

1 Introduced by Council Members Salem, Johnson, Amaro, White, Howland,
2 Carlucci, Boylan, Carrico, Gaffney, Jr., Arias, Diamond, Lahnen and
3 Pittman, Gay, Miller, Freeman, J. Carlucci, Peluso and Clark-Murray:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2025-**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF
8 SAMMY "SAM" EDWARD MOUSA; REQUESTING EMERGENCY
9 PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN
10 EFFECTIVE DATE.
11

12 **WHEREAS,** Sammy (Sam) Edward Mousa grew up in Corpus Christi,
13 Texas, the son of Palestinian immigrants, the late Easa John Mousa
14 and Farida Easa Mousa, and after high school his family joined our
15 city's vibrant Middle Eastern community and made Jacksonville their
16 home; and

17 **WHEREAS,** Sam Mousa attended Florida Junior College and later
18 earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University
19 of Florida College of Engineering in 1976; and

20 **WHEREAS,** in 1987, Sam Mousa's career path led him to
21 Jacksonville City Hall, beginning as an engineer in the Department
22 of Public Works under Mayor Hazouri's administration. He elevated
23 through the ranks of city government, was the Director of Public
24 Works under Mayor Ed Austin, the protégé of the esteemed Lex Hester,
25 and Mayor Delaney's Chief Administrative Officer who managed the nuts
26 and bolts of the \$2.2 billion Better Jacksonville Plan; and

27 **WHEREAS,** Sam Mousa returned to the private sector, serving as
28 the Executive Vice President of J.B. Coxwell Contracting, Inc. and
29 managing principal with JBC Planning & Engineering, LLC, before making
30 his way back to city government when asked to serve as Mayor Curry's
31 Chief Administrative Officer until his retirement in 2019; and

1 **WHEREAS,** Sam Mousa was integral in so many momentous
2 initiatives that shaped Jacksonville, including the River City
3 Renaissance downtown renewal projects, the restoration of the St.
4 James building as the new City Hall, the new Duval County Courthouse,
5 and pension reform in 2015; and

6 **WHEREAS,** Sam Mousa had a keen ability to manage large and
7 complex infrastructure projects, on time and on budget and he was
8 renowned for his encyclopedic knowledge of myriad subjects, tireless
9 work ethic, attention to detail and financial acumen; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Sam Mousa had a well-earned reputation, he spoke
11 directly, held high expectations of those around him, and had infinite
12 capacity to make things happen. He could get any vision to
13 materialize, he exemplified loyalty, and his tactics reflected his
14 expertise and commitment to excellence; and

15 **WHEREAS,** Sam Mousa treasured, and was cherished by, his family
16 and friends; he shared 47 wonderful years of marriage with his wife
17 Sandy, and together they raised three children, Nick, Amanda and
18 Robert, and they were blessed with six grandchildren, Buddy, Joseph,
19 Victor, Samantha, Lilia, and Frank; and

20 **WHEREAS,** Sam Mousa passed away on January 22, 2025, at the age
21 of 72 after a life that greatly impacted our City and all of those
22 who knew him. His legacy is second to none, he was a mentor, a skilled
23 administrator, and a natural leader and his presence, counsel, and
24 friendship will be missed and always remembered; now therefore

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

26 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors the life
27 and legacy of Sam Mousa. The City Council greatly appreciates and
28 honors Sam Mousa for his years of service to the City of Jacksonville,
29 for his passion to make this City better, for the formidable strength
30 of his character, and for the indelible effect he had in the lives
31 of those who were graced to cross his path.

1 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
2 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
3 introduction of this legislation is requested. The nature of the
4 emergency is to allow this legislation honoring the life and legacy
5 of Sam Mousa to align with the date of the funeral service on
6 Wednesday, January 29, 2025.

7 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
8 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
9 without the Mayor's signature.

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11 Form Approved:

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13 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

14 Office of General Counsel

15 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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