Neighborhoods DEPARTMENT
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CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

Office of the Director

Update 11/27/02

Mayor Delaney's Quarterly Meeting with CPAC Chairs
Nov. 19, 2002

SUMMARY

Present:
Mayor John Delaney
John Curtin
Lorrie DeFrank

Chairs and Vice Chairs
Urban Core:
Chair Dr. Janetta Norman
Greater Arlington/Beaches:
Chair Gary Dickinson
Southeast
Chair Angie Vannatter
Southwest:
Chair Jean McCorkle
Vice Chair Carl Moore Jr. (newly elected chair for 2003)
Northwest:
Chair Diane Kerr
Vice Chair George Leverett
North:
Chair LaTrecia Baker

Discussion topics:

Florida Neighborhoods Conference: *The following would be of interest to the mayor, as well as to CPAC chairs and other neighborhood leaders across the state*: The State Conference Planning Committee was loosely organized seven years ago for the purpose of producing an annual statewide conference, similar to Jacksonville's Neighborhood Summit. Last week, John Curtin and Lorrie DeFrank met with other committee members in St. Petersburg to discuss whether or not the group should formally organize – a question that has come up every year for the purpose of gaining recognition in Tallahassee, and possibly securing funding for the conferences. Discussion also included "knowledge sharing" of conference workshop information. Representatives of The

Innovation Groups, a national non-profit serving local governments, met with committee members to brainstorm suggestions. The consensus was not to organize at this time because of the success of the committee under its current structure, but to accept IG's offer to facilitate a two-day workshop on the future and the purpose of the committee. IG hosts a website – at considerable cost to governments – to share community-building knowledge. Jacksonville's Public Information Office probably could provide a site that would do an adequate job of coordinating information from the municipalities across Florida that are represented on the state committee.

Action: The mayor asked John Curtin to pursue the state committee's having a voice in Tallahassee.

From Diane Kerr, Northwest:

- **Political Forum**: The six CPACs are planning a joint candidates forum for the mayor's race. What would be a good location? (NOTE: At the summit luncheon, Diane asked the mayor for permission for the CPACs to do this.)

Diane said attendance could reach as high as 1,000 with promotion from all CPACs. Chairs are seeking a central location that holds that many people. The mayor said he doubts that 1,000 people will show up, but he asked the staff to "price out the convention center."

Action: Lorrie will follow up on having the mayoral candidates' forum in the Prime Osborn.

- **Ash sites:** What is the status of the city's ash sites? (Diane will be there to elaborate on that question.)

Diane expressed concern about "background standards" and whether certain sites are being regulated by the DEP or EPA. She also said citizens are having difficulty getting information. The mayor called Press Secretary Sharon Ashton into the meeting to clarify. ***Action: Sharon said she will have Chris Pearson, a project manager in Solid Waste, call Diane. Follow-up: Sharon said on Nov. 22 that Chris and Diane have talked.***

From Angie Vannatter, Southeast:

- **Proposed congestion:** A large housing development is planned for Greenland Road and US 1. Traffic would exit onto Greenland, which already is so congested that it backs up to San Jose. The community is concerned about the traffic, as well as school overcrowding.
  - **Status report from Planning Department:** The developer has made a Future Land Use Application (No. 2002D-009) to change from light industrial to low-to-medium density residential. A rough estimate of about 1,000 dwellings (single-family and apartments) are proposed for the 314-acre property, which also includes wetlands. No recommendation has yet been made, pending community impact, and the proposed development has not been named. Residents who have concerns are encouraged to attend hearings associated with the proposal. Call 630-1900 to find out when the hearings are, or check the department's site on www.coj.net. The proposal is on the agenda for the next Planning Commission meeting, which will start at 5 p.m. on Nov. 27.

The mayor asked staff to check with Jeannie Fewell to see what could be done.
Action: Per John Curtin, Lorrie e-mailed Jeannie on Nov. 21 to tell her that we shared the above information with chairs.)

From LaTrecia Baker, North:

- **Asphalt plants:** Because of the many road projects brought about as a result of The Better Jacksonville Plan, two new asphalt plants have opened in North Jacksonville -- one on Heckscher Drive (Milestone) and the other across from Imeson Boulevard and Main Street (this company took occupancy of a closed cement plant.) As a result of the increased volume of work, these two sites have acquired several large piles of old asphalt waste – some as high as 20 to 30 feet – all of which can be seen from the surrounding roads, namely Heckscher Drive and Main Street. Is there anything, such as landscaping, that can be done to hide this ugliness from the motorist?

The mayor said perhaps some buffering could be put around them. John Curtin said he would have engineers take a look at the area.
(Le Trecia told the mayor that it's "looking good along 9A" now and thanked him.)
Action: John to contact engineers: Follow-up: Lorrie got exact locations of plants from Glory on Nov. 20 and gave them to John.

Junkyard on Blanding: Jean McCorkle said that Shedd's Junkyard at Blanding and Turknett is being cleaned up and moved, and residents are concerned about batteries and other items that may have contaminated the ground.
The mayor asked staff to get RESD to check on that.
Action: On Nov. 22, Lorrie e-mailed Mario Taylor requesting that he have someone check on the status of the situation.
Response from Mario Taylor, Nov. 26, 2002: Several agencies – Air and Water Quality Division (AWQD)/Emergency Response Activity (ERA), Property Safety Code Enforcement, Fire Prevention and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) have been active at the site.
As a result of a Jacksonville Fire and Rescue request for assistance, ERA instructed the property owner to effect removal of hazardous materials - drums and tanks of fuel oils; drums, tanks and pails of used oil; containers of gasoline; automotive batteries and a small amount of soil surficially contaminated by used oil. The required hazardous regulated substance removal actions were completed by the property owner. Documentation of property disposal of the removed substances were submitted to ERA. FDEP has provided a letter to the property owner acknowledging that FDEP is satisfied with the hazardous materials cleanup.
I do not know the status of the Code Enforcement and Fire Prevention action items. (Checking w/John Fleming on Codes – L, 11/27)

>>> Steve Pace 11/22/02 04:41PM >>>
Chuck:
Please see the attached, with its' corresponding deadline for a response. Thanks very much...Steve

Traffic in the Urban Core: Dr. Janetta Norman said "cars go zooming by" in the Myrtle/Moncrief area and asked if speed bumps could be installed. She mentioned the area between 19th and 33rd streets.
The mayor said he is not optimistic about speed bumps being the solution, but that perhaps a traffic circle could be built to control traffic.
Action: John Curtin will request that Traffic Engineering do a study of the area.
Follow-up: On Nov. 20 Lorrie requested that Felicia get the exact locations in question from Dr. Norman.

Wonderwood: Gary Dickinson said he was distressed to read in that day's paper that the Wonderwood project has been delayed because of BellSouth work. "How can we get them back on track?"
The mayor said BellSouth is a wonderful corporate citizen, but sometimes they move slowly.