# **City of Jacksonville Office of the City Council**

117 W. Duval Street Jacksonville, FL 32202



# **Noticed Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, April 20, 2024 12:00pm District 14 Townhall &

Community Impact Meeting Westside High School 5530 Firestone Road Jacksonville, FL 32244

Council Member present The Hon. Rahman K. Johnson, Ph.D. – District 14

# Meeting Convened: 12:00 pm Meeting Adjourned: 12:43 pm

### Members in Attendance: CM Johnson

Also, in attendance were:

Andrew Powers - ECA CM Johnson

State Rep. Angie Nixon

State Rep. Wyman Duggan

#### PURPOSE

To address District 14 community concerns and updates, specifically regarding the Old Middleburg Road Widening project, traffic flow improvements at Argyle and Old Middleburg, and community feedback on neighborhood issues.

# **INTRODUCTION**

Council Member Johnson opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and introducing State Representatives Angie Nixon and Wyman Duggan. He highlighted the purpose of the meeting, focused on local infrastructure updates and encouraging community engagement.

# DISCUSSION

Council Member Johnson outlined the history and delays associated with the Old Middleburg Road Widening project, which had experienced significant setbacks due to eminent domain limitations. Recently, increased caps on eminent domain funding have facilitated the property acquisition process, with all but two parcels now secured. He provided a tentative timeline for the project, with construction expected to commence in July 2024 and the second phase projected to begin within the following 12 months.

The discussion turned to traffic issues at Argyle and Old Middleburg Roads, where persistent congestion has affected residents, particularly near Enterprise Learning Academy. Council Member Johnson described the planned traffic-calming measures, which include the addition of an extra queue lane to improve flow in the area. These measures are expected to be implemented within the next 90 days.

Council Member Johnson opened the floor for public comments and encouraged each speaker to keep remarks to three minutes, ensuring that all attendees had an opportunity to share their perspectives. Multiple residents expressed concerns regarding traffic congestion and safety near school zones, emphasizing the need for continued efforts to ensure safe conditions for pedestrians and drivers. Additionally, several community members raised the issue of homelessness,

particularly the presence of individuals near schools, and called for more resources and support to address this growing concern in the area. Council Member Johnson acknowledged these concerns, assuring attendees that addressing traffic safety and homelessness remained top priorities for District 14.

#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Council Member Johnson thanked everyone for their attendance and for providing valuable feedback on the matters discussed. He reaffirmed his commitment to finding effective solutions to the concerns raised and encouraged residents to stay engaged in future District 14 initiatives and updates.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:43 pm.

Minutes: Andrew Powers, ECA District 14 <u>Apowers1@coj.net</u> 904.255.5160 Posted: 4.20.24 9:00 pm