



Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission

Marc El Hassan, Chair
Greg Radlinski, Vice Chair
Diane Brown, Secretary

May 6, 2013

City Council
President appointees

Patti Anania
Joe Andrews
Daniel Blanchard
John Campbell
James Edwards
Theodore Wendler

Mayoral appointees

Diane Brown
Marc El Hassan
Alex Marrero
Ernest McDuffie

CPAC appointees

Danny Becton
Leroy Kelly
Marcella Lowe
Thomas Martin
Greg Radlinski

TRUE Commission
c/o Jeff Clements
Suite 425, City Hall
117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville FL 32202

904-630-1405

Honorable City Council Members
Suite 425, City Hall
117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville FL 32202

Dear Council Members:

At its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 2nd the TRUE Commission made the following recommendations regarding legislation pending before the City Council:

2013-121 (amending the Ordinance Code to provide for an additional homestead exemption for low-income seniors who have owned their homes for 25 years or more)

Motion (Andrews): that the TRUE Commission recommends that City Council *not* approve 2013-121 on the grounds that an additional homestead exemption is not warranted in addition to the several already in existence - **fails 2-7**.

2013-226 (amending the Ordinance Code to delete reference to an Entertainment Zone in Chapter 191)

Motion (Andrews): that the TRUE Commission recommends that City Council *not* approve 2013-226 - **approved 7-2**.

2013-727 (appropriating \$75,000 for construction of a dog park at Ed Austin Regional Park)

Motion (Andrews): that the TRUE Commission recommends that City Council *not* approve 2013-727 on the grounds that the proposed \$75,000 appropriation does not meet the project value minimum threshold for capital improvement projects – **approved 9-0**.

2013-243 and 2013-264 (243 – appropriating \$2,040,000 from the Loblolly Wetlands Mitigation Trust Fund to the Jacksonville Zoo for construction of the Trail of the Tiger exhibit; 264 – appropriating \$2,800,000 from the Loblolly Wetlands Mitigation Trust Fund to create 14 district council park funds of \$200,000 apiece)

Motion (Andrews): that the TRUE Commission recommends that City Council *not*

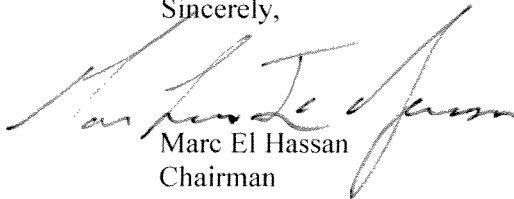
pass 2013-243 and -264 on the grounds that the Loblolly Wetlands Mitigation Fund was created using Better Jacksonville Plan (BJP) funding and that revenues into the fund should be used either for construction of additional BJP projects currently being deferred due to lack of funding or should be used to pay down BJP bonded debt – **approved 10-0.**

Council Auditor's Audit #730 (Quarterly Budget Summary for Three Months Ended December 31, 2012)

Motion (Lowe): that the TRUE Commission approves Audit #730 without comment – **approved 9-0.**

The TRUE Commission thanks you for your consideration of the Commission's opinions on these important matters. As always, the Commission stands ready to be of assistance in any way. Please feel free to call on us at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc El Hassan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right and loops back down.

Marc El Hassan
Chairman