

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction**

**Neighborhoods Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**April 5, 2019**

**2:00 pm**

**Don Davis Room**

**First Floor, City Hall**

**117 W. Duval Street**

Chair: Ronnie King

E. Joyce Bolden-Absent

Amy Donofrio

Josh Cockrell

Ben Frazier

Larry Cook

Sam Harrison

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

**Attendance:** Colleen Hampsey- Council Research; Crystal Shemwell - Legislative Services

For all other attendees please see the sign in sheet

**Meeting Convened:** 2:05 pm

Chairperson King convened the meeting and welcomed the members. This was the third meeting of the Neighborhoods Subcommittee. There were representatives in attendance from the Neighborhoods Department, the Planning Department, JEA, JTA and Jacksonville Small and Emerging Business (JSEB).

Ms. Goode, JEA, spoke about the street light conversion to LED lights which began in 2016. As of now, the project is 87% completed. The subcommittee members had questions about the requirements for the spacing of lights, which are based upon road type. There was a question about how to report outages, which is done through the 665-6000 service line and issues are resolved usually within a 3 day timeline unless there is wiring damage in which case it can take up to 3 weeks. There is not a way to monitor outages without calls from the public. The members asked if there are more outage calls from certain parts of the city, Ms. Goode said she will report back on that question. When asked, Ms. Goode said she will also provide a list of what homes have been disconnected from power service for more than a year and the crime area mapping which was used to prioritize the LED street light conversion project.

Stephanie Burch, Director of the Neighborhoods Department, provided the research requested from her at the last meeting. Ms. Burch shared the list of City owned under-utilized parcels (not currently in use but may have an intended purpose in an upcoming capital project), MCCD board up properties (not occupied, open doors or windows, but not determined to be unsafe), MCCD unsafe structures (condemned for structural issues), and properties with liens exceeding value. City owned under-utilized parcels could have a future intent, or be found to be surplus. If designated to be surplus, this list of properties is sent to city departments to see if they have any need for them, if not then it is determined whether they can be used for affordable housing, if not the properties may be donated or auctioned for sale.

Rose Nettles, JSEB, was in attendance to speak about their program for small businesses. JSEB’s mission is to maximize procurement opportunities with City of Jacksonville registered certified Jacksonville Small and Emerging Businesses (JSEBs) as suppliers, prime contractors, and subcontractors of superior products and services to the citizenry of Duval County. The members asked Ms. Nettles if specific areas of the city are targeted for new businesses to be located, but that is not the case through JSEB wherein they must only be a business located in Jacksonville for more than 12 months. Other requirements include a personal (owner’s) net worth of less than $1.35 million, annual gross receipts of less than $12 million in the preceding three year period, and for-profit status. There are currently 265 registered JSEB members and, according to Ms. Nettles, the processes for applications for entrance and the allocation of contracts are race and gender neutral. The subcommittee requested JSEB data about: the demographics of contract awardees; how many there are in each council district; the percent of JSEB contracts awarded by race and gender; number and percent of contract applicants by race and gender; percent and dollar amount of contracts sent for bid /not sent for bid.

Cheryl Riddick, JTA, was in attendance to speak about public transportation in Jacksonville. JTA designs and constructs bridges and highways and provides varied mass transit services. These include express and regular bus service, community shuttles for a neighborhood ride, a downtown Skyway monorail, the St. Johns River Ferry, the Gameday Xpress for various sporting events at TIAA Bank Field, Paratransit for the disabled and elderly, and Ride Request on-demand services. JTA recently expanded their routes and added more express routes. Amy Donofrio asked how many youth passes are distributed annually and for distance/usage data by zip code. Ms. Riddick said she will provide that information. Ms. Donofrio also mentioned that JTA should prioritize bus stops near major employers, such as UPS, so employees might use public transport to get to and from work.

Folks Huxford, Planning Department, was in attendance to speak about the zoning code. Mr. Huxford said that any zoning changes are subject to council approval. The subcommittee requested data about how many homes are owned versus rented in each council district and for a map of all grocery stores and convenience stores in the city.

The subcommittee briefly discussed the handout created by Larry Cook which contains demographic statistics about the city, as well as some of the JSO crime data requested by the group. With no further business, Chairperson King adjourned the meeting. The next Neighborhoods Subcommittee meeting will be on April 19, 2019 at 2:00 pm.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 4:12 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

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Tape: Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction Neighborhoods Subcommittee -Legislative Services Division 4.5.19