

1 Introduced by Council Members Salem, Newby, and Boylan:
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4 **ORDINANCE 2021-709**

5 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING RENAMING A PUBLIC LIBRARY
6 AND PUBLIC PARK PURSUANT TO SECTION 122.105,
7 *ORDINANCE CODE*; RENAMING "SOUTH MANDARIN BRANCH
8 LIBRARY" AND "MANDARIN SOUTH LIBRARY PARK," BOTH
9 LOCATED AT 12125 SAN JOSE BOULEVARD,
10 JACKSONVILLE, FL 32223, IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 6,
11 AS "THOMAS L. "TOMMY" HAZOURI, SR. LIBRARY" AND
12 "THOMAS L. "TOMMY" HAZOURI, SR. PARK",
13 RESPECTIVELY, TO RECOGNIZE THE MANY
14 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE
15 TOMMY HAZOURI TO THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND
16 THE MANDARIN COMMUNITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
17 DATE.
18

19 **WHEREAS**, Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr., a Jacksonville native,
20 graduated from Andrew Jackson High School and earned his bachelor's
21 degree in history and government from Jacksonville University where
22 he was elected Student Government President; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri began his long career of public service in
24 1974 with his election to the Florida House of Representatives, where
25 he served six terms during which he was appointed Chairman of the
26 House Committee on Education, K-12, and the House Committee on
27 Retirement, Personnel, and Collective Bargaining, and was elected
28 Chair of the Duval Legislative Delegation; and

29 **WHEREAS**, following his service in the Legislature, Tommy Hazouri
30 was elected Mayor of Jacksonville in 1987 and made a tremendous impact
31 on the city during his term. He is best known for successfully

1 fighting to enact and enforce regulations that drastically reduced
2 the odors emitted from industrial manufacturing and processing plants
3 that had given Jacksonville a notorious reputation, for spearheading
4 the campaign that convinced voters to approve a sales tax to replace
5 the tolls on the city's bridges in order to eliminate traffic
6 bottlenecks and toll booths and thereby improve air quality, and for
7 recruiting several major corporations to locate and expand offices
8 in Jacksonville. During his tenure he also led the effort to replace
9 the outdated and poorly maintained Blodgett Homes public housing
10 complex with new, modernized housing and a state office campus, and
11 worked in tandem with the City Council to enact a Minority Business
12 Enterprise program to enhance minority business participation in City
13 procurement opportunities; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri's career of public service continued in the
15 new century when he was elected to the School Board in 2004, serving
16 two terms through 2012 and being elected as Vice Chair in 2007-08 and
17 Chair of the board in 2008-09; and

18 **WHEREAS**, in 2015, Tommy Hazouri once again stepped up to serve
19 his community by seeking and winning a seat on the City Council as
20 an At-Large Council Member and was re-elected to a second term in
21 2019. His council colleagues elected him Vice President for 2019-20
22 and Council President for 2020-21. During his tenure his experience
23 and leadership helped guide the Council through several tumultuous
24 issues, including the proposed privatization of JEA, the sales tax
25 for pension amortization plan, the expansion of the local option gas
26 tax for meeting infrastructure needs, and several Jacksonville
27 Jaguars stadium-area development proposals; and

28 **WHEREAS**, his life-long concern for the interests and well-being
29 of Jacksonville's citizens, is evidenced by his work in continuing
30 to fulfill the intent of Consolidation, the adoption of a broadened
31 Human Rights Ordinance, the appointment of a Special Committee on

1 Social Justice and Community Investment, and laying the early
2 foundation for the creation of the Jacksonville Small and Emerging
3 Business (JSEB); and who, as a trusted and beloved civic leader,
4 measured every decision against his hallmark sentiment that sets the
5 standard for what should and must take place in the Council Chamber:
6 "It has to be all about Jacksonville"; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Council desires to honor the legacy of Tommy
8 Hazouri's dedication to the City of Jacksonville by renaming "South
9 Mandarin Branch Library" and "Mandarin South Library Park," both
10 located at 12125 San Jose Boulevard, to be known as "Thomas L.
11 "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. Library" and the "Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr.
12 Park", respectively, in order to recognize the contribution of Tommy
13 Hazouri to this City, and particularly to Mandarin, where he lived
14 for many years prior to his passing on September 11, 2021; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Jacksonville Public
16 Library has been consulted in the renaming of the Mandarin South
17 Branch Library and the Board of Trustees does not object to the
18 renaming of the Mandarin South Branch Library; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the decision to rename the Mandarin South Branch
20 Library was coordinated with the Board of Trustees and the Board has
21 agreed to the permanent renaming of the Mandarin South Branch Library
22 to be hereafter known as the "Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. Library";
23 and

24 **WHEREAS**, the provisions of Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*, for
25 renaming of the park have been met; the public hearings have been
26 held and the Planning and Development Department has submitted its
27 report to the Council; now, therefore

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

29 **Section 1. Renaming of Library and Park to Honor Thomas L.**
30 **"Tommy" Hazouri, Sr.** The "South Mandarin Branch Library" and
31 "Mandarin South Library Park" both located at 12125 San Jose

1 Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida 32223 in District 6, are hereby
2 renamed to "Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. Library" and "Thomas L.
3 "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. Park", respectively, in recognition of the many
4 contributions of Tommy Hazouri to the City of Jacksonville and to
5 honor the legacy of Mr. Hazouri, a longtime resident of Mandarin. The
6 renaming of the public library was coordinated with the Board of
7 Trustees of the Jacksonville Public Library and the Board of Trustees
8 has agreed to the permanent renaming of this public library as the
9 "Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. Library".

10 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become
11 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
12 without the Mayor's signature.

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14 Form Approved

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16 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

17 Office of General Counsel

18 Legislation prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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