

Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

May 10, 2021 Meeting Summary

Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. 32210

Zoom Meeting ID: 953 4177 6452 Passcode: 276301

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members In-Person: Dr. Willie Crosby, Chair; Shirley Lowry, Hyde Grove Terrace; Peggy Meyers, Hyde Grove Terrace; Dewey Walker, Springtree HOA; Bill Fonferek, Westland Communities HOA; Jacquelyn Woods, Cedar Hill Estates Community Association; Len Burroughs, MHPA; Bruce Tyson, Trinity Ministries.

CPAC Members Via Zoom: Tom Martin, Watermill Masters HOA; Bernice Gremer, Fishweir Neighborhood Watch; Johnny Carter, Cedar Hill Estates Association; Linda Barrow, Budget Automotive Repair, Inc.; Darrell Barrow, Budget Automotive Repair

Visitors: Harlo Watkins, Bill Tardiff, Mary Rumph, Aisha Rumph, David Lowry, Ella Bonner, Westin HOA

Staff and Elected Officials: Taj Johnson, Executive Secretary to State Rep. Angie Nixon; Warren Jones, Duval County School Board; Jim Culbert, DCPS; Brian Mosier, Director of Neighborhoods; Lynne Baldwin, JPL; Lt. Jessie York, JSO; Lisa Rinaman, St. Johns River Keeper; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Ernest Murphy, MCCC; Hampton Ray, FDOT; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Andy Hetzel, Planning and Development.

Meeting Summary

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Crosby called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified a quorum.
- 2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The April 2021 summary was approved by the CPAC.
- 3. Elected Officials' Reports:**
 - Warren Jones, Duval County School Board, reported that the School Board is seeking feedback from students, families, and employees on the COVID-19 measures for the 2021-2022 school year. A survey is now available and will be used; along with CDC guidelines and health professionals, to help guide decisions on how to open schools next year. All though the Governor has relaxed the emergency orders, it does not apply to the School Districts. Face coverings will remain in effect for the remainder of this school year. Mr. Jones announced that the School Boards goal is to provide more services such as art and music instruction in all schools. Combining the smaller schools into one will assist in accomplishing their goal. Mr. Jones also announced that voting for school name changes will end May 12, 2021. The next step, which is to calculate and prepare results will begin May 13, 2021. To track results, you can visit Duval County Public Schools website, www.DCPS.duvalschools.org. Mr. Jones announced that Kindergarten registration is in progress. Parents may register their children in person or online. He also announced that DCPS District won a certificate of excellence and award for financial reporting from the Association of School Business Officials. Warren Jones may be reached at jonesw2@duvalschools.org
 - Taj Johnson, Legislative Aide to State Representative Angie Nixon, announced Bills SB 90 and HB 1 passed. Mr. Johnson announced that their office hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Representative Nixon's contact phone number is 904-924-1500.
- 4. Presentation:** Lisa Rinaman, St. Johns River Keeper, provided a summary and analysis of the health of the lower St. Johns Basin (LSJRB). Ms. Rinaman reported that this year's "State of the River" report findings indicate some positive developments in the health of the river, such as total nitrogen level registering at satisfactory levels, and an improvement in sanitary sewer overflows. The report also indicates that there are some mixed developments, such as oxygen levels registering as satisfactory in the mainstem, but are registering as unsatisfactory in the tributaries, as well as the fecal coliform levels in the tributaries are still very high. Ms. Rinaman advised that several developments and trends are of cause for concern in this year's report.
 - Concentrations of arsenic, cadmium, lead, nickel, and silver in predominantly saltwater reach of the mainstem has increased during 2016-2019.
 - A great number of cyanobacteria blooms were observed and reported throughout Summer 2019.
 - Salinity continues to be unsatisfactory in the basin.

- Submerged aquatic vegetation has declined in several regions in the basin due to drought followed by major storms.
- Wetlands continue to be lost due to development pressures.
- The number of non-native species in the basin has rose from 87 to 90, and studies indicate a lack of public awareness on the impact on non-native species in Florida.

The full report is available at <http://www.sjrreport.com>.

Lisa Rinaman may be reached at 904-509-3260 or lisa@stjohnsriverkeeper.org

- 5. Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** – Lt. Jessie York reported that auto burglaries have increased by 44 percent in the last week. Many of the vehicles are left unlocked. However, auto theft is down 20 percent. He reminded CPAC members to take their keys out of the ignition, and not to leave their cars running while entering a store, or while children are in the vehicle.

Lt. Jessie York may be reached at (904) 573-3165

- 6. Neighborhoods Department** – Bryan Mosier, Director of Neighborhoods, reported that Animal Care and Protective Services (ACPS) has named May, Microchip May. Residents may have their cat or dog microchipped at ACPS, No More Homeless Pets, and the Jacksonville Humane Society, for free in the month of May. This is the best way to locate a lost pet. Mr. Mosier also reported that irrigation schedules have changed with day light savings. If your address ends in an odd number, you may water your lawns on Wednesday and Saturday. If your address ends in an even number, you may water your lawns on Tuesday and Friday. The lawn irrigation schedule is available on the COJ website [https://www.coj.net/welcome/news/daylight-saving-time-brings-new-lawn-irrigatio-\(1\)](https://www.coj.net/welcome/news/daylight-saving-time-brings-new-lawn-irrigatio-(1)). Mr. Mosier reminded members to tip over outside items that may be holding water to help combat the mosquitoes. Bryan Mosier may be contacted at (904) 255-7000

- 7. Chair's Report:** Chair Crosby discussed the progression of the City's plan to phase out septic tanks. Chair Crosby reported that the Southwest CPAC's letters of opposition to the proposed gas tax, and the road widening on Timuquana Road were submitted.

8. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:

- **LUZ Subcommittee** – Chair Crosby reported that the subcommittee reviewed three applications opposing one, Ordinance 2021-0230. The LUZ subcommittee motioned to send a letter in opposition to applications 2021-0230. The full CPAC approved the motion.

Andy Hetzel may be contacted at (904) 255-7821 AHetzel@coj.net

- **Cecil Field Report** – No report.
- **T.R.U.E. Commission** – No report.
- **Transportation** – Tom Martin provided the following report regarding the North Florida Transportation Planning meeting on May 5, 2021.

Organization (TPO) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting:

- North Florida TPO CAC approved the FDOT request to amend FY 2020/21 through FY 2024/25 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The projects include two resurfacing projects in Duval County and rail crossing related to the First Coast Expressway in Clay County.
- North Florida TPO CAC approved the draft of the FY 2021/22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The major change from previous years is an updated list of Special Planning Projects including the addition of second year projects.
- North Florida TPO CAC received a staff presentation on the proposed FY 2021/22 through FY 2025/26 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A complete draft is available on the North Florida TPO website. Fifteen projects were deleted for clerical reasons, included in another project, moved to a later date, given a new project number, or the project is largely completed.
- North Florida TPO CAC received an update presentation on Smart North Florida by Jeff Sheffield.

The next North Florida TPO CAC meeting will be held Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 2 p.m.

9. Staff Reports:

- **Duval County Public School (DCPS)** – Jim Culbert, Chief Information Officer, restated that DCPS is seeking feedback from students, families, and employees on the COVID-19 measures for the 2021-2022 school year. A survey is now available and will be used, along with CDC guidelines to help guide decisions on how to open schools next year.

Jim Culbert may be contacted at (904) 390-2000 or Culbertj@duvalschools.org

- **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Hampton Ray, Manager of Outreach, had no report but was available to answer questions and clear up any concerns regarding the Timuquana Road widening project. Mr. Ray announced that the project will go out for bid in August and has an estimated completion date of early fall.

Hampton Ray may be contacted at (904) 360-5482

- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Lynne Baldwin, Executive Assistant Library Services I, reported that all library meeting rooms have reopened to the public and are available for booking. Ms. Baldwin announced that the Summer Learning program begins June 1st. The Webb Westconnett branch will have in person story time every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., starting the week of June 7th through the end of July. Lynne Baldwin may be contacted at (904) 338-4383 or at LBaldwin@coj.net.
- **Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** – Ernest Murphy, Senior Code Compliance Officer, reported that the systematic inspection in the Hillcrest neighborhood is close to completion. The inspection has resulted in 341 properties being cited. Mr. Murphy reminded CPAC members that the Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program (JAR) is still available for those who need abatement services due to disability or economic disadvantage. To find out if you qualify for the JAR program, visit <https://www.coj.net/departments/neighborhoods/municipal-code-compliance/jacksonville-assistance-and-relief-program>. Ernest Murphy may be contacted at (904)255-7096 or Emurphy@coj.net

10. Unfinished Business - None

11. New Business – Capital Improvement Project Needs - CPAC members discussed and approved six Capital Improvement project needs provided by various members and community leaders within Southwest CPAC planning District 4. The following items will be submitted to Capital Improvement Plan Administrator, Teresa Eichner no later than May 21, 2021.

- Widen and raise the bridge that goes over McGirts Creek on Shindler Drive.
- Replace benches, add, and repair sidewalks around Fishweir Park.
- Replace and make sidewalks ADA compliant starting at Scotten Road, up along Kingsbury Street to Edgewood Avenue.
- Renovate Fiddler's Green Golf Course.
- Improve the parking in Avondale.
- Create a Master Plan for the Oakleaf Plantation Park.

12. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements - None

13. Adjourn: Chair Crosby adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Next CPAC Meeting: June 14, 2021, 6:30 p.m. In person at Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 953 4177 6452 Passcode: 276301. A formal email notice will be emailed to members.

Next Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Subcommittee Meeting: June 14, 2021, 5:30 p.m. In person at Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, 6974 Wilson Blvd. and via Zoom, Meeting ID: 953 4177 6452 Passcode: 276301. 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](#).

Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V (904) 630-4940, TTY-(904) 630-4933, or email your request to ADAaccommodationRequest@coj.net