



50th Annual Conference on Neighborhood Concerns

MAY
20-23, 2025

NUSA

JAX
FLORIDA

A BRIDGE TO TOMORROW'S NEIGHBORHOODS

50th Golden Anniversary and Annual Conference on Neighborhood Concerns

ADA accommodations are available upon request.



Jacksonville Florida
May 20 - 23, 2025
Early Registration
February 12th thru March 31st

NUSA JAX 2025
Scan Me





NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary

A Letter From Your NUSA President



NUSA Members and Friends,

On behalf of the NUSA 2025 Board of Directors, I am excited and thankful to have you join us at the Neighborhoods USA Conference in Jacksonville, Florida, to celebrate 50 Years of bringing Neighborhoods together. This year's theme, A Bridge To Tomorrow's Neighborhood, will focus on building more substantial and vibrant communities.

We hope you enjoy this year's conference and can connect with other attendees to discuss your recent experiences in your neighborhoods and communities. The NUSA Annual Conference is a time for neighborhood leaders and supporters to reconnect and share stories, initiatives, and trends changing our neighborhoods.

I've been a member of NUSA since 2017. As a board member, I am honored to represent Neighborhoods across the United States and the Bahamas. The board members have been hard at work making sure the world knows about NUSA and the work you all are doing in your neighborhoods. If you want to join this great board, you can find more information on running for the board or hosting a conference on our website, www.nusa.org.

Additionally, we know there's not enough time at the conference to boast about the fantastic things happening in your neighborhoods. If you'd like your neighborhood highlighted on our blog, please email nusastorytime@nusa.org with your story. As we continue to uplift our neighborhoods, any information on initiatives that bring neighbors together and build communities will be valuable to your fellow NUSA members.

There's a lot of work behind hosting a conference, and thank you to Mayor Donna Deegan, Thomas Waters, and Team Jacksonville for organizing the workshops, tours, and hospitality. To the NUSA Board, past and present, thank you for your work over the last 50 years to make NUSA a success. Your work hasn't gone unnoticed, and we hope your time here in Jacksonville is memorable. Lastly, thank you to all sponsors, partners, workshop presenters, volunteers, and vendors who worked together to bring the conference to life. Welcome to Jacksonville, Florida!!!

With Appreciation,
Precious McKesson





NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary

Board of Directors

Precious McKesson

President,

3rd term, exp. 10/2027

Program Development, Co-Chair

Awards, Resource Development

Omaha, Nebraska

Keno Wong

Parliamentarian

1st term, exp. 10/2025

Board Development, Public Affairs,

By-Laws & Rules

Nassau, Bahamas

Dwight Pridgeon

Vice President,

3rd term, exp. 10/2027

Resource Development, Chair

Program Development, Co-Chair

Public Affairs

Little Rock, Arkansas

Reba Taylor-Hill

Sergeant At Arms

3rd term, exp. 10/2027

Awards, Membership, Resource

Development

Indianapolis, Indiana

Valorie Duvall

Secretary

1st term, exp. 10/2025

Awards, Public Affairs, Resource

Development

Lubbock, Texas

Paul Gambill

By-Laws & Rules, Chair

1st term, exp. 10/2025

Board Development,

Resource Development

Erie, Pennsylvania

Carrie Snyder

Assistant Secretary

1st term, exp. 10/2025

Membership, Awards, Public Affairs

Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Orlando Robinson, Jr.

Membership

3rd term, exp. 10/2026

Awards Program, Resource

Development

Midfield, Alabama

Joyce Cox

Treasurer, Public Affairs, Chair

2nd term, exp. 10/2025

Program Development,

Resource Development

Memphis, Tennessee

Debbie Lightbourn

Board Development

1st term, exp. 10/2025

Awards Program, By-Laws &

Rules

Nassau, Bahamas



NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary

Board of Directors

Tony Olden, Sr.

Board Development, Chair

1st term, exp. 10/2025

By-Laws & Rules, Program Development

Memphis, Tennessee

Deanna O'Malley

Board Development

1st term, exp. 10/27

Public Affairs, Program Development

Texarkana, Arkansas

Henry Nickel

Awards Program

2nd term, exp. 10/2025

Public Affairs, Program Development

San Bernardino, California

Robert Mike

Membership

1st term, exp. 10/27

**Resource Development, By-Laws
& Rules**

Syracuse, New York

Dora Sims

Board Development, Chair

2nd term, exp. 10/2025

Board Development, By-Laws & Rules

Birmingham, Alabama

Lindsey Pinkston

Awards Program, Chair

1st term, exp. 10/27

**Board Development, Program
Development**

Issaquah, Washington

Rene Aguilera

Membership

1st term, exp. 10/27

Public Affairs, Program Development

Roseville, California

Jeri Pryor

Administrative Assistant

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Charmaine Clark

Membership, Chair

3rd term, exp. 10/2026

Awards Program

Columbia, South Carolina





NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary

Welcome From Mayor Deegan



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DONNA DEEGAN
MAYOR

CITY HALL SUITE 400
117 W. DUVAL STREET
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Jacksonville, it is my distinct honor to welcome you to our vibrant community for the 50th “Golden” Anniversary of the Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) Conference. We are thrilled to host this historic gathering and to celebrate five decades of NUSA’s dedication to strengthening neighborhoods, fostering collaboration, and empowering communities across the nation—and now, around the world.

Jacksonville is a city like no other. As the largest city by land area in the contiguous United States, we are home to a rich tapestry of neighborhoods, each with its own unique character, history, and aspirations. Our commitment to innovation and community-driven solutions is reflected in the creation of Jacksonville’s Neighborhoods Department, ensuring that our residents have a direct line to resources, support, and opportunities for growth.

This year’s conference is particularly special, as we take NUSA beyond its national roots and onto the international stage. Thanks to the invaluable partnerships between the City of Jacksonville, Visit Jacksonville, the Jacksonville Sports and Entertainment Division, and our Sister Cities program, we welcome delegations from across the globe, fostering new connections and exchanging ideas that will shape the future of neighborhood advocacy and engagement.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and support of our corporate sponsors and local partners, whose investment in this conference underscores their commitment to strong, thriving communities. To all our sponsors, presenters, and volunteers, thank you for helping make this event a resounding success.

As you explore Jacksonville, I encourage you to experience the warmth and hospitality of our people, the beauty of our riverfront, and the energy of our growing downtown. Whether you’re attending workshops, networking with fellow community leaders, or discovering what makes Jacksonville unique, I hope this conference inspires and empowers you in your work.

Welcome to Jacksonville and best wishes for a productive and memorable NUSA 2025 Conference!

Sincerely,


Donna Deegan
Mayor



NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary



NUSA Jacksonville Conference Coordinator

**Thomas B. Waters, City of Jacksonville Neighborhoods
Department, Director
NUSAJAX2025@coj.net**





NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary **Jacksonville, FL. NUSA Conference Committee**

Thomas B. Waters, City of Jacksonville Neighborhoods Department, Director
Schnell Chin-McCloud, Executive Administrative Assistant
Lisa Ransom, Neighborhood Services Office, Manager
Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Edwina Henry, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Daniel Nasr, Finance, Manager
Sandi Assidy, Finance Analyst
Jimmie Carter, Consumer Affairs, Manager
Terrance Jones, Consumer Affairs, Investigator
Travis Jeffrey, Housing and Community Development, Chief
Melissa Long, Environmental Quality, Chief
Thomas Register, Municipal Code Compliance, Chief
Randy Wishard, Mosquito Control, Chief

Alex Alston, City of Jacksonville Sports and Entertainment Department, Executive Director
Jennifer Malice-Kelly, Finance, Manager
Mercedes Parker, Executive Assistant

Daryl Joseph, City of Jacksonville Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department, Director
Kara Tucker, Disabled Services, Chief
Garrett Callis, Parks Community Programs, Manager,
Michael Corrigan, Visit Jacksonville, President
Jeanne Goldschmidt, Convention Sales, Director
Courtney Gumbinger, Destination Experiences, Director
Bob Doering, Senior National Accounts, Manager
Katie Mitura, Marketing Officer, Chief
Jorie Allinson, Destination Experience, Manager
Jim Pritchard, Prime Osborn Convention Center, Director
Whiney Mayze, Sales, Manager
Olivia Abromeit, ASM Global, Event Coordinator

**Thank you to each committee member for your incredible dedication, hard work,
and creativity in ensuring the vision came to fruition.**





Mayor Donna Deegan, Mayor of Jacksonville Florida

Mayor Donna Deegan is the 45th mayor of the City of Jacksonville, Florida, and the 9th mayor since the City's consolidation in 1968. She is a fifth-generation Jacksonville native who loves the city with all her heart. Mayor Deegan was an award-winning local television news anchor who shared the stories of people living in every corner of Jacksonville. A three-time breast cancer survivor, she founded the DONNA Foundation and 26.2 with DONNA: The National Marathon to Finish Breast Cancer to support families facing the disease and fund groundbreaking research. As mayor, she is focused on infrastructure, public health, and economic development to build a city that works for all of us.



Booker T. Washington, Founder & CEO, Techie Homes, Inc.

Booker T. Washington, a visionary real estate developer and investor, boasts exceptional leadership and creativity. With roots in Tuskegee, Alabama, and over three decades in Atlanta, he draws inspiration from the Tuskegee Airmen's legacy. Booker Founded historic South Park Cottages in 2021 and Techie Homes Inc. in 2023. These companies, valued at \$10 million in investments, are renowned for their meticulous attention to detail and innovative construction methods. Washington's corporate management background underscores his profound understanding of the real estate industry, positioning him as a trailblazer in metropolitan and urban development landscapes.



Jennifer Prophete, Director of The Hopeful Neighborhood Project

The Hopeful Neighborhood Project is dedicated to helping everyday neighbors pursue the common good, right where they live. Jennifer has spent 20 years working in the fields of urban education, community development, and non-profit leadership. As a native of rural Nebraska, she grew up with a strong sense of the power of community. Her desire to live in community, no matter the neighborhood context, has been a driving force in her life and work.



Jason Peoples, Executive Director of Jacksonville Arts & Music School

Jason Peoples is the Executive Director of the Jacksonville Arts & Music School. With an impressive background as a decorated United States Army military veteran, college graduate, artist, and former athlete, Mr. Peoples is the embodiment of a Renaissance man. He is known for his ability to think creatively and analytically, to think with, as he calls it, "B.I.G."—Bold Innovative Goals in mind.



Pre-Conference At-A-Glance

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Registration	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Exhibitor Set-Up	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
NUSA Board Meeting	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Lunch and Dinner on Your Own		
Welcome Reception : Mayors Welcome/COJ Neighborhood & Matching Grant Awards	Prime Osborn Convention Center	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Conference At-A-Glance

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Opening Breakfast and Best Neighborhood Award	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 9:30 am
Registration	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
NUSA Judging Presentation	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Exhibits	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Workshops Sessions 1	Prime Osborn Convention Center	9:45 am - 11:00 am
Workshop Sessions 2	Prime Osborn Convention Center	11:15 am - 12:30 pm
Lunch on Your Own		12:30 pm - 1:45 pm
Workshop Sessions 3	Prime Osborn Convention Center	2:00 pm - 3:15 pm
Workshop Sessions 4	Prime Osborn Convention Center	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Dinner on Your Own		5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Grand Bahamas Night in Jacksonville Event (Canapes)	Prime Osborn Convention Center	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Thursday, May 22, 2025

Breakfast	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 9:30 am
NUSA Board Election	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
NUSA Judging Presentation	Prime Osborn Convention Center	TBD
Exhibits	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Neighborhood Pride Tours/NUSA COJ Habijax House Community Service Project/Emerald Trail Walk	Prime Osborn Convention Center	9:45 am - 1:30 pm
Lunch on Your Own During The Tour	Tour Locations	12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Workshops Sessions 5	Prime Osborn Convention Center	1:45 pm - 3:00 pm
Workshops Sessions 6	Prime Osborn Convention Center	3:15 pm - 4:30 pm
Exhibitor Tear Down	Prime Osborn Convention Center	4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Dinner on Your Own		

Friday, May 23, 2025

Breakfast on Your Own		
General Membership Meeting	Prime Osborn Convention Center	8:30 am - 10:30 am
Closing Luncheon and Neighborhood of the Year Award	Prime Osborn Convention Center	11:00 am - 1:00 pm
NUSA Board Meeting	Prime Osborn Convention Center	1:30 pm - 4:30 pm



Conference Events

NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary



Opening Breakfast and Best Neighborhood Awards

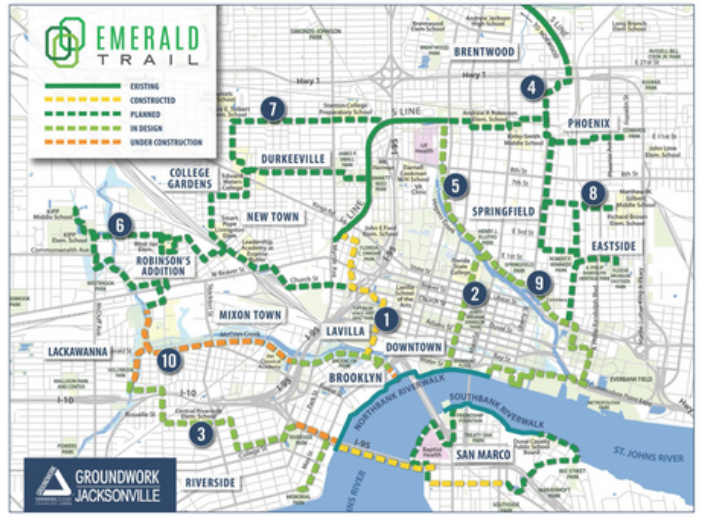
Rise and dine with us. We'd like to welcome you to the wonderful City of Jacksonville.



Neighborhood Pride Tour - Habijax NUSA House Build
Come prepared to have a great time while making a difference by assisting with a Habitat build. No prior construction experience is needed, just a great attitude and the ability to follow instructions. Safety is our number one priority. Jewelry, loose-fitting clothing, and items that could contribute to an accident are discouraged. Wear sturdy, close-toed shoes. Dress according to the weather, such as sunscreen and a hat.



Thursday Night - Grand Bahamas Night in Jacksonville
Come mix and mingle while experiencing the sounds and taste of the Caribbean during Jacksonville's mini Junkanoo celebration.



Neighborhood Pride Tour - Emerald Trail Walking Tour and Explore Jax on your own

Enjoy a beautiful 1.3-mile walk along the first phase of the Emerald Trail through the historic neighborhood of LaVilla. When completed, this signature outdoor destination will encompass more than 30 miles of trails, greenways, and parks that encircle the urban core and link at least 14 historic neighborhoods to downtown, Hogans Creek, McCoys Creek, and the St. Johns River.



Jacksonville Jazz Festival Begins Friday Night

The Jacksonville Jazz Fest, a standout event since its inception in 1981, is not just one of the largest free jazz fests in the country, but also a unique celebration of music and culture. This Memorial Day Weekend, from May 23rd-25th 2025, immerse yourself in the magic of jazz under the night sky, with outstanding performers and a vibrant atmosphere. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and be part of this spectacular event.

A

Crime, Safety, Security & Re-entry in our Communities

In the City of Jacksonville, we understand that safety, security, and reducing crime levels are essential to nurturing a safe living environment for our residents. Workshops will focus on multiple initiatives, groups, citizens, etc., enacted with the goal of fighting crime and/or maintaining cities and youth safety.

B

Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation

Initiatives have been undertaken to beautify, revitalize & preserve neighborhoods all over the United States. Thanks to these initiatives, we are seeing many beautiful, clean, evolving and dynamic neighborhoods. Workshops will focus on describing the beauty, revitalization & preservation of one's neighborhood(s), and highlight how these successes are achievable.

C

Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles

Addressing neighborhoods essential needs regarding quality of life for all neighbors. Highlighted topics will include accessibility for direct groups including, but not limited to the workforce, veteran's services, mature, accessibility, youth, and unhoused. Topics include food accessibility, commerce, employment and housing needs.

D

Neighborhood Enhancement, Education & Technology

More communities use technology and data to keep their neighborhoods informed and empowered. Workshops will include educational opportunities, technology innovations, and connectivity empowerment.

E

Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success

Leading a neighborhood association requires skills in planning, advocacy, facilitation, conflict resolution, event management and much more. Workshops will focus on programs for leadership development, advocacy, neighbor to neighbor based training, and ways that one can gain skills and abilities to effectively lead.



F

Highlighting Multicultural Communities, Celebrations & Creativity

Neighborhoods and communities often celebrate and empower others while promoting culture, language, arts, and traditions. Workshops will feature embracing multicultural celebrations and creative immersion within neighborhoods.

G

Neighborhood Environment, Sustainability & Resiliency

Neighborhoods throughout the world are impacted by unforeseen environmental disasters, natural hazards, and environmental development challenges every day. Workshops will focus on the importance of preparedness, protection, and resiliency to potential challenges.

H

Foundations of Homeownership

Affordable housing is the foundation of healthy communities. This track will focus on the affordable homeownership journey, which is the key to affordable living and unlocking affordable housing options. The dynamic from vacant to vibrant communities can be accomplished through affordable housing. Additionally, homelessness, emergency shelters, outreach to individuals who are homeless, and options to prevent homelessness will be covered.

I

NUSA Workshops

Learn more information about the NUSA organization. Attend workshops on running for the NUSA Board, connecting via social media, or becoming an affiliate member.

J

Non-Profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods

This workshop will focus on the best practices in the city of Jacksonville.



Workshops at a Glance	
Workshop Session 1: Wednesday 9:45 AM to 11:00 AM	
PROGRAM TRACKS	WORKSHOP TITLE
A: Crime, Safety, Security & Re-entry in our Communities	A Bridge to Tomorrow’s Neighborhood: An Enhancement to Crime, Safety & Security
B: Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation	Preserving Heritage and Cultivating Beauty: Strategies for Neighborhood Revitalization in Jacksonville’s Historic Eastside
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	CHW’s Affect Change: Improved Family and Neighborhood Maternal and Child Health Outcomes
D: Neighborhood Enhancement, Education, & Technology	Building Bridges so Tomorrow’s Schools & Neighborhoods Can Thrive
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	A Destination for Youth Transformation: Reimagining Community Programming for Youth
F: Highlighting Multicultural Communities, Celebrations and Creativity	Your Neighborhood, Your Story
G: Neighborhood Environment, Sustainability & Resiliency	Community Driven Resilience: Preparing for Disasters in East Aldine
H: Foundations of Homeownership	Revitalizing Expired Covenants and Restrictions
J: Non-profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods	To Be Announced
Workshop Session 2: Wednesday 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM	
A: Crime, Safety, Security & Re-entry in our Communities	Long Beach Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)
B: Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation	Rethinking How Local Governments Address Code Violations
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	From Soil to Soul: Strengthening Community Resilience Through Food Security
D: Neighborhood Enhancement, Education & Technology	Many Cultures, One Bright Future: The Evolution of Pine Hills, FL
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	Neighborhood Planning: Organizing Your Neighborhood for Improvements
F: Highlighting Multicultural Communities, Celebrations & Creativity	National Good Neighbor Day: Creating Change Through Celebration
G: Neighborhood Environment, Sustainability & Resiliency	Beverly Reimagined: Empowering Communities Through Connection and Collaboration
J: Non-profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods	To Be Announced



Workshops at a Glance	
Workshop Session 3 Wednesday 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM	
A: Crime, Safety, Security & Re-entry in our Communities	Life After Prison: The Challenges of Reintegration Back into the Community
B: Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation	Love Your Block Grant Program: Inspiring Grassroots Change Through Civic Engagement and Innovation
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	Collaboration is Key: Building a Youth Workforce Program Through Strategic Partnerships
D: Neighborhood Enhancement, Education, & Technology	Grant and Proposal Writing Made Simple
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	Skills and Strategies to Successfully Advocate for Your Neighborhood
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	Empowering Community with a Neighborhood Leadership Academy
F: Highlighting Multicultural Communities, Celebrations & Creativity	Tallahassee Proud: Celebrating Neighbors and Neighborhoods
G: Neighborhood Environment, Sustainability & Resiliency	Building Resilience Together: The Inspiring Recovery of the Beverly Neighborhood
J: Non-profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods	To Be Announced
Workshop Session 4: Wednesday 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	
A: Crime, Safety, Security & Re-entry in our Communities	Phoenix Cares About Neighborhoods
B: Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation	Neighborhood Revitalization Through Tool Lending
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	Neighborhood Commons: Building Bridges to Tomorrow's Connected and Resilient Communities
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	Creating Healthy Futures by Expanding Infrastructure that Supports Healthy Lifestyles
D: Neighborhood Enhancement, Education, & Technology	Community Transformation to Live Better Longer
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	Authentic Allyship: Building Inclusive Leadership and Skills for Thriving Neighborhoods
F: Highlighting Multicultural Communities, Celebrations & Creativity	Understanding and Connecting with Hispanic Neighborhoods
G: Neighborhood Environment, Sustainability and Resiliency	Cultivating Relationships to Prepare for the Unexpected: Lessons from the Adopt-A-Southside Neighborhood Initiative
J: Non-profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods	To Be Announced



Workshops at a Glance

Workshop Session 5: Thursday 1:45 PM – 3:00 PM

A: Crime, Safety, Security & Re-entry in our Communities	Bridge the Gap to Achieve Collaborative Success
B: Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation	Beautify and Strengthen: Collaborative Approaches to Neighborhood Renewal
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	The Bridge to Tomorrow’s Quality of Life is Transportation
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	Neighborhood Resources, Bridging Gaps in Our Community, One Need at A Time
D: Neighborhood Enhancement, Education, & Technology	Developing Neighborhood Leadership Excellence with John Maxwell’s “The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader”
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	Fostering Neighborhood Leadership and Enhancement to Promote Community Change
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	Discovering the Gifts of Your Neighborhood
G: Neighborhood Environment, Sustainability & Resiliency	Why American Society is in Trouble, and What we can do About it.
J: Non-profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods	To Be Announced

Workshop Session 6: Thursday, 3:15 PM to 4:30 PM

A: Crime, Safety, & Security & Re-entry in our Communities	Foster Partnerships for Inclusive Community Engagement
B: Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation	Refreshing Grassroots Neighborhood Empowerment Program Through Program Evaluation
B: Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation	Community Place Making
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	Getting People Out and About Their Neighborhood
C: Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles	From Camper to Colleagues – Growing Our Own Talent Through PYD Programs and Community Connection
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	Tell Your Story to Engage Neighbors & Funders
E: Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success	The Lenses We Wear: Perspective Transformation for Leadership
G: Neighborhood Environment, Sustainability & Resiliency	Engage, Empower, Evolve: Funding Community Initiatives-Partnership Engagement Fund-City of Minneapolis
I: NUSA Board	NUSA - Running for The NUSA Board
J: Non-profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods	To Be Announced



WORKSHOP SELECTIONS NUSA JAX 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

- ❖ **Track A:** Crime, Safety, Security & Re-entry in our Communities
- ❖ **Track B:** Beautification, Neighborhood Revitalization & Preservation
- ❖ **Track C:** Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles
- ❖ **Track D:** Neighborhood Enhancement, Education & Technology
- ❖ **Track E:** Building & Developing Neighborhood Leadership & Skills for Success
- ❖ **Track F:** Highlighting Multicultural Communities, Celebrations & Creativity
- ❖ **Track G:** Neighborhood Environment, Sustainability & Resiliency
- ❖ **Track H:** Foundations of Homeownership
- ❖ **Track I:** NUSA Workshops
- ❖ **Track J:** Non-profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods

Example: A.5 = Track A, Session 5

Crime, Safety, Security & Re-entry in our Comm.

A.1 An Enhancement to Crime, Safety & Security

The future of our neighborhoods will be shaped by how we address the challenges of crime, safety, and security. This proposal outlines a comprehensive approach to bridging the gap in tomorrow's neighborhood by implementing effective strategies to enhance crime prevention, safety measures, and security protocols.

A.2 Long Beach Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)

The Long Beach Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program is coordinated by the City Prosecutor's Office in partnership with the Police Department, the Health Department, and local nonprofit organizations. LEAD is a pre-arrest diversion program that allows law enforcement officers in the field to connect individuals to social workers for shelter, mental health, and substance abuse programs.

A.3 Life After Prison/The Challenges of Reintegration Back into the Community

Upon release from prison, justice-impacted individuals face many challenges. From securing

housing and employment to reconnecting with families and avoiding old, destructive habits, the path to reintegration can seem overwhelming. The City of Little Rock's Reentry Program is specifically designed to address these challenges by providing support and resources to those recently released.

A.4 Phoenix Cares About Neighborhoods

Learn how amazing partnerships and collaborations with numerous city departments and agencies can deliver invaluable resources that can positively change the community. Through the establishment of programs such as the Gated Alley Program, Phoenix C.A.R.E.S., and Private Property Clean-up, the City of Phoenix was able to show communities that they were listening to their concerns.

A.5 Bridging the Gap to Achieve Collaborative Success

Neighborhoods are a community's life force, contributing to a city's distinct and diverse character. Learn to maximize resources to achieve success through thoughtful collaboration of agencies, nonprofit organizations, and city departments to improve community relations, safety, and the dissemination of critical information. Learn how to redefine today's urban community.

A.6 Foster Partnerships for Inclusive Community Engagement

This workshop aims to define the roles and responsibilities of partner agencies and community members in fostering neighborhood empowerment through collaborative efforts. Participants will explore strategies to enhance community engagement by promoting shared responsibility and collective vision. The session will focus on developing actionable, measurable outcomes for community initiatives and emphasize the importance of effective communication among residents, law enforcement, and local government to drive sustainable progress.

WORKSHOP SELECTIONS NUSA JAX 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Beautification, Neighborhood Revit. & Preserv.

B.1 Preserving Heritage and Cultivating Beauty: Strategies for Neighborhood Revitalization In Jacksonville's Historic Eastside

Jacksonville's Historic Eastside exemplifies how an African American neighborhood can preserve its heritage while undergoing revitalization. Explore beautification initiatives, building local partnerships, collaborating, mitigating gentrification, and promoting withintrification. This interactive session offers practical strategies, solutions, and real-world lessons from residents and experts, inspiring attendees to create culturally rich, economically vibrant, and inclusive communities.

B.2 Rethinking How Local Governments Address Code Violations

A local government's ability to bring code violations into compliance is essential for safety, public health, and quality of life issues. As neighborhoods change, it is imperative for local governments to evolve their approach to code violations. This workshop will provide best practices for local governments to rethink bringing code violations into compliance.

B.3 Love Your Block Grant Program: Inspiring Grassroots Change Through Civic Engagement and Innovation

Love Your Block is a grant program that funds resident-led neighborhood revitalization projects in U.S. cities. This panel highlights how cities can leverage the program's Blueprint and innovative strategies to build trust and foster grassroots, sustainable community change. Featuring cities currently implementing the program, attendees will gain actionable tools to leverage civic engagement and best practices for impactful, resident-led neighborhood revitalization.

B.4 Neighborhood Revitalization Through Tool Lending

The City of Round Rock, Texas, recently introduced a new resource called the Tool Depot to assist residents with property maintenance. This workshop will cover the evolution of the Tool Depot from its early days as a tool-lending trailer used in neighborhood cleanups

and the synergy it creates with many programs involving code enforcement, community revitalization, and residential assistance.

B.5 Beautify and Strengthen: Collaborative Approaches to Neighborhood Renewal

Explore programs that beautify and strengthen neighborhoods while also gaining ideas for outreach strategies to expand your reach! Focus on beautification efforts and community involvement, with an aim to inspire residents to form new connections, boost neighborhood pride, and make communities more vibrant and enjoyable!

B.6.1 Refreshing Grassroots Neighborhood Empowerment Program Through Program Evaluation

In 2000, Orange County created the Safe Neighborhoods Program to empower volunteer neighborhood organizations in targeted communities. After more than 20 years, the program had stagnated. To refocus the Safe Neighborhoods Program, the Neighborhood Services Division revamped it by developing a capacity-building strategy and training component for the neighborhood organizations and creating a guidebook for the program.

B.6.2 Community Place Making

Learn about the step-by-step process of community redevelopment. Gain insights into building capacity for community revitalization. Receive tips for creating prosperous, livable, and healthy communities. Engage with experts and peers in discussions and workshops.

Neighborhood Health & Lifestyles

C.1 CHW's Affect Change: Improved Family and Neighborhood Maternal and Child Health Outcomes

Learn how Community Health Workers make a difference in Maternal and Child Health. Community Health Workers conduct and assess the data of health education surveys, implement door-to-door canvassing, partner with local businesses, facilitate health education classes on toxic stress and its

WORKSHOP SELECTIONS NUSA JAX 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

effects on pregnancy, mother, and child, and link families to community resources to address stressors.

C.2 From Soil to Soul: Strengthening Community Resilience Through Food Security

The Black Church Food Security Network (BCFSN) addresses food insecurity in Jacksonville by cultivating fresh, healthy produce on local land. This initiative promotes food sovereignty, community resilience, and sustainable agriculture, empowering neighborhoods to take control of their food systems. BCFSN fosters economic independence, healthier lifestyles, and stronger social connections, working toward a future of food security for all.

C.3 Collaboration is Key: Building a Youth Workforce Program Through Strategic Partnerships

With support from strategic partnerships, Jones Valley Teaching Farm's Youth Pathways & Experiences department empowers Birmingham youth with the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to build strong foundations for economic sustainability and brighter futures. This session will highlight how JVTF's innovative programs provide paid work-based learning, training, enrichment experiences, and support services to youth in Birmingham City Schools and beyond.

C.4.1 Creating Healthy Futures by Expanding Infrastructure that Supports Healthy Lifestyles

Being healthy is more than treating disease. Indianapolis residents living in areas that experience health disparities are focusing on disease prevention as part of the Diabetes Impact Project (DIP-IN). Panelists will share examples from 45+ prevention-focused community projects (such as a mobile bookstore, meditation garden/labyrinth, and cycling group), discuss the selection process, and share tools and resources.

C.4.2 Neighborhood Commons: Building Bridges to Tomorrow's Connected and Resilient Communities

The Neighborhood Commons initiative by The Well at Springfield creates inclusive, shared spaces that foster connection and collaboration across diverse community groups. By reducing isolation and

promoting engagement, it strengthens neighborhood bonds and encourages collective action. This project cultivates authentic relationships, fosters inclusivity, and empowers residents to work together for lasting, positive change in their community.

C.5.1 Neighborhood Resources, Bridging Gaps in Our Community, One Need at A Time

Neighborhood Resources will demonstrate how three lean but mighty divisions come together to enrich the Chandler community by providing high-quality services and resources through educational programs, neighborhood revitalization, resident empowerment, partnerships, and assistance to those in need. You will hear about real-life events that have organically fused the divisions to work together to avoid "dropping the ball" and strengthen forces.

C.5.2 The Bridge to Tomorrow's Quality of Life is Transportation

Standard across demographic and geographic disparities is how individuals will, literally, access opportunity. No matter the barrier and despite available services, if the physical infrastructure in a community does not facilitate the safe, reliable movement of people, the true quality of life is inaccessible for every person. Learn how equipping movement within a community transforms the quality of life for all there.

C.6.1 From Camper to Colleagues – Growing Our Own Talent Through PYD Programs and Community Connection

The manner in which Spartanburg, South Carolina, responds to the challenges of socioeconomic disparities must align with an ever-changing local and national landscape. Collaboration across community grassroots efforts, government, and public/private sectors has broadened the capacity of our Parks and Recreation Department to sustain programming aimed at equipping youth, nurturing their growth through adolescence, and preparing them to enter the workforce.

WORKSHOP SELECTIONS NUSA JAX 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

C.6.2 Getting People Out and About Their Neighborhood

Everyone wants their neighborhood to be safe, clean, and friendly, but declining social cohesion is harming our communities. The US Surgeon General has declared a national Epidemic of Loneliness and Social Isolation. We will examine ways neighborhoods and cities can help residents get to know one another, building trust and the human relationships at the heart of every community.

Neighborhood Enhancement, Educ., & Tech.

D.1 Building Bridges so Tomorrow's Schools & Neighborhoods Can Thrive

Parents Who Lead is a proven initiative modeled after the National Parent Leadership Institute's parent leadership program. Locally, it is a direct result of the partnership between Jacksonville Public Education Fund, Duval County Public Schools, and Kids Hope Alliance. The goal of PWL is to develop civic-minded community members who will positively impact the city and the children who reside in it through advocacy, public policy, and action.

D.2 Many Cultures, One Bright Future: The Evolution of Pine Hills, FL

This interactive workshop empowers participants to shape the future of their neighborhoods by fostering collaboration, innovation, and inclusiveness. Attendees will co-create actionable strategies to enhance neighborhood health, safety, and engagement. Through hands-on activities and real-world case studies, participants will build bridges to stronger, more connected communities, ensuring lasting, community-driven impact.

D.3 Grant and Proposal Writing Made Simple

This workshop will provide an interactive, participatory, and hands-on approach to grant and proposal writing. It will offer simple and easy steps in preparing good proposals.

D.4 Community Transformation to Live Better Longer

The Blue Zones Project Jacksonville is a community well-being initiative designed to make the healthy

choice the easy choice. When individuals and organizations participate, small changes lead to huge benefits: lowered healthcare costs, improved productivity, and higher quality of life. Come learn how to reverse engineer your neighborhoods to live better and longer based on lessons from the longest-lived communities.

D.5 Developing Neighborhood Leadership Excellence with John Maxwell's "The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader"

John Maxwell's book shows that the best leadership qualities can be divided into 21 indispensable qualities. Learn about these qualities, whether or not you have them, and how they can be developed. Handouts will allow you to consider the topic deeper after this session, and links to videos about each individual quality will be provided so you can watch them on your own time.

Bldg. & Dev. Neighborhood Leadership & Skills

E.1 A Destination for Youth Transformation: Reimagining Community Programming for Youth

A Destination for Youth Transformation interactive workshop will explore innovative strategies for designing neighborhood programs that inspire Creative Youth Development. Participants will engage in hands-on activities and discussions to identify key elements of constructing immersive learning environments for youth and their families. The presentation will emphasize the importance of and connection between Cultivating creativity and Developing Leadership. Additionally, it will highlight the role of schools and public and private sector partnerships in strengthening communities through active involvement in these programs.

E.2 Neighborhood Planning: Organizing Your Neighborhood for Improvements

The workshop will provide an interactive and participatory approach to several simple steps for making neighborhood improvements. It will also address the value of mobilizing and organizing a neighborhood organization to be part of the planning and improvement process.

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E.3.1 Empowering Community with a Neighborhood Leadership Academy

Every thriving neighborhood needs leaders. The best way to develop leaders among residents is with a targeted educational program that teaches practical leadership skills and allows participants to put those skills into action. Learn about MU Extension's Neighborhood Leadership Academy and how to use the model in your neighborhood or community.

E.3.2 Skills and Strategies to Successfully Advocate for Your Neighborhood

Essential to a neighborhood leader's role is advocating for their neighborhood. To successfully advocate for a neighborhood, leaders must practice effective communication and employ strategies to engage decision-makers. This workshop will ensure success when neighborhood leaders address an elected body, an elected official, or a group of stakeholders.

E.4 Authentic Allyship: Building Inclusive Leadership and Skills for Thriving Neighborhoods

Discover the power of authentic allyship to enhance neighborhood leadership and create inclusive, thriving communities. This workshop equips participants with actionable tools, including the 10 types of allies and the ORID discussion method, to foster advocacy, resolve conflicts, and strengthen engagement. Build essential skills to lead with empathy, empower voices, and inspire meaningful neighborhood collaboration.

E.5.1 Fostering Neighborhood Leadership and Enhancement to Promote Community Change

The City of Tallahassee is excited to present its collaboration with The Village Square. The intent is to strengthen neighbor-to-neighbor connections and equip neighborhood leaders with the skills and tools required to enhance the quality of life for residents through a series of interactive program offerings.

E.5.2 Discovering the Gifts of Your Neighborhood

Every neighborhood has unique gifts, both in the people who live there and the things they share. This workshop will help you, as a neighborhood leader, discover those gifts or assets in your neighborhood. Participants will spend time actively identifying gifts

and learning how to use them to build asset-based approaches to development in their community.

E.6.1 Tell Your Story to Engage Neighbors & Funders

The case for support is at the heart of all nonprofit fundraising. It's your story – and your nonprofit's fundraising depends on it! Four community development organizations from Memphis, TN, created their own case for support using a facilitated cohort learning process. Learn from the Memphis experience and get started creating your own case for support.

E.6.2 The Lenses We Wear: Perspective Transformation for Leadership

The lenses we wear determine how we see the world and how we engage with it. By becoming aware of our lenses, we gain the power to transform our perspectives, our institutions, and most importantly, our impact. Transformation requires intentional reflection, conscious choice, and a commitment to personal and collective growth.

Highlight Multicult., Comm., Celeb. & Creativity

F.1 Your Neighborhood, Your Story

Jacksonville Public Library's Special Collections department has a wealth of information about Jacksonville neighborhoods, including maps, photos, and historical documents. Panelists will discuss the neighborhood information resources available free of charge at the library and the projects we have undertaken to add to these resources and to make them available online through our digital collections.

F.2 National Good Neighbor Day: Creating Change Through Celebration

National Good Neighbor Day provides a new way to generate neighborhood well-being, starting with celebration and social connection. Join this panel with leading experts from *The Hopeful Neighborhood Project*, *University of Missouri Extension*, and *CommunityWorks* as we explore the power of

WORKSHOP SELECTIONS NUSA JAX 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

celebrating and practical ways for your neighborhood to join in.

F.3 Tallahassee Proud: Celebrating Neighbors and Neighborhoods

The City of Tallahassee's neighborhoods are vibrant, unique, and diverse. Their history and culture fuel their diversity. These neighborhoods are led by volunteer resident leaders who encourage community involvement. Attend this workshop to learn how the city uses its Neighborhood Awards Program to celebrate and highlight its residents' and neighborhoods' diversity and achievements.

F.4 Understanding and Connecting with Hispanic Neighborhoods

This presentation takes a deeper dive into the diversity within the Hispanic community to better understand and connect with them. It covers the diverse background, culture, and taste in music and food. The presentation will also cover social issues and struggles that many Hispanic communities face and how the role of Hispanic liaison helps bridge gaps of communication and trust.

Neighborhood Enviro., Sustain & Resiliency

G.1 Community Driven Resilience: Preparing for Disasters in East Aldine

Discover how East Aldine residents, with partners like the Houston Department of Transformation, BakerRipley East Aldine, and the Westfield Fire Department, are tackling disaster preparedness. After struggling during the Beryl Storm without elected official support, they're addressing challenges like power outages through grassroots initiatives and strong partnerships, empowering the community for future disasters.

G.2 Beverly Reimagined: Empowering Communities Through Connection and Collaboration

In 2024, Amachi Vision Corps, Inc. partnered with the City of Texarkana, Texas, to reopen the Beverly Community Center, a vital resource hub for the

community. Collaborating with the Believe in Beverly Neighborhood Association, the center focuses on enhancing the quality of life by providing essential services and support to the neighborhood and beyond.

G.3 Building Resilience Together: The Inspiring Recovery of the Beverly Neighborhood

Hurricane Beryl caused significant damage in Texarkana's Beverly neighborhood, uprooting trees, downing power lines, and leaving residents without electricity. The City of Texarkana and the Believe in Beverly Neighborhood Association led relief efforts, offering support and building resilience. This workshop will focus on partnerships to meet community needs, build resiliency, and prepare for future disasters.

G.4 Cultivating Relationships to Prepare for the Unexpected: Lessons from the Adopt-A-Southside Neighborhood Initiative

This workshop explores how partnerships, particularly with the Tallahassee Fire Department (TFD) and Tallahassee Police Department (TPD), can enhance neighborhood preparedness for natural disasters and environmental hazards. Participants will learn how the Adopt-A-Southside Neighborhood initiative fosters strong relationships between residents, City departments, and local organizations to build a resilient, prepared community.

G.5 Why American Society is in Trouble, and What we can do About it.

This workshop provides a valuable opportunity to explore the ideas in Seth Kaplan's book, "Fragile Neighborhoods," and learn how to create stronger, more resilient communities. By focusing on practical strategies for building social capital and fostering inclusivity, participants will leave with the tools they need to strengthen their neighborhoods and contribute to long-term community stability.

G.6 Engage, Empower, Evolve: Funding Community Initiatives-Partnership Engagement Fund-City of Minneapolis

Discover how Minneapolis leverages the Partnership Engagement Fund to foster equity, strengthen trust, and build impactful community relationships. This

WORKSHOP SELECTIONS NUSA JAX 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

session highlights innovative collaborations, best practices for reducing disparities, and actionable strategies for empowering underrepresented communities. Learn how to adapt this model to enhance engagement and drive systemic change in your city or organization.

J.5
To Be Announced

Foundations of Homeownership

H. Revitalizing Expired Covenants and Restrictions

A vibrant and smooth operating association provides the structure in a neighborhood to maintain the beauty, value, pride, mutual respect, and caring spirit in a community. The workshop goals are to outline the steps necessary to revitalize expired covenants and restrictions and empower leaders who will guide homeowners toward collaboration for the good of the community.

NUSA Running for the NUSA Board

I. NUSA -Running for The NUSA Board

If you are interested in becoming involved in the neighborhood movement nationally, this is your invitation. This workshop will present an overview of the NUSA organization and what is involved in joining its Volunteer Board of Directors. This workshop is a prerequisite for running for the Board.

Non-profits/Local Government/Local Neighborhoods

J.1
To Be Announced

J.2
To Be Announced

J.3
To Be Announced

J.4
To Be Announced

NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE TOURS NUSA JAX 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

All tours will be conducted on Thursday, May 22, 2025, and depart at 9:45 a.m. Lunch is on your own.

Tour #1 – Jacksonville Costal Neighborhoods

The coastal communities comprise several municipalities, including the City of Jacksonville, Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, and Jacksonville Beach. As we drive through the different communities, we will see the Jacksonville Beach Pier and Bandstand, new town centers in Jacksonville Beach and Atlantic Beach, Hanna Park, the historic Mayport lighthouse, and the Mayport fishing village.

Tour #2 – Arlington/Ft. Caroline /San Marco

Before Hollywood existed, Jacksonville was the winter home of numerous silent film studios. Members of the Arlington community created an organization and worked with the City of Jacksonville to save and restore the last silent film studio in Jacksonville. This tour will take us by Norman Studios and other revitalization projects in the Arlington area. The tour will take us through the Cosmo community, a community that our local Gullah Geechee has called home for many years. The tour will stop at the Fort Caroline National Memorial, where the French explorers landed in Florida. This national park is historic and has amazing views of our abundant waterways. The tour will next visit the historic San Marco community.

Tour #3 – West Jacksonville Neighborhoods

The tour will begin with a drive through the Brooklyn neighborhood, a once-forgotten community and now one of Jacksonville's growing mixed-use neighborhoods that connects the historic LaVilla and Riverside neighborhoods. We will view the beautiful architecture of the historic homes of the Riverside and Avondale neighborhoods nestled along the St. Johns River. See the diverse Murray Hill Neighborhood, home to artists, families, entrepreneurs who work hard to preserve, small businesses, and a walkable community. We will then make our way to the CORK Art Studio, the creative home to 60 artists in a network of three warehouses that total over 80,000 square

feet. We will briefly visit the McCoys Creek Restoration Project site. This important neighborhood beautification project will provide opportunities for recreation and clean water and create more natural habitats for birds, fish, and wildlife. The tour will then travel to the Jacksonville Farmers Market, where locals have purchased fresh foods and vegetables for over 100 years before visiting the recently revitalized Rail Yard District, which houses many unique small businesses, and then returning to the Historic Prime Osborne Convention Center downtown Jacksonville.

Tour #4 – Northwest Neighborhoods

As the tour departs from the convention center, it will travel past the Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing Park before it travels past the Ritz Theater and Museum, the Jacksonville Urban League, and the LaVilla School of Arts. This tour will take us past the private Christian historically Black university, Edward Waters University, founded in 1866, and continue to J. P. Small Memorial Stadium. The tour will travel to Eartha's Farm and Market.

Tour #5 – Jacksonville's Neighborhoods, Downtown and Beyond

This tour will feature several key landmarks in downtown Jacksonville, everything from historic locales to brand new landmarks, including the retired naval ship, the USS Orleck. As we approach the sports complexes, you will see EverBank Stadium (home of the Jacksonville Jaguars), VyStar Ballpark (home to the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp), and VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena. The tour will travel to the historic Eastside, where we will learn about the various revitalization projects that are occurring. After we leave the Eastside, we will travel through the historic Springfield community as we journey to the north side of the Trout River and point out the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, the Jacksonville Cruise Terminal, and the Jacksonville Port Authority.

NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE TOURS NUSA JAX 2025 50TH ANNIVERSARY

All tours will be conducted on Thursday, May 22, 2025, and depart at 9:45 a.m. Lunch is on your own.

Tour #6 – Mandarin Neighborhoods



The bus will travel south down U.S. Highway 1 (locally known as Philips Highway and has carried locals and travelers alike since 1926) to the Mandarin community. Mandarin is the southernmost portion of Jacksonville, Florida. In 1830, the Mandarin community was named after the mandarin oranges grown and shipped along the banks of the St. Johns River. The tour will take us to the historic post office, Walter Jones General Store, and the 1898 St. Joseph's Mission Schoolhouse for African American Children. The tour will stop at the Mandarin Museum and Historical Society to enjoy the museum and visit the 10-acre Walter Jones farm on the river. The views from the river are incredible.

neighborhoods to downtown, Hogans Creek, McCoys Creek, and the St. Johns River. Groundwork Jacksonville is one of 21 such trusts across the country and the only Groundwork Trust in Florida.

Tour #9 – Ribault Trout River Tour



Join us on the Ribault River as we explore this hidden gem of Jacksonville's waterways. Hop aboard Jacksonville University's research vessel, the Larkin. The Ribault River has abundant grass beds that serve as critical nurseries for fish, plus areas for nature viewing, birdwatching, and fishing.

This tour has very limited seating.

Tour #7 – HabiJax NUSA House Build



As part of the NUSA conference, attendees can participate in building a local home with HabiJax. HabiJax is one of the largest non-profit affordable housing builders in Duval County and is considered one of the most successful Habitat for Humanity affiliates in the United States. It has provided homeownership opportunities and other housing services to over 2,300 families. HabiJax is a multifaceted organization that advocates for affordable housing and fair housing policies to help families improve their housing conditions.

Tour #8 – Emerald Trail Walking Tour with Groundworks Jax

You are invited to take a walking tour guided by Groundwork Jacksonville. Groundwork Jacksonville is the city's nonprofit partner created to clean and redevelop Hogans and McCoys creeks and convert contaminated land into parks, playgrounds, trails, and other public spaces. Groundwork is engaging neighborhood stakeholders, business leaders and funders in the planning and construction of the Emerald Trail. When complete, this signature outdoor destination of trails, greenways, and parks will encircle the urban core and connect 14 historic



2025 NUSA Conference Registration Form



Section One: Your Contact Information

Name: _____ Title: _____
Organization: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Twitter: _____ Facebook: _____
Emergency Contact (name and phone number): _____
Along with other conference attendees I'm also (check all that apply):
 Presenter Speaker Exhibitor Sponsor Volunteer

How many people will be traveling in your party? Adults _____ Children 5-18 _____ Children 4 & Under _____

Section Two: About You

We would like to know more about our members. This will allow us to provide better services.

When will you arrive in Jacksonville, FL?

- Mon, May 19 Thurs, May 22
 Tues, May 20 Fri, May 23
 Wed, May 21 By Plane
 Driving/Bus

Is this your first NUSA Conference? Yes No

If flying arriving which airline? _____

Are you staying before or after the conference begins? _____
Will you be staying for the Jacksonville Jazz Festival? _____

What's your age range?

- Younger than 21 Between 21 and 35
 Between 35 and 50 Between 50 and 65
 Older than 65

Jacksonville Jazz Festival Hotel Arrangements:

To keep the NUSA hotel conference rate if staying for the Jacksonville Jazz Festival, please add the extra days needed to your hotel stay when reserving your room for the 2025 NUSA conference.

How would you identify your ethnicity/race?

- White Hispanic or Latino
 Black, African Asian or Pacific Islander
 American Bahamian
 Native American Other
 International: _____

How would you identify your interest in neighborhoods?

- Non-paid advocate Professional
 Elected Official Other



Section Three: Conference Meals

Please help us plan sufficient food and accommodations for these events by checking all you plan to attend. On Wednesday and Thursday, food trucks will be available for quick lunch access on your own.

- Wednesday, Opening Breakfast and Best Neighborhood Award (Lunch & Dinner on your own)
 Wednesday, Grand Bahamas Night in Jacksonville (Appetizers) (Lunch & Dinner on your own)
 Thursday, Breakfast (Lunch & Dinner on your own)
 Friday, Closing Luncheon and Neighborhood of the Year Awards (Breakfast & Dinner on your own)

Section Four: Conference Events

Please check all events/meetings you plan to attend. *Lunch at these events/meetings is on your own. On Thursday, food trucks will be available for quick lunch access.

- Wednesday, Judging Presentation *(Lunch & Dinner on your own)*
- Thursday, Judging Presentation *(Lunch & Dinner on your own)*
- Thursday, NUSA Board Elections *(Lunch & Dinner on your own)*
- Friday, General Membership Meeting *(Dinner on your own)*

Section Five: Workshop and Neighborhood Tour Preferences

Workshop Preferences

Session 1: Wednesday, 9:45 am-11:00 am
 Session 2: Wednesday, 11:15 am-12:30 pm
 Session 3: Wednesday, 2:00 pm-3:15 pm
 Session 4: Wednesday, 3:30 pm-5:00 pm
 Session 5: Thursday, 1:45 pm-3:00 pm
 Session 6: Thursday, 3:15 pm-4:30 pm

1st choice

2nd choice

Tour Preferences

Neighborhood Pride Tours, Emerald Trail, Ribault Trout River, and NUSA, COJ Habijax Community Service Project depart at 9:45 a.m. and return at 1:30 p.m. There is a Lunch stop. However, please note that the cost of lunch is not included in the tours, and participants are responsible for covering the cost of their meal.

Indicate your first, second, and third choices for tours:

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

We reserve the right to assign you to an alternate workshop or tour if your selection(s) cannot be accommodated due to capacity or cancellation.

Statement of Accessibility

The City of Jacksonville is committed to providing everyone access to the Neighborhoods, USA 2025 Conference. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Jacksonville has established a process for accessibility at all events, facilities, and programs. Please make any requests for special accommodations due to a disability to Kara Tucker, ADA Coordinator, Disabled Services Division, via email at karat@coj.net or 904-255-5466.

Section Six: Registration Fee

All people who plan to attend NUSA workshops, tours, activities, and meals must be paid registered NUSA conference attendees.

Early Bird Registration February 12th thru March 31st: \$275
 T-shirt and swag bag included.

Late registration begins April 1st thru May 10th: \$350
 Swag bag only.

T-Shirt size: Medium Large X-Large 2X-Large 3X-Large Other _____

Payment Method: Online via PayPal/Credit Card Check/Money Order via mail (payable to Neighborhoods, USA)

NOTE: If you have difficulty with your payment not processing by card, contact your financial institution at their customer service number or PayPal at 1-888-221-1161. To protect your privacy, NUSA is unable to contact these entities for you.

Mail to: Neighborhoods USA, 9450 SW Gemini Dr. PMB
 50873 Beaverton, Oregon 97008-7105 US

All payments are final. Registrations may be transferable, but no refunds will be given.

If you register for the \$275 registration fee by mail, your registration form and payment must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2025. If you register for the \$350 late registration fee, your registration form and payment must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2025. Late in-person registration is only from May 20th through May 21st. A swag bag is included when registering onsite.

For the consideration of all conference attendees, please do not allow children under 13 years of age to attend registered NUSA events. The City of Jacksonville does not provide accommodations for minors under 18, and a legal guardian must accompany all minors under 18.

Conference attire is business casual. Keep in mind that meeting rooms may be cool enough to warrant a light jacket or sweater. For events outside, casual attire and comfortable shoes are suggested.

Fun Things to do in Jacksonville - Pre & Post Conference



The Jacksonville Jazz Festival is back for Memorial Day Weekend in Downtown Jacksonville, Florida
May 22 – 25, 2025
Scan the QR Code for details

829 Riverside Avenue
Jacksonville, Florida 32204
Monday CLOSED Tuesday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Wednesday-Saturday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday NOON - 4PM

CUMMER MUSEUM



Friendship Fountain

1015 Museum Cir.,
Jacksonville, FL 32207

The fountain will be flowing from 8:00 am to 10 pm daily

Light Showtimes are 7:00, 8:00 and 9:00 pm nightly.

1025 Museum Circle
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Tuesday CLOSED
<https://themosh.org/visit/>



Tuesday-Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday CLOSED

1st & 3rd Wed 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Museum Nights



370 Zoo Parkway

Jacksonville, FL 32218

Daily Admission: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Last entry at 4:30 p.m.

Open daily excluding Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.



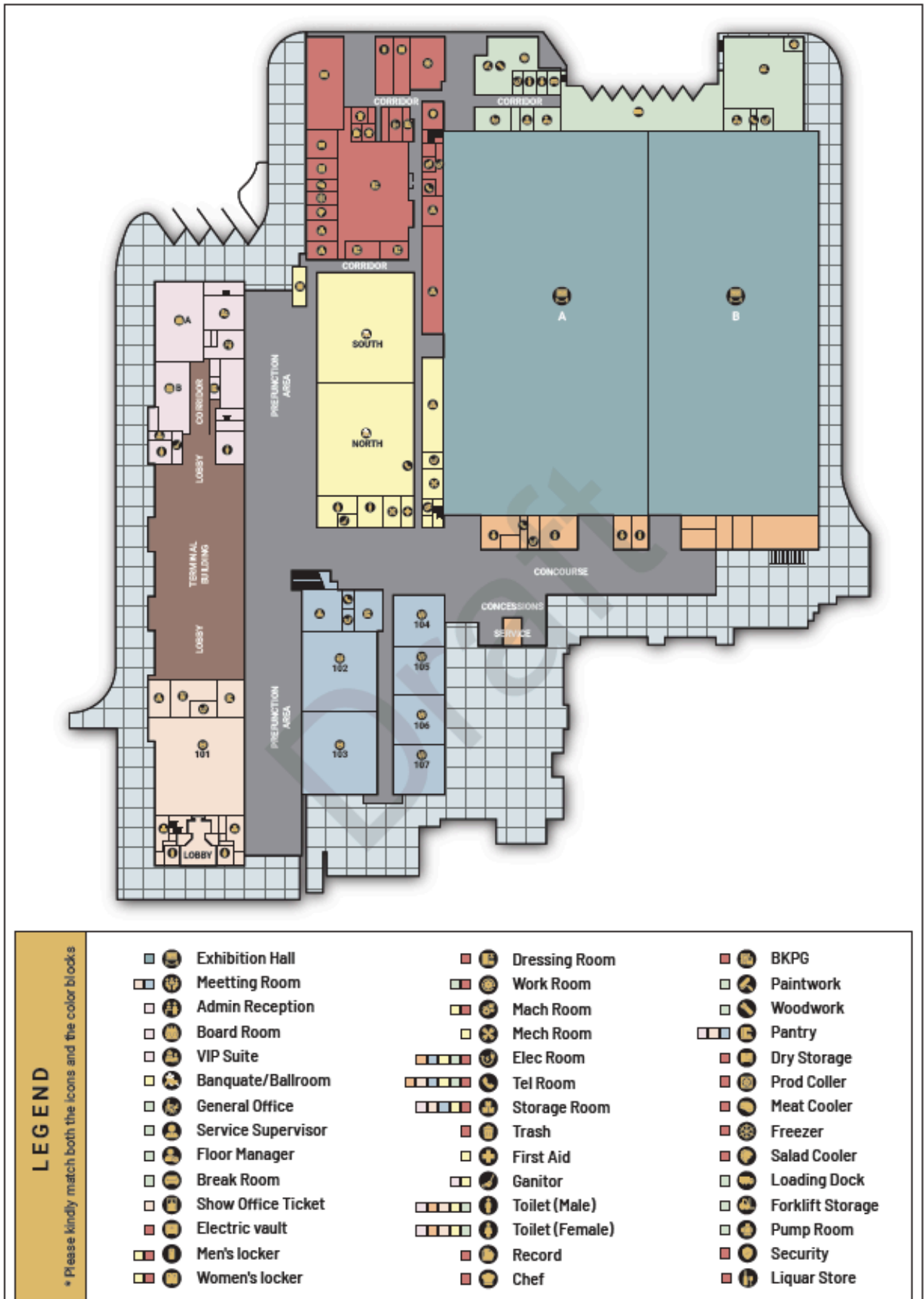


Scan QR Code For Details

HERE ARE OUR 19 EXPERIENCES YOU CAN'T LEAVE JACKSONVILLE WITHOUT TRYING:

1. Riding the St. Johns River Taxi and Tours - it's not just for transportation, it's the best and most affordable way to book a tour to see Jacksonville from the water – and one of the prettiest ways too!
 2. Visiting one of our museums. From the history of the beaches, to our city history, African-American history, to ancient art, we have it all.
 3. Following the Jax Ale Trail and have a beer at one of our hometown craft breweries.
 4. Eating some Mayport Shrimp from one of our many local fish camps! They catch it off our coast in the historic Mayport Village. Try it from Palms Fish Camp, Safe Harbor Seafood Market and Restaurant or Singleton's Seafood Shack just to name a few.
 5. Exploring Black Rock Beach or any one of our over 400 national, state and city parks.
 6. Eating a big breakfast – We love hometown favorites Maple Street Biscuit Company and Metro Diner, but there are so many more AMAZING breakfast spots.
 7. Enjoying the waves and learning to surf or paddleboard.
 8. Watching the sunrise along our 22 miles of beaches. Boneyard Beach in Big Talbot Island is a must for the perfect sunrise pic.
 9. Touring our historic neighborhoods – Riverside, Avondale, San Marco, Springfield and Murray Hill.
 10. Checking out the awesome public art scene – there are murals and sculptures everywhere you look in Downtown Jax.
 11. Visiting the iconic Friendship Fountain.
 12. Getting your sweet on at Sweet Pete's or Peterbrooke Chocolate.
 13. Going for a sunset stroll down the RiverWalk in Downtown and spotting some dolphins and manatees.
 14. Enjoying a cocktail at one of our rooftop bars overlooking the river or the ocean.
 15. Visiting Congaree and Penn and taking a tour of the farm. Check their website for tour schedule.
 16. Jacksonville and its surrounding areas boast world-class golf courses for every level of play in beautiful ocean-side and riverfront settings. It's easy to golf here.
 17. Catching a Sports Game - Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp, Jacksonville Icemen, Jacksonville Jaguars, Jacksonville Axemen.
 18. Visiting an Animal Attraction - The Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens and The Catty Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary.
 19. Shopping local at Riverside Arts Market on Saturdays from 10-3 p.m. or at one of the monthly Art Walks you can find throughout Jacksonville.
- Your paragraph text

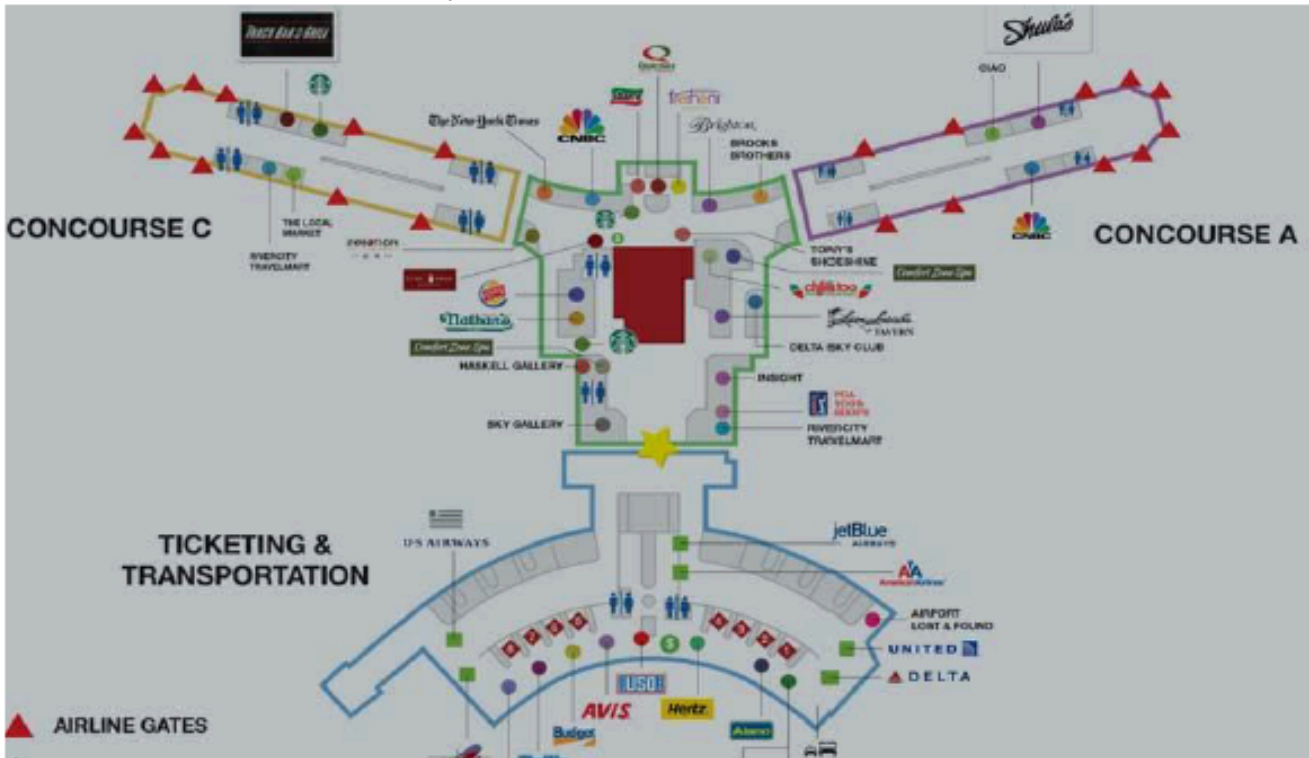
The Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center



Jacksonville International Airport



Jacksonville International Airport



Ground Transportation

At Jacksonville International Airport (JAX), all ground transportation services -- including rental car agencies, taxi and limousine services - are located on the lower level of the terminal building adjacent to baggage claim.

Company Name	Phone Number	Airlines	Phone Number	Concourse
Alamo/National Car Rental	(904) 240-3288	Allegiant Air	(702) 505-8888	C
Avis Rent-A-Car	(904) 741-2327	American Airlines	(800) 433-7300	C
Budget Rent-A-Car	(904) 741-9910 or	Breeze Airways	www.flybreeze.com	C
	(800) 527-0700	Delta Airlines	(800) 221-1212	A
Dollar Rent-A-Car	(800) 800-4000	Frontier Airlines	(801) 401-9000	A & C
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	(904) 741-6390	Jet Blue Airways	(800) 538-2583	A
Hertz Rent-A-Car	(904) 741-2151	Southwest Airlines	(800) 435-9792	C
Thrifty Rent-A-Car	(800) 847-4389	Sun Country	(651) 905-2737	A
		United Airlines	(800) 864-8331	A

Rental Car Return

To return an on-airport rental car, drive directly into the ground floor of the parking garage, which is adjacent to the terminal building.

Hotel Shuttle Service

Check with your hotel to see if shuttle service is provided to/from the terminal.

Jacksonville Weather in May **NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary**



www.weather-atlas.com

In May, the city fully embraces spring, with generally pleasant weather conditions, clear skies, and longer days.

Temperature

May's arrival brings a slight change in high temperatures, adjusting from 80.1°F (26.7°C) in April to a still moderately hot 85.5°F (29.7°C). During the nights in May, Jacksonville experiences a consistent average temperature of 68°F (20°C).

Humidity

The average relative humidity in May in Jacksonville is 70%.

Rainfall

In May, rain falls for 12.9 days, accumulating 2.09" (53mm) of precipitation. Throughout the year, there are 172.6 rainfall days, accumulating 25.35" (644mm) of precipitation.

Ocean temperature

Jacksonville, Florida's average water temperature in May is 74.8°F (23.8°C).

Sunshine

In May, the average sunshine is 10.7h.

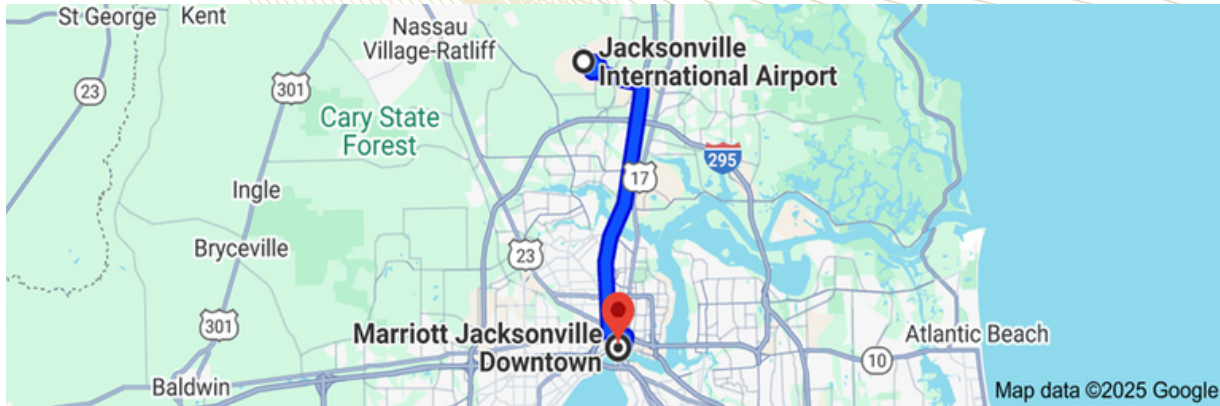
UV index

The months with the highest UV index are May through August, with an average maximum UV index of 7.

Updated: Aug 30, 2024 Published by: Weather Atlas

NUSA JAX 2025 50th Anniversary

Jacksonville International Airport to Downtown Marriot Hotel



Driving Instructions: 21 Minutes – 14.9 Miles via I-95 South

Jacksonville International Airport
2400 Yankee Clipper Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32218

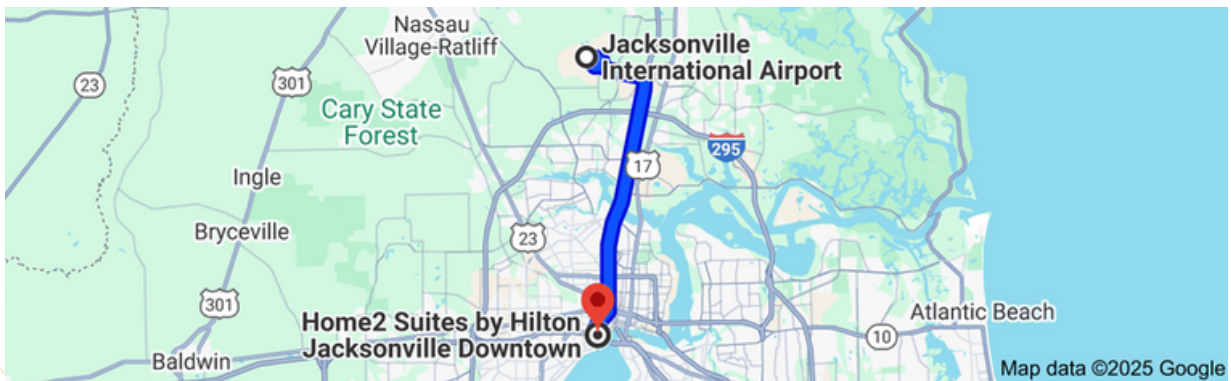
Get on I-95 S from Dixie Clipper Dr and FL-102 E (8 minutes – 3.6 miles)

Follow I-95 S to US-23 S/W Union St. – Exit 353B from I-95S (10 minutes – 10.1 miles)

Take N. Jefferson St. to Water St. (5 minutes – 1.2 miles)

Arrive at your destination: Marriott Jacksonville – Downtown
245 Water St., Jacksonville, FL 32202

Jacksonville International Airport to Home2Suites By Hilton Downtown



Driving Instructions: 22 Minutes – 15.3 Miles via I-95 South

Jacksonville International Airport
2400 Yankee Clipper Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32218

Get on I-95 S from Dixie Clipper Dr and FL-102 E (7 minutes – 3.6 miles)

Follow I-95 S to Forest St. – Exit 352-352A from I-95 S (11 minutes – 11.2 miles)

Continue on Forest St. to your destination (3 minutes – 0.5 miles)

Arrive at your destination: Home2 Suites by Hilton Jacksonville Downtown
600 Park St., Jacksonville, FL 32204

HOST Hotel

MARRIOTT® JACKSONVILLE DOWNTOWN



245 Water Street,
Jacksonville, Florida, USA, 32202
Toll Free: +1-904-355-6664
Fax: +1 904-791-4806
Check-in 3 pm
Check-out 11 am

NUSA Conference Rate is \$150 Per Night.
Rate is good through May 24th.

Secondary Overflow Hotel



Home2 Suites by Hilton Jacksonville Downtown

600 Park Street
Jacksonville, Florida, 32204
1 904-650-4662
Check-in 3 pm
Check-out 11 am

NUSA Conference Rate is \$144 Per Night.
Rate is good through May 6th.

