



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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**Noticed Meeting Council Member Lahnen and Council
Member Miller**
RE: City of Jacksonville's Veterans Initiative
Wednesday July 2, 2025
Minutes

Location: Henry Cook Conference Room, located on the 1st floor of City Hall, 117 West Duval St, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

Attendance: Council Member Will Lahnen, Council Member Chris Miller, Executive Council Assistant Carol Register, Executive Council Assistant Jamey Crozier, Executive Council Assistant Joe Johnson, Director Harrison Conyers (MAVD) and Brittney Norris, Mayor Deegan's Office. A full accounting of the 15 in attendance can be found on the sign-in sheet (attached).

Meeting Convened: 4:02 p.m.

Council Member Will Lahnen opened the meeting and welcomed the public.

He gave an introduction of the reason for the Noticed meeting, which was Organized by the offices of Lahnen, Miller and MAVD. CM Lahnen gave a quick overview of the City of Jacksonville's Veterans Initiative and his thoughts on supporting our heroes.

Council Member Chris Miller also gave a warm introduction to the crowd and a huge thank you to being able to partner with CM Lahnen and the Full Council on the new initiative to benefit the Veterans of Jacksonville. CM Miller noted this is the main hub that creates a place where veterans and military families receive the support, resources, and a community they deserve.

At this time CM Lahnen introduced Director Conyers and he was on hand to give a presentation (full presentation can be found at

http://apps2.coj.net/City_Council_Public_Notices_Repository/20250702%20Noticed%20Meeting%20CM%20Lahnen%20and%20CM%20Miller%20RE%20City%20of%20Jacksonville%20Veterans%20Initiative.pdf)



Director Conyers then presented the recently made full Video of the Proposal of the enhanced Veterans Wall. The entire Movie can be viewed at <https://www.jacksonville.gov/getmedia/af991373-a3c8-4460-bb63-fe95501789ce/COJ-Veterans-Memorial-Wall-Shade-Structure-Video.aspx>

After the detailed description of the Proposal and the Video, the CM held a short Q&A session with Director Conyers.

CM Lahnen Focused on Access, Veteran Organization Partners, Education and Funding. CM Miller added similar concerns and asked about the Corp Sponsors, the ability to stop wasting money on rent and have a permanent structure. He noted the Shade Structure would be a 365 day a year venue and open to all branches of the Armed Forces.

THE FULL VIDEO of the meeting can be found at [https://www.jacksonville.gov/city-council/city-council-members/d03/town-hall-meetings/all-town-hall-meetings/council-member-public-meeting-\(2\)](https://www.jacksonville.gov/city-council/city-council-members/d03/town-hall-meetings/all-town-hall-meetings/council-member-public-meeting-(2)) .

We received 2 speaker cards that are attached:

- 1) John J Nooney: Spoke on Public Access to our Waterways that will benefit everyone in Duval County. Mr Nooney also spoke on the artificial reef trust fund and the Veterans Legacy Community Center Trust Fund.

2) Dr Troy Mack: Gave a brief introduction of his new duties as the CEO of the Garden Club of Jacksonville. He also expressed interest in the future collaboration on community programs.

Director Conyers, CM Miller and CM Lahnen in closing stated they would take the comments back and try to incorporate them in any future plans.

CM Lahnen thanked everyone for their very important input and looks forward to working with the city to address any concerns.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:51 p.m.

Minutes prepared by James Crozier, Executive Council Assistant to Council Member Will Lahnen. The following items were submitted for public record and can be accessed by contacting the Legislative Services:

20250702 Noticed Meeting CM Lahnen and CM Miller RE City of Jacksonville Veterans Initiative MINUTES

20250702 Noticed Meeting CM Lahnen and CM Miller RE City of Jacksonville Veterans Initiative NOTICE

20250702 Noticed Meeting CM Lahnen and CM Miller RE City of Jacksonville Veterans Initiative AGENDA

20250702 Noticed Meeting CM Lahnen and CM Miller RE City of Jacksonville Veterans Initiative SIGN IN SHEET

20250702 Noticed Meeting CM Lahnen and CM Miller RE City of Jacksonville Veterans Initiative SPEAKER CARDS

20250702 Noticed Meeting CM Lahnen and CM Miller RE City of Jacksonville Veterans Initiative VIDEO Link

20250702 Noticed Meeting CM Lahnen and CM Miller RE City of Jacksonville Veterans Initiative (PowerPoint/Movie Link)

cc: Council Members and Staff

Jason Teal, Director/Council Secretary

Bernadette Smith, Chief, Legislative Services Division

Teresa Eichner, Chief, Public Information Division

Yvonne Mitchell, Chief, Administrative Services Division

Colleen Hampsey, Chief, Research Division

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