

Southeast Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

June 28, 2021, Meeting Summary

Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257

Meeting Attendance:

Members: Nancy Barry, Brierwood Neighborhood Association; K. LuCi Bennett, Mandarin Community Club; Joyce Brown, Pine Forest Community Action; Walter Bryant, St. Nicholas Area Preservation; Richard Cardell, The Lakewood Community; Ramon Day, Northwest Quadrant Equity Owners, Inc.; Carol D’Onofrio, Deercreek Owners Association; Sharon Ervin, Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA, Inc; Joanne Parker Griffin, Villa San Jose Civic; Donna Herrin, Sweetwater by Del Webb; Jim Hill, Greater Hood Road Community Association; Ralph Hodges, Council-At-Large Group 4; Abby Howard Murphy, Hampton Glen at Deerwood HOA; Richard Horvath, Cypress Trails HOA Inc.; Debbie Johnson, The Gables HOA; Eric Laner, East Hampton HOA; Joe Luczak, Bartram Springs HOA; Jon Malmind, Oak View Corner Oaks Owners Association; Sherry Marks, Kernan Mills Community Association, Inc.; Kathleen Perera, Alumni Civic Association; Robin Pickle, Brierwood Neighborhood Association; Craig Shoup, Council At-Large Group 2; Kathy Soares, Highland Glen HOA; Denise Torres, The Arc Jacksonville Village; Marcie Turner, Kernan Mills Community Association, Inc.; Gary Weise, Secret Cove Civic Association

Excused: Manny Gonzales Akers, Pickwick Park Civic Association

Visitors: Norman Brewer, Greenland Chase; Kuldeep Naik, Greenland Chase; Crandon Andersen, Villa San Jose; Jeffrey Guenin, Villa San Jose; Robert Klecak, Timberland Ridge; Rowena Nagales; Emily Goos; Brittney Johina; MJB

Staff: Michael Boylan, City Council District 6; Michael Beck, JSO; Bradley Clayton, MCCD; Lt. F. Dash, JSO; Michael Hoffman, MCCD; Gene Klingbeil, JFRD; Keli Likins, JPL; Bryan Mosier, Neighborhoods Department; Cindy Pearson, DCP School Board; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Paul Soares, Duval County Public Schools; Arimus Wells, Planning and Development Department; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office.

Call to Order/Verify Quorum:

Chair D’Onofrio called the SE CPAC meeting to order at 6:35 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting at the Mandarin Senior Center and on Zoom. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The May 2021 meeting summary was approved by the CPAC.

Presentation(s): Daryl Goss, Community Outreach Specialist, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) shared updates on the following projects:

- I-10/I-95 Interchange Improvements - operational improvements and enhancements will be made to the interchange at Interstate 95 and Interstate 10, the Fuller Warren Bridge, and along the east side of U.S.17 north bound between McDuff Avenue and Rosselle Street. Construction dates: May 5, 2017 - Fall 2021.

- I-10 (SR 8) Widening from I-295 to I-95 - is being widened to improve traffic flow, safety and increase capacity. When complete, I-10 will feature up to ten lanes between I-295 and I-95. Traffic volume along I-10 is expected to increase significantly over the next two decades and widening the road will alleviate traffic issues in years ahead.
- I-295 Express Lanes from SR 9B to JTB - the project includes the construction of two additional 12-foot travel lanes (tolled express lanes) in each direction, improving interchanges at J. Turner Butler Boulevard, Gate Parkway, Baymeadows Road, and State Road 9B, constructing noise walls along I-295 in various locations, building drainage ponds and installing electronic tolling systems at various locations for toll collection. Construction dates: Spring 2016 - Fall 2021
- State Road 202 (JTB) at San Pablo Road – this project will convert the existing diamond interchange into a diverging diamond interchange (DDI) to help ease congestion and improve safety. The project contractor is Watson Civil Construction, Inc.
- Philips Highway at Reba Avenue Intersection Improvements project will enhance pedestrian safety and provide safer traffic operations through the intersection.
- State Road 115 (Southside Boulevard) at Gate Parkway Intersection Improvements include: Adding a northbound and southbound auxiliary lane on Southside Boulevard between Butler Boulevard (S.R. 202) and Gate Parkway; adding a third westbound to southbound left turn lane on Gate Parkway; adding a second northbound to eastbound right turn lane on Southside Boulevard. Construction dates: Summer 2021 – Late 2022.
- First Coast Expressway (FCE) – A new St. Johns River Bridge will be the third and final segment of the FCE includes a new four-lane bridge over the St. Johns River just south of where the Shands Bridge currently stands. Construction on the new bridge is expected to begin in 2022 and be completed in 2029 at a cost of approximately \$334 million. The vertical clearance height of the new bridge will be 65 feet from the water line, compared to the existing 45 feet of clearance. The additional 20 feet will match the Buckman Bridge’s clearance and is an improvement for marine commerce in the region.

Mr. Goss answered questions regarding upcoming project of the intersection improvements at Southside Boulevard and Gate Parkway. Additionally, Mr. Goss heard requests to pick up the litter along FDOT roads and to ensure booms are used on all drains near FDOT projects. Council Member Boylan shared some road maintenance / mowing requests.

Elected Officials Report:

Michael Boylan, City Council District 6 –informed the CPAC members and attendees that:

- City Council has elected new leadership. The new City Council President is Sam Newby, and the new Vice President is Terrance Freeman.
- Council Member Boylan has been assigned new standing committees and they are: Land Use & Zoning Committee and the Finance Committee. City Council is now on recess for the next two weeks.
- On July 7, 2021, Council Member Boylan along with representatives from the Parks Department and Public Works department will hold a public meeting at Mandarin Community Club to discuss improvements to Alberts Field (12073 Brady Road), drainage issues on Orange Picker Road and the possible addition of a dog park to the Mandarin area.

- On July 22, 2021, Council Member Boylan will host a Town Hall Meeting at the Mandarin Senior Center (3848 Hartley Road) at 6:30 pm. The meeting will feature a presentation by Lori Boyer, CEO, Downtown Investment Authority. Ms. Boyer will provide an update of all the growth and redevelopment that is occurring throughout the downtown area.
- Council Member Boylan has created a bi-monthly report that summarizes City Council Bills and other city council activities; this report is available to all that are interested. If you would like to receive the bi-monthly report, please send an email to mboylan@coj.net to get added to the distribution list.

Council Member Boylan – mboylan@coj.net or 904-255-5206

Cindy Pearson, Duval County Public School Board, District 3, announced that DCPS opened their summer programs with the largest enrollment to date. DCPS has over 20,000 students enrolled in various programs which include: DCPS Summer Camp program; Communities in School program with KHA, Summer-rise for third grade students, Extended Learning for ESE students and Credit Recovery programs for secondary students. Those students attending summer programs will continue to follow social distancing guidelines. All students will be seated three feet apart, masks are voluntary, temperatures will not be taken daily and students attending field trips must follow Covid-19 guidelines. At this time, students under the age of twelve cannot receive any of the Covid-19 vaccines.

It was announced that all students under the age of 18 can get free meals this summer thanks to a program called Summer BreakSpot. No application for the program is necessary, and pickup is easy at sites throughout the city. Summer BreakSpot offers balanced breakfasts, lunches, snacks, or dinners. Locations include places like parks, libraries, and churches. Grab-and-go meals and social distancing measures are in effect at Summer BreakSpot sites. To learn more about the program and location you can call 2-1-1 or text FOODFL to 877-877.

The 2021/22 school year in Duval County Public Schools will begin on August 10, 2021. On June 14, 2021, registration for those that ride the school bus will open.

DCPS will host free COVID-19 vaccination clinics five school sites on select dates this summer, with the first clinic scheduled for Monday, June 28. The vaccination clinics are made available through a partnership between the Florida Department of Health-Duval and the school district. Vaccinations are available to anyone 12 years of age and older. Individuals under the age of 18 may be vaccinated without a parent or guardian, but a signed consent form and photo ID are required. The Florida Department of Health, Duval County will provide a \$10 grocery vouchers to everyone that receives a COVID-19 vaccine at one of the schools. The vouchers can be used at many local grocery stores. Registration is not necessary, but individuals are encouraged to use the following link to indicate which date/location they plan to attend: https://dcps.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dmYft1iD1cetuOW

When school resumes for the Fall 2021/22 school year, Duval County Health Department will offer vaccinations the first week of school at every middle and high school in the district. There is an emphasis on students returning to brick-and-mortar schools.

There will be several changes when school resumes in the fall. Some of the changes include:

- Duval Homeroom will not be available; but can be re-opened if necessary.

- Masks are strongly encouraged for elementary school students; masks are recommended for middle and high school.
- All temperature checks will end.
- Desk shields will be used in certain elementary settings, but most will be removed. Desk shields will be discontinued in middle and high schools.
- Classroom will receive deep cleaning with microbial products on a regular schedule.
- A nurse or health clinic will be at every school full time.
- Social distancing and spacing markers will be continued to be used.

Cindy Pearson – 904-390-2000

Staff Reports:

Bryan Mosier, Director, Neighborhoods Department informed the CPAC the City of Jacksonville's Neighborhoods Department oversees Animal Care and Protective Services, the Environmental Quality Division, Mosquito Control, Municipal Code Compliance, Housing and Community Development, the Office of Consumer Affairs, the Neighborhoods Services Office, Neighborhoods Property Administration, and the 630-CITY Customer Service Center.

Animal Care and Protective Services is hosting *Let Freedom Ring Adoption Special* on June 30, 2021 - July 04, 2021, at Animal Care & Protective Services, 2020 Forest St., Jacksonville, FL 32204. Free adoptions on all dogs and cats 1 year and older. For more information visit: jaxpets@coj.net

The Housing and Community Development Division continues to provide mortgage relief to assist individuals and families who have been affected by COVID-19. There is \$2.25 million in federal funding still available. Individuals requesting assistance must be the owner and occupant of the property. The program will provide up to six months of delinquent mortgage payments or \$7,500, whichever is less. Payments will be made directly to the mortgage company. Federal guidelines require qualifying individuals and families to have an income that falls below 80% of the area median income.

Bryan Mosier – bmosier@coj.net

JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) – Lieutenant Dash provided the following crime statistic for Zone 3 (SE District) for the past 30 days: robberies to individuals and businesses are down; aggravated batteries are down; slight increase in burglaries to residences; auto thefts are down. Lieutenant Dash answered the following questions and concerns:

- One of the CPAC members thanked Lieutenant Dash for the JSO conducted to end the car club gatherings and racing at the former/closed K-Mart on San Jose Boulevard.
- There was a request for continued traffic monitoring for speeding on Mandarin Road between Brady Road and Scott Mill Road.
- A CPAC member stated that JSO is stopping everyone as they enter or leave the Eagle Hotel on Philips Highway without cause to stop them. The CPAC member said one of her community members stated that a drug task force operation was underway at the hotel. Lieutenant Dash confirmed that an individual cannot be stopped without cause unless there is a deployment, but

before a deployment is launched it must be announced to the community. Lieutenant Dash will get additional information from the CPAC member after his report.

- There was an inquiry as to the length of time needed to complete a speeding report that was made by a neighborhood. It was stated that it can take approximately one week unless a problem or a hot spot occurs.

Everyone was encouraged to participate in the 9 pm Routine; remember to remove valuables and firearms from your unattended vehicles. Remember to lock your car doors when you are not in the vehicle.

Zone 3 substation – 8875 Liberty Ridge Drive, Suite 110, 32256 – 904-828-5463

JFRD – Captain Gene Klingbeil reminded the CPAC that hurricane season is upon us and encouraged everyone to download the JaxReady app. The app will help you monitor weather threats and plan for evacuation in the event of a natural disaster. JaxReady provides access to current threat levels, weather reports, and wildfire updates, as well as up-to-the-minute news feeds for emergency preparedness and evacuation. Additional JaxReady app features include:

- GPS functionality for locating your Evacuation Zone
- Current Emergency (EOC) Activation Level, Weather Threat Level, and Fire Danger Index based upon your geolocation
- Links to special needs registration for those with special medical needs during an evacuation

Captain Klingbeil shared that JFRD had approximately 80 specially trained team members leave Jacksonville Sunday afternoon to help with rescue efforts of the collapsed condo in Surfside, Florida.

DCPS – Paul Soares, Assistant Superintendent, Operations – no report

JPL – Keli Likins, South Regional Manager, provided the following announcements:

- The Jax Kids Book Club is a free early literacy summer reading program for all Duval County Pre-Kindergarteners who are preparing to enter kindergarten in the fall of each year. Jax Kids' Book Club (first formed more than 15 years ago as Mayor Peyton's Book Club) gives rising kindergarteners a set of books of their very own.
- The Free Summer Lunch Program at the Jacksonville Public Library officially kicked off on June 7th. From June 7th through August 6th, all kids up to 18-years-old can get a free meal at 12 participating library branches. At these library locations, no signup or application is necessary and any child 18 or younger can simply come during mealtimes to receive a free and healthy meal. The program is funded by the USDA and coordinated through the Kids Hope Alliance.
- Mayor Curry is inviting all Duval County residents to participate in a survey for the library system. The survey is to envision what the 21st century Urban Branch Library should have. There are five different libraries that are smaller and older library branches, and JPL would like feedback from the community on how the library space can be relevant, accessible and have all the technology needed to serve the community. The branches are Murray Hill; Brentwood Brown; Eastside; Dallas Graham and Westbrook.

Keli Likins – Klikins@coj.net

JTA – Cheryl Riddick introduced a new pilot program to expand their reduced fare program this summer. Eligibility for the Reduced Fare Pilot Program now includes anyone receiving benefits through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Women, Infants and Children (WIC), or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), along with those who qualify for Section 8 housing. That is in addition to existing customers who have a qualifying disability, including veterans with disabilities; Social Security Disability (SSD), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicare recipients. The Reduced Fare Pilot Program runs through September 30, 2021, and eligible customers can purchase Reduced Fare passes for an entire year.

Cheryl Riddick -904-632-5522 or criddick@jtafla.com

Municipal Code Compliance Division – Bradley Clayton stated throughout the SE District this month 1100 properties were cited, and the next systematic inspection will be conducted in the Brierwood community.

The Jacksonville Assistance and Relief or JAR program was discussed. The purpose of the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program is to facilitate a means of compliance to those who would otherwise be unable to achieve it due to disability or economic disadvantages. The Program's objective is to provide the abatement services required at no cost to those citizens who qualify, thereby achieving compliance and beautification of the City while not unduly burdening its most vulnerable citizens.

If you cannot comply the violations on your property due to a disability or economic hardship, please feel free to visit:

<https://www.coj.net/departments/neighborhoods/municipal-code-compliance/jacksonville-assistance-and-relief-program>

Bradley Clayton – bclayton@coj.net

Planning & Development Department – Arimus Wells did not have a report but was available for questions.

Arimus Wells – 904-255-7824 or ArimusW@coj.net

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports (3-minute time limit):

LUZ– Joanne Parker Griffin and the LUZ Subcommittee reviewed three LUZ applications and no motions or actions were taken

North Florida TPO – Jim Hill the North Florida TPO annually updates the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) list of road, transit, airport, seaport, bicycle, and pedestrian projects for the next five years. Several road projects located in the SE District are on that list and were discussed at the last NFTP meeting.

- In the 2020 and 2021 TIP, \$38.1 million was earmarked for land acquisition to widen I-295 from SR 202 (J. Turner Butler Boulevard north to the Dames Point Bridge).
- Emerson Street Expressway and Emerson Street Extension has \$140,000 designated for preliminary engineering for a resurfacing project.

NFTP does not hold a meeting in July.

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Ramon Day informed the CPAC that audits of the various city agencies were completed by the city council auditors and they are coming back unfavorable. Several changes were implemented to correct issues, such as Mr. Mike Weinstein will now lead the Kids Hope Alliance (KHA) and improvements have occurred since his appointment. JSO, Jacksonville Port Authority (JPA) and Jacksonville Aviation Authority have overcome most of their challenges and should end the year in good standings. The TRUE Commission does not meet in the month of July. A representative from JSO will attend the August TRUE Commission meeting.

Mr. Day stated that his term on the commission ends on June 30, 2021, and he is willing to serve another term. Ralph Hodges made a motion to nominate Mr. Ramon Day to represent the SE CPAC on the TRUE Commission for another term, Jim Hill made a second and the CPAC voted unanimously to have Mr. Day represent the SE CPAC for another term on the TRUE Commission.

Neighborhood Coordinator Report – Rosemary Wesolowski provided the locations for the upcoming Independence Day Firework displays. At each location, the City of Jacksonville is offering six different fireworks displays, all the displays will begin at 9:45 p.m. on Sunday, July 4, 2021. Fireworks will be launched from the following locations:

- Downtown Jacksonville
- St. Johns Town Center
- FSCJ North Campus
- The Avenues Mall
- Trinity Baptist Church
- Ed Austin Regional Park

The Downtown Jacksonville location will include a family fun zone, food trucks, bars, and a concert at Riverfront Plaza beginning at 5 p.m. Fireworks viewing areas will be on both the North and South banks along the St. Johns River.

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

Chairs Report – Chair D’Onofrio did not have a report

Unfinished Business – None

New Business: - Member Sharon Ervin, Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA, Inc. informed the CPAC that fellow CPAC member Anne Davis, also from Riverbrook at Glen Kernan HOA, Inc. passed away on Sunday, June 27, 2021. Please keep Anne’s family in your thoughts and prayers.

Public Comment - None

Motion to Adjourn –

The next meeting of the District 3 CPAC will be a hybrid meeting on Monday, July 26, 2021 at 6:30 pm. Join us at the at the Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, 32257 in person or virtually on Zoom.