

Introduced by Council President Howland:

ORDINANCE 2026-514

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$1,897,704 FROM THE SPECIAL COUNCIL CONTINGENCY - CONTRIBUTIONS TO JTA ACCOUNT TO THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMPONENT UNITS - CONTRIBUTIONS TO JTA ACCOUNT TO FUND THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (JTA) FOR THE PARATRANSIT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027; APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 BUDGET FOR THE JTA; AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL AND THE COUNCIL AUDITOR'S OFFICE TO MAKE ALL CHANGES NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE COUNCIL'S ACTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Section 1. Appropriation. For the 2026-2027 fiscal year, within the City's budget, there are hereby appropriated the indicated sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsection (a) to the account(s) listed in subsection (b):

(The account information is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated herein by this reference)

(a) Appropriated from:

See **Exhibit 1** \$1,897,704

(b) Appropriated to:

See **Exhibit 1** \$1,897,704

(c) Explanation of Appropriation:

The funding above is an appropriation of \$1,897,704 from the Special Council Contingency - Contributions to JTA

1 account to the Contributions to Component Units -
2 Contribution to JTA account to fund the City's contribution
3 to the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) for the
4 paratransit program for fiscal year 2026-2027.

5 **Section 2. Purpose.** The purpose of the appropriation in
6 Section 1 above is to fund the City's contribution to the JTA for the
7 paratransit program.

8 **Section 3. Jacksonville Transportation Authority Budget**
9 **Approved.** The Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) Fiscal
10 Year 2026-2027 budget is herein appropriated as provided in **Exhibit**
11 **2** and in accordance with the below:

12 **(a) Estimated Revenues; Appropriations.**

13 From the estimated revenues and fund balances set forth on
14 **Schedule O** and **Schedule Q** as provided in **Exhibit 2**, attached hereto
15 and incorporated herein by this reference, there are hereby
16 appropriated the sums set forth on **Schedule P** and **Schedule R** as
17 provided in **Exhibit 2** for the indicated purposes of the Mass Transit
18 Division and the Engineering Division of Jacksonville Transportation
19 Authority. The estimated revenues, fund balances and appropriations
20 provided therein, together with the other applicable provisions of
21 this Ordinance, shall constitute the annual budgets and appropriations
22 for Jacksonville Transportation Authority for its fiscal year
23 beginning October 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2027, which budgets
24 are hereby adopted and approved by the Council pursuant to Section
25 14.02 of the Charter, as amended, and Section 349.041, *Florida*
26 *Statutes*. The Jacksonville Transportation Authority's expenditure of
27 funds for which grants are anticipated is permitted upon receipt of
28 the grant award and Jacksonville Transportation Authority's Board
29 acknowledgement and approval of the same. Subsection 212.055(1)(d)
30 (Discretionary sales surtaxes; legislative intent; authorization and
31 use of proceeds), *Florida Statutes*, provides that proceeds from the

1 surtax be applied to as many or as few of the uses enumerated in
2 Section 212.055, *Florida Statutes*, in whatever combination the county
3 commission deems appropriate. Based on the statutory language, the
4 JTA and the City Council will meet to discuss the uses of the local
5 option sales tax in excess of the \$85,000,000 budgeted in Fiscal Year
6 2026-2027 the City Council deems appropriate. For Fiscal Year 2026-
7 2027, any sales tax revenue collected in excess of the budgeted amount
8 of \$85,000,000 may not be expended without further Council
9 appropriation.

10 **(b) Allocations, Allotments and Transfers.**

11 The Jacksonville Transportation Authority is authorized to
12 allocate and allot the sums herein appropriated for more specific
13 purposes, within each of the total sums specified on **Schedule P** and
14 **Schedule R**, except for the Fund Balance Reserves, and to transfer
15 from time to time, without City Council approval, appropriated funds
16 from one of the purposes for which funds are appropriated by this
17 Ordinance to another of such purposes if, in the discretion of the
18 JTA, such transfer is necessary to carry out all of the purposes for
19 which funds are hereby appropriated, subject to applicable law. There
20 shall be provided to the Council Auditor, within 24 hours after JTA
21 Board approval, a copy of the written documentation of all proposed
22 additional appropriations of funds. There shall also be provided to
23 the Council Auditor at the end of each quarter a copy or a summary
24 of the written documentation of all transfers made between approved
25 budget line items. The number of full-time employees authorized at
26 any one time shall not exceed 836. The City Council authorizes 91,747
27 temporary employee hours.

28 **(c) STAR Card Eligibility and Free Ride Benefit.**

29 The Jacksonville Transportation Authority shall accept a JTA
30 issued Senior STAR card as proof of senior citizen eligibility and
31 shall permit all persons age 65 and over to obtain a Senior STAR card

1 and ride for free at all times.

2 **Section 4. Office of General Counsel and Council Auditor's**
3 **Office Authorization.** The Office of General Counsel and the Council
4 Auditor's Office are hereby authorized to make all changes to titles,
5 tables of content, Ordinance Code, journal entries, schedules,
6 attachments, editorial and text changes consistent with the changes
7 set forth herein to Ordinance 2026-504 to effectuate the City
8 Council's action.

9 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
10 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
11 without the Mayor's signature.

12
13 Form Approved:

14
15 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

16 Office of General Counsel

17 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

18 GC-#1761837-v2-2026-514_-_FY26-27_JTA_Budget.docx