

1 Introduced by the Special Committee on Homelessness and Affordable
2 Housing (Council Members J. Carlucci, Amaro, Arias, Miller and Peluso)
3 and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Salem, Lahnen, Carlucci, Johnson,
4 Boylan, White and Freeman:

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7 **ORDINANCE 2024-111-E**

8 AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 86
9 (HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION),
10 *ORDINANCE CODE*, TO CREATE A HOMELESSNESS
11 INITIATIVES COMMISSION AND TO ESTABLISH THE
12 FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES OF SAID COMMISSION;
13 PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR
14 CODIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS; PROVIDING AN
15 EFFECTIVE DATE.

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17 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

18 **Section 1. Creating a New Chapter 86 (Homelessness**
19 **Initiatives Commission), *Ordinance Code*.** A new Chapter 86
20 (Homelessness Initiatives Commission), *Ordinance Code*, is hereby
21 created to read as follows:

22 **CHAPTER 86 - HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION**

23 **Sec. 86.101. - Intent.**

24 It is the intent of this Chapter to create an advisory body to
25 oversee and make recommendations regarding the use and distribution
26 of all funds deposited in the Homelessness Initiatives Special Revenue
27 Fund established in Section 111.920, *Ordinance Code*.

28 **Sec. 86.102. - Establishment.**

29 Addressing the needs of Duval County's homeless and chronically
30 unhoused populations is an issue of significant concern and importance
31 to the City and the Jacksonville community. To ensure funds deposited

1 in the Homelessness Initiatives Special Revenue Fund are utilized in
2 a way that maximizes the impact of those dollars in combatting
3 homelessness and supporting a variety of programs and initiatives to
4 meet the needs of the homeless and chronic unhoused populations in
5 Duval County, there is hereby established an advisory commission to
6 be known as the Homelessness Initiatives Commission (hereinafter
7 referred to as the "Commission").

8 **Sec. 86.103. - Composition; Liaisons; Terms; Removal.**

9 (a) *Composition.* The Commission shall be composed of seven voting
10 members as follows:

11 (1) Four members of the general public appointed by the Council
12 President and confirmed by Council.

13 (2) Three members of the general public appointed by the Mayor
14 and confirmed by Council.

15 To the extent possible, each of the members of the general public
16 should possess specialized knowledge about the needs of the
17 homeless and chronic unhoused populations. This would include
18 individuals who currently work or have worked with these
19 populations and/or individuals who have knowledge of existing
20 programs, initiatives and services as well as knowledge of
21 current or potential funding sources that are or could be
22 directed to those programs, initiatives and services.

23 (b) *Liaisons.* The City Council President shall annually appoint a
24 City Council Member to serve as a liaison to the Commission. In
25 addition, the Sheriff shall appoint a liaison to the Commission
26 from amongst his staff with preference given to an officer who
27 regularly works and interacts with the Duval County homeless
28 and/or chronically unhoused populations. These are non-voting
29 positions and the liaisons shall not be considered members of
30 the Commission for Florida's Open Meetings Law purposes.

31 (c) *Terms.* Members shall be appointed for staggered three-year

1 terms commencing March 1 or upon confirmation by Council,
2 whichever is earlier, but shall serve until their successor is
3 appointed and confirmed by the City Council. Of the initial
4 appointments, three members appointed from the general public
5 shall serve for two-year first full terms and four members
6 appointed from the general public shall serve for three-year
7 first full terms. The Council President's initial appointments
8 shall include two members to serve an initial three-year first
9 full term and two members to serve an initial two-year first
10 full term. The Mayor's initial appointments shall include one
11 member to serve an initial two-year first full term and two
12 members to serve an initial three-year first full term. No member
13 shall serve more than two consecutive full terms; but
14 appointments to fill vacancies for partial terms (less than 50
15 percent of a full term) and initial appointments under the
16 preceding sentence for less than three years, shall not be deemed
17 to be full terms and may be reappointed for up to two additional
18 consecutive full terms.

19 (d) *Removal.* Commission members appointed by the Mayor shall serve
20 and be removed at the pleasure of the Mayor. Members appointed
21 by the Council President shall serve and be removed at the
22 pleasure of the Council President.

23 **Sec. 86.104. - Functions, powers and duties.**

24 In addition to such powers, duties and authority as may be set
25 forth elsewhere in the Ordinance Code, the Commission is hereby
26 authorized to:

- 27 (a) Review and assess the current unmet needs of Duval County's
28 homeless and chronic unhoused populations and any gaps in
29 existing programs and services targeting these populations;
- 30 (b) Annually review and recommend programs, initiatives and services
31 to be funded by Homelessness Initiatives Special Revenue Fund

1 dollars, including specific amounts to be allocated to those
2 programs, initiatives and services, for inclusion in the City's
3 annual budget;

4 (c) Identify funding sources, both public and private, to assist in
5 the provision of appropriate services for Duval County's
6 homeless and chronic unhoused populations and make
7 recommendations to the City Council and the Mayor with respect
8 to how these funding sources are best utilized and administered,
9 including how said funding could be leveraged for additional
10 funds;

11 (d) Create a five-year Strategic Plan outlining appropriate
12 programs, services and initiatives to combat homelessness - this
13 Strategic Plan should be tailored to address the unique needs
14 of Duval County's homeless and chronic unhoused populations; the
15 initial Strategic Plan shall be presented to the Council
16 committee of reference tasked with reviewing and making
17 recommendations on measures addressing homelessness on or before
18 December 31, 2024;

19 (e) Create an annual Action Plan that includes specific goals and
20 measurables to effectuate the Strategic Plan; the initial Action
21 Plan shall be presented to the Council committee of reference
22 tasked with reviewing and making recommendations on measures
23 addressing homelessness on or before September 1, 2024;

24 (f) Annually review the Strategic Plan and Action Plan and make
25 recommendations to the Council committee of reference tasked
26 with reviewing and making recommendations on measures addressing
27 homelessness for updates and changes to both Plans on or before
28 March 1 each year;

29 (g) Act as a motivating and coordinating body to encourage joint
30 public and private participation in serving the needs of Duval
31 County's homeless and chronic unhoused populations.

1 **Sec. 86.105. - Organization and proceedings.**

- 2 (a) *Officers.* The Commission shall select a chairperson and a vice-
3 chairperson from among its members to serve for a one-year term
4 commencing in July and may create and fill such other offices
5 as it may deem necessary or desirable.
- 6 (b) *Rules of procedure.* The Commission shall establish rules of
7 procedure necessary to its governing and the conduct of its
8 affairs, consistent with the applicable provisions of the
9 Ordinance Code.
- 10 (c) *Voting; quorum.* All decisions and recommendations of the
11 Commission shall require a concurring vote of a majority of the
12 members present. Four members shall constitute a quorum.
- 13 (d) *Administrative support.* The Commission shall receive staff
14 support from the Neighborhoods Department.
- 15 (e) *Meetings.* The Commission shall meet at least monthly with the
16 exception that the Commission may meet once between June and
17 August of each year and once between November and December each
18 year so long as it timely meets all deadlines and obligations
19 outlined in this Chapter. All meetings shall be open to the
20 public in accordance with Florida's open meetings law.
- 21 (f) *Notice.* Notice of regular meetings shall be posted at least
22 seven days in advance, excluding weekends and holidays, on the
23 City of Jacksonville web events calendar. Notice of special
24 meetings shall be posted at least 48 hours in advance, excluding
25 weekends and holidays, on the City of Jacksonville web events
26 calendar. No other advertisement or notification is required.
- 27 (g) *Compensation.* Members shall serve without compensation, pension
28 or retirement benefits; however, members may be compensated for
29 travel expenses as provided in Chapter 106, Part 7, *Ordinance*
30 *Code.*
- 31 (h) *Compliance.* The Commission shall be subject to the provisions

1 of Chapter 112, Part III, *Florida Statutes*, and Chapters 50, 58
2 and 602, *Ordinance Code*, except as may be set forth in this
3 Chapter.

4 **Section 2. Severability.** The provisions of this Ordinance,
5 including sections and subsections within the Ordinance, are intended
6 to be severable and if any provision is declared invalid or
7 unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision
8 shall be severed and the remainder shall continue in full force and
9 effect, with the Ordinance being deemed amended to the least degree
10 legally permissible.

11 **Section 3. Codification Instructions.** The Codifier and the
12 Office of General Counsel are authorized to make all chapter and
13 division "table of contents" consistent with the changes set forth
14 herein. Such editorial changes and any other necessary to make the
15 *Ordinance Code* consistent with the intent of this legislation are
16 approved and directed herein, and the changes to the *Ordinance Code*
17 shall be made forthwith and when inconsistencies are discovered.

18 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
19 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
20 without the Mayor's signature.

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22 Form Approved:

23
24 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

25 Office of General Counsel

26 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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