**Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization**



**of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission**

**Niki Brunson, Chair**

**LEGISLATIVE TRACKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**September 6, 2018**

**3:00 p.m.**

**City Council Conference Room B**

**Suite 425, City Hall**

**Attendance:** TRUE Commissioners Niki Brunson, John Roberts

**Also**: Jeff Clements – Council Research Division

See attached sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. and the attendees introduced themselves for the record. The following pending bills were discussed:

2018-570 (Transparency in City government; amending Procurement Code re: reporting of campaign contributions; amending Ethics Code re: city official travel on private airplanes; requiring posting of City Council member e-mails and texts) – commissioners inquired about the definition of “Department” in the ordinance in the context of reporting campaign contributions of persons seeking City contracts; pursuant to the Definitions section of the chapter, “department” means Finance and Administration Department.

2018-573 (Amending FY17-18 budget for JIA CRA and Downtown Investment Authority) – in response to a question, Jeff Clements explained the general purpose of the DIA’s retail enhancement grant program, which is to incentivize businesses to locate or expand in the downtown area by providing financial assistance for building renovations and façade improvements.

2018-576 (Terminating the Office of Economic Development’s contract with Accion East to manage the City’s access to capital program for small businesses) – the commissioners asked staff to ask OED Director Kirk Wendland about the cost to the City to get out of the contract.

2018-593 (Expressing City Council’s opposition to the sale of JEA) – Mr. Clements explained that a similar resolution had been proposed by several council members a few months ago, but that bill was later withdrawn. Council Member Dennis urges the Council to take a definitive vote against the sale of JEA.

2018 594 (Adopting the City Council’s 1-, 3-, and 5-year strategic plan priorities) – Commissioner Brunson said that she has requested a meeting with Council President Bowman to discuss how the TRUE Commission could be of assistance to the Council in pursing one or more of the plan priorities.

2018-544 (Appropriating a $2,775,000 grant from the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates) – the committee questioned how the various projects were selected for funding, given the needs that exist across the City.

2018-548 (Appointment of Camilla Collins to the TRUE Commission) – due to a family emergency, Ms. Collins was unable to appear before the Rules Committee this week for her interview; the bill was deferred to the next committee cycle.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Jeff Clements, City Council Research Division

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