



## OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**JOYCE MORGAN**  
COUNCIL MEMBER DISTRICT 1  
OFFICE (904) 255-5201  
FAX (904) 255-5230

SUITE 425, CITY HALL  
117 WEST DUVAL STREET  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202  
E-MAIL: JOYCEMORGAN@COJ.NET

**November 7, 2022**

**5:00 PM.**

### **Noticed Meeting Minutes**

#### **20220627 Minutes CM Joyce Morgan's June Town Hall Meeting**

**Monday, June 27, 2022, 6:00 PM.**

**Topic:** This Town Hall Meeting is to provide a forum to continue ongoing discussions of District 1 projects and update constituents about issues about City Council District 1.

**Location:** Christ The King Catholic Church 742 Arlington Road North Jacksonville, Florida 32211

**Attendance:** Council Member Joyce Morgan (District 1), Council Member Al Ferraro (District 2), School Board Member Dr. Kelly Coker (Duval County Public School District 1 Monsignor James R Boddie, Jr (Christ the King Catholic Church), John Pappas (COJ Director of Public Works) Steve Diebenow (Driver McAfee) Ryan Hoover (Vestcor Companies) Simaran Bakshi (Idea Public Schools) John Everett (Kids Hope Alliance))Members of the District 1 Community

**Council Member Joyce Morgan:** CM Morgan began by opening her June Town Hall Meeting at Christ The King Catholic Church and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. After Council Member Morgan finished the pledge, she acknowledged School Board Member Dr. Kelly Coker, who said she would be here after the meeting to answer any community members' questions about DCPS. CM Morgan next introduced John Everett from the Kids Hope Alliance.

**John Everett** – Mr. Everett introduced himself to the assembled group. He gave detailed information about programs the Kids Hope Alliance offers and will offer to the community over the summer months, including the Mayor's Youth at Work Partnership. CM Morgan next introduced Simaran Bakshi from Idea Schools to give an update on

**Simaran Bakshi** – Introduced herself as a representative of Idea Public Schools. Ms. Bakshi gave a general background of the history of Idea Schools and an update on the new school currently under construction on University Blvd. Ms. Bakshi stated that Idea schools would be opening this fall and are now enrolling students for the fall. CM Morgan thanked Ms. Bakshi for her update and introduced Ellen Cavin from the planning department. But before Ms. Cavin gave his presentation, CM Morgan introduced Monsignor Boddie, who had recently been named Monsignor during the pandemic (The only African American Monsignor in the State of Florida).



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**Monsignor James R Boddie** – Monsignor welcomed everyone to his Parrish and went into his opening invocation (He was giving evening Mass and wasn't available at the very beginning).

**Ellyn Cavin** – Introduced herself to the group and gave an update on the Wawa development on University Blvd. Ms. Cavin stated that she would stay to take notes and follow up with residents if there were any questions about planning.

**Steve Diebenow** – Attorney Diebenow introduced himself as the agent of the developer of multiple projects that potentially will take place in Arlington/ City Council Distinct 1. Attorney Diebenow gave an update on the situation with the former Thunderbird Hotel and a detailed explanation of an Apartment home community at the end of University Blvd.

**Ryan Hoover:** Mr. Hoover from Vestor went into greater detail about a potential apartment home community at the far end of Merrill Road (8300 Merrill Road) and background information about the Vestcor Companies.

**Steve Diebenow:** Attorney Diebenow followed Mr. Hoover to detail the Zoning Code and issues of the current zoning and land use of the proposed property and answered questions from the neighbors about the workforce affordable apartment home community at the site of the present Lakeview Christian Fellowship church.

**Council Member Joyce Morgan:** Council Member Morgan went on to detail the situation along the Arlington River and introduced Council Member Ferraro to the current legislation that CM Ferraro filed with slow speeds along the Arlington River.

**Council Member Ferraro:** CM Ferraro thanked Council Member Morgan for holding this community forum and gave some background information on why he decided to file this legislation as the Waterway Chair and the purpose of the Waterways Committee. CM Ferraro stated the issue of speeding boats had been brought up at multiple Waterways Meetings. CM Ferraro wanted to figure out how he could best balance keeping boaters safe with the least amount of government overreach or regulation.

**Council Member Joyce Morgan:** CM Morgan thanked CM Ferraro, and together they allowed members from the public who were both for and against regulation of speeds along the Arlington River to voice their opinions publicly.

**Council Member Morgan:** After hearing public comments regarding CM Al Ferraro 2022-463 Re slow speeds in a designated area along the Arlington River, CM Morgan next finished public comment regarding items and projects in City Council District 1.

**Director John Pappas:** Public Works Director Pappas helped Council Member Morgan answer questions from constituents about items and projects taking place in Arlington City Council District 1.



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**Council Member Morgan:** Council Member Morgan thanked all of the constituents in attendance and reminded everyone that there wouldn't be a town hall meeting next month as the City Council would be on summer break, however was looking forward to our August meeting taking place at Impact Church.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:58 PM

**Minutes:** Completed by Chester A. Aikens II, ECA District 1, Completed on November 7, 2022.

The written minutes for this meeting are only an overview of what was discussed. For verbatim comments for this meeting, please listen to the audio CD.

The following items have been submitted for public record. Please get in touch with legislative services for these items:

1. Meeting Minutes
2. Meeting Agenda
3. Meeting Notice

cc: Council Members and Staff  
Margaret "Peggy" Sidman, Director/Council Secretary  
Merriane Lahmeur, Chief, Legislative Services  
Yvonne Mitchell, Chief, Administrative Services Division  
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division  
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Electronic Notice Kiosk – 1st Floor City Hall  
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