

1 Introduced by Council Member Peluso:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2025-442**

5 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE INSTALLATION OF
6 SIGNAGE BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
7 TRANSPORTATION DESIGNATING THE ENTRANCE TO THE
8 HISTORIC DURKEEVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD; DIRECTING
9 THE CHIEF OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO TRANSMIT A
10 COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION, ONCE ADOPTED, TO THE
11 FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; PROVIDING
12 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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14 **WHEREAS**, named after former Union soldier Joseph H. Durkee,
15 the Historic Durkeeville Neighborhood was established in the early
16 20th century as a predominantly African American neighborhood,
17 providing refuge and opportunities for Black families during
18 segregation; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Durkeeville served as a cultural and economic hub for
20 African Americans, where business, churches, and schools flourished,
21 creating a self-sustaining community that was instrumental in the
22 Civil Rights movement of the 20th century; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the Historic Durkeeville Neighborhood contains the
24 J.P. Small Memorial Stadium, formerly Durkee Field, home of the Negro
25 League and minor league baseball teams, where figures like Hank Aaron,
26 Leroy "Satchel" Paige, Roy Campanella, James "Cool Papa" Bell, and
27 William "Judy" Johnson played the Game on their way to baseball's
28 Hall of Fame; and

29 **WHEREAS**, the Historic Durkeeville Neighborhood also contains
30 Durkee Gardens Historic District, which is listed in the National
31 Park Service's National Register of Historic Places; now therefore

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

2 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby encourages the Florida
3 Department of Transportation to install a marker on the off-ramp for
4 Exit 353D on Interstate 95, designating entrance to the Historic
5 Durkeeville Neighborhood, and any other additional signage on the
6 borders of the Historic District.

7 **Section 2. Directive to the Chief of Legislative Services**
8 **Division.** The City Council hereby directs the Chief of the Legislative
9 Services Division to forward a copy of this Resolution, once adopted,
10 to the Florida Department of Transportation.

11 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
12 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
13 without the Mayor's signature.

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15 Form Approved:

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17 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

18 Office of General Counsel

19 Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

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