

**Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee  
January 11, 2024, Meeting Summary**

Hybrid Meeting: Lincoln Villa Senior Cener, 7866 New Kings Road, Jacksonville and on ZOOM

**Meeting Attendance**

**CPAC Members:** Chair Victor Coleman, Central Fairfax Community Association; Vice Chair Rhonda Boyd, Timber Oaks HOA; Leroy Kelly, Carver International; Sallie Barnes, Robinson's Addition Neighborhood Association; Elaine Billups, Better Living Community Association, Inc., Vanessa Cullins-Hopkins, Pebo Corp., Roxsan Currier, Marietta Senior Center; Jaqueline Harrington, Grand Park; Velma Rounsville, Timber Oaks HOA; Ginny Winters, Pickettville Civic Club; Bertha Richardson, Better Living Community Association, Inc.; Keba Roberson, North Jacksonville Trout River Manor Neighborhood Association

**Excused:** n/a

**Staff and Elected Officials:** Superintendent Dana Kriznar, Duval County Public Schools; Paula Renfro, Duval County Public Schools, Damian A. Bell, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department; Scott Adams, Jacksonville Public Library; Lieutenant Richard Knecht, Jacksonville Sheriff Office – Zone 5; Brian Naples, Municipal Code Compliance Department; Edwina Henry, Neighborhood Services Office

**Guests:** Cynthia Brown, Robinson's Addition; Kat Wright, Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville; Jeanette Mitchell, The Central Fairfax Association, Inc.; Hayley Spring, Blue Zones; Constance DeVaughn, Woodstock Neighborhood Association; Roselyn Parker, Community Connect; Roxie McLeod, Panama Park Neighborhood Association; Tom McLeod, Panama Park Neighborhood Association

**ZOOM:** Camika Jerido, USA Unlimited, Inc.; Murphy Nmezi, Royal Terrace; Shirley Thomas, North Riverside CDC; Doretha Tompkins, Riverview; Derek Dixon, FDOT; Tiffany Morales, Military Affairs and Veterans; Jackie Williams, Planning and Development Department; Roxie Powell, Woodstock Neighborhood Association; Anthony Porter, USA Unlimited, Inc.; Henry Scott, North Riverside CDC

**Meeting Summary**

**1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Victor Coleman called the January 2024 meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Edwina Henry verified that a quorum was present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Approval of Previous Meeting Summary:** The Northwest CPAC November 2023 Meeting Summary was approved.

**3. Presenter:** Kat Wright, Director of Public Art, City of Jacksonville, Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville.

Ms. Wright gave an overview of an outdoor digital projection, public art display to be housed at the Legends Center. The digital artwork will be visible for a two-hour period each night to pedestrian and vehicle traffic along Soutel Drive. The installation will be in place for three years and will feature a "legends" theme.

Ms. Wright further stated that the project is funded by the Kings-Soutel Crossing Community Redevelopment Agency and that the Cultural Council is working with the Castano Group on the design. The aim of the project is to recognize local African American trailblazers, and their

contributions, in a vibrant and colorful display, with rotating content. She then invited those in attendance to take a brief on-line survey to make suggestions to help shape the project content.

To access the survey, go to [www.culturalcouncil.org](http://www.culturalcouncil.org), look under the banner Public Art, select "Community Engagement" from the drop-down menu, then click on "Take the Survey" under the King-Soutel Crossing (KSC) CRA Plan Public Art – Community Engagement.

Questions on the survey:

1. What do you want people to know about the Legends Community Center (the site)?
2. What do you suggest be shown or conveyed for the installation to reflect the community?
3. From your response to the last question, what colors or symbols would you associate with what you imagine for the digital installation of art, and why?

NW CPAC Chair Coleman thanked Ms. Wright for her presentation and added "that it is so very important that the entire community give input into this project ."

Kat Wright, Director of Public Art [kwright@culturalcouncil.org](mailto:kwright@culturalcouncil.org) or (904) 944-3606

**4. Elected Officials Report:** None present.

**5. Chair's Report:** Chair Coleman announced that on December 13, 2023, both he and Vice Chair, Rhonda Boyd, attended the annual CPAC Chair and Vice Chair Training, which was conducted by the City of Jacksonville Office of Ethics, Compliance and Oversight. He also indicated that they each received a Certificate of Attendance for successfully completing the Boards and Commissions Training, which also verified the fulfillment of the required ethics training and is valid for a period of four years.

**6. Staff Reports:**

**Neighborhoods Department** – Not Present.

**FDOT – Florida Department of Transportation** - Derek Dixon, Transportation Manager, addressed two previously submitted questions:

- Mr. Dixon confirmed that Kings Road is a State of Florida road.
- FDOT Maintenance Department is aware of the "dips in the road" along the stretch of Eaverson and Cleveland Streets. The department will send people out to investigate and they will follow up as necessary.
- Another question was who pays for resurfacing projects? Mr. Dixon confirmed that the state pays.
- For information on specific road projects, Mr. Dixon suggested that interested parties could go to [www.NFLRoads.com](http://www.NFLRoads.com) for updates on any project. Additionally, he suggested contacting Brie Isom, Public Information Specialist at (904) 360-5457.

Derek Dixon –[Derek.Dixon@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Derek.Dixon@dot.state.fl.us) or (904) 360-5653

**Duval County Public Schools** – Paula Renfro, Chief Academic Officer, announced the following:

- The Duval County Public Schools' Black Tie Gala, which honors Teachers will be held on January 20, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, (also known as the EDDY Awards). The Eddy Awards celebrates each school's Teacher of the Year and announces the winner of the VyStar Duval County Teacher of the Year. The event is presented by the Duval County Public Education Fund (JPEF).

- The Middle and High School School Showcases will take place on January 27, 2024. Parents can tour prospective schools. The Elementary School Showcase will take place on February 3, 2024. Go to [www.duvalschools.org](http://www.duvalschools.org) for specific information.
- Kindergarten enrollment is now underway. Parents may enroll their child(ren) either at the school or on-line. For additional information, go to [www.duvalschools.org](http://www.duvalschools.org).
- Lastly, Ms. Renfro acknowledged the presence of Dr. Kriznar.

Paula Renfro - [rendrop@duvalschools.org](mailto:rendrop@duvalschools.org) or (904) 390-2000

**Jacksonville Public Library** – Scott Adams, Manager Highlands Regional Library, shared information on several programs and events:

- Mayor Deegan recently announced a new literacy program, River City Readers, launching January 27, 2024, at the Main Branch, 303 North Laura Street, from 10 am to 2 pm. The event is free to attend, but registration is encouraged: [www.rivercityreaders.com](http://www.rivercityreaders.com). Mayor Deegan is challenging all attendees to read for at least 20 minutes per day, log their reading time and earn free books.
- Visit [www.aarpfoundation.org/taxaide](http://www.aarpfoundation.org/taxaide) for information on Free Tax Preparation Assistance with AARP. Beginning January 17, 2024, those interested in free tax prep through AARP can call (904) 701-3462 or visit the website to schedule an appointment. The Bradham and Brooks Library is one of the participating branches: [www.tinyurl.com/TaxBradhamBrooksLib](http://www.tinyurl.com/TaxBradhamBrooksLib)
- There will be a History Chat on Saturday, February 10, from 2:30 to 3:30 pm at the Main Library, 303 North Laura Street, discussing The Life of Captain James W. Floyd. Captain Floyd was a celebrated hero of the Spanish American War, a business owner and a civil rights activist from Jacksonville. Registration is encouraged. Go to [www.jaxpubliclibrary.libnet.info](http://www.jaxpubliclibrary.libnet.info) for additional information and to register.

**Jacksonville Sheriff's Office** – Lieutenant Richard Knecht for Assistant Chief Massey, stated that crime statistics for the area are publicly available on the Jacksonville Sheriff website, [www.JaxSheriff.com](http://www.JaxSheriff.com), then he gave the following report:

- Crimes against persons over the last 30 days are down 20%. These crimes include murders, assaults, and robberies.
- Crimes against property are up 14% over the past 30 days. These crimes include burglaries of homes and construction sites.
- Motor vehicle thefts are up, due primarily to thefts of Kia and Hyundai vehicles. According to manufacturers' recall notices, the vehicles have faulty ignition systems which makes it easy for them to be stolen.
- The next Sheriff's Watch Meeting for District 5 will be Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 6 pm, at the Highland Public Library, 1826 Dunn Avenue. Lieutenant Knecht encouraged everyone to attend.

Lieutenant Richard Knecht – [SODistrict5@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:SODistrict5@jaxsheriff.org) or (904) 470-8900

**Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department** – Captain Damian Bell made the following recommendations to promote safety:

- Please use precautions when taking down holiday decorations. Check outlets for overloading and damage to plugs that may need to be replaced.
- Now is the perfect time to change out smoke detector batteries or utilize the Mayor's Program to secure a new smoke detector for free.

- Take extra care in using space heaters and other fuel burning appliances. Be sure they are at a safe distance from furniture and other combustibles and consider using or installing carbon monoxide detectors for safety.

Captain Damian Bell – [DamianB@coj.net](mailto:DamianB@coj.net) or (904) 255-3298

**Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** – Brian Naples, Zone 5 Supervisor, reported that since the last NW CPAC meeting:

- The Municipal Code Compliance Division has conducted 2,000 new inspections, which includes junk vehicles, unsafe structures, and snipe signs.
- Compliance Inspections just began around New Kings Road through Grand Park and will continue through the Lincoln Hills area, citing commercial properties for any code violations, and concentrating on junk vehicles (defined as inoperable and/or no tags).
- The Jacksonville Assistance and Relief (JAR) Program provides financial assistance for those property owners, based on either income or disability, who have been cited for violations and are unable to address specific nuisance issues. For additional information and to check eligibility, applications are available online at [coj.net](http://coj.net) or pick up an application in the MCCD Office, 214 N. Hogan Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor. [Jacksonville.gov](http://Jacksonville.gov) - [Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program](#)

Brian Naples – [BNaples@coj.net](mailto:BNaples@coj.net) or (904) 697-7290

**Neighborhood Services Office** – Edwina Henry, Neighborhood Coordinator thanked everyone for showing up to the CPAC meeting and continuing to invest in their communities.

**7. Old Business** – None.

**8. New Business** – Chair Coleman announced that there are three organizations that have met the requirements to become fully active members of District 5 Northwest CPAC. The Chair read the Mayor's Letter of Appointment, then presented new CPAC Member Packets to the following:

- Sallie Barnes representing Robinson's Addition Neighborhood Association
- Ginny Winters representing Pickettville Civic Club, and
- Attending via ZOOM, Camika Jerido representing USA Unlimited, Inc., will have her new members' packet mailed to her.

**9. Subcommittee and Liaison Reports:**

- **LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs Subcommittee** – LeRoy Kelly, Subcommittee Chair, reported that the subcommittee reviewed five applications, approved three and had two requests for additional information:
  - Jackie Williams, City Planner, will provide additional information on 2023-0853 at 9766 Garden Street, which seeks to rezone the property from Planned Unit Development (PUD) to Community Commercial General-1 (CCG-1) to develop for commercial use.
  - Jackie Williams, City Planner, to research the following concerns regarding 2024-0017 at Moncrief Road W, which seeks to rezone property from Residential Rural-'acre (RR-Acre) to Planned Unit Development (PUD). The subcommittee is requesting the following information: Why was the request not Residential Rural to RLD-40, to prevent unanticipated uses that can be seen with PUD? The subcommittee wants to understand more of what is intended for the PUD.
- The LUZ Subcommittee report was accepted.

- **T.R.U.E. Commission** – Velma Rounsville reported on the December 2, 2023, meeting of the T.R.U.E. Commission and indicated that the focus was on the changes to the City of Jacksonville's Procurement process, such as utilizing electronic signatures, developing a standardized vendor contract manual, etc. She also stated that the current three procurement committees will be consolidated into one.

#### **10. Public Comments and Announcements:**

- **Tiffany Morales, Military Affairs and Veterans Department, City of Jacksonville**, announced the 2024 Veterans Stand Down, to be held on Friday, January 26 (Job Fair and Support Services) and Saturday, January 27 (VA Services) at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds. A flier was placed in with the CPAC Agenda Materials. For additional information: (904) 255-5550.
- **Vanessa Cullen-Hopkins, Pebo Corp.**, offered the following comments:
  - Council member Ju'Coby Pittman is holding her District 10 Community Meeting on January 18, 2024, at the Legend's Center, from 6 to 8 pm
  - Bradham and Brooks Public Library will hold an African American Authors Night in celebration of Black History Month, on February 12, from 5 to 7 pm. Details to follow, so please save the date.
  - Woodlawn Presbyterian Church, USA, will be holding a Health Fair on April 27, 2024, at 3026 Woodlawn Road in Jacksonville.
- **Vice Chair Rhonda Boyd**, raised concern over the number of neighborhood organizations listed as absent on the sign-in sheet and encouraged members to invite neighbors to CPAC meetings. Vice Chair Boyd also asked the NW CPAC Membership to think of ways to encourage greater participation and interest in CPACs.
  - A question for the Neighborhood Coordinator to investigate and report back: Can the Chair and Vice Chair, as well as other CPAC members, attend other organizations' meetings, Home Owners Associations, etc., and invite them to attend our CPAC meetings?

#### **11. Meeting Adjourned at 7:38 p.m.**

The next Northwest CPAC Meeting is Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 6 pm at the Lincoln Villa Senior Center, 7866 New Kings Road, Jacksonville and on ZOOM.