

Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

January 13, 2025, Meeting Summary

Lane Wiley Senior Center, 6710 Wiley Rd. 32210

Zoom Meeting ID: 885 0647 5589 Passcode: 864564

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members In-Person: Christina Purdy, Chair; Len Burroughs, MHPA.; Bernice Gremer, Fishweir Sheriff Watch; Jenny Watson, CHAPS; Nora Marcantel, CHAPS; Shirley Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch; David Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch.

CPAC Members Via Zoom: Bill Fonferek, Vice Chair of Westland Communities HOA; Chris Ramseyer, Watermill HOA; Ernest Surmons, Glenda Meadows HOA; Sandy Simpson, Chimney Lakes HOA; Sandy Simmons, Blue Lake Estates HOA; Jason Roberts, Jacksonville Sheriff's Watch District 4.

Visitors: Kara Ramesar, Community Connection; K. Waters, Fishweir Sheriff Watch; Rae Walker, Sheriff Watch; Aaron Ricker, Lakeshore Preservation.

Visitors via Zoom: C.; Ziki.

Staff and Elected Officials: Cory Armstrong, Executive Aide to CM Matt Carlucci, at Large Group 4; Breyuanna White, Executive Aide to CM Tyrona Clark-Murray; Lieutenant, Clarence Hodge, JFRD; Commander, Eric Redgate, JSO; Lynne Baldwin, JPL; Andy Hetzel, Planning and Development; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Tiffany Morales, MVA; Jared Chemay, MCCD; Tourea Robinson, Chief of Senior Services, Parks, Recreation and Community Development; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Dan Durbec, Keep Jacksonville Beautiful, Neighborhoods Department.

Meeting Summary

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Purdy called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified a quorum.

2. **Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The November 18, 2024, summary was approved by the CPAC.

3. **Elected Officials' Reports:**

- Cory Armstrong, Executive Council Assistant to Council Member Matt Carlucci, At-Large Group 4, provided a report regarding Council Member Carlucci's proposed Solid Waste fee Increase. The proposal intends to address the City's unsustainable annual deficit in residential garbage pickup and provide a path to financial stability while safeguarding low-income residents from potential fee increases. The first proposal aims to align the Solid Waste fee with the actual cost of service, which is \$30.40 per month. The Council is discussing how to adjust the fee so that it has less impact on households. The second aim is to introduce a companion bill that will provide an exemption for those who cannot afford the Solid Waste fee.

Council Member Carlucci may be reached at (904) 255-5218 or MCarlucci@gmail.net.

Cory Armstrong may be reached at (904) 255-5159 or CoryA@coj.net.

- Breyuanna White, Executive Council Assistant to Council Member Tyrona Clark-Murray, District 9, had no report but was available for questions.

Council Member Tyrona Clark-Murray may be reached at (904) 255-5209 or TClarkMurray@coj.net.

Breyuanna White may be reached at (904) 255-5161 or BWhite1@coj.net.

4. **Presentation:** None

5. **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** – Assistant Chief Eric Redgate reported that 2024 was a good year for Jacksonville and District 4 and provided the year in review for 2024.

- Crime is up in three categories. Forcible sex offenses were up by 13%, totaling 134 incidents. Arson was up by 33%, totaling 20 incidents for the year, and theft increased by 2.3%, totaling 3,244 incidents.
- Overall, crime was down, with the most significant decrease being in murder, which declined 56% in 2024, totaling 11 murders versus 25 in 2023.

Assistant Chief Eric Redgate may be reached at (904) 573-3165

6. Jacksonville Fire and Rescue (JFRD) – Lt. Clarence Hodge reported:

- The weather will be cooling down soon. Citizens using space heaters should remember to:
 - Keep space heaters at least three feet from anything flammable.
 - Place the heater on a level floor and never leave the heater unattended.
 - Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet and unplug them when unused.
 - Inspect heaters regularly for damaged cords before use.
 - Keep kids and pets away from space heaters.

He also recommended:

- Have several fire exit routes planned around your home so everyone knows what to do.
- Place fire extinguishers in the kitchen and throughout the house. Small kitchen extinguishers can be purchased at Walmart, Home Depot and Lowes.
- The new year, specifically daylight savings, is a great time to change your smoke detector batteries.
- Smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years. Discolored or yellowing smoke detectors indicate that it is time to be replaced.
- Consistently use the same type of smoke detectors in your home to ensure they all go off simultaneously.
- Check the supplies in your car's emergency kit and flashlight to ensure nothing has expired, and that batteries have not corroded.
- Check on family and friends before a severe weather event to ensure they are prepared and afterward to make sure they are safe.
- Ladders have a life expectancy and should be replaced if shaky when climbing them. To prevent falling, do not stand on the top step.

Lt. Clarence Hodge may be reached at (904) 255-3284 or Hodge@coj.net.

7. Chair's Report: Christina Purdy announced:

- The CPAC chairs will have their quarterly meeting with the mayor's staff on Friday, January 24, 2025. Citizens may give their concerns or questions to Mrs. Purdy or send them to Mrs. Godwin-Ware. She will forward them to Mrs. Purdy. Once the minutes from the meeting are available, she will share them with the CPAC if members are interested in seeing them.
- The Southwest CPAC received its letter from Kathleen Collins, Capital Improvement Plan Administrator, requesting their Capital Improvement Plan recommendation. Recommendations must be sent to Mrs. Godwin-Ware by the close of business Friday, February 7, 2025. All recommendations will be discussed and voted on for submission during the February 10, 2025, meeting. Chair Purdy must submit the recommendation to Mrs. Collins before Friday, February 21, 2025.

8. Staff Reports:

- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Lynne Baldwin, Executive Assistant Library Services I, reported:
 - The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will offer free tax preparation at 10 library locations throughout the county. Tax assistance will run through April 15, 2025. The Charles Webb Wesconnett Regional Library will provide service on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. An appointment is required to have your taxes prepared. Registration will begin on January 15, 2025. For more information and a list of the participating libraries, please visit the Jacksonville Public Library website at www.jpl.com.
 - The San Marco Branch Library is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Programs and activities will take place each quarter throughout the year.
 - A book review writing contest is open to all Duval County youth. Reviews must be submitted by Saturday, February 22, 2025. A \$100 cash prize will be awarded to four grade groups: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, and 9th-12th. Winners will be announced publicly on Family Reading Day on Saturday, March 8, 2025, as part of Jacksonville's Celebrate Reading Week scheduled for March 2nd through 8th.
 - Due to popular demand, Webb Wesconnett is adding another Little Readers Storytime each Monday at 10:15 a.m. beginning Monday, February 3, 2025.
 - Libraries are receiving computer refreshes. The public computers at Argyle, Bill Brinton Murray Hill, Maxville, Webb, and Willow Branch have been replaced and upgraded. A total of 191 computers were replaced as part of the computer refresh project.
 - The St. Johns Riverkeeper is hosting Lib-Lab: Right Plant, Right Place on Saturday, January 18, 2025, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Maxville Branch Library. The focus is on planting the right plant in the right

place. It's all about location. Where you place your plants has a direct impact on the local ecosystem.

- The Great Decisions Discussion Group meets on Tuesday, January 21st, and Monday, January 27th, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to discuss critical global issues. The meeting starts with a 30-minute film followed by a facilitator-led discussion. The topic on Tuesday, January 21st, is the U.S. Changing Leadership of the World Economy.

Lynne Baldwin may be reached at (904) 338-4383 or LBaldwin@coj.net.

- **Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA)** - Cheryl Riddick, Director of Customer Engagement, announced that JTA will conduct service enhancements to improve service. The first improvement will occur on January 27, 2025. The service enhancement will include increased running time and frequency for Routes 13 and 16.

Cheryl Riddick may be reached at (904) 632-5522 or Criddick@jtafla.com.

- **Keep Jacksonville Beautiful** – Dan Durbec, Environmental Specialist, announced that America Recycles Day and Florida's Arbor Day event is scheduled for Saturday, January 18, 2025, at Everbank Fields Lot – E, 1680 Adams St. from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Citizens may drop off a limit of two bags of paper documents for offsite shredding and may select a free tree to take home and plant.

Dan Durbec may be reached at (904) 255-8276 or DDurbec@coj.net.

- **Military of Veterans Affairs (MVA)** – Tiffany Morales, Veterans Outreach Coordinator, reported that:
 - The Veterans Stand Down will occur Friday, January 24, 2025 and Saturday, January 25, 2025 at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds, 510 Fairgrounds Pl. Services provided on January 24, 2025 include employment, medical, shelter and housing from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Services provided from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on January 25, 2025, include dental, food, clothing, Veteran Center and Veteran Affairs Services.

Tiffany Morales may be reached at (904) 255-5524 or tmorales@coj.net.

- **Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** - Jared Chemay, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported:
 - That 3,382 cases have been completed in the new fiscal year. A follow-up to a project started at the Valencia Way apartments in the Hillcrest neighborhood has been conducted. At the beginning of the investigation, 321 violations were generated. As of December 30, 2024, only 34 violations remain. The 34 unresolved violations have been referred to a special magistrate to ensure the property owner corrects them.
 - The next planned enforcement project is a referral from a State Agency and will begin the week of January 21st. It has been reported that several minor code violations have occurred throughout the property in question.
 - Signage, or litter signs, placed in a public right-of-way is illegal. Fines start at \$50 per day for the first five signs found posted. After the five signs, the fine increases to \$150 per sign. Once the violator has been adjudicated guilty and commits the violation again, the fine increases to \$300 per sign and counts as the third violation. Fines can be as high as \$500 per sign. Signs attached to a public utility pole above 5 feet high will obtain a \$350 fine for the first offense. Officers are proactively removing the illegal signs.
 - All removed litter signs are electronically logged to keep track of violators and mail citations.

Jared Chemay may be reached at (904)626-0736 or JChemay@coj.net.

- **Parks, Recreation, and Community Service (PRCS)** – Tourea Robinson, Chief of Senior Services, provided an update on park renovations.
 - The playground installation at Boone Park is estimated to be completed in the summer of 2025.
 - Caleb Park's new playground installation is complete and is now open for enjoyment.
 - The Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center renovations are in progress. The estimated completion date is spring 2025.
 - The interior painting at McGirts Creek Community Center has been completed.
 - The new playground installation at Tilly Fowler Regional Park is now complete.
 - Timuquana Park's new playground installation is estimated to be completed by the spring of 2025.
 - A new playground is being installed at Wheat Road Park. It is estimated to be completed by the end of January 2025.
 - Preparation for this year's summer programs has begun. Openings are available for lifeguards. The salary for this position is \$15 an hour. Please visit <https://www.coj.net/employment> for a listing of the current job openings. The full In-person lifeguard training will begin on March 17, 2025. The hybrid courses will start on February 15, 2025, and run through May 10, 2025. For the complete list of dates

and times, please visit the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services website at <https://www.jacksonville.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/headlines/hiring-lifeguards>.

Tourea Robinson may be reached at (904) 255-5401 or TRobinson@coj.net.

9. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:

- **LUZ Subcommittee & Planning and Development** – Chair Purdy reported that the SW CPACs Land Use and Zoning subcommittee reviewed three applications. The subcommittee recommended opposing ordinance 2024-0980.
- **Ordinance 2024-0611 - Planned Unit Development - 4218 and 4230 Ortega Boulevard:** The applicant seeks to rezone 0.90 acres from Commercial Neighborhood (CN) to Planned Unit Development (PUD) to permit private automobile/vehicle garage condominiums and other associated uses on the property. A motion was made and seconded to oppose the application. CPAC members passed the motion unanimously.
- **Ordinance 2024-0973 – Conventional Rezoning – 6030 Firestone Road:** The applicant seeks to rezone 6.08+/- acres of land from Residential Rural Acre (RR-Acre) to Residential Medium Density- A (RMD-A) to permit 68 townhomes on the property. A motion was made and seconded to oppose the application. CPAC members passed the motion unanimously.
- **Ordinance 2024-0980 - Planned Unit Development - 6211 Pernecia St.:** The applicant seeks to rezone 4.86 acres of land from Residential Rural-Acre (RR-Acre) to Planned Unit Development (PUD) to allow for a maximum of 21 manufactured homes or single-family dwellings. A motion was made and seconded to oppose the application based on the applicant's disregard for the development process. CPAC members passed the motion unanimously.
Andy Hetzel may be reached at (904) 255-7821 or AHetzel@coj.net
- **T.R.U.E. Commission** – No Report
- **Parks Safety Council (PSC)** – No Report

10. Unfinished Business - None

11. New Business – None

12. Neighborhood Coordinator's Report: Michelle Godwin-Ware announced that the City of Jacksonville will be hosting the Neighborhood USA (NUSA) Conference. The Neighborhood Awards winners will be presented with their awards at the conference on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. The request for proposals to host a workshop during the NUSA conference has been extended to Saturday, February 1, 2025. Please visit the NUSA website at <https://www.nusa.org/conferences> for more information.

Michelle Godwin-Ware may be reached at 904-255-8236 or Michellelgw@coj.net

13. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements: None

14. Adjourn: Chair Purdy adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Next CPAC Meeting: February 10, 2025, 6:30 p.m. In person at Lane Wiley Senior Center, 6710 Wiley Rd., and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 821 7431 0303 Passcode: 693048. A formal email notice will be emailed to members.

Next Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Subcommittee Meeting: February 10, 2025, 5:30 p.m. In person at Lane Wiley Senior Center, 6710 Wiley Rd., and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 821 7431 0303 Passcode: 693048. A formal email notice will be emailed to members.

Summary prepared by Michelle Godwin, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8236 or michellegw@coj.net.

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

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days for notification to process; last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at VM-(904)255-5466, TTY-(904)255-5475, or email your request to ADAAccommodationRequest@coj.net.