

Urban Core Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

May 1, 2023, Meeting Summary

Hybrid Meeting:

The Main Library 303 N. Laura Street, Multipurpose Room, Jacksonville, FL 32202 and on Zoom

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members: Bryant Shumaker, Chair, SPAR Council; Juanita Senior, Vice-Chair, Planet Watch Neighborhood Association; Terry Canty, Planet Watch Neighborhood; Keith Davis, All Things Common Ministries, INC.; Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts at East Bay Condo Association; ; Becca Dinger, 2nd Mile Ministries; Marcia Ellison, New Town Success Zone; Bill Hoff, SAMBA; Cathy Reed, Parks at the Cathedral; Ernest Smith, Plaza Condominiums; Deloris Swain, Grand Boulevard Crime Watch; Johnny Swain, Grand Boulevard Crime Watch; Cindy Watson, JASMYN;

Excused:

Visitors: Lee Kryszewski, Plaza at Berkman; Guillermo Simon, Half; Amy Fu, Alpha Envirotech Consulting; Richard Lewis; Lewan Brunson, Blue Zone Project; Pam Sorenson, San Marco Pres; Honey Holzendorf; Rachel Klinger, Geosyntec

Staff and Elected Officials: Chris Billings, Municipal Code Compliance Division; Connor Corrigan, Planning and Development Department; Jeff Foster, Public Works; Caroline Fulton, Planning and Development Department; Dr. Dana Kriznar, Duval County Public Schools; Charles Johnson, JFRD; Keli Likins, JPL; Janell Milton, JEA; Michael Pickney, Public Works, Solid Waste; Assistant Chief J. Ricks, JSO; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Office

Meeting Summary

Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Shumaker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Rosemary Wesolowski confirmed a quorum was present.

Approval of Previous Meeting's Summary: The approval of the April minutes was postponed to the June meeting.

Presentation: Cantrece Jones, Acuity Design Group, presented on the Long-Range Transportation Study. The City of Jacksonville Transportation Planning Division, which focuses on transportation policy, long-range planning, and project development, is undertaking an outreach effort to identify transportation infrastructure and safety issues throughout Jacksonville. These can range from fixing sidewalks and addressing flooding issues, to potentially identifying new roadways. This website (<https://ventureoutjax.com>) will allow you to provide feedback to the Transportation Planning Division that will help to identify problems, issues, and guide resources to address the issues that residents of the City of Jacksonville are facing in their day-to-day travel.

To interact with the map and provide information about a project or issue you would like to see addressed, click on the map, then click on a specific location. A pop-up window will appear with specific information fields allowing you to provide information on your issue.

Elected Official's Report: None

Chair's Report: Chair Shumaker thanked the CPAC for their input on the CIP recommendations. The CIP recommendations have been submitted and Chair Shumaker will follow up on the recommendations at the next CPAC Chairs meeting with the mayor's staff.

Staff Reports:

JSO – Assistant Chief Ricks informed the CPAC that the downtown JSO bicycle patrol unit will work an adjusted schedule to ensure bicycle officers are on the streets throughout the day and night.

Zone 1 Substation – 904-630-8144 or JSOZone1@jaxsheriff.org

Jacksonville Fire and Rescue (JFRD)- Captain Charles Johnson announced:

- He reviews Certificates of Use and Occupancy (COU) Permits to ensure the proposed use is compatible with the zoning of the property, Captain Johnson's office is in the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, 32202, second floor.
- The COU process has been streamlined to simplify the application.
- JFRD offers small business help sessions to assist with starting a new business.
- Everyone was reminded to clean their dryer vents in their homes.

Captain Johnson can be reached at 904-255-8560 or johnsonc@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD) – Chris Billings, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported:

- In the past 30 days MCCD conducted 1,422 inspections and conducted two proactive inspections in the Urban Core district.
- Twenty-two litter signs were removed.
- The Jacksonville Assistance and Relief (JAR) program. The purpose of the JAR Program is to facilitate a means of compliance to those who would otherwise be challenged to achieve it due to disability or economic disadvantages. The objective is to provide the abatement services required at no cost to citizens who qualify, thereby achieving compliance to the city while not unduly burdening its most vulnerable citizens. More information regarding the JAR Program can be found at the following link: <https://www.coj.net/departments/neighborhoods/municipal-code-compliance/jacksonville-assistance-and-relief-program>

Chris Billings can be reached at 904-255-7000

Jacksonville Public Library (JPL) – Keli Likins – announced that JPL will host a Lit Chat with Susan Orlean, author of *The Library Book* and many other non-fiction titles on Friday, June 2, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Ms. Orlean will sign books after the program in a no-contact setting. Library staff will take your book to Ms. Orlean to be signed and then return it to you. A limited number of books will also be available for purchase on-site or you can bring your own copy to be signed. To attend, pre-register at: <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/blog/lit-chat-and-writers-lab-nyt-bestselling-author-susan-orlean>

Public Works – Jeff Foster, Solid Waste, Environmental Engineering Manager and Michael Pinckney, Chief of Solid Waste shared the following updates:

- Mr. Foster informed the CPAC that a soil remediation project will be completed in Springfield Park. The park will be closed during this project. The soil, trees and sidewalks will be removed from the park. Upon completion, the park will be restored to its current condition.
- Mr. Pinckney informed the CPAC that there is a large clean up scheduled on May 6, 2023, at Clanzel T. Brown, 4575 Moncrief Road, 32209 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. All were invited to attend.

JEA – Janell Milton informed the CPAC that JEA in the near future, will email a survey to all that have created an online account with JEA. The survey is designed to determine the energy needs of the community. To learn more about JEA or create an online account visit: <https://www.jea.com/>

Planning and Development – Connor Corrigan informed the CPAC that he has been reassigned to work with the Greater Arlington/Beaches CPAC and this will be his last meeting supporting the Urban Core CPAC. Mr. Corrigan introduced Ms. Caroline Fulton as the new Urban Core CPAC Planner.

Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) – Dr. Dana Kriznar stated:

- Students are currently in the testing season. The scores from the tests will appear in the parents account as the scores become available.
- Kindergarten enrollment has begun; Kindergarten students that enroll in May will receive a Kindergarten welcome kit and a laptop.
- If you have enrollment questions for all grade levels and all schools, please call 904-348-7777 Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.
- DCPS will continue to offer Tele-Therapy and Tele-Health (Hazel Health) over the summer. Physical Health is available 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Friday. Mental Health is available 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Monday through Friday. An online signed parent content form is required.

- Summer school will begin on June 12, 2023, and end July 1, 2023. Classes will be conducted Monday through Friday.
- There are still openings at all magnet schools for the 2023/2024 school year.

New Business – none

Old Business- Dimitri Demopoulos, Governmental Affairs Subcommittee Chair re-introduced a Land Use and Zoning concern that was discussed at the April Urban Core CPAC meeting. Mr. Demopoulos made the following motions:

Recommend denial to Ordinance# 2023-0007, rezoning at 1007 Hendricks Avenue, 0 and 1954 Prudential Drive and 0 Home Street - CCBD to PUD; to permit commercial uses as described in the Downtown Southbank Mixed Use PUD by G.I.S. Holding and Karen Hirshberg.

We oppose any change at this location to the 2019 Downtown Development Comprehensive Overlay Plan. Said Overlay Plan limits the development at this location to those enumerated and prohibits all others. Self-storage facilities are not listed as an approved development and therefore are prohibited. Furthermore, the percentage of active vs. passive activity in this development is 80% storage and 20% retail which in addition does not meet the goals of the overlay.

The motion carried.

Recommend denial to Ordinance 2023-0213 and PUD 2023-0007, the Urban Core District CPAC opposes the changes in the 2019 Downtown Development Overlay Plan as outlined in the above bills. We feel the Overlay should be upheld in order to further the goals of a vibrant and active commercial node at this prominent Southbank location.

The motion carried.

Subcommittees:

Governmental Affairs - Dimitri Demopoulos – no report

Blight and Code Enforcement: - Keith Davis reported the sub-committee met on April 20, 2023, and established a preliminary Urban Core CPAC Clean up calendar. Urban Core CPAC members can clean up their community area or join other UC CPAC clean up members at a pre-determined clean up location. There was some discussion and additional information/details were requested. The Blight and Code Enforcement Subcommittee will meet later in the month of April to work out additional details and report back to the CPAC at the June meeting.

Homelessness: Cindy Watson announced that Dawn Gilman from Changing Homelessness will be the guest speaker at the June 5, 2023, Urban Core CPAC meeting. At a previous subcommittee meeting, the Homelessness Subcommittee prepared a list of questions or concerns that will be addressed in June. Additionally, the Homeless Subcommittee will meet on June 20, 2023, at 5:30 pm in the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, 5th Floor Room 5016 to discuss how they would like to proceed with this new information.

Public Comments: none

Adjourn: There was a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

The next Urban Core CPAC Meeting is Monday, June 5, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library 303 North Laura Street, 32202, in the Multipurpose Room.

Summary prepared by Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net. A copy of the audio recording of this Urban Core 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 notification to process; last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to ADAaccommodationRequest@coj.net