

## North Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

### August 9, 2023, Meeting Summary

Oceanway Senior Center, 12215 Sago Ave. W

Zoom Meeting ID: 869 9318 1164

Passcode: 595972

#### Meeting Attendance

**CPAC Members:** Dr. Donald Green, Chair; Jamie Lacy, Vice Chair; Jane Love, Amelia View; Pat Hilleman, Amelia View; Michael and Shelley Wozniak, Lydia Estates; Deborah Green, Captiva Bluff HOA; Larry Henderson, Victoria Preserve HOA; Bob Austin, Blue Grass Northwood; Dot Mathias, Charter Member; Tommy Ruffin, Council Appointee District 8; Joseph Tate, Copper Hill Assoc.; Mike Getchell, Eagle Island; Vicki Drake, DCPS PTS/PTA Association.

**Zoom:** Josephine Fiveash-Porter, Northlake HOA; Glenn Fowler, Northside Business Leaders; Matt Stone, Marshwinds HOA; Jim Sumara, HDCC; Jennifer Casey, Parque Diane HOA.

**Visitors:** Robert Garsham; Charles Barr; Tina Feggan; Sylvester Wilkios; Kelvin Postell; Brian Small, Bird Dog; Max Andrews Bird Dog; Helena Washington; Donald Drake; Robertha Walley; Janetta Jones, Smith Pointe HOA; Althea Mikell, Victoria Preserve Phase 2; Paul Forte; Gress and Glenda Jaudon; Sasha Pearson, Victoria Preserve; Barbara Wright, Summerwalk.

**Zoom:** Donna Philbrick, SMN, Inc.; Lynn Vandenhoy, SMN, Inc.; Christina Salas; Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity; Ernestine Johnson; Pat Medley; Mary Sperow.

**Staff and Elected Officials:** Council Member Reggie Gaffney Jr. District 8; Capt. Byron Jackson, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department; Assist. Chief Chuck Ford, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office; Victoria Schultz, DCPS; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Jackie Spiritas, Jacksonville Public Libraries; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Conner Corrigan, Planning and Development Department; Charles Benson, MCCC; David Johnston, Inspectors General Office; Cantrece Jones, ADG Mark.

#### Meeting Summary

- **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Dr. Donald Green called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified a quorum.
- **Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The June 14, 2023, summary was approved by the CPAC.
- **Elected Officials Report:** Council Member Reggie Gaffney Jr., District 8, reported that:
  - The Council District boundaries have changed, and he was elected in May to serve what is now Council District 8.
  - Mayor Deegan will host her community conversation for Council District 8 on Monday, September 11, 2023, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Florida State College at Jacksonville's North Campus, 4501 Capper Rd.
  - The City Council is reviewing the budget. Council Member Gaffney Jr. will update the CPAC regarding the infrastructure projects and development in District 8 after the budget has been approved.
  - Council Member Gaffney Jr. has met with Chick-fil-A numerous times regarding building the new restaurant near First Coast High School.
  - A new polling precinct will be added to District 8 near the Airport.
  - He will meet with Daryl Joseph, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services, and obtain a list of existing parks in District 8 and the plans for a new park.
  - The Gold Rush Hotel is on the nuisance and abatement board's radar.

Council Member Reggie Gaffney Jr. may be reached by calling his office at (904) 255-5207 or emailing [RGaffneyJr@coj.net](mailto:RGaffneyJr@coj.net).

- **Chair Report:** Chair Green reported that:
  - The CPAC chairs were invited to meet with the Neighborhoods Initiatives Subcommittee of the Mayor's Neighborhood Infrastructure Transition Committee. There was a discussion about CPACs. The subcommittee asked the chairs about each district's main issues and challenges. They also asked if making the CPACs smaller would benefit CPACs. The chairs did not favor reducing the size of CPACs and stated it would make membership a problem. The chairs stated that the city should promote CPACs better by advertising their existence. They would like more participation in CPACs from the Mayor's office and City Council Representatives.
  - It is his turn as the North CPAC Chair to represent CPACs on the Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) Surtax Citizen Oversight Committee. He has been invited to the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Rutledge Pearson Elementary School replacement on Thursday, August 10, 2023. The next DCPS Surtax Citizen Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2023, at the Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and is open to the public.
  - The North CPACs Governmental Affairs (GA) Subcommittee would like to invite CPAC members to become part of the GA Subcommittee. The committee reviews the land use and zoning applications and makes recommendations to the City Council, the land use and zoning committee, and the planning commission.
  - Chair Green also announced that a representative from the North CPAC is needed for the Taxation, Revenue Utilization, and Expenditure (TRUE) Commission. CPAC members who are interested in the TRUE Commission may contact Mrs. Godwin-Ware. The TRUE Commission meets in City Hall at 4 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.
- **Presentation:**
- **David Johnston**, Inspectors General Office, briefly explained the purpose and services provided by the Office of Inspector General (OIG). Services provided include but are not limited to:
  - The independent oversight of government operations.
  - Detecting and preventing fraud, waste, mismanagement, misconduct, and other abuses by elected and appointed officials and employees, contractors, their subcontractors and lower tier subcontractors, and other parties doing business with the City or receiving county or City funds.
  - Conduct audits and investigations, including whistleblower investigations and contract oversight.
  - Citizens may contact the OIG to report fraud, waste, or abuse using the OIG Hotline (904) 255-5813 or by email at [InspectorGeneral@coj.net](mailto:InspectorGeneral@coj.net). More information on reporting allegations of fraud, mismanagement, or other abuses can be found by visiting the OIG website at [COJ.net - Report Waste, Fraud & Abuse](http://COJ.net - Report Waste, Fraud & Abuse).
 David Johnston may be reached at [DJohnston@coj.net](mailto:DJohnston@coj.net).
- **Cantrece Jones, CEO of Acuity Design Group (ADG) Mark**, announced that:
  - Acuity Design Group, Inc. is a consultant with the City of Jacksonville on the COJ Parks and Recreation Master Plan. To better understand residents' needs and desires for their parks, a survey was sent out to a select group of people based on demographics. However, ADG Mark would like everyone to complete the survey regardless of their demographics. The survey can be found by visiting the Jacksonville Parks Master Plan website at [Imaginejaxparks.com](http://Imaginejaxparks.com).
  - Mrs. Jones also announced that citizens may still provide feedback to the Transportation Planning Division to help identify problems and issues they face during their daily travels using Venture Out Jacksonville's interactive map. The map allows individuals to identify transportation, infrastructure, and safety issues throughout Jacksonville. Citizens may visit the Venture Out Jacksonville website at [Ventureoutjax.com](http://Ventureoutjax.com). For more information or assistance imputing information, contact Ms. Jones at (904)619-8605 or [CJones@adgmark.com](mailto:CJones@adgmark.com). The map is to identify long-term transportation issues. If you have immediate maintenance issues, please call (904) 630-CITY (2487).
 Cantrece Jones may be reached at (904) 619-8605 or [CJones@adgmark.com](mailto:CJones@adgmark.com).

- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** – Assistant Chief Chuck Ford thanked the neighborhoods that participated in the National Night Out event last week. The San Mateo neighborhood shined. Participating officers enjoyed the time spent with the residents of the area. Asst. Chief Ford reported that:
  - The Sheriff's Watch meeting for Sectors U, V, W and X will be held at the Highlands Branch Library, 1826 Dunn Ave., on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 6 p.m. Please call District 6 Substation at (904) 630-8688 for more information.
  - The realignment of zones began Saturday, July 29, 2023, and has gone well. Citizens should expect quicker response time to calls. There is also an increase in the number of officers in the area.
  - The Nuisance and Abatement Board has a file on the Hotel on Harts Road, and JSO continues monitoring its status. A weekly report of all activity at the hotel is created, and the appropriate action will be taken if the hotel continues to violate the code.

Assistant Chief Chuck Ford may be reached at (904)696-4335.

- **Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD)** – Caption Byron Jackson reminded CPAC members that:
  - Citizens can avoid heat-related illnesses by:
    - Hydrating before, during, and after yard work and taking breaks.
    - Limiting outdoor activities during the mid-day when the sun is the hottest.
    - Drinking plenty of fluid even when not thirsty.
    - Wearing loose, lightweight, and light-colored clothing.
    - School begins on Monday, August 14, 2023. When driving, please slow down and pay attention to children on their way to and from school and bus stops.

Capt. Byron Jackson may be reached at (904) 255-3283 or [ByronJ@coj.net](mailto:ByronJ@coj.net).

- **Staff Reports.**
- **Neighborhoods Department** - Al Ferraro, Acting Director of the Neighborhoods Department, provided a brief description of the various departments in the Neighborhood Departments and the services that each department provides.
  - Animal Care and Protection Services provides adoption services and animal control, community education, and pet adoption events. The facility is at critical capacity. Medium and large dogs need homes to make space. Citizens can help by fostering or adopting a pet. Visit the ACPS website at [City of Jacksonville Animal Care and Protective Services](#) for details regarding adoption or fostering.
  - The Environmental Quality Division (EQD) administers and monitors the City of Jacksonville's air and water resources management activities, paying close attention to pollution control and enforcement of laws related to environmental quality. Please visit the EQD website for more information: [City of Jacksonville Environmental Quality Division](#)
  - The Housing and Community Development assists first-time home buyers who qualify with down payment assistance and limited home repair. Each program has income restrictions based on income. Visit the Housing and Community Development website for a list of the various programs offered: [City of Jacksonville Housing and Community Development Division](#).
  - The Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD) enforces property maintenance, safety, and zoning. Citizens can call 630-CITY to report nuisance properties, and a Municipal Code Compliance Officer will investigate the property. Visit the MCCD website for more information: [City of Jacksonville Municipal Code Compliance Division](#).
  - Citizens may contact the city's Customer Service Center to request service or report an incident by calling 630-CITY (2489) or going online to the MyJax App at <https://myjax.custhelp.com/app/home>.
  - The Neighborhood Services Office (NSO) works with neighborhood organizations and the six Citizen Planning Advisory Committees (CPACs) to facilitate communication between city government and local communities, neighborhood organizations, local businesses, educational institutions, and residents. NSO also provides CommUniverCity training and organizes the Neighborhood Award Program. Visit the NSO website to learn more about the services that are provided: [City of Jacksonville Neighborhood Services Office](#)
  - The Office of Consumer Affairs provides mediation services and handles the enforcement of miscellaneous business regulations, unfair and deceptive trade practices, and

charitable solicitations by permit. For additional information about the City of Jacksonville's Consumer Affairs, visit <https://www.coj.net/consumeraffairs>. Al Ferraro may be reached at [Ferraro@coj.net](mailto:Ferraro@coj.net) or (904) 255-7005.

- **Duval County Public Schools (DCPS)** – Victoria Schultz, Superintendent of Human Resources, reported that:
  - DCPS still needs bus drivers. However, there is a backup plan and backup drivers. Beginning in October, parents can track if a bus is running late by using the new website. The student's new ID badges will allow parents to track the bus. Students must tap their badges when boarding the bus for the tracking to work.
  - DCPS has two new applications coming out. Pikmykid and Bloomz. The PikmyKid application will begin immediately and is used for pick-up and drop-off of students. The Bloomz application will perform the same messaging and scheduling functions as ClassDojo while providing new features, including translating languages.
  - DCPS is seeking the community's input on the search for the next Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools. The survey can be found on the DCPS website at <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7461810/Duval-County-School-District-Superintendent-Search-Public-Community-Survey> and is open through September 6, 2023.
  - There is now an "Ask Us Button" on the DCPS website. When you click the button, it provides a drop-down of the most frequently asked questions. Once you have selected your question, it will be routed to the correct department.

Victoria Schultz may be reached at [SchultzV@duvalschools.org](mailto:SchultzV@duvalschools.org).

- **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Derek Dixon, Bike/Ped and ADA Coordinator, provided updates on two FDOT projects:
  - I-95 and I-295 interchange operational improvements: The west ramp of I-295 has been opened to the I-95 south ramp. Contractors will move on to the new phase of construction. The estimated completion date is the middle of 2024.

Derek Dixon can be reached at (904) 360-5653 or [Derek.Dixon@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Derek.Dixon@dot.state.fl.us).

- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Jackie Spiritas, Executive Assistant I, Library Services, reported that:
  - New automatic renewals will begin on August 1, 2023. If the item qualifies for automatic renewal, customers will be notified three days before the material is due. Items that will not automatically renew are items that have a hold on them, have been renewed twice, digital items, Interlibrary loans, or if you have damaged library material or have late fees on your account. For details about the automatic renewal, visit the JPL website at [www.jpl.com](http://www.jpl.com).
  - The Jax Book Fest will return on September 22 and 23, 2023. The event will be held at the Main Library, 303 N. Laura St. This year, the library has added free workshops on writing and self-publishing. Networking opportunities with local writer's groups will be available. Visit the JPL website at [www.jpl.com](http://www.jpl.com) to reserve seats for one or more Lit Chat author events.
  - The library offers free General Education Development (GED) classes to help individuals pass the GED test for those who are 18 or older and want to earn their high school diploma. Morning and evening classes are available via Zoom, and class materials are free. Please call (904) 255-6135 or visit the JPL website at [www.jpl.com](http://www.jpl.com) for details.
  - The library also offers Citizen Preparation classes. Classes are offered in 12-week sessions on a rotating schedule. Classes will meet via Zoom, and class materials are free. Please call (904) 255-6135 or visit the JPL website at [www.jpl.com](http://www.jpl.com) for details.

Jackie Spiritas may be reached at (904) 255-6463 or [Spiritas@coj.net](mailto:Spiritas@coj.net).

- **Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** – Charles Benson, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported that 1,400 inspections were completed in July 2023. A total of 15,000 inspections have been completed this year. MCCD has written 110 citations for litter signs. Mr. Benson announced that Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program (JAR) applications are still available. The JAR program assists with required abatement services at no cost to qualifying citizens. The program only prevents liens from being placed on property after the abatement occurs. For more information, visit the Municipal Code Compliance Division website: <https://www.coj.net/Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program>.

- Mr. Benson provided the following updates:

- MCC Officers are concentrating on the Dunn Avenue and Harts Road corridor. Several nuisance cases and citations on the apartment complex located on Biscayne Boulevard have been opened.
- MCC Officers will continue investigating the commercial vehicles parking in the Highlands area.
- MCC officers are monitoring the JEA easement on Yellow Bluff. The commercial vehicles parked there have been moved.
- The storage portion of the building located at 819 Dunn Ave. has been condemned. The owner has pulled permits to have the structure remediated.
- The Sonny's Bar B Que restaurant has been cited for graffiti.
- The Lucky Strike Bowling Alley, 10850 Harts Rd., was cited as a nuisance. The owner plans to rehabilitate the property and turn it into something useful for the area.

Mr. Benson encouraged CPAC members to call 630-CITY (2489) to report issues or submit a complaint by visiting the MyJax website, [www.myjax.cust.help.com](http://www.myjax.cust.help.com). Mr. Benson also reminded CPAC members that complaints must have names and addresses associated with them. Citizens may contact MCCD if they feel an issue was closed in error. The primary point of contact is the officer assigned to the case. Residents may also email Code Enforcement at [CodeEnforcement@coj.net](mailto:CodeEnforcement@coj.net).

Charles Benson may be reached at [CBenson@coj.net](mailto:CBenson@coj.net).

- **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports.**
- **Governmental Affairs and Planning & Development** – Vice Chair Lacy and Connor Corrigan, City Planner III.

The North CPAC, Governmental Affairs Subcommittee, reviewed six applications and recommended opposing applications 2023-0396 and 2023-0428.

- **2023-0396 - Conventional Rezoning: 0 Junia Street:** The applicant is seeking to rezone approximately 16.66 acres along Junia Street between Sycamore Road and Palmetto Street from RR-Acer to RLD-50 to allow for single-family dwellings with 50-foot-wide lots. The CPAC objects to this conventional rezoning because it does not allow community input. The North CPAC recommends a PUD to allow the surrounding community an opportunity to voice their input and or concerns. In addition, the North CPAC recommends a minimum of RLD 60.
- **2023-0428 – Conventional Rezoning: 0 Perdue Road:** The applicant is seeking to rezone approximately .71 acres along Perdue Road between Airport Center Drive E. and Duval Station Road from PUD to RMD-D to allow a single mobile home on the property. The CPAC objects to this conventional rezoning because it is incongruent with the surrounding area of single-family homes. CPAC members passed the motion unanimously.

Connor Corrigan may be contacted at (904) 255-7844 or [CCorrigan@coj.net](mailto:CCorrigan@coj.net).

- **Neighborhood Coordinator's Report** – Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Coordinator, thanked everyone who applied for a neighborhood award. Mrs. Godwin-Ware also reminded CPAC members that the Neighborhood Service Office will host the CPAC's 30th anniversary during this year's award ceremony on Thursday, October 19, 2023, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Location to be announced soon.

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

- **Unfinished Business** - None
- **New Business** – None
- **Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements:** None
- **Motion to Adjourn:** Chair Dr. Green adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

**Next CPAC Meeting:** **Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 5:30 p.m.** Hybrid – **to be determined.**  
Meeting ID: 869 9318 1164 Passcode: 595972.

**Next Governmental Affairs Subcommittee Meeting:** **Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 4:30 p.m.** **to be determined.** Meeting ID: 869 9318 1164 Passcode: 595972.

Summary prepared by Michelle Godwin, Neighborhood Coordinator, Neighborhood Services Office, (904) 255-8236 or [MichelleGW@coj.net](mailto:MichelleGW@coj.net)

A copy of the audio recording of this North 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: [COJ Public Records Request](#).