

1 Introduced by the Land Use and Zoning Committee:
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4 **ORDINANCE 2021-837**

5 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING SIGN WAIVER APPLICATION
6 SW-21-08 FOR A SIGN LOCATED IN COUNCIL DISTRICT
7 1 AT 2800 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD NORTH, BETWEEN
8 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD AND MERRILL ROAD (R.E. NO.
9 128290-0010), AS DESCRIBED HEREIN, OWNED BY
10 JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY, REQUESTING TO REDUCE
11 THE MINIMUM SETBACK FROM 10 FEET TO 4.6 FEET IN
12 ZONING DISTRICT PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES-
13 2 (PBF-2), AS DEFINED AND CLASSIFIED UNDER THE
14 ZONING CODE; PROVIDING A DISCLAIMER THAT THE
15 WAIVER GRANTED HEREIN SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED AS
16 AN EXEMPTION FROM ANY OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS;
17 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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19 **WHEREAS**, an application for a waiver of requirements for signs,
20 **On File** with the City Council Legislative Services Division, was
21 filed by Watson Civil Construction, on behalf of the owner of property
22 located in Council District 1 at 2800 University Boulevard North,
23 between University Boulevard and Merrill Road (R.E. No. 128290-0010)
24 (the "Subject Property"), requesting to reduce the minimum setback
25 from 10 feet to 4.6 feet, in Zoning District Public Buildings and
26 Facilities-2 (PBF-2); and

27 **WHEREAS**, the Planning and Development Department has considered
28 the application and all attachments thereto and has rendered an
29 advisory recommendation (the "Staff Report"); and

30 **WHEREAS**, the Land Use and Zoning Committee, after due notice
31 held a public hearing and having duly considered both the testimonial

1 and documentary evidence presented at the public hearing, has made
2 its recommendation to the Council; and

3 **WHEREAS**, taking into consideration the above recommendations and
4 all other evidence entered into the record and testimony taken at the
5 public hearings, the Council has considered the criteria for sign
6 waivers pursuant to Sec. 656.113(c), *Ordinance Code*, and finds that
7 the request is in harmony with the spirit and intent of the Zoning
8 Code and should be approved; now, therefore

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

10 **Section 1. Sign Waiver Approved.** The Council has considered
11 the sign waiver criteria pursuant to Sec. 656.133(c), *Ordinance Code*,
12 the recommendation of the Land Use and Zoning Committee, and has
13 reviewed the Staff Report of the Planning and Development Department
14 concerning sign waiver Application SW-21-08 and finds that the waiver
15 is in harmony with the spirit and intent of the Zoning Code,
16 considering the following criteria, as applicable:

17 (1) The effect of the sign waiver is compatible with the
18 existing contiguous signage or zoning and consistent with the general
19 character of the area considering population, density, scale and
20 orientation of the structures in the area;

21 (2) The result will not detract from the specific intent of
22 the Zoning Code by promoting the continued existence of nonconforming
23 signs that exist in the vicinity;

24 (3) The effect of the proposed waiver will not diminish
25 property values in, or negatively alter the aesthetic character of
26 the area surrounding the site, and will not substantially interfere
27 with or injure the rights of others whose property would be affected
28 by the same;

29 (4) The proposed waiver will not have a detrimental effect on
30 vehicular or pedestrian traffic or parking conditions, or result in
31 the creation of objectionable or excessive light, glare, shadows, or

1 other effects, taking into account existing uses and zoning in the
2 vicinity;

3 (5) The proposed waiver will not be detrimental to the public
4 health, safety or welfare, and will not result in additional public
5 expense, creation of nuisances, or cause conflict with any other
6 applicable law;

7 (6) The Subject Property exhibits specific physical
8 limitations or characteristics which are unique to the site and which
9 would make imposition of the strict letter of the regulation unduly
10 burdensome;

11 (7) The request is not based exclusively upon a desire to
12 reduce the costs associated with compliance and is the minimum
13 necessary to obtain a reasonable communication of one's message;

14 (8) If the request is the result of a violation that has existed
15 for a considerable length of time without receiving a citation,
16 whether the violation that exists is a result of construction that
17 occurred prior to the owner's acquisition of the Subject Property,
18 and not as a direct result of the actions of the current owner;

19 (9) The request accomplishes a compelling public interest, such
20 as, for example, furthering the preservation of natural resources by
21 saving a tree or trees; and

22 (10) Strict compliance with the regulation will create a
23 substantial financial burden when considering cost of compliance.

24 Therefore, Sign Waiver Application SW-21-08, is hereby **approved**.

25 **Section 2. Owner, Property and Sign Description.** The
26 Subject Property is owned by Jacksonville University and is legally
27 described in **Exhibit 1, attached hereto**, dated June 30, 2021, and
28 graphically depicted in **Exhibit 2, attached hereto**. A graphic
29 depiction of the sign is **attached hereto** as **Exhibit 3**. The applicant
30 is Watson Civil Construction, Inc., 319 West Town Place, Suite 25,
31 St. Augustine, Florida 32092; (716) 425-6852.

1 **Section 3. Notice.** Legislative Services is hereby directed
2 to mail a copy of this legislation, as enacted, to the applicant and
3 any other parties to this matter who testified before the Land Use
4 and Zoning Committee or otherwise filed a qualifying written statement
5 as defined in Sec. 656.140(c), *Ordinance Code*.

6 **Section 4. Disclaimer.** The sign waiver granted herein shall
7 **not** be construed as an exemption from any other applicable local,
8 state, or federal laws, regulations, requirements, permits or
9 approvals. All other applicable local, state or federal permits or
10 approvals shall be obtained before commencement of the development
11 or use, and issuance of this sign waiver is based upon
12 acknowledgement, representation and confirmation made by the
13 applicant(s), owner(s), developer(s) and/or any authorized agent(s)
14 or designee(s) that the subject business, development and/or use will
15 be operated in strict compliance with all laws. Issuance of this sign
16 waiver does **not** approve, promote or condone any practice or act that
17 is prohibited or restricted by any federal, state or local laws.

18 **Section 5. Effective Date.** The enactment of this Ordinance
19 shall be deemed to constitute a quasi-judicial action of the City
20 Council and shall become effective upon signature by the Council
21 President and Council Secretary. Failure to exercise the waiver, if
22 herein granted, by the commencement of the use or action herein
23 approved within one (1) year of the effective date of this Ordinance
24 shall render this waiver invalid and all rights arising therefrom
25 shall terminate.

26 Form Approved:

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 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

29 Office of General Counsel

30 Legislation Prepared By: Arimus Wells

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