City introduces task force and announces mobility workshop

Wednesday, June 8, 5:00pm - 6:30pm: Task force’s first meeting

Thursday, June 9, 9:00am - 5:00pm: Day-long public open house

The City of St. Augustine’s adopted Vision Plan identified improved mobility as its first priority, noting that traffic and parking were consistently and universally identified as problems and the need to develop and implement a holistic solution.

Mobility is not a new issue and there have certainly been many plans and studies over the years that have examined parking, traffic congestion and event management among other components of transportation. These efforts have produced a lot of great ideas, but have lacked a holistic perspective on city-wide mobility and specific focus on implementation. The City of St. Augustine has hired the multi-disciplinary firm of Littlejohn, to develop and implement a comprehensive Transportation and Parking Master Plan that will address:

- overall street network,
- land use and urban design,
- streetscapes,
- parking,
- transportation demand management, and
- capital improvements program.

The city and the consultant team are commencing this process with an understanding of previous efforts and the community’s long-standing desire for results. The work begins with two events scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, June 8-9, when the newly formed Mobility Advisory Task Force holds its first meeting and the city will host a day-long public open house on the topic of mobility.

Mobility Advisory Task Force

Creating an advisory task force is a critical part of developing and implementing a mobility plan. Having a small group of citizens who spend time reviewing previous studies, exchanging ideas, defining local mobility challenges and then making recommendations to Littlejohn is critical to the planning process.

But, it is not a one-way street. An important task force role will be to take information back to the community so the community will have knowledge of and be involved in the building of the plan.

The task force will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 5:00pm - 6:30pm in The Alcazar Room, City Hall. 75 King St.

Open house offers one-on-one discussions

Public input is not simply important in this process; it is important that it be done first. So on Thursday, June 9, the city will host a day-long public open house at City Hall on the topic of mobility.

The full team of planners, engineers, and landscape architects will be available for one-on-one exchanges with the public. This is a unique opportunity to share ideas and ask questions about transportation issues from experts. The grassroots input Littlejohn receives during the open house is a very important ingredient in building the plan, so public participation is encouraged.
The open house will be on Thursday, June 9, 9:00am - 5:00pm in The Alcazar Room, City Hall. 75 King St.

Meet the Task Force

The Mobility Advisory Task Force will serve as a conduit between Littlejohn and the community during the initial phase of building a mobility plan.

The 15 members represent a broad cross section of the community and includes residents from across the city, several institutions and the business sector. As a staff committee, its members were appointed by the city manager recognizing the distinct talents and interests brought by each member.

- Greg Baker
  Flagler Model Land Neighborhood resident; downtown business owner; former St. Augustine mayor

- Jeanette Booth
  Nelmar Terrace neighborhood resident

- Ryan Carter
  Fullerwood neighborhood resident; Immediate Past Chair, St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Council Executive Committee

- Steve Carter
  St. Augustine Uptown Neighborhood resident

- Carla Chase
  Lincolnville neighborhood resident

- Mark Edwards, Ph.D.
  South Davis Shores neighborhood resident; transportation expert

- Richard Goldman
  Executive Director, St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra and the Beaches Visitors and Convention Bureau

- Kathleen Grunder
  Boarding Services Administrator, Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind

- Lisa Lloyd
  North beaches area resident

- Rob Matthews
  North beaches area resident; Matthews Design Group, Inc.

- Heather Neville
  Velo Fest Community Initiative Founder and President; Citizens Advisory Committee, North Florida Transportation Planning Organization

- Robert Nimmons
Economic Development Chair, West Augustine Community Redevelopment Agency Steering Committee

- Trever Smith  
  Bookstore manager, Flagler College; West Augustine resident

- Wolfgang Schau  
  North Davis Shores neighborhood resident

- Becky Yanni  
  Executive Director, Council on Aging/Sunshine Bus

Staff Advisors

- Xavier Pellicer  
  Mobility Coordinator, City of St. Augustine

- Barry Fox  
  Assistant Chief, St. Augustine Police Department

- Phong Nuygen  
  Director, St. Johns County Transportation Development Division

- Joe Howell  
  Public Works Director, St. Augustine Beach

For more information

For more information about the city’s mobility initiative, or either of these events, contact Xavier Pellicer, Mobility Coordinator, at 904.209.4211, by email at xpellicer@citystaug.com, or call the Public Works Department at 904.825.1040.

Even more information

CLICK HERE to listen to an interview on The Break Room (May 11, 2016) with Xavier Pellicer, Mobility Coordinator and Martha Graham, Public Works Director about mobility projects already underway.

CLICK HERE to watch a presentation before the City Commission (April 23, 2016) by Joel Graeff, Senior Transportation Planner/Project Manager and George Kramer, Director of Planning of Littlejohn Engineering regarding the launch of the mobility plan development process.

CLICK HERE to access the strategic planning library, a collection past studies and plans covering a number of aspects of St. Augustine, including tourism, traffic management, protection of historic structures and county and regional visioning programs.