

1 Introduced by Council Members Carlucci and DeFoor:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2021-566**

5 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING A
6 HOLISTIC APPROACH TO JACKSONVILLE DOWNTOWN
7 RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
8 DATE.
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10 **WHEREAS**, for the first time in Downtown Jacksonville history,
11 more than 75 acres of publicly-owned downtown riverfront land is
12 simultaneously available for development, creating an unprecedented
13 opportunity to improve and invest in the quality of life for all
14 Jacksonville citizens by unifying the approach to the downtown
15 riverfront with a goal of creating a world class network of active
16 parks and green space; and

17 **WHEREAS**, this represents an opportunity to spotlight and
18 leverage Jacksonville’s greatest natural asset – the majestic St.
19 Johns River – and to re-establish the downtown riverfront as the
20 heartbeat of Jacksonville, both socially and economically to drive
21 job creation; and

22 **WHEREAS**, with over ninety percent of all land along the St.
23 Johns River currently held by private landowners, we recognize the
24 need to create a Riverfront for All by connecting the entire
25 Northbank riverfront – from the Riverside Arts Market to
26 Metropolitan Park – and the Southbank riverfront – from the
27 Fuller Warren Bridge to The District – as a single integrated
28 parkway that serves and brings together all citizens of
29 Jacksonville and simultaneously enhances future investment of
30 commercial property and public infrastructure along the downtown
31 waterfront; and

1 **WHEREAS**, an inclusive and collaborative public involvement
2 process best supports efforts to develop a shared vision that
3 ensures equitable outcomes, provides much-needed access to
4 Jacksonville's majestic American Heritage river, prioritizes the
5 interests from all sectors and people, and adds to Downtown
6 Jacksonville's overall vibrancy, economic vitality, and natural
7 resiliency; and

8 **WHEREAS**, to integrate both resiliency and sustainability into
9 all design concepts pertaining to Downtown Jacksonville's
10 riverfront, we shall take into careful consideration storm water
11 management and other future planning related to sustainability and
12 resiliency, and will support implementation of green solutions that
13 help mitigate storm surge, promote the filtering of runoff, and
14 enhance natural protections against flooding; now therefore

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

16 **Section 1.** This resolution expresses the will of the City
17 Council to recognize and endorse a holistic approach to planning
18 Jacksonville's downtown riverfront development, and as such, to
19 support the efforts by key stakeholders – including the Jessie Ball
20 DuPont Fund, Riverfront Parks Now, Scenic JAX, and others – who
21 likewise work toward fostering citizen-led initiatives and
22 consensus building efforts related to Jacksonville's downtown
23 riverfront development.

24 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
26 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

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3 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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