



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

REGGIE GAFFNEY
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MINUTES NOTICED COMMUNITY MEETING RE: The Historic LaVilla and the Historical Trail Thursday, March 10th, 2022, 4:00 p.m. – 5:35 p.m. The Lynwood Roberts Room

Attendance: District 7 Council Member Reggie Gaffney, Ju’Coby Pittman – Clara White Mission, Lori Boyer with Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) and Michael Montoya - The Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission. Additional attendees are on the sign-in sheet.

Meeting Convened: 4:00 p.m.

Council Member Reggie Gaffney suggested attendees introduce themselves and then he thanked them for attending.

Gaffney announced he had spoken with U.S. Congressman Al Lawson and was informed the “Build Back Better” Bill was on Washington’s agenda.

Ju’Coby Pittman of Clara White Mission thanked CM Gaffney for being the Councilman for the LaVilla neighborhood. Pittman spoke about the purpose of tonight’s meeting, mentioning the history, service and involvement of each business. Pittman stated “...LaVilla is the only area that survived the fire in 1901.” Pittman acknowledged and explained that there are several owners in the LaVilla area who currently operate businesses in this historic area, contributing to the economic development, presence and growth of this historic community and to Jacksonville. Pittman stated the purpose of this meeting is to ensure that all owners who provide services are a part of the LaVilla strategies’ bigger picture. The hope and goals are (1) to create a destination historical preservation district within the already established historical organizations, and (2) to be informed of current and upcoming funding opportunities along with other resources.



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Following Ms. Pittman's comments, Lori Boyer of the Downtown Investment Authority (DIA), presented a slideshow, highlighting studies, plans, new, and current updates that have not been presented to City Council but have passed DIA's Board, and should be presented to City Council within a couple of months. Boyer with DIA also provided attendees with a handheld copy of the LaVilla Neighborhoods Strategy, adopted in 2019.

Following the presentations, attendees were given an opportunity for questions and answers.

CM Gaffney thanked everyone for attending and stated the next meeting would be noticed.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:35 p.m.

A copy of the full meeting can be found on Council Member Gaffney's [COJ.net - Town Hall Community Meeting](#) page.

Minutes prepared by:

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Council Member Reggie Gaffney, District 7

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