

First Coast Tiger Bay Tracks



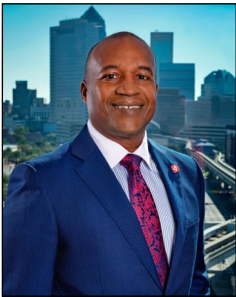
April 2021 The First Coast Tiger Bay Club, Inc. P.O. Box 2608, Jacksonville, FL 32203

In-person Meetings Back at Tiger Bay!

Nathaniel P. Ford Sr. CEO of JTA on the Proposed Gas Tax

April 16, 2021

After a year-long Covid hiatus, **First Coast Tiger Bay** is back at the River Club with in-person meetings (and appropriate social distancing guidelines). We had a very well-received March program and have another exciting one set for **April 16th** featuring **Nathaniel P. Ford, Chief Executive Officer of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA)**.



Mr. Ford is uniquely qualified to address all the transportation issues in northeast Florida as well as the implications of the proposed new 6-cent a gallon gas tax increase. In addition to being the current JTA CEO, he is past Chair of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). His distinguished career spans more than four decades, including tenures as CEO of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority.

Chairman Ford is a champion of multimodal transportation, walkable neighborhoods, public-private partnerships and transit-oriented development; he is known for industry-leading insights and thought leadership on international transportation issues from trade and study missions around the world.

Ford was awarded the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Outstanding Public Transportation Manager for 2020, and received numerous awards for his transformational programs and initiatives, including the White House Champion of Change. He was named "Ultimate CEO" by the Jacksonville Business Journal, inducted into the First Coast Business Hall of Fame and was honored with the 2019 "Thought Leader" Award by The

Eno Center for Transportation. Under Ford's leadership, the JTA was recognized as winner of the 2016 APTA Outstanding Public Transportation System Achievement Award.

In the eight years he has been in Jacksonville, Ford was chair of the City of Jacksonville's 2015 "Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes" campaign and the 2016 recipient of the Jacksonville Urban League's Clanzel T. Brown Sr. Award. He was also recognized by the Jacksonville Council of the Blind at its 2016 annual White Cane Ball.

Ford serves on the boards of several nonprofits, including chair of the Board of Directors for Goodwill Industries. He is a past member of the United Way Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees for Daniel Kids.

Ford serves as vice chair for the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) Executive Committee. His role at TRB includes serving as chair of the International Activities Subcommittee. Ford also represents the JTA on the JAX Chamber Board of Directors and is a member of the Jacksonville University Master in Public Policy Minority Fellowship Board of Advisors. He is the past chair and a current member of TEAMFL's Board of Directors.

Under Ford's leadership, JTA employees have embraced community causes including the Clara White Mission to feed the homeless and Sulzbacher Village. Through the JTA Cares initiative, JTA employees have also established "Career Closets" for men and women that provide professional attire so they can seek new employment. The Authority also started an internship program to prepare college students for careers in transportation.

Continued Page 2

2021 Tiger Bay Officers

Bill Bishop, President
Dr. Stephen Baker, Vice President
Henry Cordes, Secretary
Hazel Gillis, Treasurer

FIRST COAST TIGER BAY CLUB meets for lunch every month, except December, on the 3rd Friday at 11:30 at The River Club, 1 Independent Drive, 35th Floor. Cost for the event, which includes the wonderful buffet and parking, is \$28 cash or check & \$29 for credit card.

Continued from page 1

Ford holds an Executive MBA from the Davis School of Business at Jacksonville University and a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in organizational leadership from Mercer University. He is a graduate of the Executive Development Consortium Program at Emory University, and has completed executive training at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He is a graduate of Leadership Florida (2015) and Leadership Jacksonville (2014). His JTA webpage contains his official bio: <https://www.jtafla.com/about-jta/leadership/chief-executive-officer/>

The River Club has instituted new social distancing public health procedures. You will be required to wear a mask upon entering the Wells Fargo Building and the number of passengers in any single elevator is restricted. Masks are required in the River Club anytime you are not seated at a table. Tables will now have seating limited to six people to allow for social distancing. The price will remain **\$28** and **\$29** for credit card. It is important that you **make reservations for yourself and any guests by April 12th** as the River Club needs an accurate number for planning in this new environment.

Mark Your Calendar Upcoming Tiger Bay Club Programs

May 21 - State Attorney for the 4th Judicial Circuit **Melissa Nelson**

June 18 - Former Florida Lieutenant Governor **Jennifer Carroll**

July 16 - New JEA CEO **Jay Stowe**

August 20 - JU Marine Science Research Institute Director **Dr. Quentin White**



**In-person Meetings Back at Tiger Bay
After Covid-19 Shutdown**



Mary Kelli Palka
Editor - Florida Times-Union

Nate Monroe
Metro Columnist - Florida Times-Union

The First Coast Tiger Bay Club is a multi-partisan political forum that promotes free and open debate but does not support any candidates or issues.

Dr. Stephen Baker, Newsletter Editor
Henry Cordes, Publisher

**Reservations are REQUIRED. Please RSVP by
Monday April 12, 2020
E-mail: fctigerbay@gmail.com or 904-404-5471**

The First Coast Tiger Bay Club is a multi-partisan political and civic forum designed to explore crucial issues of the day by interacting with outstanding speakers in an open format. The club is non-partisan, never supports particular candidates, nor take sides on issues.