Neighborhoods DEPARTMENT
Serving Jacksonville Block by Block

Office of the Director

Summary of Mayor Peyton's Quarterly meeting with CPAC Chairs
June 14, 2005 – Mayor's Conference Room

Attending:
Mayor John Peyton
Pete Jackson
Roslyn Mixon-Phillips
Lorrie DeFrank

CPAC Officers:
Urban Core: Vice Chair Bishop Eugene Johnson
Greater Arlington/Beaches: Chair Marcella Lowe
Southeast: Chair Charles McBurney
Southwest: Chair Lee Martin
Northwest: None
North: Chair Richard Berry

The mayor briefed the chairs on the status of the city's FY 2005-2006 budget preparation, courthouse, main library and Better Jacksonville Plan finances.

Chairs raised the following issues:

Urban Core:
Bishop Johnson presented the mayor with a copy of "**Hogan's Creek** Park Restoration -- A Citizen Vision Statement." It states, in part, that "the Urban Core CPAC hopes this resurrected park can be completed in phases over a 2- to 10-year period with a mixture of public and private funding … We want to see this park become a source of pride and a resource that offers beauty, quiet and recreation for not only the citizens of the Urban Coe, but for our entire city."
The mayor said that is one of his top priorities, along with McCoy's Creek. He cautioned that they are heavily contaminated and said that the Corps of Engineers' funding for the work got cut. The mayor suggested that someone from his staff attend a CPAC meeting to share with members why this is a challenge.
ACTION: Neighborhood Services to follow up with Mayor's Office. *(Doris, the mayor mentioned Brad Thoburn. Please call him and see if he will attend a CPAC meeting, or send a representative.)*

Bishop Johnson said residents are concerned about lead and ash at **Emmett Reed Park**.
The mayor conceded that's a big problem and said that a remedy is being sought, but it's in litigation, which needs to be settled before the city can take action. The timelines depends on the settlement. The mayor said lawyers are working on it full time, and that it's a complicated situation.

Greater Arlington/Beaches:
Marcella Lowe again asked when the conference room of the **University Park Branch Library** would be finished and opened.
Roslyn Phillips said funding was being identified and that the Neighborhoods Department would follow up.
Action: See above. *(James, follow up with Marcy Cook at Public Works.)*

Marcella asked when infrastructure work on **Lone Star Road** would be completed. (It has taken two years to redo a 1.8-mile stretch of road that serves 1,600 homes, three schools and numerous churches and businesses.)

The mayor suggested that the CPAC ask Alan Mosley, director of Public Works, to make a presentation at a meeting.

Marcella said transportation will be the entire focus of the CPAC's August meeting. Representatives from BJP, FDOT and JTA will be invited.

Update from Public Works 6/13/05: *Lone Star has been an extremely difficult project. Expected completion is now December (as opposed to the original completion of August). However, we are making every effort to shorten that time as much as possible.*

Marcella expressed extreme concern by the CPAC about congestion on **Kernan Boulevard** and the many development projects that are being approved along the corridor. She said the CPAC considered requesting a moratorium on further development, but instead wrote a letter to the mayor recommending that the city "fast track the design, right-of-way purchase and construction of all three of the Kernan Boulevard improvement projects (lane additions and both overpasses) …"
The mayor said making Kernan Boulevard a viable corridor is a top priority with everyone who knows it, including the Mayor's Office, City Council and DOT. He said traffic flow on Kernan impacts other corridors, including Southside Boulevard.

Southeast:
Charles McBurney said the Southeast CPAC shares the Greater Arlington/Beaches CPAC's concerns about **Kernan Boulevard**, which also goes through District 3.

He expressed concern to the mayor about progress on **Fair Share** and **land acquisition for future schools.**
The mayor said new growth management legislation addresses schools as part of concurrency.

Southwest:
Lee Martin requested approval of the Southwest **CPAC**'s request to amend its **by-laws**, which was resolved. (The Director of Neighborhoods had approved it.)

He said he is concerned about the **lack of communication in making citizens informed of pending legislation.** He mentioned a litter ordinance that affects fishermen.

North:

Dick Berry had a concern about the payout schedule of the Better Jacksonville Plan bonds, which was resolved.

Dick expressed concern about **heavy traffic volume** on roads in the district, including Broward and Pulaski, and questioned reliability of traffic counts.
The mayor said accurate counts have been a big challenge, which the MPO is working on. He said he wanted to chair the MPO because its work is so important.
Dick said that government employees who work downtown contribute to rush hour traffic and asked if the city would try to promote motor pools.

Issue: The *Times-Union* story on the cost overruns in the "road projects" would cause some road projects to but cut back, like the widening of Broward Road. The same story indicated that some other roads would be increased from three lanes to four lanes and some from four to six lanes.
Status: Current daily traffic volumes indicate that Broward Road is handling more traffic than some that are being increased. Why?
Suggested solution: A standard should be set and applied to each project without any guesswork by the Better Jacksonville Plan project team.
Update from Public Works 6/13/05: *Broward Road was initially identified as one that could receive scope cuts, but upon further review it's been decided to keep the scope as currently planned, from a two-lane rural to a three-lane urban.*

Pete Jackson announced that Thelma Jackson from the Mayor's Office of Faith and Community Based Partnerships would be attending CPAC meetings to identify community-based organizations that could benefit from the office's programs.