

# Agenda

Stand Up for Your Neighborhoods

November 13, 2014

10 a.m.

Lynwood Roberts Room

**Note about Parking: Those parked in the Library Parking garage can have parking validated at the end of the meeting**

**Committee:** E Denise Lee, Chair; Council Member Jim Love; Council Member Bill Gulliford; Council Member John Crescimbeni, Council Member Bill Bishop, Council Member Greg Anderson, and Council Member Warren Jones.

Call to order

Approve minutes from October 29 meeting.

## **Old Business:**

- Discussion of status at property at 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Moncrief -- Pat Ivey.
- Presentation of illegal dumping areas throughout the city and a discussion of camera placement. – Pat Ivey
- Crime statistics map per zone for last 90 days (violent crimes) – Pat Ivey
- Map of Neighborhood Organizations – Elaine Spencer
- Neighborhoods Subcommittee Abandoned homes legislation (non-historic structures) – Warren Jones, Chair and Cherry Shaw, OGC
- Vacant Land Registry Sub Committee – Warren Jones Chair.
  - Report from the Housing Division regarding the Registry determining the actual amount in the fund and how much can be spent. Can it be a current funding source for blight efforts?
- Status report of the uses of growth retardant chemicals on right-of-ways – John Pappas
- Blight problems at the Palm Terrace Apartments – Rosalynn Crymes, property manager
- Illegal dumping penalties – Jeff Foster

## **New Business**

None

## **Public Comment and Blight Complaints**

30 minutes will be allotted at end of meeting.

## **Adjourn**



## OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

### STAND UP FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOODS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**October 29, 2014**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**City Hall**  
**117 W. Duval St., 1st Floor**  
**Lynwood Roberts Room**

**Attendance:** Council Members Denise Lee (Chair), Bill Bishop, John Crescimbeni, Warren Jones, Jim Love

**Excused:** Council Members Greg Anderson and Bill Gulliford

**Also:** Karen Bowling – Mayor’s Office; Chief Pat Ivey – Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office; Kimberly Scott – Regulatory Compliance; Robert Campbell – Council Auditor’s Office; Paige Johnston and Stephen Durden – Office of General Counsel Office; Dan Macdonald – ECA; Yvonne P. Mitchell – Council Research Division

See attached sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

Council Member Lee called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. The meeting began with introductions from the committee and attendees.

#### **Minutes**

Motion/2<sup>nd</sup> move to approve September 17th and October 16th minutes – Crescimbeni/Bishop (5-0)

#### **Vote on Draft Certificate of Use Legislation - CM Warren Jones & Paige Johnston**

CM Jones provided a brief summary regarding the purpose of the revision. The major changes include the addition of a section to revoke certificate(s); a section regarding a penalty for failure to obtain a certificate(s); and changing the term Business Tax Receipt to be consistent throughout the Code. Ms. Johnston will file the legislation for introduction to the full Council.

Motion/2<sup>nd</sup> move to approve COU legislation - Jones/Crescimbeni (5-0)

CM Jones expressed his appreciation to the sub-committee members that assisted in this process.

#### **Report on Policy regarding structures 50 years or older – CM Jones**

CM Jones CM Lee requested the definition of non-historic structures and criteria requiring a background check on potential buyers are added in the legislation. Chief Ivey suggested sub-committee consider

disqualification criteria as it pertains to the background checks. There was discussion regarding a systematic approach in handling disposal of properties acquired by the City. Some of the suggestions were to offer Duval residents preference in purchasing homes; increase partnership with JSO through crime free multi-housing units program; institute a first time homeowners program; apply an application fee; and utilize the claw back provision/203K. CM Jones will take suggestions back to sub-committee for review at their next meeting: November 12<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room A. Draft legislation will be presented at the next Stand Up committee meeting.

**Vacant Land Registry and use of monies in registry – Stephen Durden**

Mr. Durden reported the Vacant Land Registry was adopted in 2010. He further provided an in-depth explanation of what constitutes fees versus taxes. The funds collected in this registry are fees, to which must be used to benefit the individual paying the fee and not shared by others in community. Mr. Durden shared there was some federal litigation pending which could alter the amount in the registry. Mr. Campbell stated approximately \$1.7 million is in the registry with a possible 60/40 split associated with federal litigation. CM Lee requested a detail report from Housing Division in regards to the registry. Mr. Durden and Campbell will work together to determine the actual spendable amount along with possible uses of the fee.

**Discussion of new graphics (boxing gloves) – Paul Martinez or Aleizha Batson**

Mr. Martinez and Ms. Batson presented revised options of “fight blight” with gloves. CM Lee conducted a vote with committee and audience. Option #7 was selected and will be revised with a left/right gloves with stitching.

**New Business**

Chief Ivey stated JSO is awaiting arrival of the remainder of the surveillance cameras. Additionally, Operation Cease Fire is shifting into another program.

CM Lee requested an update on criminal activity in all zones. Grand Park video presented at next meeting. How many cameras in illegal dumping area/top areas?

CM Lee shared her concerns about the City only having one prime contractor to address the overload of work with retention ponds and

**Public Comment**

Ms. Gracie McCastler expressed her concerns about guns in the schools; and suggested City considers having a gun buyback event.

Mr. Robert Prado inquired about alternative ways (i.e. chemical agent) to address consistent overgrowth on properties which impacts repeat violations.

Mr. Jeff Foster requested an opportunity to do a ride-a-long with CM Lee to see areas of concerns in order to provide better service.

Mr. Pappas commented that vegetation control is currently being discussed in his office. He will provide a status report at next meeting. CM Lee requested Mr. Pappas to also prepare to present on comprehensive plan in November.

Mr. Van Dyke Walker stated JTA is moving forward with their mobility work program and working with JSO about lighting improvements. A presentation from JTA is forthcoming.

Mr. Carnell Oliver commented that more churches need to get involved with young men in the streets and provide activities as an alternative to the chaos in their lives.

Mr. Small inquired about a process or solution in maintaining properties that are consistently reported for overgrowth once it has been mowed.

Ms. Thomas commented the rotation utilized by the Mowing & Landscape Division is dysfunctional.

Mr. Brunson requested clarification of nonprofit organizations as it pertained to the donation of abandoned properties owned by the City.

Mr. Sole expressed his concern regarding the lack of pickups from the garbage collection sub-contractors (green trucks) in the San Pablo and Atlantic area.

The next meeting is scheduled Wednesday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup>. The committee saluted the veterans in attendance for their service in acknowledgement of the upcoming Veteran's Day.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Yvonne P. Mitchell, Council Research Division (904) 630-1679

Posted 11.6.14 2:00p.m.



# **Illegal Dumping: Identification and Resolution Process**

Jeff Foster

Chief of Solid Waste Division

11-13-2014





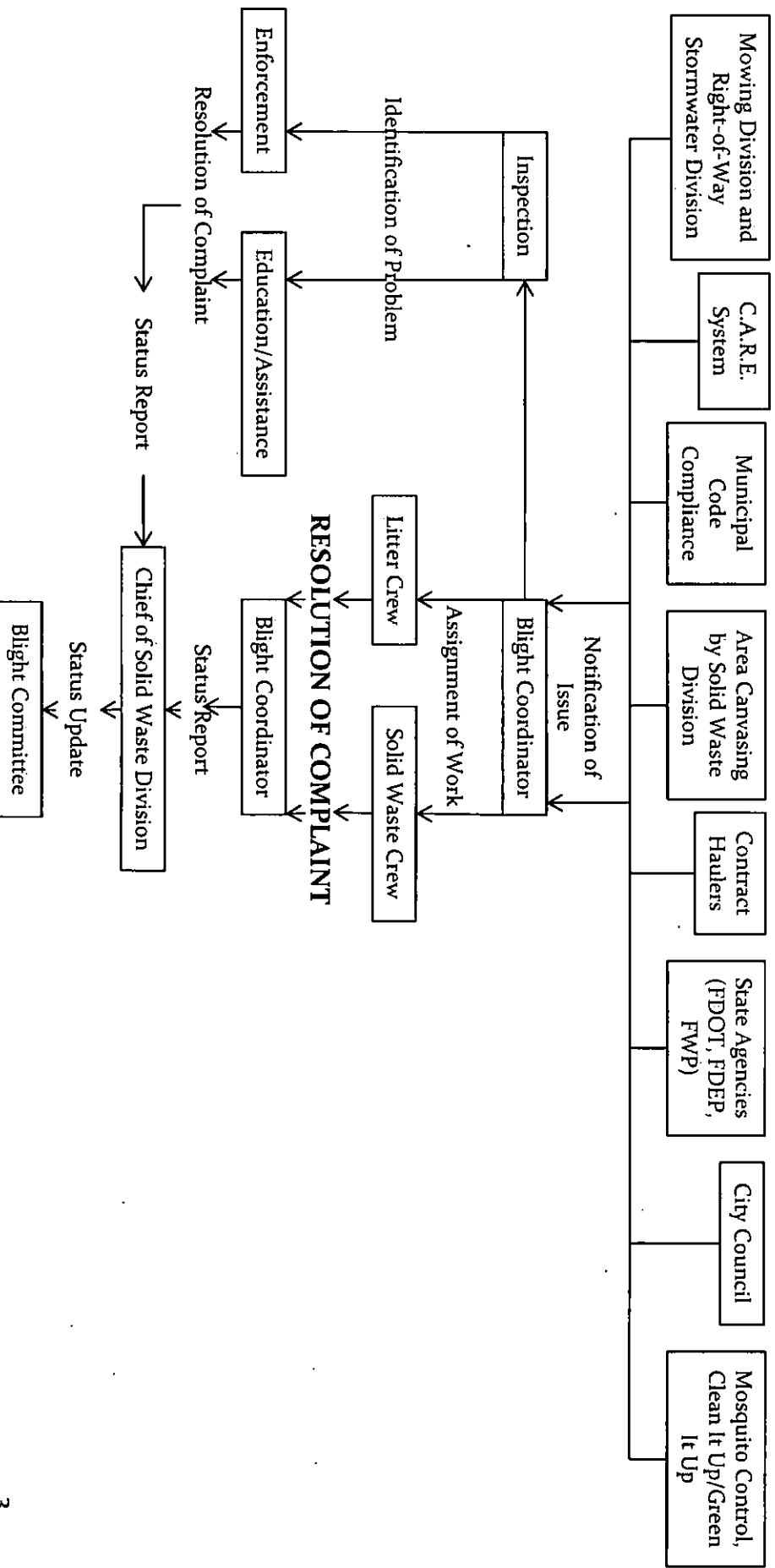
# Identification & Notification

- Opportunities for Identifying Blight
  - Public Works Staff
    - DPW Garbage Collection Crews/Supervisors (SWD)
    - DPW R/W Mowing Crews/Inspectors (MLMD)
    - DPW R/W Maintenance Crews/Inspectors (RWSWMD)
  - DPW Contractors
    - Garbage Collections (Franchise Contractors)
    - R/W, Parks & Private Property Mowing (Contractors)
  - Public
  - Others (Council Members, Other City Agencies, FDOT, FDEP, JTA, etc.)
- Process of Notification
  - Public Works' Staff
    - Truck Driver's Log
    - Supervisor's Log
    - Compliance Officer's Log
    - Franchise Investigator's Log
    - Blight Technician's Log
  - DPW Contractors
    - Daily Form Submittal
  - Public
    - C.A.R.E.
    - New Blight App
  - Others
    - C.A.R.E.
    - New Blight App
    - Direct Communication



# How it is supposed to work...

Blight Assessment and Response Flowchart





# Process of Notification

- Input of blight, illegal dumping, or waste tires from Identification Process stakeholders to Blight Coordinator
- The Blight Coordinator is notified of the location of the blight items scheduled to be collected or evaluated from the Department of Public Works (DPW) Staff, DPW Contractors, the Public, and from the other interested sister agencies and organizations
- The remaining Process of Notification is dependent on whether or not the Materials are at Recognized or Non-Recognized Set Out Areas



# Process of Notification: Materials at Recognized Set Out Areas

- The Blight Coordinator reviews collection schedules for service days for the noted items.
- All noted items that are scheduled to be picked up that service day or the next service day are held for evaluation of completed collection after the contract or the ordinance time period has passed.
- All noted items that are past due are given to the Compliance Officers and Franchise Investigators for evaluation of liquidated damages.
- Past due items within the COJ service area are given to the Supervisor and Superintendent for evaluation of disciplinary action(s).
- Past due items within the COJ service area are evaluated by the residential Supervisor and Superintendent for assets needed for collection. If additional equipment or man-power resources are needed, the Supervisor or Superintendent notifies the Blight Coordinator who places the item/location on the collection list.
- Once the material has been collected by the Blight team or the residential collection crews, the item/location is forwarded by those two stakeholders to the Blight Coordinator for removal from the list with the date that it was collected.



# Process of Notification: Materials at Non-Recognized Set Out Areas

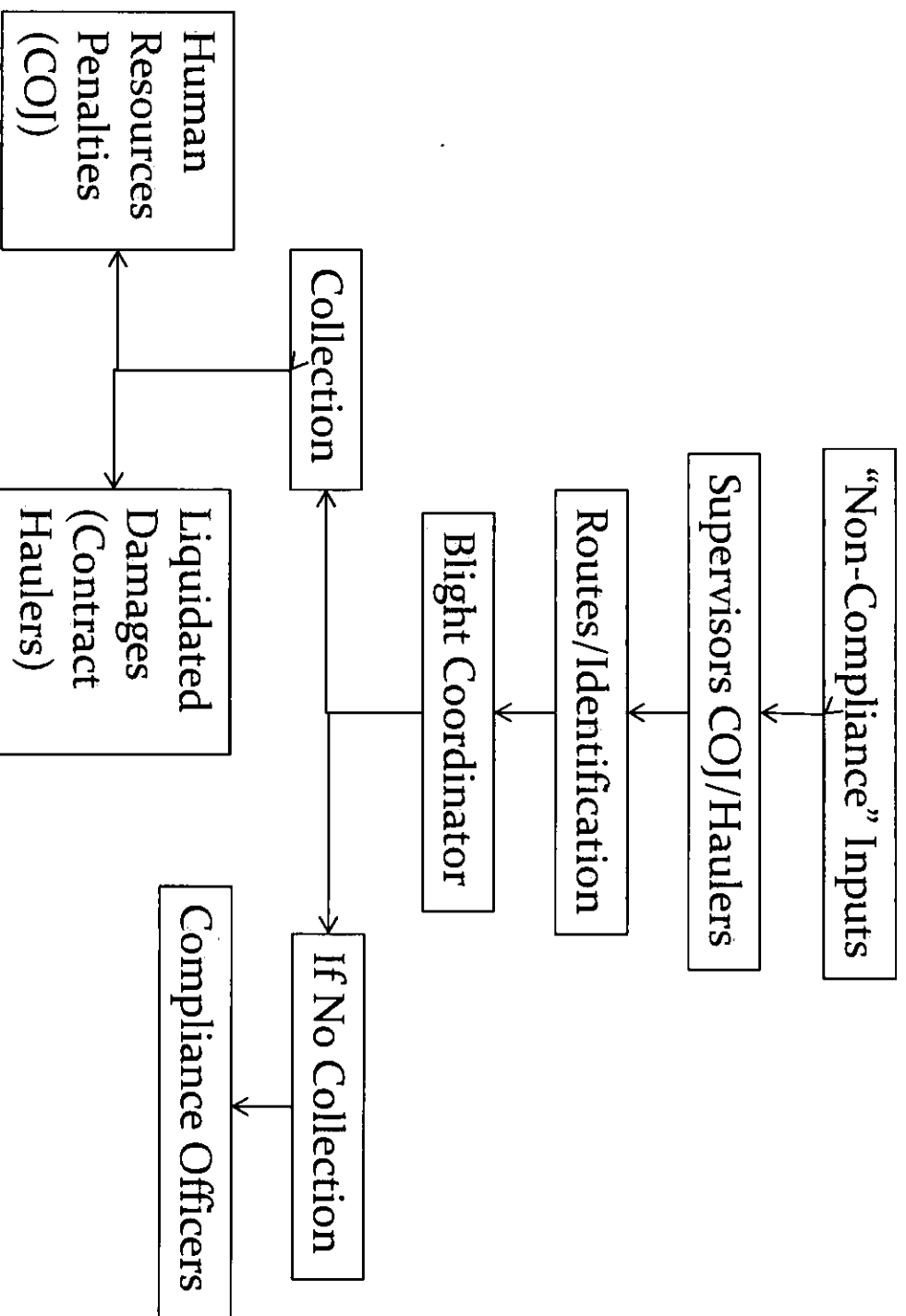
- The Blight Coordinator reviews collection schedules for service days for the noted items.
- After the collection time contained within the hauler contracts or the time period contained within the ordinance has passed, the Blight Coordinator will review the daily tagging list produced by the haulers.
- For noted items that are not listed on the tagging list, the Blight Coordinator will forward the list to the Compliance Officers and Franchise Investigators for evaluation of applicable LDs.
- For noted items that are on the tagging list, the Compliance Officer/Franchise Investigators will monitor the locations to ensure collection within the contract or ordinance time period, and will apply LDs for non-performance after the time period has passed.
- Compliance Officers/Franchise Investigators will continue to monitor the locations until collection and apply daily LDs as applicable until collection.
- Contract performance will be measured using C.A.R.E. issues and LDs for rating of contract performance for submittal to the TEU committee monthly.



# Process of Notification

- The Blight Coordinator will prepare the monthly TEU Report which will include the following:
  - Total Number of Noted Items (Tons, Tires) Collected
  - LDs Assessed for Each Hauler
  - Hauler Ranking of Contract Performance
  - Average Number of Days to Collect Tagged Items
  - Average Number of Days to Collect Non-Tagged Items

# If it is not handled correctly the first time...





# Problems & Solutions

- Problem
  - Contract Haulers & COJ Haulers
  - Lack of Supervisors or Number of Supervisors Patrolling Routes for Collection
- Solution
  - COJ
    - CSA III
      - Drive Cam Downloads & Missed Collections (Non-Noted Bulk Items)
        - Freeing up 2 – 3 hours of supervisor time currently involved in discipline process using the pull down menu and pre-programmed disciplinary codes
  - Contract Haulers
    - Contract Performance



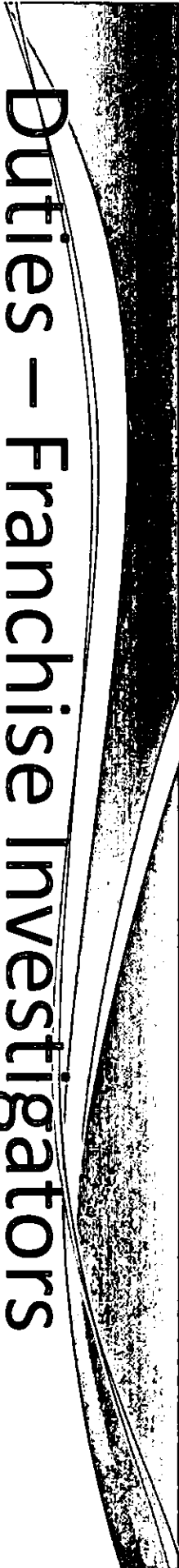
# Duties – COJ Collection Supervisors

- Responsible for COJ collection crew's performance in accordance with Ordinance 382
- Patrolling the COJ routes to identify illegal dumping, missed collections, and bulk pick-up items for location tagging
- Initiate process for discipline
  - Notify Franchise Investigators and Blight Technician daily



# Duties – Compliance Officers

- Responsible for oversight of the Contract Haulers and COJ residential collection crews for contract and ordinance performance standards
- Patrol COJ and Contract Hauler routes for the identification of illegal dumping and bulk tagged items for collections
- Noted items will be cross-referenced with daily hauler and COJ tag list for items not identified by haulers and COJ residential collection crews
- Initiate process for penalty/discipline



# Duties – Franchise Investigators and Blight Technician

- To pursue disciplinary penalty, they will use the tag list and the non-identification items for follow-up inspections after the normal collection time has expired
- COJ has 48 hours to remedy the issues
- Contract Hauler has 24 hours to remedy the issues



# Penalties for Not Reporting

- Contract Haulers
- COJ Employees

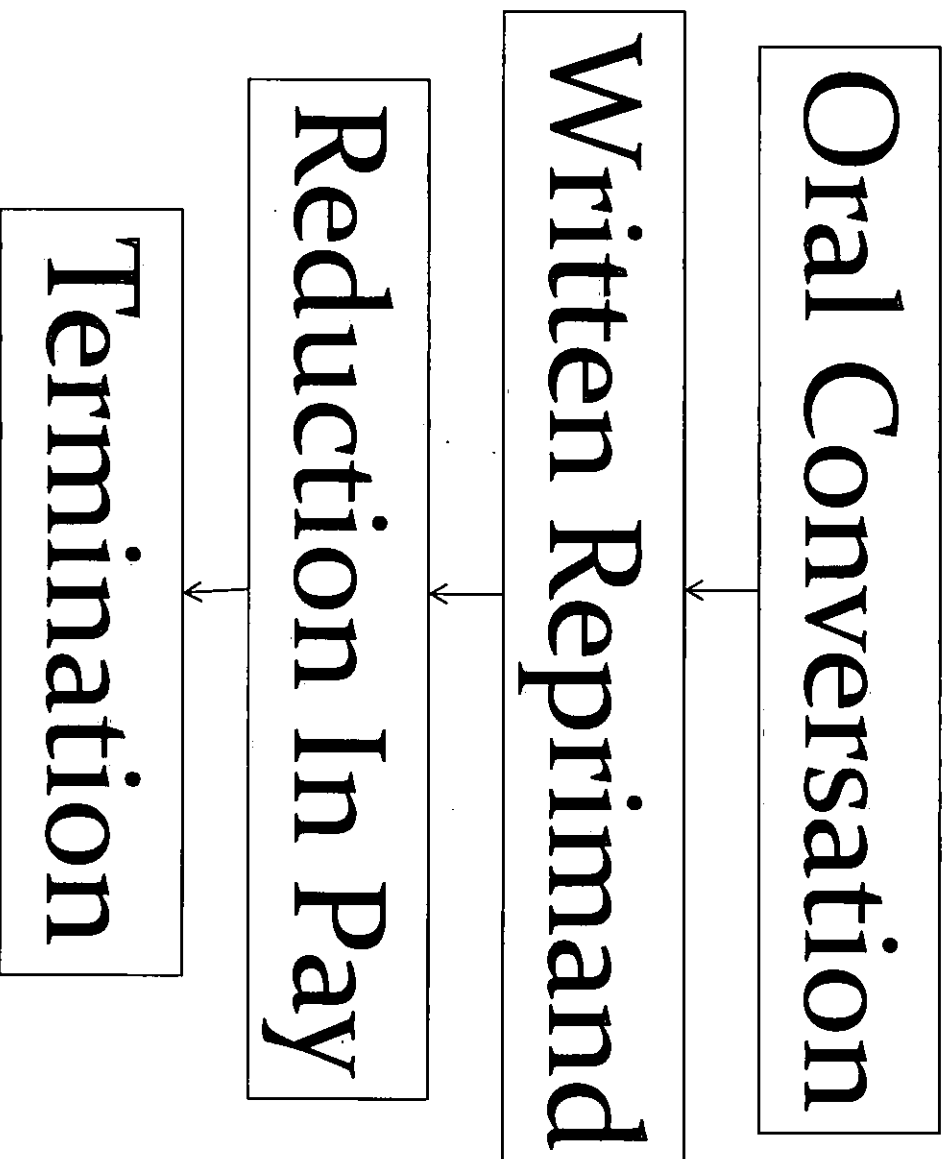


# Contract Haulers

- For items not picked up within the regular collection time frame and non-identification of blight:
- Fines
  - *Section 19.1 Failure to address a customer service complaint by close of business the next regular working day (“Unsolved Complaints”).*
    - \$25 per residential premise; \$150 maximum per route per day for each
    - Reduction in the number based on the following months performance
    - COJ assessed a private contract hauler over \$47,000 for non-compliance
  - *Section 19.9 Failure to comply with any other term or provision of this Agreement after Notice from the City. \$100 Per Incident or \$100 Per Day of Continued Non-Compliance*
    - Non-reporting of illegal dumping items \$100/Incident
    - As an example a contract hauler was assessed over \$6,000 in liquidated damages



# COJ Employees





# Metric to Track Fight Blight Success


## Statistics

- Increase in Illegal Dumping/Litter (Tons)
- C.A.R.E. & New Blight App Issues per Month
- Increase in the Number of Snipe Signs/Tires
- Liquidated Damages for Haulers 19.1 & 19.2 (Enforcement)
- Number of Internal Discipline Measures (Enforcement)



# Improvements

- Fight Blight App
- Fight Blight Website
- Incentivize Drivers to Report Blight
- Enforce Existing Financial and Human Resources Penalty System



# Illegal Dumping: Identification and Resolution Process

- Comments?
- Concerns?
- Questions?
- Suggestions?

**Margaret Gregory <margaret32209@gmail.com>** Oct 30

to Dan

Mr. Macdonald, This is Margaret Gregory. I have contacted the city several times about the abandoned property located at 1411 W. 9th Street since my last appearance in August of this year when I provided all of the properties and areas that were a concern to the neighbors. I along with the residents feel as though the meeting was useless because we've seen no progress. I provided the name of the individual who owns that property along with the other properties on this same block. The only thing that has taken place is the city continues to leave yellow tags on them and soon they fall off and litter the streets. I mentioned the fact that I used to maintain the property for 5 years (\$60) a month if I didn't work on it myself because the city never came to cut the yard of this property and now I'm facing the same problem. I've been a tax payer since the age of 15 in Jacksonville Florida, I believe that I shouldn't have to do something that is already set aside in the city's budget that we've paid for. I hope to get this situation resolved. I always hear how they boost Jacksonville up to be the "Most Beautiful City" I suggest that they work harder at trying to make it that way instead of smiling around a table and looking into a camera, and when the lights of the camera goes off they could care less.

Nov 11 (2 days ago)

to Bennett-

Ms. Bennett, this was the attachment email I sent along with Mr. Dan McDonald. Ms. E. Denise Lee's district 8 Secretary. I've been told on numerous occasions that there are certain procedures to how the city handles cutting unkempt or blighted properties/ areas, apparently this method isn't working, so when I inquired about what we the citizens need to do to get the board members to vote upon a motion to expedite this tedious red tape and constant eye sores throughout the not only District 8, but others as well, I was advised to attend the blight meetings and express the concerns. I've done this via phone to the Mayor's office, City Complaints, voicemails, and e-mails about this current issue at hand and about how the city continues to fail their citizens on several other issues allow them to fall on deaf ears. What do you think is going to take place if we attend this upcoming meeting when we bring our same concerns before our council board? These properties and blighted areas have been around since our council representatives have been in their appointed/ elected positions. I find it frustrating and sad that they mistreat and ignore the outcries of the very individuals whom they ask for their inputs (and requested the votes of so many of the taxpayers) and how to make the city a less blighted place, yet each one is so focused on their title and paycheck. Please help me along with others throughout the city facing this same issue get some type of resolution. I've also found out through calling city complaints, their employees are facing the same issues I'm having.

# Vegetative Control “Spraying” Proposed Improvement Plan

John Pappas

Public Works Department

November 13, 2014





# Current Spraying Program

- **Ponds**

- 228 Ponds Sprayed (**All Ponds in Current Spray Program**)
- Spray Water Surface (388 acres 12 times a year)
- Spraying Cost \$220,125 per year

- **Outfalls**

- 211 miles (1,278 acres)
- Spray 87 miles (643 acres 4 times a year)
- Not Sprayed 124 miles (635 acres)
- Spraying Cost \$230,197 per year

- **Roadside Ditches**

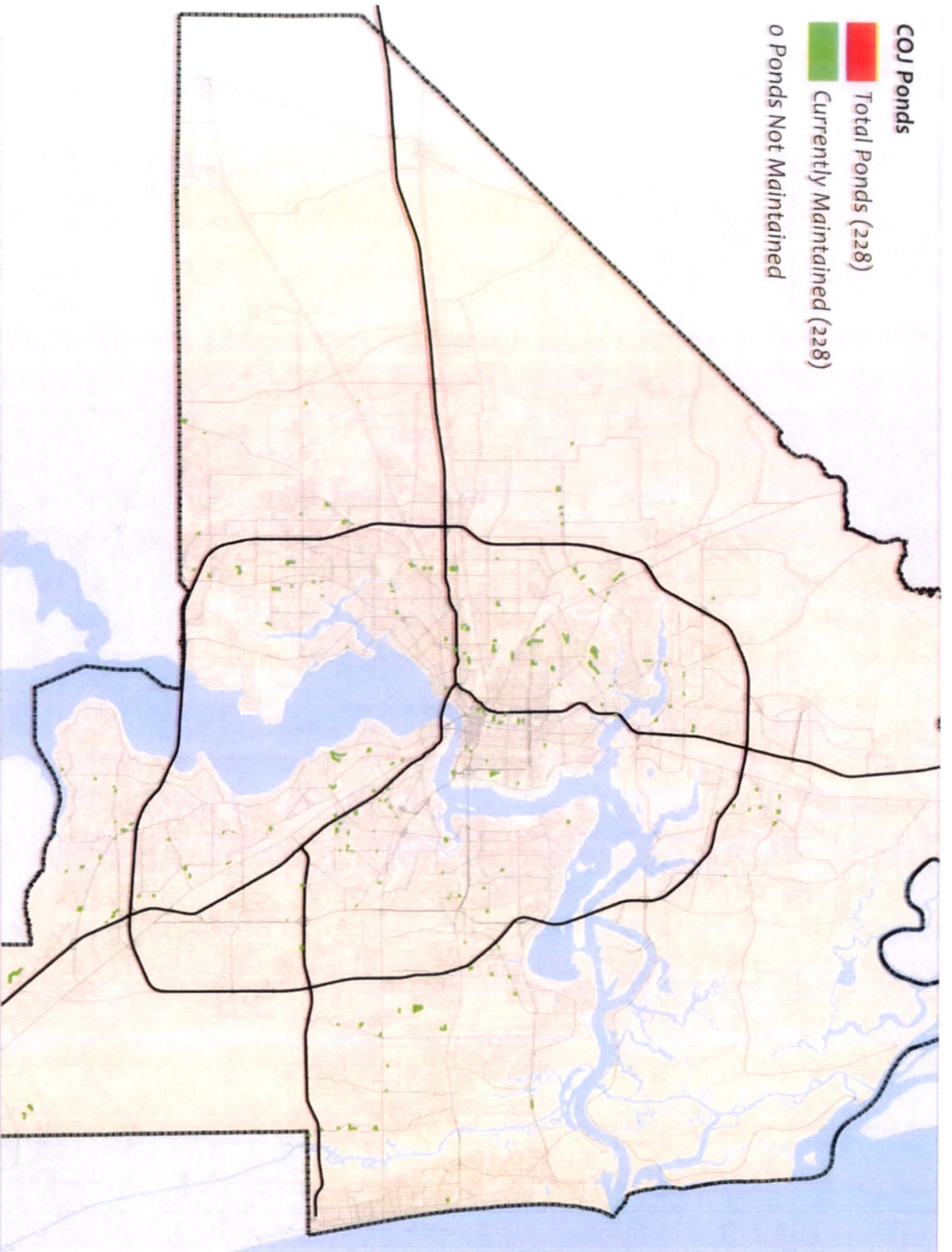
- 1,166 miles (990 acres) (**No Roadside Ditches in Current Spray Program**)
- 696 miles in Mowing Program (590 acres)
- 471 miles not in Mowing Program (400 acres)

# COJ Ponds

Total Ponds (228)

Currently Maintained (228)

0 Ponds Not Maintained

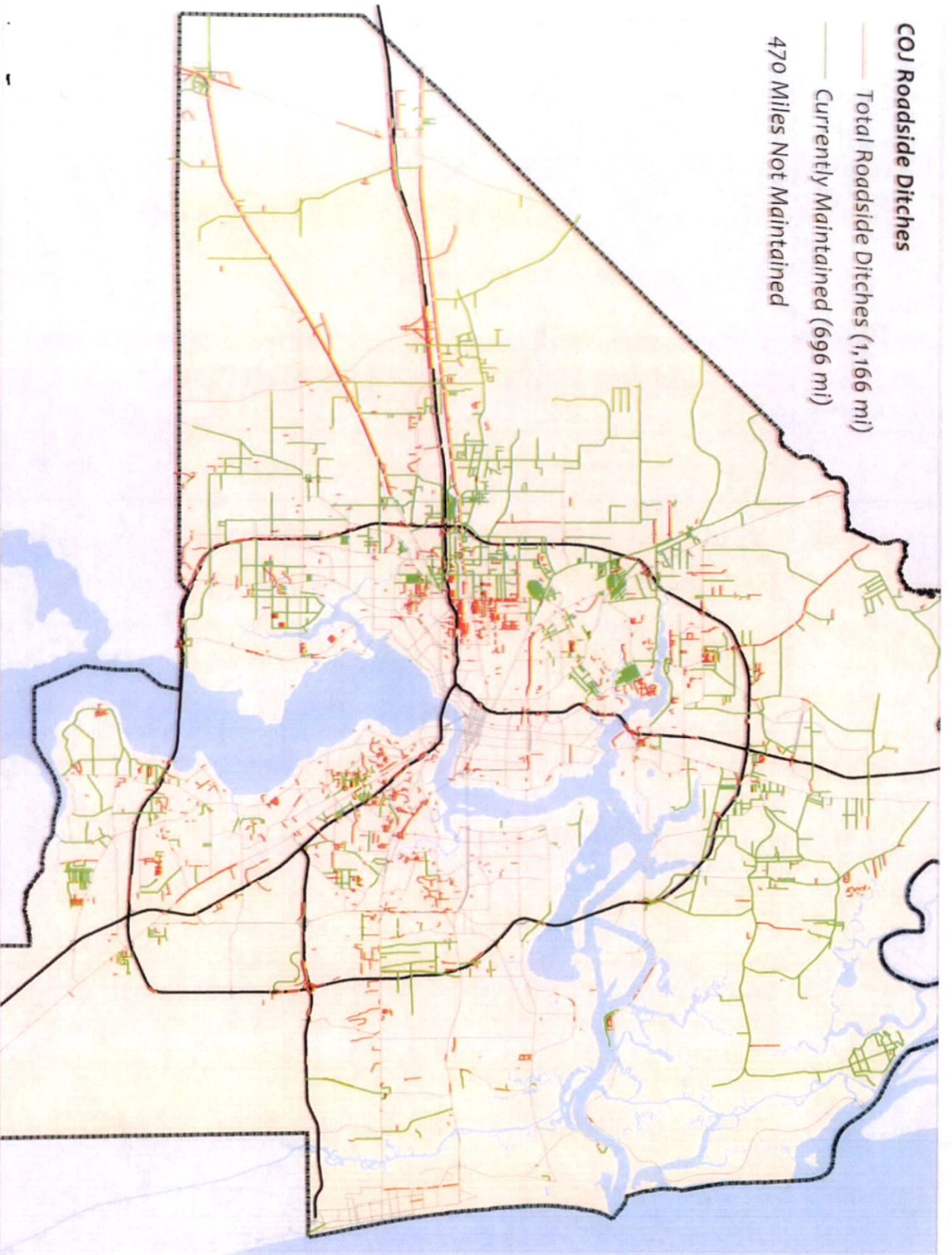


## COJ Roadside Ditches

— Total Roadside Ditches (1,166 mi)

— Currently Maintained (696 mi)

470 Miles Not Maintained

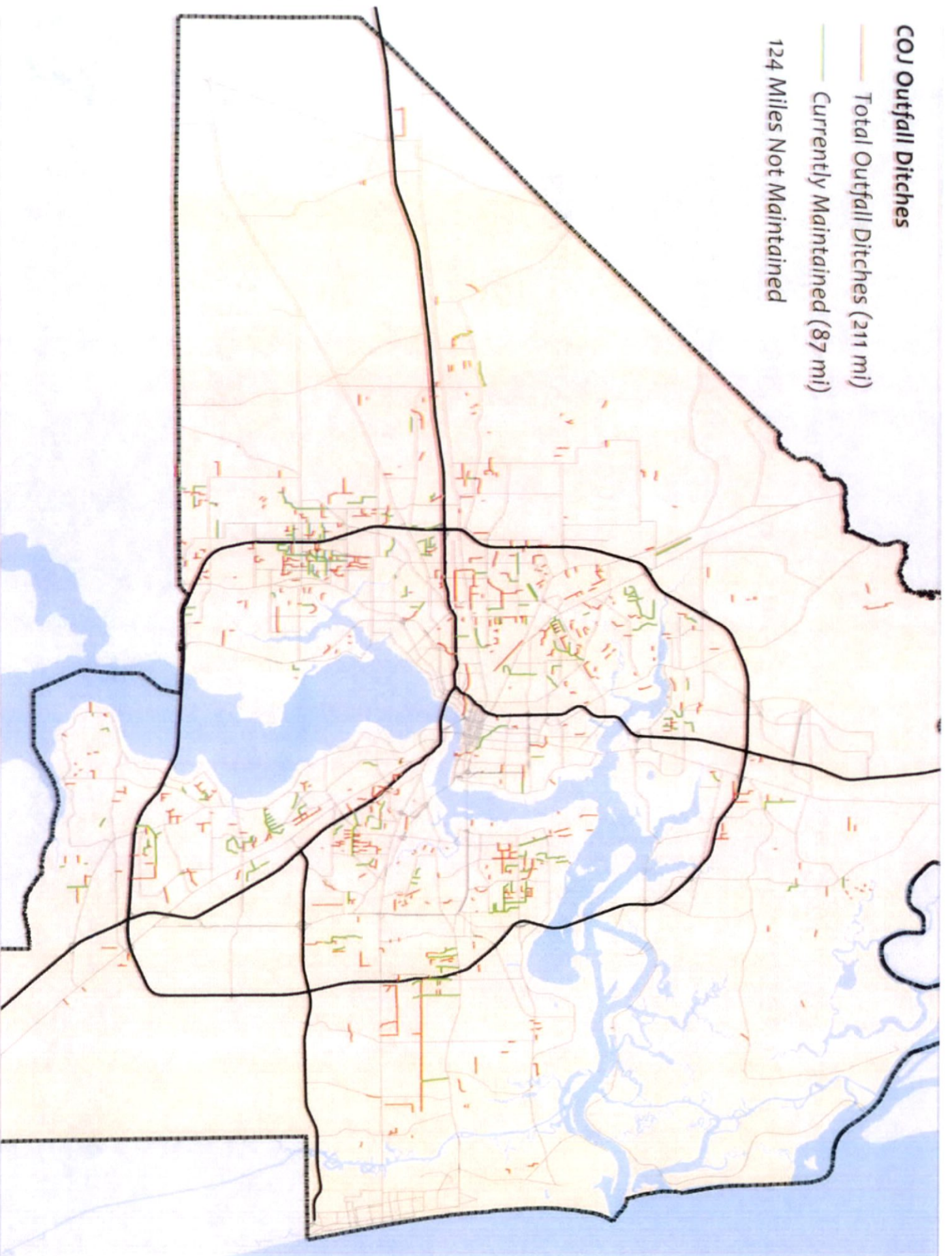


## COJ Outfall Ditches

Total Outfall Ditches (211 mi)

Currently Maintained (87 mi)

124 Miles Not Maintained





# Identified Challenges

- **Ponds**
  - Assurance that all Asset Responsibilities are Identified
- **Outfalls**
  - Keeping Vegetative Growth down to ensure Flow Capacity and better Community Quality of Life adjacent to the facility
- **Roadside Ditches**
  - Keeping Vegetative Growth down to ensure Flow Capacity and better Community Quality of Life adjacent to the facility



# Proposed Improvement Plan

- Utilize a portion of the allocated funding for Outfall & Ditch cleaning/regrading to facilitate an increased Spraying Program
- Coordinate with Public Works' Right of Way & Stormwater Maintenance Division to ensure Outfall/Roadside Ditch capacity improvement sections are added to the Spraying Program
  - Note...will include Roadside Ditches that are not being maintained by private property owners and/or City Mowing Contract (will limit spray to bottom of the Ditch)
- Identify Outfall/Roadside Ditches that warrant vegetative control needs without the need for significant capacity improvements and add them to the Spraying Program
  - Note...this effort will not result in immediate improvement but will result in long-term benefit and improvement



# Proposed Improvement Plan

- **Ponds**

- 228 Ponds Sprayed (All Ponds in Current Spray Program – No Change)
- Spray Water Surface (388 acres 12 times a year)
- Cost \$220,125 per year

- **Outfalls**

- 211 miles (1,278 acres)
- Current Program Sprays 87 miles (643 acres 4 times a year)...Cost \$230,197
- Increase efforts to Spray All 211 miles of Outfalls (1,278 acres 4 times a year)
- Increased Cost \$227,333 per year (requires Procurement coordination)

- **Roadside Ditches**

- 1,166 miles (990 acres)
- 696 miles in Mowing Program (590 acres)
- Add efforts to Spray the remaining 471 miles of Roadside Ditches (400 acres 4 times a year)
- Increased Cost of \$88,000 per year (requires Procurement coordination)

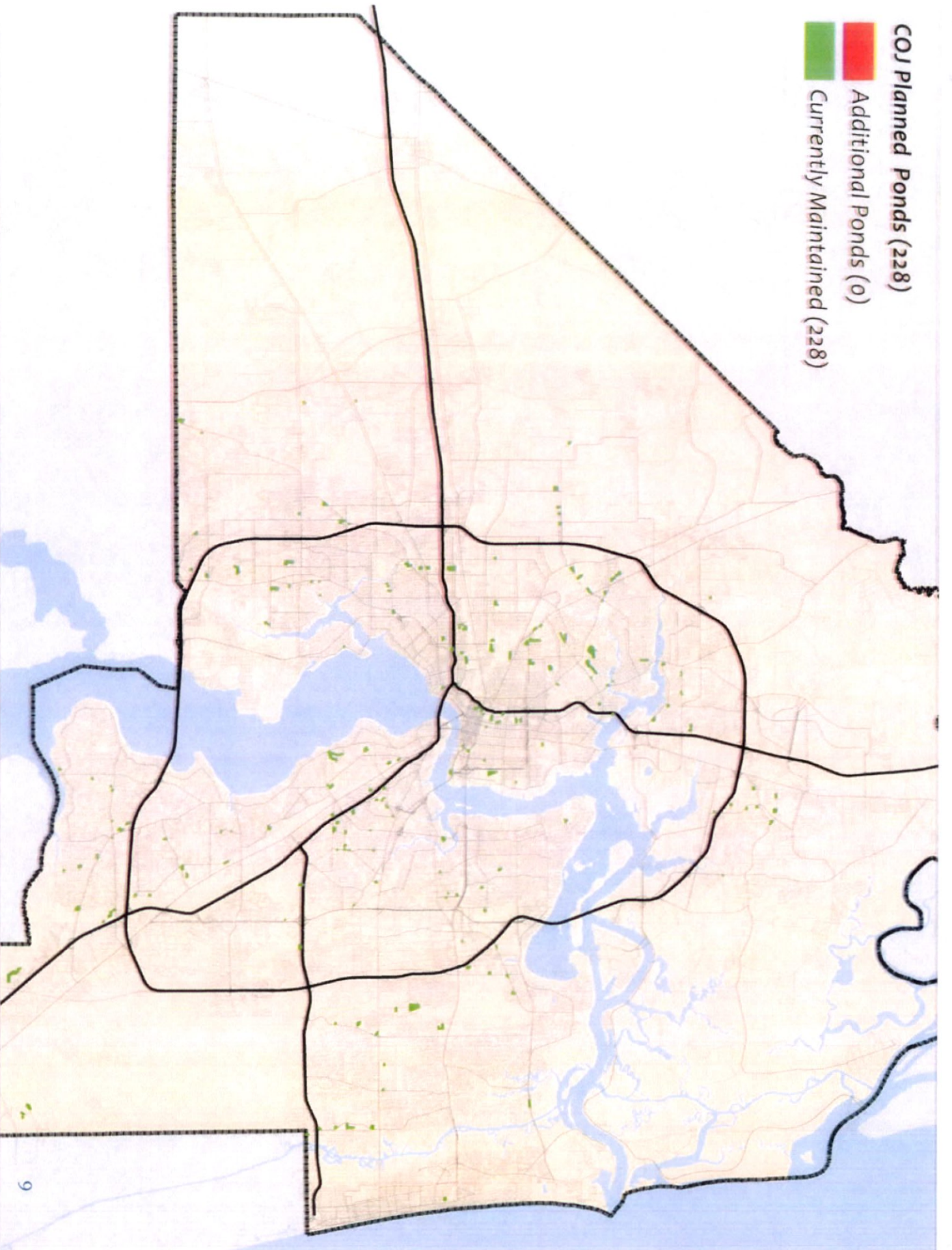
## TOTAL Cost of Proposed Vegetative Spray Program \$762,788

- Current Program \$447,455
- Proposed Improvement Plan Increase \$315,330

COJ Planned Ponds (228)

Additional Ponds (0)

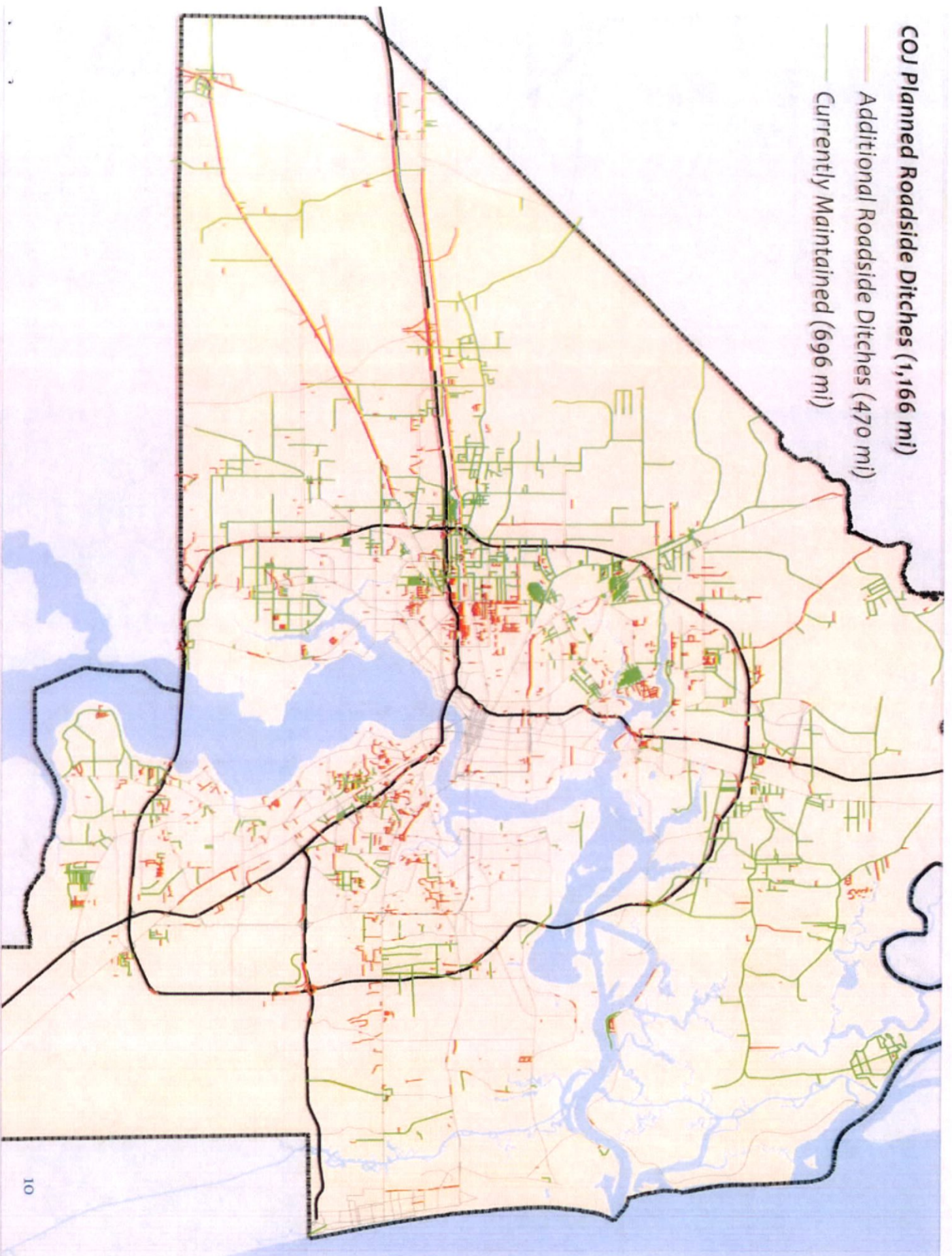
Currently Maintained (228)



**COJ Planned Roadside Ditches (1,166 mi)**

**Additional Roadside Ditches (470 mi)**

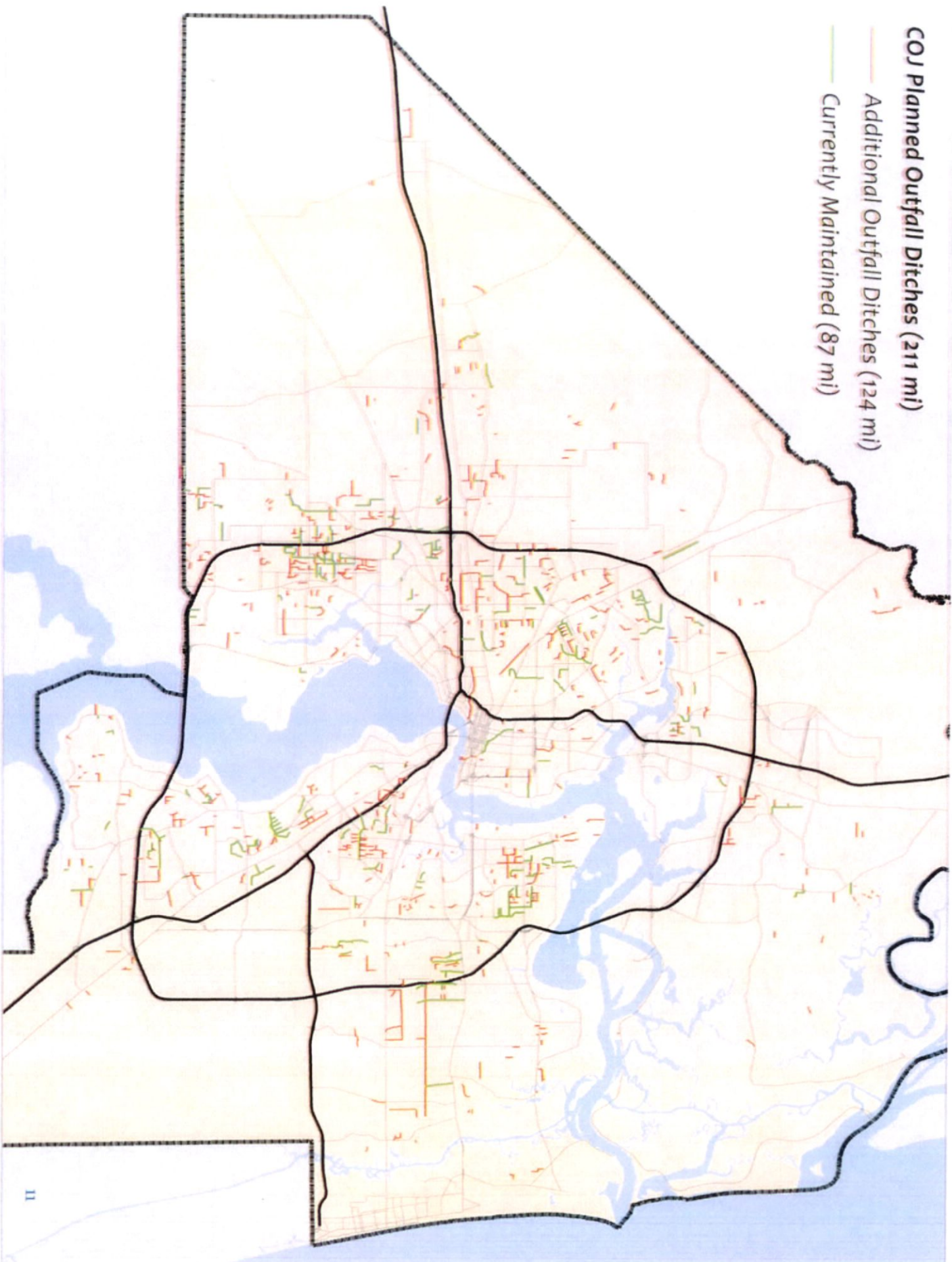
**Currently Maintained (696 mi)**



# COJ Planned Outfall Ditches (211 mi)

Additional Outfall Ditches (124 mi)

Currently Maintained (87 mi)





**VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRY**  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

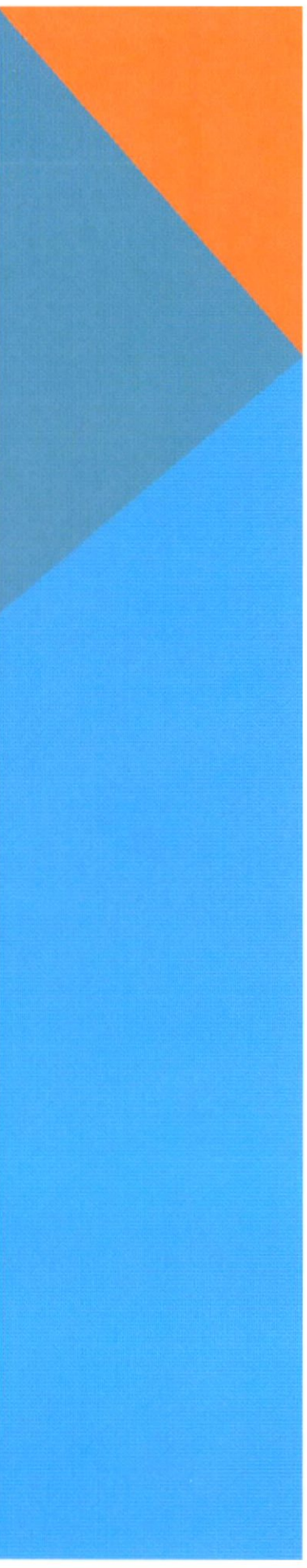
# WHEN & WHY WAS IT INITIATED?

Why: -

- October 2009
  - Foreclosure Task Force commissioned to:
    - Identify community issues
    - Identify solutions
    - Identify opportunities
    - Validate their work with a White Paper

When: -

- May 25, 2010 -
  - Ordinance 2010-327-E
    - Created the Vacant Property Registry Process
    - Chapter 179 added the Mortgage Foreclosure Registration to the code



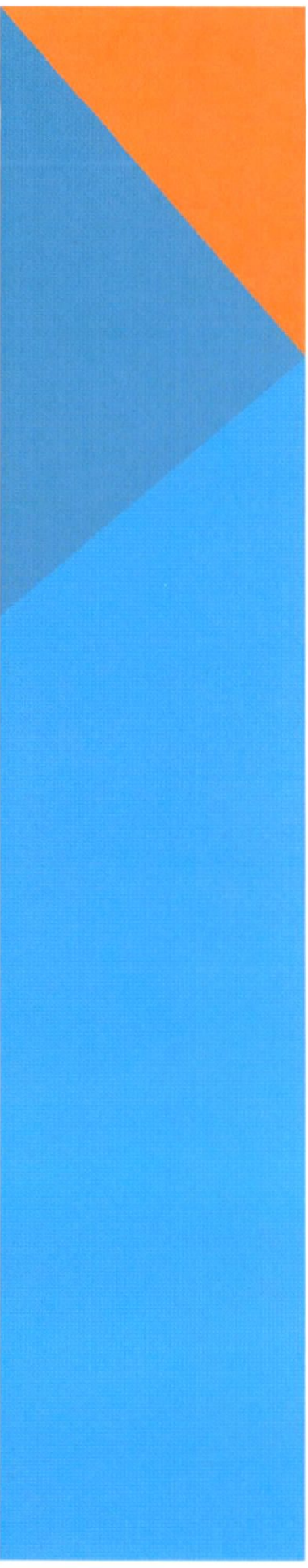
## THE REGISTRY

As a component of the Ordinance

- RFP issued & awarded {P-46-10}

Contracted with Federal Property Registration Corporation (FPRC)

- <http://vacantregistry.com/>
- Database
- Management
- Communication



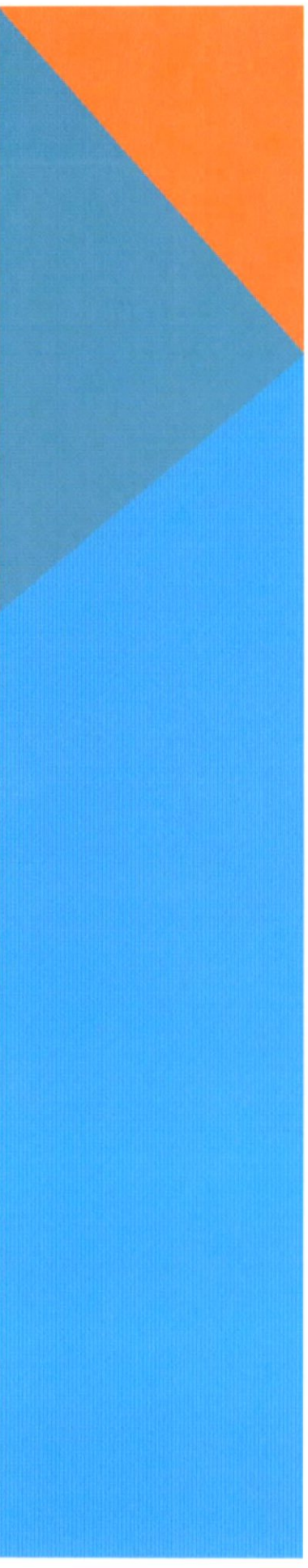
## COLLECTIONS AND BALANCES

Collected to Date (through October 31, 2014):

\$2,708,756.00

Remaining Fund Balance:

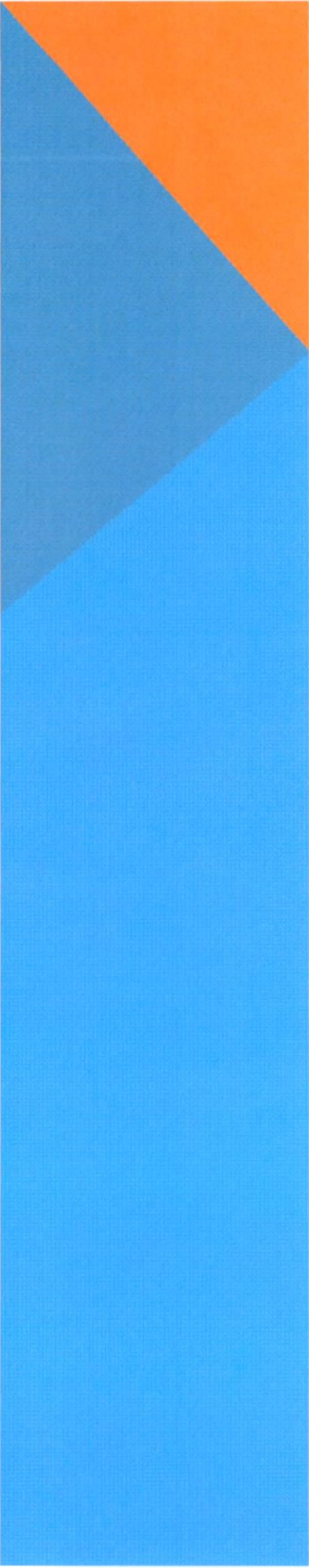
\$1,622,104.00



APPROPRIATED/EXPENDED/ENCUMBERED

A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,050,000.00 CONSISTING OF:

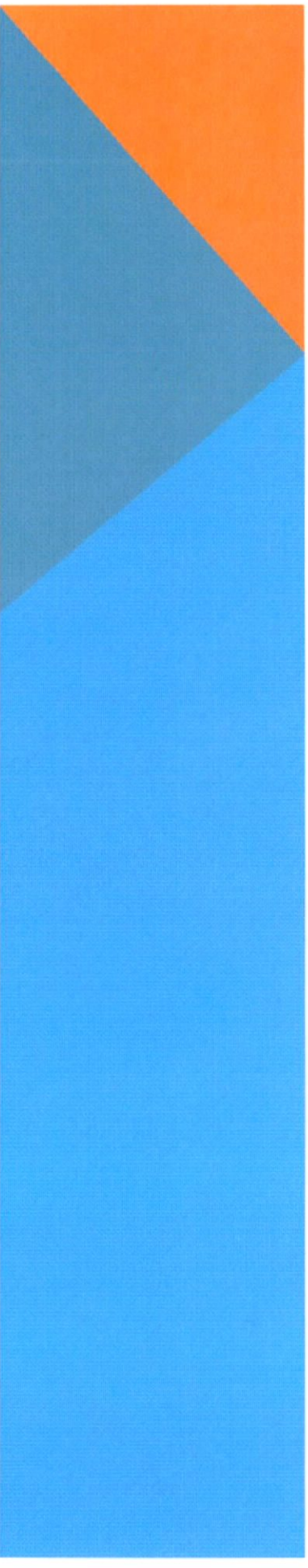
- \$ 425,000.00 {Housing and Community Development Division}
  - Foreclosure Mitigation
    - Family Foundations (\$179,500.00)
    - Community Homeownership Center (\$30,000.00)
    - Jacksonville Urban League (\$20,000.00)
    - Wealth Watchers (\$50,000.00)
    - Habitat for Humanity (\$45,500.00)
  - Foreclosure Intervention
    - Wealth Watchers (\$36,250.00)
    - Jacksonville Area Legal Aide (\$63,750.00)
- \$ 450,000.00 {Transferred into General Fund for private property code compliance}
- \$ 175,000.00 {Budgeted to transfer into General Fund}



## ALLOWABLE USES

Per the Ordinance:

- Registration & Registration Enforcement
- Code Enforcement and Mitigation of Blighted Foreclosed Properties
- Counseling and Foreclosure Intervention of owner-occupied properties in default



# INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES

Demolition of Blighted Structures



# INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES

Creation of Green Spaces



# INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES

## Artistic Boarding

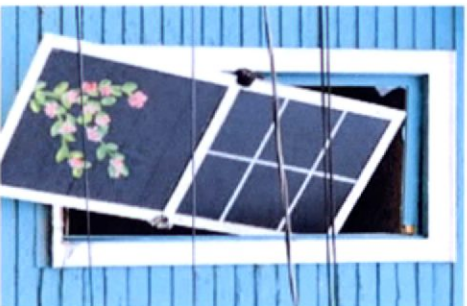


Photo credit: Chuck Crow, Cleveland Plain Dealer.  
Provided by Chris Toepfer, The Neighborhood  
Foundation, [www.neighborhoodsfoundation.com](http://www.neighborhoodsfoundation.com), 312-863-9111



Photo credit: Chuck Crow, Cleveland Plain Dealer. Provided by Chris Toepfer, The Neighborhood  
Foundation, [www.neighborhoodsfoundation.com](http://www.neighborhoodsfoundation.com), 312-863-9111

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Adding to the enforcement language of the Ordinance Code that would assess monetary penalties for:
  - Noncompliance for registration enforcement
  - Noncompliance of code enforcement violations
  - Requirement for any parcels within the registry for a period longer than 12 months must update the registration and additional fee.

