

About Jacksonville

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Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles

Our Mission

Serving you, meeting today's challenges, focusing on the future.

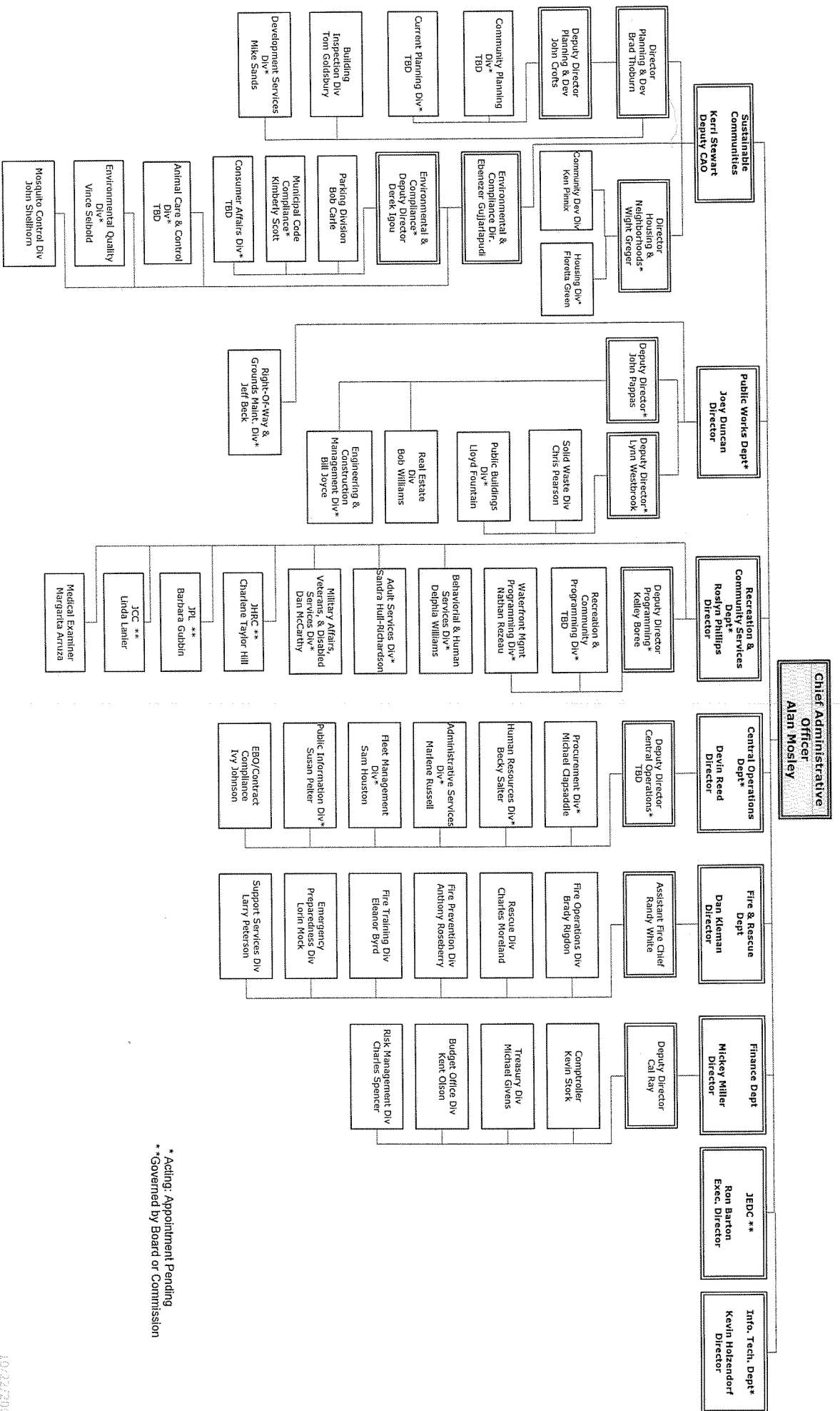
Our Vision

To make Jacksonville's local government the most responsive and effective city government in America, and Jacksonville the best place in the nation to live, work and raise a family.

Guiding Principles

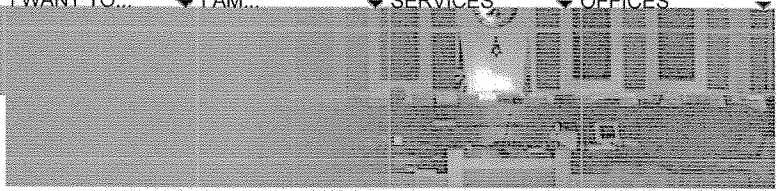
- Value all the contributions of our culturally-diverse workforce
- Practice long-term planning
- Inform and educate customers openly and effectively
- Treat each other with courtesy and respect
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity in all actions
- Encourage and support innovation
- Provide training to support the mission through innovative means
- Achieve the mission through team work
- Treat customers as you want to be treated
- Fix the problem, not the blame
- Exercise sound judgment in meeting community and customer needs

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** Acting; Appointment Pending
* Governed by Board or Commission

The Jacksonville City Council



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City Council Committees, Boards, and Commissions

The Standing Committees of the Jacksonville City Council meet the first and third week of each month in the Council Chamber, 1st Floor, City Hall at St. James, 117 W. Duval St. The Special Committees, Boards and Commissions meet as noticed.

STANDING COMMITTEES

- Finance Committee
- Land Use & Zoning Committee
- Public Health & Safety Committee
- Recreation & Community Development Committee
- Rules Committee
- Transportation, Energy & Utilities Committee

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Courthouse Oversight Special Committee
- Personnel Committee
- Seaport and Airport Special Committee
- Special Committee on City Pension Sustainability
- Trail Ridge Oversight Special Committee

COUNCIL BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

- Charter Revision Commission
- Duval County Tourist Development Council
- Jacksonville Waterways Commission
- Value Adjustment Board

For a complete list of the Advisory Boards of the City of Jacksonville click [City Boards](#). To apply for a City Council appointment, click [City Council Appointments](#).

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

- Chaplain - Don Redman
- Floor Leader - Clay Yarborough

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS/LIAISONS

The Council President has selected the following Council Members to serve as liaisons between the City Council and various governmental entities in order to maintain effective communication and provide the best possible service to the public.

- Children's Commission - Warren Jones
- Cultural Council - John Crescimbeni
- Downtown Development Review Board - Reggie Brown & Don Redman
- Downtown Vision - Art Shad
- Federal Stimulus Package - Reggie Brown
- Jacksonville Aviation Authority - Bill Bishop
- Jacksonville Economic Development Commission - Glorious Johnson
- Jacksonville Housing & Community Development Commission - Clay Yarborough
- Jacksonville Housing Authority - Don Redman
- Jacksonville Journey Oversight Committee - Ronnie Fussell

Jacksonville Port Authority - Daniel Davis
Jacksonville Transportation Authority - Jack Webb
JEA - Stephen Joost
Joint Planning Committee - Jack Webb
Juvenile Justice Comprehensive Strategy Steering Committee - Jack Webb
Keep Jacksonville Beautiful - Bill Bishop
Mayor's Council on Fitness & Well-Being - Don Redman
Military/Veterans Affairs - Reggie Brown & Don Redman
N/E Florida Regional Council - Bill Bishop
Prosperity Scholarship Fund Governing Council - Reggie Brown
School Board - Ronnie Fussell
Security and Emergency Preparedness Planning Council - Richard Clark
Sister Cities - Stephen Joost
Transportation Planning Organization - Michael Corrigan, Stephen Joost,
Denise Lee, & Bill Bishop (Alternate)
Victim Assistance Advisory Council - Glorious Johnson
Water and Sewer Expansion Authority - Reggie Brown & Clay Yarborough
Zoological Society - Johnny Gaffney & Kevin Hyde (Alternate)

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Advisory Boards and Commissions

Art in Public Places Committee
Asian American Advisory Board
BCAB-Building Codes Adjustment Board
Better Jacksonville Financial Administration Committee (FAC)
Better Jacksonville Project Administration Committee (PAC)
Blue Ribbon Commission on Cemeteries
Charter Revision Commission
Civil Service Board
COEA-Jacksonville-Duval County Council on Elder Affairs
Comcast Settlement Community Panel
Construction Trades Qualifying Board
Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville
Cultural Service Grant Committee
Disability Council
Downtown Development Review Board (DDRB)
Duval County Election Advisory Panel
Enterprise Zone Development Agency Board
Environmental Protection Board
Fitness and Well-Being, Mayor's Council on
Hispanic Advisory Board
Historic Preservation Commission, Jacksonville
HIV Health Services Planning Council, Metropolitan Jacksonville Area
Industrial Technical Advisory Committee
JAA-Jacksonville Aviation Authority
Jacksonville Health Facilities Authority
Jacksonville Police & Fire Pension Board of Trustees
JCC-Jacksonville Children's Commission
JEA
JEDC-Jacksonville Economic Development Commission
JHA-Jacksonville Housing Authority
JHCDC-Jacksonville Housing & Community Development Commission
JHFA-Jacksonville Housing Finance Authority
JHRC-Jacksonville Human Rights Commission
JIA Area Redevelopment Agency Board
JJCS-City of Jacksonville Juvenile Justice Comprehensive Strategy Steering Committee
JJOC-Jacksonville Journey Oversight Committee
JOB-Duval County Job Opportunity Board
Joint Planning Committee
JPA-Jacksonville Port Authority
JRS-City of Jacksonville Retirement System Board of Trustees
JSEB Monitoring Committee
JTA-Jacksonville Transportation Authority
JWC-Jacksonville Waterways Commission

Keep Jacksonville Beautiful: A Clean City Commission
Library Board of Trustees
**Northwest Jacksonville Economic Development Trust Fund
Advisory Committee**
Planning Commission
Public Service Grant Council
RDA-Duval County Research & Development Authority
Security & Emergency Preparedness Planning Council
Sexual Assault, Jacksonville Advisory Council on
Sports & Entertainment Board
Subdivision Standards & Policy Advisory Committee
TDC-Duval County Tourist Development Council
**Television, Motion Picture & Commercial Production, Mayor's
Advisory Commission on**
TRC-Tower Review Committee
TRUE-Taxation, Revenue & Utilization of Expenditures Commission
VAB-Value Adjustment Board
Victim Assistance Advisory Council
Water & Sewer Expansion Authority
Women, Mayor's Commission on the Status of

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**ELECTION REFORM
IN JACKSONVILLE:**

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
AND ELECTORAL EXPERIENCE**

Staff Report

August 21, 2003

**New York City
Charter Revision Commission**

ELECTION REFORM IN JACKSONVILLE: LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND ELECTORAL EXPERIENCE*

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Jacksonville, Florida is the nation's 14th largest city, with a population (735,000) greater than Baltimore, Boston, and Washington D.C. and approximately the size of San Francisco. Jacksonville elects a mayor, five constitutional (citywide) officers, and a 19-member city council, which includes five at-large and fourteen district seats. Municipal elections are held in April and May. In addition, Jacksonville, unlike most cities, has a consolidated county-city government, which means that city government is responsible for the delivery of social services and the negotiation of their contracts, as in New York City.

In 1988, the Jacksonville Community Council Inc. conducted a study entitled, "Local Election Process." The Jacksonville Community Council (JCCI) is a "nonpartisan civic organization that engages diverse citizens in open dialogue, research, consensus building, and leadership development to improve the quality of life and build a better community in Northeast Florida and beyond." A team of 50 community leaders and volunteers, including academics, conducted the study, with research and support provided by JCCI.

The study came in response to several concerns, including: "Voter turnout in Duval County is low, especially in local elections. In addition, the number of candidates for local office has decreased, and the number of unopposed elections has increased." The report followed a 1987 citywide election in which 34 percent of registered voters participated in the (April) primary election and 41 percent participated in the (May) general election. These participation rates were typical of previous elections and even somewhat higher. (Participation rates for the 1979 primary and general elections were 36 percent and 37 percent, respectively, and in 1983, they were 35 percent and 28 percent, respectively.) The authors of the report asked a fundamental question: "How can our local elections process be improved to increase active participation of citizens as voters and as candidates?"

According to David Swain, a former Associate Director of JCCI and the director of the study, the group's early focus was on nonpartisan elections. Opposition from party leaders, however, along with concerns raised in the academic literature, led the participants in the JCCI study to examine a third approach: a nonpartisan election structure (i.e., no party primaries) that places a candidate's party affiliation on the ballot.

The study examined Jacksonville's political landscape and the potential impact of reform

* This report was prepared by Francis Barry, Research Director, with invaluable assistance provided by Jeff Clements, Director of Research for the Jacksonville City Council.