

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction**

**Neighborhoods Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**March 1, 2019**

**2:00 pm**

**Conference Room A**

**Fourth Floor, City Hall**

**117 W. Duval Street**

Chair: Ronnie King

E. Joyce Bolden-Absent

Amy Donofrio-Excused

Josh Cockrell

Ben Frazier-Absent

Larry Cook

Sam Harrison

**Topic:** Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction –Neighborhoods Subcommittee

**Attendance:** Council President Bowman; Colleen Hampsey- Council Research; Chiquita Moore- Mayor’s Office; Carol Owens, Crystal Shemwell and Ladayija Nichols- Legislative Services

For all other attendees please see the sign in sheet

**Meeting Convened:** 2:02 pm

Chairperson King convened the meeting and welcomed the members. This was the first meeting of the Neighborhoods Subcommittee. Council President Bowman was in attendance to speak about an upcoming meeting with the Jax Chamber Board where he will discuss support from the business community for the mission of the Task Force.

The members discussed the subcommittee’s purpose and mission. It was suggested that the group focus less on programs and more on comparing existing neighborhood assets, liabilities, health, infrastructure (street lights, sidewalks, blight), services, and social capital. The subcommittee has been tasked with creating an inventory of services related to neighborhoods which will also include neighborhood associations and it was recommended to connect with Stephanie Burch, Director of the Neighborhoods Department, to share resources. Mr. Cockrell suggested using GIS mapping to overlay crime patterns and neighborhood assets like parks and community centers.

There were questions about increasing the frequency of tire buy backs, which is usually offered by the City annually. There were also questions about how money is allocated to neighborhoods, through the Public Works and Neighborhoods Departments in the City budget. The members inquired about the role Municipal Code Enforcement in combatting blight and whether the subcommittee may receive information about geographical trends in code complaints or calls made to 630-City.

The subcommittee discussed food deserts and how that impacts disadvantaged neighborhoods, since major grocery chains use median income to determine location viability. The Office of Economic Development is currently doing a food study to examine this issue. The subcommittee talked about assessing CIP projects and creating an asset map (banks, parks, transportation) to compare different parts of the city and specific neighborhoods to assess strengths and deficits.

With no further business, Chairperson King adjourned the meeting. The next neighborhoods subcommittee meeting will be on March 15, 2019 at 2:00 pm.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:03 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

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Posted 3.5.19 5:00 pm

Tape: Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction Neighborhoods Subcommittee -Legislative Services Division 3.1.19