Waters and walk through the neighborhood with him.
- Coffee with a Cop is Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at the Chick-fil-A located at 4495 Roosevelt Blvd. Ste. 601.

Commander Redgate – (904) 573-3165

7. Jacksonville Fire and Rescue (JFRD) – Lt. Kwasi Dingle provided the CPAC with safety tips for the month:

- Citizens are still choosing to fry their turkeys indoors, in the garage, or on patios, which is very dangerous as it is an extreme fire risk and is not recommended.
- Burning outdoors is illegal. The District Chief can issue a \$250 fine to individuals caught burning outdoors. The system is being revamped. Citizens can call the non-emergency number (904) 255-3280, and a fire truck will arrive to instruct the person to extinguish the fire.
- This is Fire Prevention Week. This month's focus is on lithium batteries. If a fire has started in your home due to a Lithium-Ion battery, please exit the house and call 911 instead of trying to put it out with a fire blanket. Fires from Lithium-Ion batteries, commonly found in cell phones, can spread rapidly and grow extremely large, producing intense heat and potentially becoming explosive. Bluetooth fire alarms can be purchased and placed in areas of the home, such as the garage or a storage shed.

Lt. Kwasi Dingle - (904) 630-0434 or KDingle@coj.net.

8. Chairs Report: Chair Purdy provided a summary of the Chairs' meeting with Mayor Deegan on September 15, 2025. There was much discussion related to Land Use and Zoning, homelessness, and the need to promote the Citizens Planning Advisory Committees. The mayor mentioned they are working to recruit more people for the Planning Commission and emphasized the importance of citizen attendance at the various City Council and committee meetings. She also mentioned that a zoning overhaul is underway, although it will take some time. One of the CPAC Chairs suggested changing CPAC's name to CitiPAC.

9. Staff Reports:

- **Keep Jacksonville Beautiful:** Dan Durbec, Environmental Programs Specialist, provided information regarding the Jax Litter League Community Driven Clean-up Initiative. A citywide clean-up challenge where neighborhoods form teams in a race to pick up litter, rack up points, and earn bragging rights. The program will run from October 1st to November 30th. Teams are encouraged to register with Keep Jacksonville Beautiful at <https://jaxnhorg.coj.net/#/>. For more information, please contact Dan Durbec. Dan Durbec – (904) 255-8276 or Ddurbec@coj.net.

- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Christie Rogers, Manager for Branch Services, reported:
 - October is Family History Month. The Jacksonville Public Library is a certified Family Search Affiliate. The Special Collections Department at the Main Library, along with its specialized resources and staff, can provide assistance with family research. Scanners and other equipment are available to scan photos, negatives, books, and documents. Customers may also digitize home movies from VHS or film into formats that can be uploaded, shared, or stored online. As a library cardholder, you can have access to the world's most extensive online collection of vital records, military records, church records, and more.
 - The Friends of the Willow Branch Library, located at 2875 Park Street, will hold its fourth annual Books and Bike Ride event on Saturday, October 25, 2025. A coffee and doughnut break, along with a bike ride featuring local Little Free Libraries, will take place.
 - Murray Hill will host its annual Murray-Hill-O-Ween event and parade on Saturday, October 25, 2025, beginning at 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Bill Brinton Murray Hill Branch Library will stay open until 8 p.m., with games, candy, story time, and crafts.

Christie Rogers -(904) 255-6565 or ChristiR@coj.net.

- **Military Affairs and Veterans Services** – Tiffany Morales, reported:
 - The Celebration of Valor kicks off on October 29, 2025, at 10 a.m. in City Hall's Atrium. Many of the events scheduled for the month of November will be announced
 - The Veterans Day Parade will take place downtown, on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 11:01 a.m. The parade will start on Water Street in front of the Jacksonville Center for Performing Arts and concludes at the Shipyards Parking Lot S before Hogans Creek/Lafayette Street.
 - Wounded Warrior Project will host a Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 17, 2025, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Wounded Warrior Project Headquarters, 4899 Belfort Rd. This is a free event, and costumes are encouraged.
 - The Military Affairs Department is still collecting food for veterans. Non-perishable holiday-themed food can be brought to the MAVS office in City Hall, Suite 175. Please call Tiffany if you need the donation to be picked up.

Tiffany Morales (904) 255-5524 or TMorales@coj.net.

- **Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** - Jared Chemay, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported:
 - The MCC Department will be focusing on providing educational information to the attendees at the CPAC meetings. Citizens may contact their MCC representative if they are interested in obtaining the inspection report numbers.
 - The case regarding the illegal clearing of the property located on Pernicious Street without a land clearing permit was closed when the owner obtained a permit. A couple of other issues were raised, each constituting a separate violation. The owner was issued a warning for someone living in a Recreational vehicle on the property in a residential district. The owner complied and removed the Recreational Vehicles from the property. Officers will continue to monitor the property.
 - In most residential zoned districts, there is a front yard setback requirement of 20 -25 feet from the front of your property line. Vehicles cannot obstruct the sidewalk. A warning is first given to allow the person to comply. If it's a repeat issue, they will then be subject to a fine.
 - Private property lighting. If the property, whether residential or commercial, is not adequately lit, or the lights are not working and pose a safety hazard, you can call 630-CITY (2489) to report the issue.
 - The MCCD also enforces nuisance board-ups, which are any vacant unsecured structures, making them a nuisance. These types of properties tend to attract transients, which can be unsafe for everyone.
 - Citizens may reach out to Jared by email at JChemay@coj.net if they would like a systematic inspection conducted in a specific corridor or neighborhood.
 - The State of Florida statutes require citizens to provide their name and address when making a complaint. There is an exception if it is an immediately life-threatening issue, such as a leaking sewage line or a tree partially hanging over the right-of-way after falling.

Jared Chemay - (904)626-0736 or JChemay@coj.net.

- **Parks, Recreation and Community Services** – Tourea Robinson, Chief of Social Services, reported:
 - A Fall Resource Festival will be held free of charge for those who are 60 years of age and older on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the University of Florida Extension Office, 1010 McDuff Ave. There will be Insurance resource vendors, free vaccines, games, prizes, and pumpkin decorating offered.
 Tourea Robinson - (904) 255-4331 or TRobinson1@coj.net.

10. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:

- **Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Subcommittee:** Chair Purdy announced that the Southwest CPAC LUZ Subcommittee reviewed four applications. The Southwest CPAC LUZ Subcommittee suggested no action be taken on the four applications. The applications were reviewed and discussed by the full CPAC. A motion to approve the applications was made. The motions were seconded and unanimously passed by the CPAC.
 - **2025-0755 – Planned Unit Development Rezoning – 9437 Collins Rd.:** The applicant seeks to add the use of a service station and oil change facility to the existing PUD.
 - **2025-0757 – Planned Unit Development Rezoning – 6916 103rd St.:** The application seeks to rezone 5.54 acres of land from CCG-1 and 2 to PUD. Proposed Phase 1 will consist of a personal property storage facility on Parcel B. Phase 2 will consist of commercial uses, medical uses, or up to one hundred and ten (110) multi-family, townhouse, or rowhouse residential uses on Parcel A.
 - **E-25-49 – Zoning Exception – 6300 Yukon Rd.:** The applicant seeks an exception for an indoor gun range in CCG-2.
 - **AD-25-64 – Administrative Deviation – 6300 Yukon Rd.:** The applicant seeks to remove previous parking requirements.
- Andy Hetzel - (904) 255-7821 or AHetzel@coj.net.

- **Taxation Revenue Utilization Expenditure (T.R.U.E.) Commission** – Bruce Tyson reported: The TRUE Commission met on Thursday, October 2, 2025, and reviewed several audits. The meeting summary will be sent to Michelle to send to everyone.
- **CPAC Chair and Vice Chair Nomination Subcommittee** – Shirley Lowry announced the selected slate of officers for the position of Chair and Vice Chair for 2026. The committee selected Christina Purdy to be placed on the ballot for chair and Earnest Surmons for Vice Chair. Nominations will be taken from the floor on Monday, November 10th, the day of the elections.

11. Neighborhood Coordinator's Report: Michelle Godwin-Ware announced that:

- The City of Jacksonville Neighborhoods Matching Grant application cycle has opened. Neighborhood Organizations, civic groups, homeowners, and condo associations may apply for a matching grant for up to \$5,000 to complete a beautification project in their community. Please visit the COJ website at <https://www.jacksonville.gov/nmgrp> for more information or contact Ray Eslinger at (904) 255-8272 or EEslinger@coj.net for more details.
- Michelle Godwin-Ware - 904-255-8236 or Michellelegw@coj.net.

12. Unfinished Business – None

- #### 13. New Business
- Chair Purdy announced that the Southwest CPAC was still in need of a Co-Chair to run the meetings if she is sick or out of town during a meeting. Nominations were taken from the floor. Bruce Tyson nominated himself from the floor to act as Co-Chair for the remainder of the year. A vote was taken, and the Southwest CPAC nominated Bruce Tyson as Co-Chair for the remainder of the year.

14. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements:

- **Rae Walker** announced that the Sheriff Watch meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at the Lane Wiley Senior Center, 6710 Wiley Rd. The topic of discussion will be human trafficking.
- **Chair Purdy** announced that Shirley Lowry will be celebrating her birthday this month and wished her a happy birthday.

15. Adjourn: Chair Purdy adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Next CPAC Meeting: November 10, 2025, 6:30 p.m. In person at Lane Wiley Senior Center, 6710 Wiley Rd., and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 821 7431 0303 Passcode: 693048. A formal email notice will be sent to members.

Next Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Subcommittee Meeting: November 10, 2025, 5:30 p.m. In person at Lane Wiley Senior Center, 6710 Wiley Rd., and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 821 7431 0303 Passcode: 693048. A formal email notice will be sent to members.

Summary prepared by Michelle Godwin, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8236 or 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](#).

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow three (3) business days for processing your notification. 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 karaI@coj.net.