

# City of Jacksonville

117 W. Duval Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202



## Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024**

**2:00 PM**

**Council Chamber  
1st Floor, City Hall**

### **Transportation, Energy & Utilities Committee**

*Ju'Coby Pittman, Chair - Excused Late Arrival 2:27 PM*

*Chris Miller, Vice Chair*

*Matt Carlucci*

*Tyrona Clark-Murray*

*Mike Gay*

*Nick Howland*

*Jimmy Peluso*

*Legislative Assistant: Vanessa Galan*

*Council Auditor's Office: Edward Linsky*

*Council Research: Eamon Webb*

*Office of General Counsel: Carla Lopera*

*Administration: Bill Delaney*

*Planning Dept.: Laurie Santana*

**Meeting Convened: 2:00 PM**

**Meeting Adjourned: 3:03 PM**

**Present:** 7 - Chair Ju'Coby Pittman, Vice Chair Chris Miller, Council Member Matt Carlucci, Council Member Tyrona Clark-Murray, Council Member Mike Gay, Council Member Nick Howland and Council Member Jimmy Peluso

**Presentation by James Bennett, Chief Operating Officer, JAXPORT**

James Bennett, Chief Operating Officer for the Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT), delivered a presentation on JAXPORT's operations.

He explained that JAXPORT has created 206,927 jobs, has indirectly induced 28,194 more jobs, and has an economic impact of roughly \$33 billion. He stated that JAXPORT is Florida's largest container port, the top vehicle-handling port in the country, and the country's largest and most important trade partner with Puerto Rico.

He explained that JAXPORT's revenue had seen a dip during the pandemic but that 2023 revenue was back in line with pre-pandemic trends. He described the cargo types in which JAXPORT specializes and that the diversity of JAXPORT's cargo helped mitigate the effects of the pandemic. He noted that the largest revenue type missing from JAXPORT's portfolio was revenue from cruise ships, although JAXPORT recently signed a contract with Norwegian Cruise Line.

He described JAXPORT's terminals on Blount Island, Dames Point, and Talleyrand. He described JAXPORT's new projects, including new berths, navigational improvements, the new Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF), and new cranes. He explained that Jacksonville is a strategically important port in the United States given its western location on the Atlantic Coast; 98 million residents live within a one-day truck drive from the city.

Council Member Matt Carlucci asked how JAXPORT balances their dredging projects with resiliency interests, noting the potential risks of hurricanes and sea level rise. Mr. Bennett explained that Council Member Matt Carlucci was correct that the extension of bulkheads required massive time and investment, but he stated that JAXPORT has placed all essential electronics outside of areas that would be flooded in extreme events. Council Member Matt Carlucci stated that JAXPORT should be prepared for the inevitability of a Category 4 storm or worse hitting Jacksonville, and Mr. Bennett stated that JAXPORT takes this possibility very seriously, continuously updating its emergency plans alongside its tenants.

Council Member Clark-Murray asked how JAXPORT considers safety and security issues. Mr. Bennett explained that JAXPORT has barbed wire perimeters, a two-level badge system in which all guests must be monitored at all times, and an overall security plan on which the Coast Guard must sign off.

Council Member Gay thanked JAXPORT for its work. He stated that they are in his district and bring great benefit to the surrounding community while containing their spoils site related to their dredging projects well. He asked whether JAXPORT has made any plans to ease traffic on Heckscher Drive. Mr. Bennett noted that Florida Department of Transportation had plans to widen the road and to conduct a long-term study to determine additional need for development. Council Member Gay explained that many trucks do not follow the correct routes in the area. Mr. Bennett stated that there was considerable effort made to communicating correct truck routes but that it was a difficult situation as driving off the route was not illegal. Council Member Gay noted that he had discussed the matter with Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and that JSO was prepared to issue citations to address the issue when possible.

Council Member Peluso asked whether JAXPORT owns the cranes at its facilities, and Mr. Bennett answered that it owns all of its cranes except the three most recently purchased, which are tenant-owned. He added that the fact that JAXPORT owns most of its cranes makes JAXPORT unique

compared to similar ports. JAXPORT is unique also in that it is responsible for the maintenance of its cranes.

Council Member Howland noted that the City and JAXPORT were now seeing the benefits of investments into harbor deepening projects. He stated that these projects are an example of a successful partnership between different levels of government, including Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department, and the private sector.

Council Member Pittman thanked Mr. Bennett for the presentation, noting the importance of communicating to the public the successes of entities like JAXPORT.

Item/File No.	Title History
1. <a href="#">2024-0246</a>	ORD-MC Estab the Kings Creek I Community Dev District (Kings Creek I CDD), Pursuant to Sec 190.005, F.S., & Ch 92, Ord Code, Including the Grant of Special Powers; Naming the District; Describing the External Boundaries of the District; Naming the Initial District Board of Supervisors; Amend Sec 92.22 (Existing Community Development Districts), Ch 92 (Uniform Development Districts), Ord Code to Include the Kings Creek I CDD; Prov for Conflict & Severability (Teal) (Introduced by the TEU Committee Pursuant to Sec 92.09, Ord Code) 3/26/24 CO Introduced: R, TEU 4/1/24 R Read 2nd & Rerefer 4/2/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer 4/9/24 CO Read 2nd & Rerefer 5/6/24 R Approve 7-0 5/7/24 TEU Approve 7-0 Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 & Sec 190.005, F.S. & Sec 92.11 Ord Code- 5/14/24

**APPROVE**

**Aye:** 7 - Pittman, Miller, Carlucci, Clark-Murray, Gay, Howland and Peluso

**• The proposed CDD is approximately 1,198.18 acres and is anticipated to consist of 929 residential units located north of Interstate 295, west along Lem Turner Road**

2. <a href="#">2024-0284</a>	ORD-MC re the COJ Environmental Protection Board; Amend Secs 73.101 (Created; Terms of Office; Appointment & Removal) & 73.102 (Powers & Duties), Ch 73 (Environmental Protection Board), Ord Code, to Amend Certain Board Member Qualifications & Board Duties; Prov for Codification Instructions (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Johnson) 4/9/24 CO Introduced: R, TEU 4/15/24 R Read 2nd & Rerefer 4/16/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer 4/23/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer 5/6/24 R Approve 7-0 5/7/24 TEU Approve 7-0
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Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 4/23/24

**APPROVE**

**Aye:** 7 - Pittman, Miller, Carlucci, Clark-Murray, Gay, Howland and Peluso

• **Amends Ch. 73 (Environmental Protection Board) to:**

- 1) Clarify the qualifications of the two citizen board members and**
- 2) Include sustainability and resilience within areas of study**

Council Member Howland asked James Richardson, Environmental Protection Board Program Administrator, what this bill changed. Mr. Richardson explained the Ordinance Code specifies designated categories under which Environmental Protection Board Members must fall; this bill amends the language of the category of the Board Member from the general public to bring it in line with language used for similar categories on other boards. Council Member Howland asked about the fund balance of the Environmental Protection Board, and Mr. Richardson confirmed that it would likely be requesting a replenishment at some point in the near future.

3. [2024-0289](#) ORD Approp \$9,500,000.00 in Grant Funding From the FDOT to Prov Funding for the University Blvd Complete Streets Proj; Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & Corp Sec to Execute the Construction Reimb Agrmt btwn FDOT & COJ; Amend the 23-24 5-Yr CIP Appvd by Ord 2023-505-E to Reflect This Appropriation of Funds to the Proj; Prov for Oversight by the Engineering & Construction Mgmt Div of the Dept of Public Works (B.T. 24-088) (Dillard) (Req of Mayor)  
4/9/24 CO Introduced: F, TEU  
4/16/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer  
4/16/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer  
4/23/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer  
5/7/24 F Amend/Approve 6-0  
5/7/24 TEU Amend/Approve 7-0  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 4/23/24

**AMEND/APPROVE**

**Aye:** 7 - Pittman, Miller, Carlucci, Clark-Murray, Gay, Howland and Peluso

**AMENDMENT**

- 1. Attach Revised Exhibit 1 (BT) to correct revenue account code**
- 2. Correct Scrivener's**

- Grants funds are being provided related to previously approved transfer of a segment of University Blvd**
- City is not required to provide a local match to receive the grant funding**
- The City has appropriated \$10 million towards the project with an additional \$9.5 million identified in the FY 24/25 CIP. Grant funds will be combined with \$19,500,000 in City funding for a total estimated project cost of \$29,000,000.**

Edward Linsky of the Council Auditor's Office explained the amendment.

Steve Long of the Public Works Department explained that this bill represents the funding component of a road improvement project on University Boulevard and that the City Council had previously approved the transfer of jurisdiction of the segment of University Boulevard from the state to the City.

Council Member Pittman asked about the timeline for the project, and Mr. Long answered that the project would need to go through design, community engagement, and competitive bid processes. He stated that he anticipated that the project would meet its deadlines (commencement deadline of June 30, 2027, and completion deadline of December 31, 2029).

Council Member Clark-Murray noted that the roundabout on the intersection of University Boulevard and Merrill Road as it is currently constructed is unsafe for pedestrians.

The amendment was unanimously approved by the Committee.

- 4. [2024-0290](#)** ORD Approp \$60,000.00 From a Gen Fund Operating Contingency Acct Desig for the Purpose of Building out a City Hall Museum; Prov for Oversight by the Public Bldgs Div of the Dept of Public Works (B.T. 24-089) (Dillard) (Req of Mayor)  
4/9/24 CO Introduced: F, TEU  
4/16/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer  
4/16/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer  
4/23/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer  
5/7/24 F Approve 6-0  
5/7/24 TEU Approve 7-0  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 4/23/24

**APPROVE**

**Aye:** 7 - Pittman, Miller, Carlucci, Clark-Murray, Gay, Howland and Peluso

- Proposed museum to be located in the first-floor west wing of City Hall**
- Funding was appropriated to a designated contingency as part of the annual budget**

Council Member Matt Carlucci explained that this appropriation was for the renovation of the space, including wallpaper and carpet improvements, and not for any exhibits or programming for the proposed museum. He stated that this amount had been budgeted. He explained that he would be hosting community meetings to discuss programming for the museum and that the recent bill appropriating funds for the storage and digitization of City Council historical records (2024-0161-E) could assist these conversations about programming.

Council Member Pittman asked whether the museum would focus on local history, and Council Member Matt Carlucci confirmed that it would. He added that he would like a diverse group of community stakeholders present in the conversations to determine programming for the museum.

5. [2024-0293](#) ORD Apv & Auth the Execution & Delivery of: an Agrmt to Settle Demolition & Nuisance Liens btwn the City, & Terrawise Homes, Inc. in Connection With the Redev, Rehab & Improvement of the Vacant Property Located at 439 E 1st St Which Lien Agrmt Auth a Reduction of the Demolition Lien to Allow the Owner to Construct a New Single Family Home at an Estimated Cost of \$316,696.85, as Described in the Estimated Job Cost Dated 3/18/24; Directing the Finance & Admin Dept, the Planning & Development Dept, & the Neighborhoods Dept to Monitor Compliance With the Lien Agrmt; Auth Termination of the Lien Agrmt if the Owner Fails to Meet a Deadline to Apply for & Successfully Obtain the Required Bldg Permit On or Before 6/1/24 (R.E. # 072715-0000) (Pollock) (Req of Mayor)  
4/9/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F, TEU  
4/15/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer  
4/16/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer  
4/16/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer  
4/23/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer  
5/6/24 NCSPHS Amend/Approve 7-0  
5/7/24 F Amend/Approve 6-0  
5/7/24 TEU Amend/Approve 7-0  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 4/23/24

**AMEND/APPROVE**

**Aye:** 7 - Pittman, Miller, Carlucci, Clark-Murray, Gay, Howland and Peluso

**AMENDMENT**

**Clarify that the Estimated Improvement Cost applicable to the forgiveness is \$281,696.85 and excludes the property acquisition cost**

- **There is an outstanding demolition lien, dated 4/26/16, of \$105,881.62 on the subject property, which is located in Council District 7**
- **Section 112.110(e) requires that Council approve all settlements greater than \$100,000**
- **City policy and the Agreement allows for a reduction of \$1 for every \$5 spent for the first \$30,000 in improvements and \$1 for every \$2 spent thereafter**
- **Improvements must be completed by 1/26/26**

Edward Linsky of the Council Auditor's Office explained the amendment. It was unanimously approved by the Committee.

6. [2024-0325](#) ORD Approp \$200,000.00 in Fund Balance from the Environmental Protection Fund to the UF Center for Coastal Solutions Through the UF Brd of Trustees to Conduct a Septic Tank Vulnerability Assessment Proj for Single-Family Residential Septic Systems in Duval County; Prov for Carryover to FY 24-25; Invoking the Exemption of Sec 126.107(g) (Exemptions), Ch 126 (Procurement Code), Ord Code, to Direct Contract With UF; Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Designee, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver That Certain Research Agrmt for the Septic Tank Vulnerability Assessment Proj btwn the City & UF; Waiving Sec 118.107 (Nonprofits to Receive Funding Through a Competitive Evaluated Award Process)...(B.T. 24-095) (Dillard) (Req of Mayor)  
4/23/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F, TEU  
5/6/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer  
5/6/24 R Read 2nd & Rerefer  
5/7/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer  
5/7/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 5/14/24

**READ 2ND & REREFER**

7. [2024-0326](#) ORD Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Designee, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver That Certain Air Pollution Control Specific Operating Agrmt btwn the State of FL Dept of Environmental Protection (FDEP) & Duval County; Prov for Oversight by the Neighborhoods Dept, Environmental Quality Div (Dillard) (Req of Mayor)  
4/23/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU  
5/6/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer  
5/7/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 5/14/24

**READ 2ND & REREFER**

8. [2024-0327](#) ORD Approp \$1,500,000.00, from the Proj Titled Broward Rd Widening to the Proj Titled Broward Rd Improvements to Pay for the Construction of the Proj; Amend the 24-28 5-Yr CIP Appvd by Ord 2023-505-E to Reflect This Approp of Funds to the Proj; Prov for Oversight by the Engineering & Construction Mgmt Div of the Dept of Public Works (B.T. 24-093) (Dillard) (Req of Mayor)  
4/23/24 CO Introduced: F, TEU  
5/7/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer  
5/7/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 5/14/24



**READ 2ND & REREFER**

Public Comment:

Carnell Oliver Spoke on 2024-0325, an appropriation for a septic tank vulnerability assessment. He had four questions that he stated he would like clarified about the bill: 1) for how long would the assessment be funded, 2) from where the funding is being drawn, 3) whether any communities were specifically being targeted by the study, and 4) whether a summary of the economic benefits of the assessment could be provided.

**NOTE: The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, May 21, 2024.**

**\*\*\*\*\*Note: Items may be added at the discretion of the Chair.\*\*\*\*\***

**Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted; but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to KaraT@coj.net.**

Minutes:

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(904) 255-5140  
Posted: 5/9/2024, 5:00 PM