

Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory

January 9, 2025

Hybrid Meeting: Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Dr., 32208 and via ZOOM Webinar.

Meeting Attendance:

CPAC Members: Rhonda Boyd, CPAC Chair, Timber Oaks HOA; Vanessa Cullins-Hopkins, CPAC Vice Chair, Pebo Corp.; Sallie Barnes, Robinson's Addition; Elaine Billips, Better Living Community Association; Roxsan Currier, Marietta Senior Center; Constance DeVaughn, Woodstock Neighborhood Association; Jacqueline Harrington, Grand Park; Dr. Brenda Boston Hudson, Marie Barnie Boston Scholarship Foundation; Camika Jerido, USA Unlimited, Inc.; Roxie McLeod, Panama Park Neighborhood Association; Bervinda Mincey, Moncrief Springs Neighborhood Association; Velma Rounsville, Timber Oaks HOA; Lana Suggs Champion, Carver International; Ginny Winters, Pickettville Civic Club; Leroy Kelly, Carver International; Henry Scott, North Riverside CDC.

Excused: Cynthia Brown, Robinson's Addition; Murphy Nmezi, Royal Terrace; Doretha Tompkins, Riverview.

Elected Officials and Staff: The Honorable Tyrone Clark-Murray, City Council District 9; The Honorable Matt Carlucci, City Council At-Large Group 4; Cory Armstrong, Council Assistant to Matt Carlucci; Dylan Reingold, Office of General Counsel; Steve Long, Public Works Operations Director; Paula Renfro, Duval County Public Schools; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Lieutenant Clarence Hodge, JFRD; Lisa Buggs, JPL; Lieutenant John Gay, JSO Zone 5; Michael Pearson, MCCD; Kaysie Cox, Planning and Development; Stephen Naghe, Planning and Development; Dan Durbec, Keep Jacksonville Beautiful.

Guests: Toni Piccolotti; Joni Turner, GroundWork Jacksonville; Carol Gamble, Moncrief Springs Association; Antonia Bryant, Lake Park; Danielle Dunbar, Gloria McNair, GroundWork Jacksonville; Samuel McClelland; Gwendolyn Harris, Timber Oaks HOA; Rachel Lyons; Ameena Shareef, Metro Garden Neighborhood Association; Katrina Spencer, Metro Garden 300 Brentwood; Cantrece Jones; Toinette Wells, Lake Forest Next-Door Charity Network.

ZOOM: Corrie; Ernest Smith; Brad Straley; Shamari Lewis; Bettye Scott, Ribault Manor.

Meeting Summary

1.Call to Order/Verify Quorum: NW CPAC Chair, Rhonda Boyd, called the January 9, 2025, NW CPAC Meeting to order at 6:04 pm. Edwina Henry verified that a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

2.Approval of November 14, 2024, Meeting Summary – tabled for February 13, 2025.

3. Presenter: Kaysie Cox, City Planner III, provided a training on Land Use and Zoning applications, process, and descriptions of the various types of applications.

Ms. Cox distributed a document entitled, Criteria for Staff Reports and Considerations by City Council/Planning Commission/Zoning Administrator.

This document/information can be found in Part I of the City of Jacksonville's Zoning Code: https://library.municode.com/fl/jacksonville/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TITXVIII_LA_US_CH656ZOCO

Kaysie Cox – KaysieC@coj.net or (904) 255-7823

4.Elected Officials Report: The Honorable Matt Carlucci, City Council Member, read a statement regarding his proposed Solid Waste Fee Increase and provided copies of his statement, along with a one page Frequently Asked Questions hand-out and a draft analysis of Fee Increase and Impact on Operating Loan information page.

Council Member Carlucci is proposing a solid waste fee increase from \$12.65 per month to \$30.40 per month. He stated that the current fee does not cover the actual cost of residential garbage pickup, and that the City is running an estimated \$40 million deficit each year just for residential services.

The \$30.40 per month fee is proposed so that the solid waste fee reflects the true cost of service.

A companion bill has been introduced which will provide an exemption for those who cannot afford the solid waste fee.

He is visiting the CPACs to present the information so that they can share within their community networks and provide feedback on the proposed fee increase.

Council Member Carlucci and team responded to questions:

- The Solid Waste Fee is located on the property tax bill, no change to property tax
- There's an application for low-income, must be 150% of federal poverty level

Council Member Matt Carlucci MCarlucci@coj.net or (904) 255-5218

In attendance with Council Member Carlucci were:

Cory Armstrong, Executive Council Assistant CoryA@coj.net or (904) 255-5759

Dylan Reingold, Attorney VI, Office of General Counsel DReingold@coj.net (904) 255-5077

Steve Long, Public Works Operational Director, SLong@coj.net or (904) 255-8748

It was noted that members of the press were present.

The Honorable Tyrone Clark-Murray, City Council District 9, shared information on the following:

- Adult Arcades – Council Member Clark-Murray, issued another reminder to avoid the adult arcades, as they are a center of crime activity. Several arrests were made during recent JSO raids. She also stated that the raids reported in the news were in Council District 9.
- Council Member Clark-Murray also stated that it was the death of a young man that prompted the JSO raid of a particular adult arcade. The arcades are robbed frequently, but because they are engaged in illegal activities, crimes are not reported to JSO.
- Lastly, Council Member Clark-Murray praised JSO District 5 Commander Massey and others for their efforts.

Council Member Clark-Murray – TclarkMurray@coj.net or (904) 255-5209

5. Chair's Report: NW CPAC Chair Rhonda Boyd reported on the following:

- The City's Capital Improvement Plan Administrator, Kathleen Collins, has requested, pursuant to Section 122.604 of City of Jacksonville's municipal code, that each CPAC solicit member neighborhoods to determine and identify one (1) priority capital improvement project request for each neighborhood in the CPAC.

Projects will be considered for inclusion into the 5th year of the proposed FY2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) subject to available funding. The project list is due to the CIP Administrator no later than Friday, February 21, 2025.

NW CPAC Chair Boyd is requesting CPAC Members to consult with their neighbors and forward their list to the CPAC Coordinator, Edwina Henry, no later than Monday, February 10, 2025, for consideration.

- Chair Boyd thanked Mr. Leroy Kelly for chairing the LUZ Subcommittee and understands he would like to step down from that responsibility. Roxsan Currier has been filling in for Mr. Kelly and has expressed an interest in assuming the responsibility full time.

Chair Boyd asked for a formal recommendation that Ms. Currier be the next LUZ Subcommittee Chair. It was properly moved and seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Roxsan Currier is the Chair of the LUZ Subcommittee.

- The CPAC Chairs' Quarterly Meeting is Friday, January 24, 2025. Chair Boyd asked if there were any concerns the CPAC would like for her to address at the Quarterly meeting.

There were no comments.

6. Staff Reports: (three-minute time limit)

- **Neighborhoods Department** – Dan Durbec, Environmental Programs Specialist, distributed fliers on the America Recycles Day & Florida’s Arbor Day Event: Saturday, January 18, 2025, from 9 am to 1 pm, at Lot E of Everbank Field, 1680 Adams St., 32202.

The event will feature drop-off paper shredding and a free tree giveaway. For more information please contact Keep Jacksonville Beautiful (KJB) at (904) 255-8276.

Dan Durbec DDurbec@coj.net or (904) 255-8276

- **Duval County Public Schools** – Paula Renfro, Chief Officer, Academic Services, announced that Dr. Bernier will hold a series of Superintendent’s Town Hall Meetings to discuss the current state and future of Duval County Public Schools.
 - 1/14/2025 – Kernan Middle School, 6 – 7:30 pm
 - 1/16/2025 – Highlands Middle School, 6 – 7:30 pm
 - 1/21/2025 – Chaffee Trial Middle School, 6 – 7:30 pm
 - 1/23/2025 – Alfred I. duPont Middle School, 6 – 7:30 pm
 - 1/28/2025 – Arlington Middle School, 6 – 7:30 pm
- Duval County Public Schools is launching the “Be Safe. Be Seen.” Pedestrian and bicycle safety initiative. In Florida, Jacksonville ranks as the third most deadly metropolitan area for pedestrians and cyclists. Due to this alarming fact, DCPS will be teaming up with multiple community partners in a “Be Safe. Be Seen.” Campaign, whose goal is to make Jacksonville’s streets safer for the children.

The campaign, will run from January 21 – 31, 2025 and will feature two components:

- Classroom Instruction – practical guidance for students on how to safely walk and bike to their destination. The safety lessons will be held annually.
 - PSA Videos – a series of short PSA-style videos on the DCPS district’s social media, containing important reminders for drivers, to not drive distracted and to vigilantly watch for children.
- Saturday, January 11, 2025, is Showcase Saturday for Middle and High School community visits and enrollment. The event time is 9 am to 2 pm.
 - The question arose as to whether there was a correlation between the number of pedestrian accidents involving students and the increased distance Middle and High School students must now walk to school due to reduced bus service.
 - Dr. Renfro is not aware of any studies or statistics to that point but will investigate and bring back her findings to the CPAC.

Paula Renfro renfrop@duvalschools.org or (904) 390-2000

- **JSO** – Lieutenant John Gay, stated that crime statistics are available on the JSO Transparency Portal – <https://transparency.jaxsheriff.org>

Completed calls for service 8,900

In 2024 Jacksonville had 82 homicides, which is a 48% reduction from 2023.

Lieutenant Gay, also encourage participation in the Connect Duval Program.
<https://connectduval.org>

When neighbors register their security cameras with ConnectDuval, they help JSO and JFRD better assess and rapidly respond to criminal activity and emergency situations. It will also enable investigators to easily gather evidence in case of an accident. To date, there are 4,105 registered security cameras.

Lieutenant Gay also provided follow-up information on speed complaints:

- MLK Drive – 2 warnings and citations issued – not much speeding observed
- Rowe Avenue – 17 citations and 20 warnings issued
- Commonwealth – 1 warning and citation, commercial vehicles reported were not seen.

Lieutenant Gay encouraged attendance at the Sheriff Watch meetings;

- 1/13 – Schell-Sweet Community Resource Center – 1697 Kings Road
- 1/14 – Baldwin Senior Center – 850 Center Street North
- 1/21 – District 6 – Highlands Regional Library – 1826 Dunn Avenue

JSO is hiring. For more information and to apply: <https://www.jaxsheriff.org/Careers>

Lieutenant John Gay - JSODistrict5@jaxsheriff.org or (904) 470-8318

FDOT – Derek Dixon, Transportation Systems Development, distributed copies of the FDOT Tentative Five-Year Work Program Public Hearings Process. For access to the FDOT Five Year Work Program, go to: <https://www.fdot.gov/topics/fdot-work-program/district-2-wp-public-hearings/district-2-documents>

In responding to questions about specific projects, Mr. Dixon reminded the CPAC that they can check on projects at <https://www.nfl.com> and <https://www.flroads.com>

In response to a question about lighting on the freeway, Mr. Dixon asked that the specific location be emailed to him for investigation and that it might be a JEA matter.

Derek Dixon - Derek.Dixon@dot.state.fl.us or (904) 360-5653

JPL - Lisa Buggs, Manager for Branch Services, shared the following information:

- The Jacksonville Public Library is commemorating the 75th anniversary of San Marco Branch Library with a “Call for Memories” and a series of public programs focused on the past, present and future of the neighborhood. Ms. Buggs encouraged everyone to pick up a card from the “Call for Memories” display and write their fondest memories, favorite book, etc.
- The Memory Lab at the Main Branch can assist with the conversion of old photographs, home movies, VHS tapes or films into digital formats. Call (904)255-BOOK to schedule an appointment or for more information.
- JPL is partnering with AARP to offer Free Tax Preparation by appointment only. The last day for appointments is Tuesday, April 15, 2025 – Tax Day. For a location nearest you, call (904) 701-3462 or visit <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/blog/free-tax-preparation-available-aarp>
- The Celebrate Reading Week Book Review Writing contest is accepting entries from K-12 students in Duval County from December 16, 2024, through February 22, 2025. The best book review from each age group (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and grades 9-12) wins! For more information <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/blog/kids-and-teens-win-100-writing-best-book-review> Ms. Buggs distributed fliers.
- The Friends of Bradham and Brooks is hosting New York Times and USA Today best selling author, Brenda Jackson, on Saturday, February 8, from 2-4 pm, at the Bradham and Brooks Branch Library, 1755 Edgewood Avenue W. An audience Q & A and book signing will follow the discussion. This event is free and open to the public. Contact (904) 255-BOOK for more information.

Lisa Buggs – Lbuggs@coj.net or (904) 255-6663

JFRD – Lieutenant Clarence Hodge, gave a demonstration of Hands-On-CPR at the November CPAC meeting. For January, Lieutenant Hodge demonstrated the proper technique for using the Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

- Lieutenant Hodge stated that “early by-stander” CPR should be used while waiting for the defibrillator to arrive.
- The automated defibrillator “talks” and provides “next steps.” It is important to lay the person on their back or on a hard surface. The AED comes with a disposable shaver for hairy chests. The device monitors vitals and will not deliver a “shock” if the person does not need it.
- In response to questions, Lieutenant Hodge stated that he is not aware of any purchase programs through the city; and that problems with fire hydrants should be directed to JEA or call 630-CITY.

Lieutenant Clarence Hodge – Hodge@coj.net or (904) 255-3284

MCCD – Michael Pearson, Code Compliance Supervisor, stated 2,695 inspections were completed during the last 30 days.

- To report nuisance board-up requests, please call 630-CITY.
- Traffic Engineering handles signage.
- When making reports, please remember that anonymous complaints will not be investigated, callers must provide their name, location and preferably a phone number.
- MCCD is currently interviewing for Code Enforcement Officers.
- When making reports, duplicate cases will be closed out, however, the “case closed” message should have been noted with the first case number for that complaint.

Michael Pearson – Mpearson@coj.net or (904) 627-6080

Neighborhood Services Office – Edwina Henry, Neighborhood Coordinator, provided an update on the Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) Conference, hosted by the City of Jacksonville. The conference will be held May 20 – 23, 2025, at the Prime Osborn Convention Center and urged CPAC members to consider submitting a workshop proposal. Proposals are due Friday, January 10, 2025. For more information, please visit <https://www.nusa.org>.

Edwina Henry – Ehenry@coj.net or (904) 255-8260

7. Old Business: None.

8. New Business: New CPAC Members were not present.

9. Subcommittee and Liaison Reports: In the interest of time, subcommittee and liaison reports will be held over to the February meeting.

10. Public Comments and Announcements: Roxie McLeod, Panama Park Neighborhood Association, spoke on their Neighborhood Garden and indicated that the University of Florida (UF) will host a Master Gardner Workshop, Saturday, January 11, 2025, from 10 am to 12 pm. Additionally, Ms. McLeod announced that Panama Park received one of the City of Jacksonville’s Matching Grants and they will be making improvements to their garden.

11. Adjournment: It was properly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. 8:22 pm.

The next Northwest CPAC Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6 pm.