

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

October 14, 2024, Meeting Summary

Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building, 3450 Monument Road, Jacksonville, FL 32225

Meeting Attendance:

CPAC Members: Amita Agnihotri, Osprey Point HOA; Marion Anglin, Charter Point Community Association; Robert Beckham, Pelican Bay HOA; Larry Belge, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA; Cheryl Brantley, Hidden Hills Country Club Estates HOA; Michael Corcoran, Kensington HOA; Scott Cowitt, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.; Nell DeCoursey, Hickory Creek HOA; Kacy Evans, Caroline Forest HOA; Lad Hawkins, Communities of East Arlington; Tim Keeley, Chair, Kensington Association; Sheila Litwhiler, Beachwood Civic Association; Donnie Oulton, Glynlea Park Neighborhood Association; Eddi Parsons, Monument Oaks HOA; Jerry Petoskey, Old Mill Cove Community Organization; Nina Pougjouklidis, Ibis point Owners Assoc.; Justine Wadyko, Waterleaf HOA; Debra Wagner, Hawkins Cove Owners Association, Inc.

Excused: Lenore Hanapel, Covington Creek HOA; Delmas "Dedee" Harper, POISE, Inc.; Alexander Hoffman, Ashley Green HOA; Ramsey Salem, Queens Harbour POA

Visitors: Gary Dickinson, Grove Park HOA; Eddie McKinney, Allenby Dr.; Joanne McIntosh, Ashley Green; Edward Radloff, Colony Cove; Fred Berley; Julia Boyd; Dustin Hampton, Hanson; Amy Ferguson; Justin Lengyel, Charter Point; Rock Somberg

Staff: Commander Alicea, JSO Zone 2; Robert Bautochka, Municipal Code Compliance; James Carroll, Public Works; Connor Corrigan, Planning & Development Department; Renee Goode, JEA; Devon Holland, JPL; Joe Johnson, Executive Council Assistant, District 1; Lieutenant Jarmar Smith; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Keeley called the October 2024 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The September CPAC summary will be reviewed and voted on at the November 2024 meeting.

Presentation(s): Cantrece Jones, Acuity Design Group, on behalf of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, provided an update on the Jacksonville Parks Master Plan Update.

The purpose of Jacksonville Parks Master Plan Update is to help address current needs and prepare for the future by creating spaces to foster health, recreation and social connection. The Jacksonville Parks Master Plan is updated every ten years. The last update was in 2003, and our city has changed significantly since then.

The process to update the master plan has several key phases. Those phases include:

1. Assess Existing Conditions
2. Gather Ideas
3. Seek Public Input
4. Develop the Master Plan
5. Present Recommendations

Currently, the Master Plan Update is in the master planning phase, but they are continuing to actively seek community feedback.

To date, five key initiatives have been identified to direct their efforts. They include:

1. Improving access to parks
2. Targeting enhancements
3. Providing equitable access
4. Developing resilience-focused pilot sites
5. Following a strategic blueprint for future developments.

An interactive map was created so the community can provide location specific feedback and identifying area that are most in need of enhancements. To give your feedback, visit: www.imaginejaxparks.com everyone was encouraged to share their thoughts, ideas and recommendations.

Cantrece Jones, 904-619-8605 or hello@alladg.com

Elected Officials Report:

Joe Jackson, Executive Council Assistant, City Council District 1, provided the following updates:

- Solid waste is working as fast as they can to collect all the residential yard waste generated from both hurricanes. Please leave the debris at the curb.
- If you are aware of a pothole that needs to be filled, please call 630-CITY or enter the concern in the MyJax system. If you are unable to enter the concern, please contact Council member Amaro's office and they will assist you.
- The Arlington Expressway Steering Committee has an upcoming meeting on October 17, 2024. Currently, the committee is working on beautification of the expressway. If you have any recommendations, please email them to Council Member Amaro.
- The Lone Star Road extension is moving forward. The project is currently in the bid phase and construction is expected to begin in January 2025.
- On October 21, 2024, Council member Amaro will host his Town Hall meeting at Blue Cypress Community Center at 6:00 pm.

The Honorable Ken Amaro – 904-255-5201 or KAmaro@coj.net

Staff Reports:

JSO – Commander Alicea presented the following JSO report for District 2:

- Shared crime statistics and confirmed in District 2 violent crime is down 6.11% and is up 2.23% in property crime. Crime statistics were provided for each subsector in District 2.
- Thefts of Hyundais and Kias remain a problem.
- Everyone was reminded to participate in the 9:00 pm routine; remove all valuables from vehicles and lock your car every night at 9:00 pm.
- Commander Alicea and the CPAC had a lengthy discussion about e-bicycles and the laws of driving/riding on the roadways were discussed. It was confirmed that all e-bicycle riders under the age of 16 must wear a helmet, e-bicycles are allowed on sidewalks and overall bicycle safety is taught in public schools and applies to e-bicycles. It was noted that the technology of e-bicycles has surpassed state statutes and law enforcement looks forward to new legislation to identify laws for this type of bicycle.

Commander Alicea – 904-630-8166

JFRD – Lieutenant Smith provided the following updates:

- Reminded everyone that we are still in hurricane season and encouraged everyone to remain prepared. Everyone was encouraged to download the JaxReady app.
- Once fall arrives, please have your chimney inspected or cleaned before you start a fire in your fireplace.
- Check your space heaters to ensure they are working properly and that the cords, plugs and outlets are intact.

Lieutenant Smith – JamarS@coj.net

Jacksonville Public Library (JPL) – Devon Holland provided the following information:

- Today the new library catalog system went live. The new catalog system will enhance your browsing and borrowing experience.
- Early voting will be held at many of the local libraries starting October 21, 2024, through November 3, 2024. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. On Election Day, everyone must vote at their assigned precincts. There will be drop-off boxes for mail in ballots at each early voting site.
- Library cards no longer need to be renewed; as long as you reside in Duval County, your library card will not expire.

Devon Holland – DHolland@coj.net

JEA – Renee Goode on behalf of Shay Hill reported:

- At the height of Hurricane Helene, JEA had 144,000 customers without power. Power was restored within three days.
- At the height of hurricane Milton, JEA had 13,300 customers without power and JEA had power restored within a day and a half.
- JEA learned a lot from both hurricanes and has made improvements to their infrastructure.
- JEA did not have any sanitary sewer overflows with either hurricane.
- JEA has received a significant influx of calls pertaining to solar companies pressuring individuals to sign contracts to have solar panels installed. JEA has set up a Solar Concierge Program to assist JEA customers. To contact this program, please visit www.jea.com/solarconciergetool. This tool will help you calculate the estimated savings you will receive if you install a solar panel system.

Renee Goode – 904-665-6000

Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD) – Robert Bautochka shared the following updates:

- In the past 30 days, 810 inspections were completed, and 189 snipe/litter signs were removed.
- It was announced that many may have to tarp their roofs due to damage from either hurricane. All tarps that are installed due to hurricane damage may stay on the roof for 6 months after the hurricane.

Robert Bautochka – RBautochka@coj.net

Planning and Development Department – Connor Corrigan – no report

Connor Corrigan – Ccorigan@coj.net or 904-255-7844

Public Works – James Carroll provided the following information:

- Due to the two hurricanes, the Storm Water Division has been very busy. Please report any concerns to 904-630-City or MyJax.com
- Post Hurricane Milton, to open blocked roads, staff had to cut and tossed 310 trees citywide.
- Public Works has staff working on Saturdays to help collect all the vegetated waste that was generated by Hurricane Milton.
- The heavy rains associated with Hurricanes Helene and Milton have created a few potholes. Please call 630-CITY or use the MyJax system to report potholes.
- Mr. Carroll answered questions pertaining to the tree removal process on a city-owned right of way, overgrowth along Hartsfield Road encroachment onto sidewalks and updated the CPAC on the purpose/use of Tiger Dams.

James Carroll – 904-255-8786

Subcommittee Reports (3-minute time limit):

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – Mike Corcoran stated the subcommittee reviewed nine applications and presented three motions to the GAB CPAC membership. Those motions were:

- Denial of WFR-24-21 located at 5329 Clifton Road (RE#1229395-0000) to reduce the minimum road frontage from 144 feet to 105.3 feet for two single families. The proposed changes does not provide an explanation on how the developer will put two single family homes on a lot that is barely big enough to fit one single family home without additional zoning alterations.
The motion passed unanimously.
- Denial of 2024-0795 (AD-24-67) located at 5392 Clifton Road (RE# 1229395-0000) to reduce the minimum lot the minimum lot width from 180 ft. to 105ft. for 2 homes for the following reason;
The proposed change provides absolutely no explanation as to how the developer will fit 2 single family homes on a lot designed to barely fit 1 home without additional zoning alterations. This lack of sufficient information leaves us no choice but to deny this application.
The motion passed unanimously.
- The Greater Arlington/ Beaches CPAC voted to deny LUZ request CTW-24-04, a a Cell Tower at 6350 Fort Caroline Rd. to build a 140 ft cell tower for the following reasons;
 1. The Planning Dept. has recommended denial for multiple reasons
 - A. a tower would require a waiver of distance from a public park (Victory Park) Req is 250 ft and would require a waiver to 150 ft.
 - B. Would require a waiver of distance from a private Park (Lonnie Wren Park). Req. 250 ft down to 0 ft as the tower would be placed on the park grounds.
 - C. Would require a waiver of distance from a public conveyance from 100 ft to 56 ft.
 - D. The surrounding communities are opposed to this project.

It is the unanimous decision of the CPAC that this project is not in the best interest of the existing community or Jacksonville as a whole.

- decided that no action was needed to move either application along. After this report, Member Eddi Parsons requested further discussion about application 2024-0668; the CPAC discussed the application. After the discussion, Member Parsons stated she would like to make a motion to have the record reflect that the GAB CPAC supports this application. There was a second and the CPAC voted that they support this application.

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge – reminded everyone that we have received a lot of rain, and the grass will be growing. If you see homes, parks and other areas with grass that exceeds 15 inches in height, please call 630-CITY to report it.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – no report

Membership – vacant

Ad Hoc Committees:

North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) – Scott Cowitt attended a meeting last week, and they discussed the Transportation Improvement Program for FY 2024/25 – FY2028/29. In our area projects that were discussed include projects on University Boulevard, Merrill Road, Townsend Boulevard, the Arlington Expressway and the Mathews Bridge. One project that will be implemented is the Mayport Ferry; the ferry will increase service by 50%.

There was also discussion about future funding of roadways. Most funds come from tax on gasoline. With more drivers using hybrid or electric vehicles, this decreases funds available for roads. There are ideas under review on how hybrid vehicles and electric vehicles can contribute financially to help maintain our roads.

Park Safety Council – CPAC Member Donnie Oulton has been appointed to this council and he is waiting on further details.

TRUE Commission - Alex Hoffman – no report

Neighborhood Services Office Report – Rosemary Wesolowski reminded the CPAC that the election for CPAC Chair and Vice Chair will be held at the November meeting. The Nomination Subcommittee will meet on October 24, 2024, at 5:00 pm, at the Regency Square Branch Library and via Zoom. Please contact Rosemary if you would like to make a nomination.

Rosemary Wesolowski – 904-255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net

Chairs Report – Chair Keeley informed the CPAC that the CPAC Chairs met with the mayor's staff on Friday, September 13, 2024. At the meeting, Chair Keeley shared the GAB CPAC concerns pertaining to the run-off created by the heavy machinery and materials associated with the San Pablo Roadway project; inquired about sidewalks after the San Pablo Road project is completed and the CIP requests were also addressed. Chair Keeley received a letter from Kathleen Collins that did acknowledge all the CIP projects that are funded; none of the CIP recommendations that the GAB CPAC submitted were funded.

Old Business – none

New Business – The Greater Arlington/ Beaches CPAC voted to support the proposed ordinance # 2024-00373, submitted by Councilman Carlucci which would require a 2/3 vote for PUDs that include uses that are not currently allowed by law. The bill outlines a process for establishing a new overlay, requiring a 2/3 vote rather than the current 50% plus 1 level of support to ensure that future overlay proposals give a higher level of consideration to the voices of residents, city staff, attorneys and elected officials by preventing them from being disregarded in favor of developers.

Public Comment –

Motion to Adjourn – there was a motion and a second; the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be on Monday, November 04, 2024, the meeting will be held in-person at Ed Austin Regional Park, PAL Building Cafeteria, 3450 Monument Road, 32225 at 6:30 pm and the meeting will also be available virtually on Zoom.