

Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

September 8, 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; Jenny Watson, CHAPS; Bernice Gremer, Fishweir Neighborhood Watch; Shirley Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch; David Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch; Bruce Tyson, Trinity Ministries.

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

Visitors: Rae Walker, District 4 Sheriff Watch; Solomon Siyoum, Blue Nile; Leonard Coleman, Blue Nile; Darnell Greene, Liberty Square; Phylis Mattox, NEFHSC; Cheyenne Watts, Daughters of King; Stefanie Walter, Fishweir Neighborhood Watch.

Visitors via Zoom: Bill Fonferek, John Chapman.

Staff and Elected Officials: Lt. Kwasi Dingle, JFRD; Lt. Russell Lloyd, JSO; Christie Rogers, JPL; Andy Hetzel, Planning and Development; Don Tuten, JEA; Jared Chemay, MCCD; Jeremy Wright, Public Works; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Ian Clark, Beep.

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 the summary from the August 11th meeting.
3. **Mayor's Staff Reports:** No Report
4. **Elected Officials: Council Member** Rahman Johnson, District 14, announced that 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.

Council Member Rahman Johnson, Ph.D., District 14 - (904) 613-6820 or Rahman@coj.net.

5. **Guest Speaker/Presentation:**

Ian Clark, Senior Product Manager of Beep Inc., provided a presentation on Beep's Neighborhood Autonomous Vehicle Innovation (NAVI), the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) autonomous vehicle service. NAVI will be the nation's first fully autonomous public transportation system, launched in Jacksonville, Florida. Beep will operate and maintain the NAVI service. A fleet of 14 electric, autonomous, Buy America, and ADA-compliant Ford E-Transit vehicles integrated with Oxa's automated driving system (ADS). The vehicles will be deployed along the Bay Street Innovation Corridor, a 3.5-mile route in Downtown Jacksonville with 12 stops, spanning from the Central Business Core to the Sports and Entertainment Districts, to encourage downtown revitalization.

Ian Clark – Ian.Clark@ridebeep.com

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Lt. Russell Lloyd reported:

- All crime rates are in a downward trend. Year-to-date, crimes against persons are down 7.5%, and crimes against property have decreased by 19.12%.
- District 4 has a task force that works specifically in the district to focus on handling crime, such as recovering stolen vehicles and taking bad individuals off the street. This task force has made over 215,000 arrests, 72 misdemeanor arrests, served 90 warrants, recovered 20 stolen vehicles, seized five vehicles, 76 guns, and seized over \$21,000 in cash. This includes the seizure of drugs such as cocaine, fentanyl, and oxycodone, to name a few.

Lt. Russell Lloyd – (904) 828-5463.

6. Jacksonville Fire and Rescue (JFRD) – Lt. Kwasi Dingle provided the CPAC with information regarding stroke and heart attack signs and symptoms, and how to provide Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). In the event of an emergency, call 911 immediately.

- The City of Jacksonville is not offering any permits to do any outside residential burning. Trash should be bagged up and placed at the curb to be collected by your trash collector. We do not recommend that residents engage in any outside burning because small fires can quickly escalate into large ones.
- A safety checklist is available to help citizens look at little things throughout their home that may be a hazard and start a fire. Smoke detectors are an essential tool to help you escape a fire before it is too late to get out of the home. Duval County residents who own their homes may call (904) 630-2488 (CITY) to request a free smoke detector installation. If you don't own the house and are renting, contact your landlord and let them know that they can request that a smoke detector be placed in the home. The code requires it and is a requirement. If the landlord is not complying, please call JFRD, and we will do our best to accommodate you. Your safety is our top priority.

Lt. Kwasi Dingle - (904) 255-3284 or DingleK@coj.net.

7. Chairs Report: The Chair Purdy announced that the CPAC Chairs' quarterly meeting will take place on Monday, September 15, 2025, at 11 a.m. in City Hall, with Mayor Deegan in attendance. Questions should be sent to Michelle by Friday afternoon, and she will send them to me to bring them to Mayor Deegan. Chair Purdy asked for volunteers to serve on the Chair and Vice Chair Nominating Subcommittee. Shirley Lowry, David Lowry, and Bernice Gremer volunteered to serve on the nominating subcommittee.

8. Staff Reports:

• **Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) – Don Tuten, Governmental Affairs, reported:**

- Don Tuten encouraged CPAC members to become familiar with the JEA website and review the Storm Center and Outage Center links. JEA will continue to use its Power Restoration 1, 2, 3 processes to quickly assess and repair service to facilities, customers, and restore isolated outages. CPAC members can visit https://www.jea.com/storm_center/power_restoration_process/ to learn more about Power Restoration 1, 2, 3. Power outages may be reported and tracked by calling (904) 655-6000.
- Customers should download the new mobile app called "My JEA". It allows customers to manage their utility accounts from their smartphones. The app also enables users to track outages, request payment assistance, and update account information.
- If customers are having some challenges for the month, they can request payment assistance by either calling JEA's customer center or making an appointment online to visit the customer center.
- Every third Wednesday of the month, JEA hosts a Senior Day at the JEA Headquarters downtown. The event brings various city resources to one location. A JEA representative will also be there to assist seniors with their bills. The next event is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the JEA Headquarters, located at 225 N. Pearl St. Those interested in attending may register by calling 211 or (904) 632-0600. Preregistration is encouraged but not required.
- To minimize your risk of getting scammed by someone using JEA as a cover, please remember that JEA will never require a customer to purchase a prepaid card to pay their bill. JEA also does not take payments from Cash App, Venmo, Bitcoin, or PayPal. We will never ask for your bank information over the phone. Customers can make payments through JEA's website, through the new JEA app, by phone, by automatic bank draft, by mail, or in person. Do not open the door for someone claiming to be with JEA and stating they are there to cut off your power; instead, call the police. We will never visit your home without arranging an appointment with you in advance.

Don Tuten - Dtuten@coj.net.

• **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** –Christie Rogers, Manager for Branch Services, reported:

- September is Library Card Sign-Up month. Residents without a library card are encouraged to obtain one free of charge, which will provide access to a variety of resources, including books, e-books, online classes, and more.
- The annual Jax Book Fest will return this year and be held over two Saturdays at the Main Library. Both days are free. The first day, Writers Day, will take place on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 10 a.m.

to 3:30 p.m. Free writing and publishing workshops, led by publishers, authors, and other industry insiders, will be available. Between workshops, there will also be tours, opportunities to network with local writers' groups, and more. The second day is Youth Readers' Day, scheduled for Saturday, September 20, 2025, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. A Teen Lit Chat Author Interview with *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author Shannon Messenger of the *Keeper of the Lost Cities* series, and a Junior Lit Chat Author Talk with *New York Times* best-selling author and U.S. National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, Mac Barnett. Throughout the day, you'll have opportunities to meet and support over 50 local authors, explore the new River City Reader Book Mobile, and participate in fun giveaways, face painting, and other engaging book-related activities.

Lynne Baldwin - (904) 255-6565 or ChristiR@coj.net.

- **Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** - Jared Chemay, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported:
 - That the City of Jacksonville's Municipal Code Compliance Department enforces four chapters, which include property safety and maintenance, zero tolerance enforcement for rigorous signs, as well as addressing and street naming ordinances.
 - The Municipal Code Compliance Department will be happy to respond to any complaints in preparation for the hurricane season. We will address issues related to trash and debris that are on a property, as these items can become projectiles in a hurricane situation. This could include any damaged commercial signs, as well as addressing any dead or damaged trees. All issues should be reported to (904) 630- CITY (2489). Citizens are first given a warning, allowing them an opportunity to correct the problem before being issued a citation.
 - Tarps placed over a roof or windows for weatherization can only be in place for 30 days. In the event of an emergency, such as a hurricane, where the storm damages the roof or windows, the tarp can remain in place for up to six months. An extension can be filed if a legal matter prohibits the damage from being repaired within six months.
 - It is imperative that home addresses are visible from the street. It enables emergency vehicles, especially during emergencies, to reach residents.

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

- **Public Works (PW)** – Jeremy Wright, Facility Manager, reported that:
 - Citywide Public Works has resurfaced approximately 30 miles of roads and mowed approximately 160,000 acres. A total of 7,500 care tickets or MyJax have been closed, and 1,900 are open.
 - A total of 33 Capital Improvement projects are active in District 4, with 15 of them in the design phase, in progress, or final review, and three are complete and under warranty period.
 - The Collins Road sidewalk project is scheduled to begin next year. The project involves constructing a new 6-foot sidewalk along the Collins Commerce Center area. The project should improve pedestrian safety.
 - Traffic upgrades are scheduled for Firestone Road and Wheat Road. A new traffic signal and a pedestrian crossing.
 - The Old Middleburg Lighting Project from Parman Road to 103rd Street is approximately 65% complete.

Jeremy Wright - (904) 255-4331 or WrightJ@coj.net.

9. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:

- **Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Subcommittee:** The Southwest CPAC reviewed Ordinance 2025-0635. A motion was made and seconded to approve the application. The CPAC unanimously passed the motion.
- **2025-0635 (WRF-25-11) – Waiver Road Frontage- 6152 Catoma Rd.:** The applicant seeks to reduce the required footage from 160 feet to zero. The parcel is roughly 3 acres in size. The applicant proposes to subdivide the land into roughly two two-acre parcels, one for herself and one for her son.

Andy Hetzel - (904) 255-7821 or AHetzel@coj.net.

- **Taxation Revenue Utilization Expenditure (T.R.U.E.) Commission** – Bruce Tyson reported:
- The T.R.U.E. Commission met on Thursday, September 4, 2025, in City Hall, located at 117 W. Duval St. Council Member Mike Gay, District 2, provided an update on Bill 2024-729 E, which pertains to changes in the procurement code. Much discussion was held regarding the tax reduction of an eighth of a mill and how it will be implemented if approved by the City Council.
- **Parks Safety Council (PSC)** – No Report

10. Unfinished Business – None

11. New Business – None

12. Neighborhood Coordinator's Report: Michelle Godwin-Ware reported:

- CPAC members must retake their Ethics Training every four years. Individuals whose ethics training has expired will be contacted and provided with the necessary information to register for the next available ethics training session.

Michelle Godwin-Ware - 904-255-8236 or Michellegw@coj.net.

13. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements:

- Solomon Siyoum and Leonard Coleman came to speak with the Southwest CPAC members in reference to the application they submitted, Ordinance 2025-0516. The CPAC denied the application due to a lack of information provided by the applicant. Mr. Siyoum answered several questions regarding the application, hoping that CPAC would reconsider its recommendation. The Chair suggested that Mr. Siyoum bring the young lady who will be running the facility to the next Southwest CPAC meeting, scheduled for October 13, 2025, and perhaps she could answer the questions he was unable to address.
- Rae Walker invited CPAC members to attend the Sheriff's Watch meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 7 p.m. at the Lane Wiley Senior Center, 6710 Wiley Rd. On Saturday, October 18th, Sheriff T.K. Waters is leading a neighborhood walk. We will meet at 10:30 a.m. at John Stockton Elementary School, located at 4827 Carlisle Rd.

14. Adjourn: Chair Purdy adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Next CPAC Meeting: October 13, 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: October 13, 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](#).

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations are available for persons with disabilities upon request. Please allow (3) three business days' 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 KaraT@coj.net.