

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



**JEFFREY R. CLEMENTS**  
Chief of Research  
(904) 255-5137

117 West Duval Street  
City Hall, Suite 425  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
FAX (904) 255-5229

**Bill Type and Number:** Resolution 2021-96

**Sponsor:** Council President at the request of the Mayor

**Date of Introduction:** February 9, 2021

**Committee(s) of Reference:** R

**Date of Analysis:** February 8, 2021

**Type of Action:** Appointment Confirmation

**Bill Summary:** This bill confirms the Mayor's appointment of Abel Harding as a member of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA), replacing Isaiah Rumlin for a first full term ending May 30, 2024.

**Background Information:** The JTA is established pursuant to Chapter 349, *Florida Statutes*, and charged to acquire, hold, construct, improve, maintain, operate, own, and lease the Jacksonville Expressway System; and the JTA may acquire, hold, construct, improve, operate, maintain, and lease a mass transit system; and plan, develop, finance, construct, own, lease, purchase, operate, maintain, relocate, equip, repair, and manage those public transportation projects, such as express bus services; bus rapid transit services; light rail, commuter rail, heavy rail, or other transit services; ferry services; transit stations; park-and-ride lots; transit-oriented development nodes; or feeder roads, reliever roads, connector roads, bypasses, or appurtenant facilities, that are intended to address critical transportation needs or concerns in the Jacksonville; in addition to the other powers and duties provided, JTA shall have the power and responsibility to formulate and implement a plan for a mass transit system that will serve Duval County and the greater Jacksonville area.

Pursuant to Sec. 349.03(2), *Florida Statutes*, three of the seven members of the board are appointed by the Mayor of the City of Jacksonville subject to confirmation by the Council of the City of Jacksonville.

Mr. Harding is currently the Market President at Iberiabank/First Horizon Bank. He has been in that role since 2016 and previously served as a Senior Private Banker at Wells Fargo from 2013 to 2015. He currently serves on the Board of Directors at JAX Chamber. Mr. Harding resides in Duval County.

**Policy Impact Area:** Jacksonville Transportation Authority Board operations

**Fiscal Impact:** Anticipated to be minimal.

**Analyst:** Distel