

1 Introduced by Council Member DeFoor:

2 **PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE**

3
4 **ORDINANCE 2022-61**

5 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$200,000 IN THE
6 DERELICT VESSEL AND FLOATING STRUCTURE REMOVAL
7 FUND FROM THE PARKS DEPARTMENT TO NEIGHBORHOODS
8 DEPARTMENT IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE NEIGHBORHOODS
9 DEPARTMENT FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE THE
10 NEWLY CREATED CHAPTER 388, ORDINANCE CODE (BOATS
11 AND WATERWAYS); AMENDING CHAPTER 388 (BOATS AND
12 WATERWAYS), *ORDINANCE CODE*, TO CREATE A NEW PART
13 4 (ANCHORING LIMITATION AREAS) PURSUANT TO THE
14 AUTHORITY GRANTED TO COUNTIES IN SECTION
15 327.4108, FLORIDA STATUTES; REQUESTING THAT THE
16 MAYOR DIRECT THE PARKS DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT
17 AND MAINTAIN THE SIGNAGE REQUIRED; PROVIDING
18 THAT COUNCIL IS EXERCISING COUNTY POWERS;
19 PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS;
20 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

21
22 **WHEREAS**, the Florida Legislature recently amended Section
23 327.4108, F.S., to provide for counties meeting certain criteria to
24 establish anchoring limitation areas adjacent to urban areas that
25 have residential docking facilities and significant recreational
26 boating traffic; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville, as a consolidated city/county
28 government, is authorized to enact an ordinance establishing
29 anchoring limitation areas within the county and desires to do so
30 subject to the requirements of Section 327.4108, F.S.; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville has provided notice to the

1 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission ("FWC") as required
2 by Sec. 327.4108(2)(c), F.S. through Resolution 2021-727-A, now
3 therefore

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

5 **Section 1. Appropriation.** For the 2021-2022 fiscal year,
6 within the City's budget, there are hereby appropriated the indicated
7 sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsection (a) to the account(s)
8 listed in subsection (b):

9 attached hereto as **Revised Exhibit 1** and incorporated herein by this
10 reference

11 (a) Appropriated from:

12 See **Revised Exhibit 1** \$200,000.00

13 (b) Appropriated to:

14 See **Revised Exhibit 1** \$200,000.00

15 (c) **Explanation of Appropriation**

16 The appropriation above in the Derelict Vessel and Floating Structure
17 Removal Fund is a reappropriation of funds from the Parks, Recreation
18 and Community Services Department ("Parks Department") to the
19 Neighborhoods Department for implementation and enforcement of the
20 newly created Ch. 388 (Boating and Waterways), *Ordinance Code*.

21 **Section 2. Purpose.** The purpose of the appropriation in

22 Section 1 is to provide funding to the department which will be doing
23 the work to implement and enforce Ch. 388, *Ordinance Code*. Two of
24 the Divisions within the Neighborhoods Department, along with the
25 Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, are involved with the effort to enforce
26 Chapter 388, *Ordinance Code*, throughout Duval County with regard to
27 derelict vessels, abandoned vessels, floating structures and now,
28 with enactment of this ordinance, vessels in violation of anchoring
29 limitation areas. Derelict vessels were previously handled by the
30 Parks Department, but this task has been reassigned to the
31 Neighborhoods Department.

1 Section 3. Amending Chapter 388 (Boats and Waterways),
2 *Ordinance Code*, to create a new Part 4 (Anchoring Limitation Areas).
3 Chapter 388 (Boats and Waterways), *Ordinance Code*, is hereby amended
4 to create a new Part 4 (Anchoring Limitation Areas), in to read as
5 follows:

6 **Chapter 388 - BOATS and WATERWAYS**

7 * * *

8 **PART 4. - ANCHORING LIMITATION AREAS**

9 **Sec. 388.401. - Findings and legislative intent.**

10 (a) Pursuant to Sec. 327.4108, F.S. (2022), the Florida Legislature
11 has expressly authorized counties meeting certain criteria to
12 enact regulations that establish anchoring limitation areas
13 adjacent to urban areas that have residential docking facilities
14 and significant recreational boating traffic.

15 (b) The Council finds that the City of Jacksonville, acting under
16 its authority as a chartered county government pursuant to
17 Section 1.101 of the City Charter and Section 4.102, *Ordinance*
18 *Code*, meets the criteria established in Sec. 327.4108, F.S.
19 (2022), to create anchoring limitation areas within its
20 jurisdiction.

21 (c) The purpose of this Part 4 is to implement the provisions of
22 Sec. 327.4108, F.S. (2022), by creating anchoring limitation
23 areas ("Anchoring Limitation Areas"), as more fully described
24 below, which will promote the public access to the waters of the
25 state; enhance navigational safety; protect maritime
26 infrastructure; protect the marine environment, deter improperly
27 stored, abandoned, or derelict vessels, and provide a civil
28 enforcement mechanism with regard to Anchoring Limitation Areas.

29 (d) Should Sec. 327.4108, F.S. be amended, the statute will
30 immediately take precedence over this Part 4.

31 **Sec. 388.402. - Definitions.**

1 *Impoundment of vessel* means, for purposes of this Part, the
2 removal of the vessel by a law enforcement officer, or under
3 authorization of a law enforcement officer, without the ability of
4 the owner to claim the vessel.

5 *Navigable-in-fact waterways* means waterways that are navigable
6 in their natural or unimproved condition over which useful commerce
7 or public recreation of a substantial and permanent character is or
8 may be conducted in the customary mode of trade and travel on water.
9 The term does not include lakes or streams that are theoretically
10 navigable; have a potential for navigability; or are temporary,
11 precarious, and unprofitable, but the term does include lakes or
12 streams that have practical usefulness to the public as highways for
13 transportation.

14 *Storage of vessel* means the period of time after impoundment
15 that a vessel occupies space in the water or on land for the purpose
16 of vessel storage by, or under the authority of, law enforcement.

17 **Sec. 388.403. -Criteria for Anchoring Limitation Areas.**

18 The following criteria required by Sec. 327.4108, F.S. (2022) are as
19 follows:

20 (a) The aggregate total of Anchoring Limitation Areas within Duval
21 County may not exceed 10 percent of the county's delineated
22 navigable-in-fact waterways.

23 (b) Each Anchoring Limitation Area established herein must meet all
24 the following requirements:

25 (1) Be less than 100 acres in size. For purposes of this
26 subsection, the calculated size of the anchoring limitation area does
27 not include any portion of the marked channel of the Florida
28 Intracoastal Waterway contiguous to the anchoring limitation area;

29 (2) Not include any mooring field or marina; and

30 (3) Be clearly marked with the following:

31 (A) Signs that provide reasonable notice to boaters

1 identifying the duration of time beyond which
2 anchoring is limited and identifying Ch. 388, Part 4,
3 *Ordinance Code*, as the ordinance that created the
4 Anchoring Limitation Area.

5 (B) Buoys may, if required, also be installed and
6 maintained to mark the boundary of the anchoring
7 limitations areas.

8 (c) The design and the proposed location of the signs, as either
9 posts or buoys, shall be managed by the Parks Department. The
10 Parks Department shall coordinate the permitting of the signs
11 with FWC, pursuant to Sections 327.4108, 327.40 and 327.41, F.S.
12 and FWC Rules.

13 **Sec. 388.404. - Anchoring Limitation Areas Defined.**

14 The following areas are designated as Anchoring Limitation Areas:

15 (a) Ortega River Anchoring Limitation Area # 1

16 [INSERT AREA 1 COLOR MAP HERE]

17 (b) Ortega River Anchoring Limitation Area # 2

18 [INSERT AREA 2 COLOR MAP HERE]

19 (c) Ortega River Anchoring Limitation Area # 3

20 [INSERT AREA 3 COLOR MAP HERE]

21 (d) Ortega River Anchoring Limitation Area # 4

22 [INSERT AREA 4 COLOR MAP HERE]

23 Renderings of the boundaries of these Anchoring Limitation Areas
24 can also be found at www.coj.net.

25 **Sec. 388.405. - Anchoring Restricted in Anchoring Limitation**
26 **Areas.**

27 (a) A person may not anchor a vessel for more than 45 consecutive
28 days in any 6-month period in any Anchoring Limitation Area
29 established in this Part without leaving all Anchoring
30 Limitation Areas for at least 24 hours, and eight (8) miles
31 away, except as provided in Sec. 388.406 below.

1 (b) In order to not be in violation of this Part, if a person moves
2 a vessel from an Anchoring Limitation Area on or before the 44th
3 day, then that vessel shall not relocate to another Anchoring
4 Limitation Area within a radius of eight (8) miles.

5 **Sec. 388.406. - Vessels not restricted in Anchoring Limitation**
6 **Areas.**

7 The anchoring restrictions of this Part do not apply to:

- 8 (a) Vessels owned or operated by a governmental entity for law
9 enforcement, firefighting, military or rescue purposes.
10 (b) Construction or dredging vessels on an active job site.
11 (c) Vessels actively engaged in fully licensed commercial fishing,
12 as defined in Sec. 327.02, F.S..
13 (d) Vessels anchored or moored within the riparian rights of the
14 owner of the vessel, and only at a maximum distance from the
15 shore of the riparian owner that provides the depth required for
16 the safe anchorage/mooring of such vessel, considering the swing
17 of the vessel at mean low tide. Riparian rights means those
18 rights incident to the lands bordering upon navigable waters,
19 as recognized by the courts of Florida and in common law.

20 **Sec. 388.407. - Enforcement Procedures.**

- 21 (a) A law enforcement officer has the authority to issue a citation
22 consistent with this Part.
23 (b) For a vessel in an Anchoring Limitation Area established
24 pursuant to this Part, the vessel owner, operator or responsible
25 party must rebut the presumption that the vessel has not exceeded
26 the limitations described in this Part.
27 (c) If based upon an investigation by the officer or evidence
28 provided by others, the officer has reasonable cause to believe
29 that a vessel has been in an Anchoring Limitation Area in
30 violation of this Part, the officer shall inquire regarding same
31 of the vessel owner, operator or responsible party. Personal

1 investigation may include receipt of at least one sworn
2 affidavit from each of at least two unrelated adult witnesses
3 setting forth facts establishing, either separately or together
4 with other information known to the officer, the reasonable
5 cause referenced above.

6 (d) Upon inquiry by a law enforcement officer, a vessel owner,
7 operator, or responsible party must be given an opportunity to
8 provide such proof. Such proof may include any of the following:

9 (1) documentation showing that the vessel was in another
10 location at least eight (8) miles away, and for at least
11 24 hours, within a period of less than 45 days before the
12 inquiry; or

13 (2) electronic evidence, including, but not limited to,
14 navigational devices or tracking devices that show the
15 vessel was in another location at least eight (8) miles
16 away, for at least 24 hours, within a period of less than
17 45 days before the inquiry.

18 (e) If a vessel owner or operator is present and fails or refuses
19 to provide proof that the vessel has not exceeded the limitations
20 described in Sec. 388.405, herein, the law enforcement officer
21 may issue a citation for a violation of this Part.

22 (f) Any person who willfully refuses to sign and accept a citation
23 issued by a law enforcement officer shall be guilty of a
24 misdemeanor as provided for in Sec. 162.21, F.S. and Chapter 609
25 (Code Enforcement Citations), *Ordinance Code*.

26 (g) If the vessel owner or responsible party is not present, the law
27 enforcement officer shall follow the standard operating
28 procedures of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office to locate and
29 notify the owner or responsible party of the violation. The law
30 enforcement officer may issue the citation through the U.S. mail
31 if the owner or responsible party is not present. A law

1 enforcement officer may also provide hand delivery of the
2 citation.

3 (h) The civil citation shall contain:

4 (1) The date and time of issuance.

5 (2) The name and address of the person to whom the citation is
6 issued if the person is known or is present to accept the
7 citation and provide his or her name and address.

8 (3) The date and time the civil infraction was committed.

9 (4) The facts constituting reasonable cause.

10 (5) The number or Section of the Ordinance Code which has been
11 violated.

12 (6) The name and authority of the Officer.

13 (7) The procedure for the person to follow in order to pay the
14 civil penalty or to contest the citation.

15 (8) A conspicuous statement that if the person fails to pay the
16 civil penalty within the time allowed, or fails to appear
17 in court to contest the citation, he shall be deemed to
18 have waived his right to contest the citation and that, in
19 such case, judgement may be entered against the person for
20 an amount up to the maximum civil penalty.

21 (i) After issuance of a citation in person, the law enforcement
22 officer may authorize the removal of a vessel from an Anchoring
23 Limitation Area and impound the vessel for up to 48 hours, or
24 cause such removal and impoundment, if the vessel owner,
25 operator or responsible party:

26 (1) Anchors the vessel in violation of this Part within 12 hours
27 after being issued the citation in person; or

28 (2) Refuses to leave the anchoring limitation area after being
29 directed to do so by a law enforcement officer.

30 (j) If the vessel is impounded, after 48 hours have elapsed since
31 impoundment, if the vessel owner, operator, or responsible

1 party has not appeared to claim the vessel at the designated
2 impoundment location, then the law enforcement officer acting
3 under this Part is authorized to place, or have placed, the
4 vessel into a designated storage location, at the vessel
5 operator's expense, until the vessel owner, operator, or
6 responsible party has claimed the vessel and paid all removal,
7 impoundment, penalty and storage fees which have accrued since
8 impoundment and as a result of any penalties. The owner or
9 responsible party of the vessel may claim the vessel during
10 storage after payment of towing, impoundment and storage fees.

11 (k) A person cited for a civil infraction shall elect one of the
12 following within 10 calendar days of the date of receipt of the
13 citation.

14 (1) To pay the civil penalty to the Tax Collector or to the Clerk
15 of Court (as specified on the citation) in accordance with
16 the schedule set forth in Section 609.109, *Ordinance Code*,
17 or

18 (2) To obtain a court date from the office of the Clerk of the
19 County Court.

20 (l) If a person cited pays the civil penalty then the person has
21 admitted to committing the violation.

22 (m) If a person cited elects to obtain a court date but fails to
23 appear in court, he shall be deemed to have admitted the
24 violation and to have waived his right to a hearing on the issue
25 of the commission of the infraction.

26 (n) The person to whom the citation is issued shall be provided a
27 copy of the citation through certified mail, return receipt
28 requested, if the address of the owner of or responsible party
29 is known, provided if such notice of the citation is sent under
30 this paragraph is returned as unclaimed or refused, notice may
31 be provided by posting as follows:

1 (1) Such notice may be posted at least 10 calendar days prior
2 to the expiration of any deadline contained in the notice,
3 in at least two locations, one of which shall be the vessel
4 upon which the violation is alleged to exist and the other
5 of which shall be at Jacksonville City Hall; and

6 (2) Proof of posting shall be by affidavit of the person posting
7 the notice, which affidavit shall include a copy of the
8 notice posted and the date and places of its posting.

9 (o) A vessel that is the subject of four (4) or more violations
10 within 12 months which result in dispositions other than
11 acquittal or dismissal shall, by operation of law be declared
12 to be a public nuisance and subject to Sec. 705.103, *F.S.*, which
13 provides that the vessel may be removed, after a 21-day notice
14 period, and destroyed or used for an artificial reef; or by
15 operation of law declared to be a derelict vessel, subject to
16 Sec. 823.11, *F.S.*, which provides that the vessel may be
17 relocated, removed, stored, destroyed or disposed of.

18 (p) The costs of such removal and destruction are recoverable
19 against the vessel owner or the party determined to be legally
20 responsible for the vessel being upon the waters of the state
21 in a derelict condition.

22 (q) Pursuant to Sec. 327.4108(6)(d), *F.S.*, a law enforcement officer
23 acting under this Part to remove or impound a vessel, or to
24 cause such removal or impoundment, shall be held harmless for
25 any damage to the vessel resulting from such removal or
26 impoundment unless the damage results from gross negligence or
27 will misconduct.

28 (r) A contractor performing removal, impoundment and/or storage
29 services or other such activities at the direction of a law
30 enforcement officer or the Neighborhoods Department pursuant to
31 this Part must:

1 (1) Be licensed in accordance with United States Coast Guard
2 regulations, as applicable.

3 (2) Obtain and carry a current policy issued by a licensed
4 insurance carrier in this state to insure against any
5 accident, loss, injury, property damage, or other casualty
6 caused by or resulting from the contractor's actions.

7 (3) Be properly equipped to perform such services.

8 **Sec. 388.408. County Court jurisdiction.**

9 (a) The County Court in and for the Fourth Judicial Circuit shall
10 hear charges of code violations pursuant to the issuance of
11 citations.

12 (b) Any person so charged may contest the citation in the County
13 Court.

14 **Sec. 388.409. - Violations.**

15 (a) Pursuant to Sec. 327.73(1)(z), F.S. (2022), a violation of
16 Anchoring Limitation Areas is punishable as a noncriminal
17 infraction for which the penalty is:

18 (1) For a first offense, up to a maximum of \$50.

19 (2) For a second offense, up to a maximum of \$100.

20 (3) For a third or subsequent offense, up to a maximum of
21 \$250.

22 (b) Pursuant to Sec. 327.72, F.S., any person who does not pay the
23 civil penalty listed in Sec. 388.408 (Violations), above,
24 within 30 days commits a misdemeanor of the second degree,
25 punishable as provided in Sec. 775.082, F.S. or Sec. 775.083,
26 F.S.

27 (c) In addition to the civil penalty imposed above, the owner or
28 operator of a vessel that is removed and impounded pursuant to
29 Section 388.407, *Ordinance Code*, must pay all removal and
30 storage fees before the vessel is released. A vessel removed
31 pursuant to Section 388.407 may not be impounded for longer than

1 48 hours. Following impoundment, the vessel may be stored as
2 described in Section 388.407(j).

3 (d) All penalties and fines relating to this Chapter shall be placed
4 into the *Derelict and Abandoned Vessel and Floating Structure*
5 *Enforcement and Removal Trust Fund*, Sec. 111.787, Ordinance
6 Code. Reimbursement for the removal, impoundment and storage
7 of vessels resulting from the enforcement of this Part shall be
8 provided to the entity that initially paid for those services.

9 **Section 4. Directive to Legislative Services Division for**
10 **delivering maps.** Maps of the boundaries of the Ortega River Anchoring
11 Limitation Areas described in Section 3 above are attached hereto as
12 **Exhibit 2.** Upon adoption of this Ordinance, the Legislative Services
13 Division is directed to forward the maps attached as **Exhibit 2** to the
14 Information Technologies Division to be placed on the City website.
15 The Legislative Services Division is also directed to forward the
16 maps to the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department for
17 coordination with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
18 Commission for the posting of signs within the waterway to alert the
19 boating public.

20 **Section 5. Requesting the Mayor to Direct the Parks,**
21 **Recreation, and Community Services Department to oversee the signage**
22 **for the Anchoring Limitation Areas.** The Council requests that the
23 Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department ("Parks
24 Department") oversee the design, permitting, procurement,
25 installation and maintenance of the signs within the waterway, through
26 the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission ("FWC"), that
27 will alert the boating community to the Anchoring Limitation Areas.
28 The Council requests that this task be completed as quickly as
29 possible. Publication of the Anchoring Limitation Areas should also
30 be provided through all media channels be provided so that the public
31 is informed not only by the signs posted but the media communication

1 as well.

2 **Section 6. Council exercising county powers.** Pursuant to
3 Section 4.102, *Ordinance Code*, the enactment of this Ordinance shall
4 be deemed to be the exercise of county powers.

5 **Section 7. Compliance with Sec. 327.4108, F.S.** As required
6 in Sec. 327.408(2)(c), *F.S.*, a notice was provided to the Florida
7 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at least 30 days before the
8 introduction of this ordinance, to notify the public of the City's
9 intention to establish anchoring limitation areas.

10 **Section 8. Codification Instructions.** The Codifier and the
11 Office of General Counsel are authorized to make all chapter and
12 division "tables of contents" consistent with the changes set forth
13 herein, including renumbering of sections. Such editorial changes
14 and any others necessary to make the Ordinance Code shall be made
15 forthwith and when inconsistencies are discovered.

16 **Section 9. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become
17 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
18 without the Mayor's signature.

19

20 Form Approved:

21

22




23 _____
Office of General Counsel

24 Legislation Prepared by: Susan C. Grandin

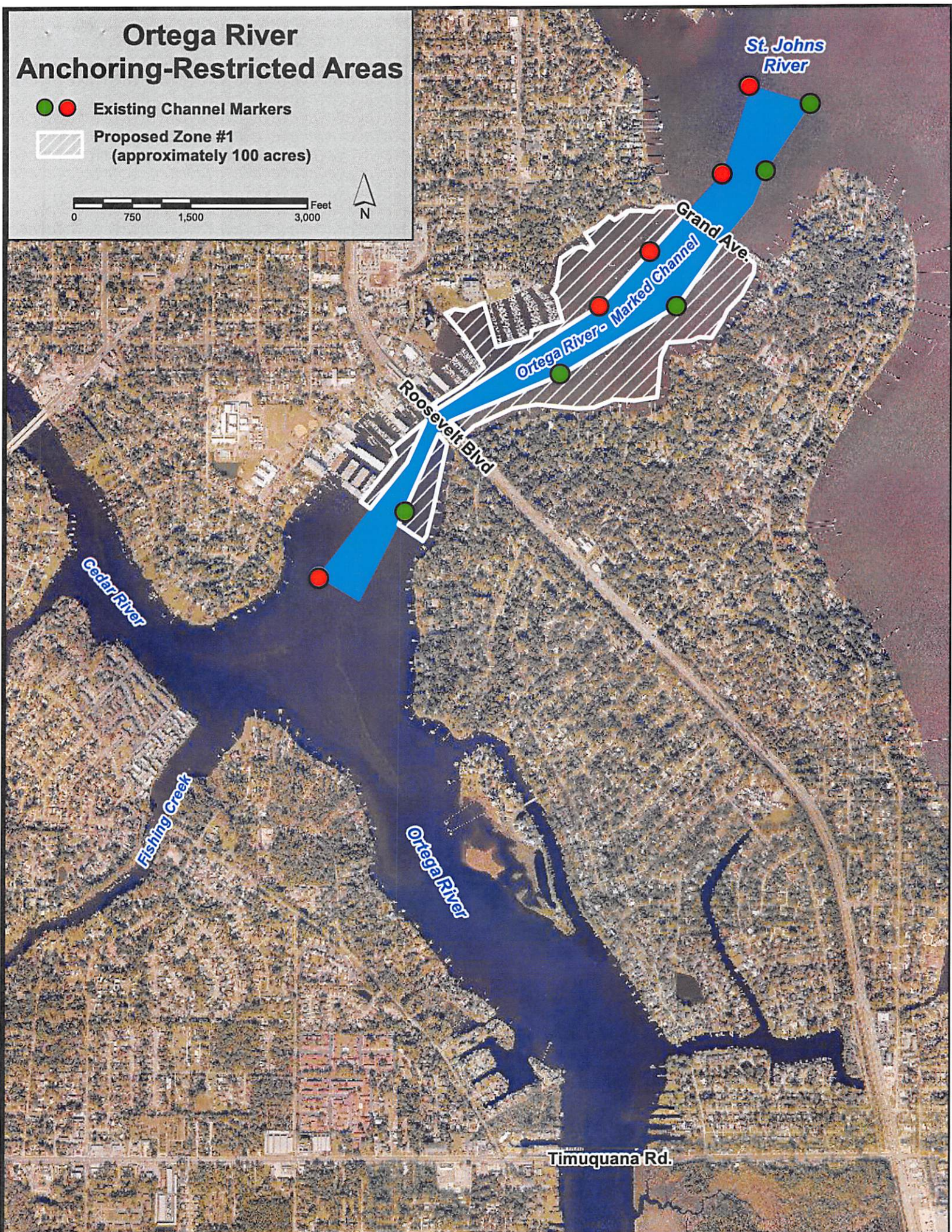
25 GC-#1473555-v13-Anchoring_Limitation_Area_DeFoor.docx

26



Ortega River Anchoring-Restricted Areas


-   Existing Channel Markers
-  Proposed Zone #1
(approximately 100 acres)

0 750 1,500 3,000 Feet

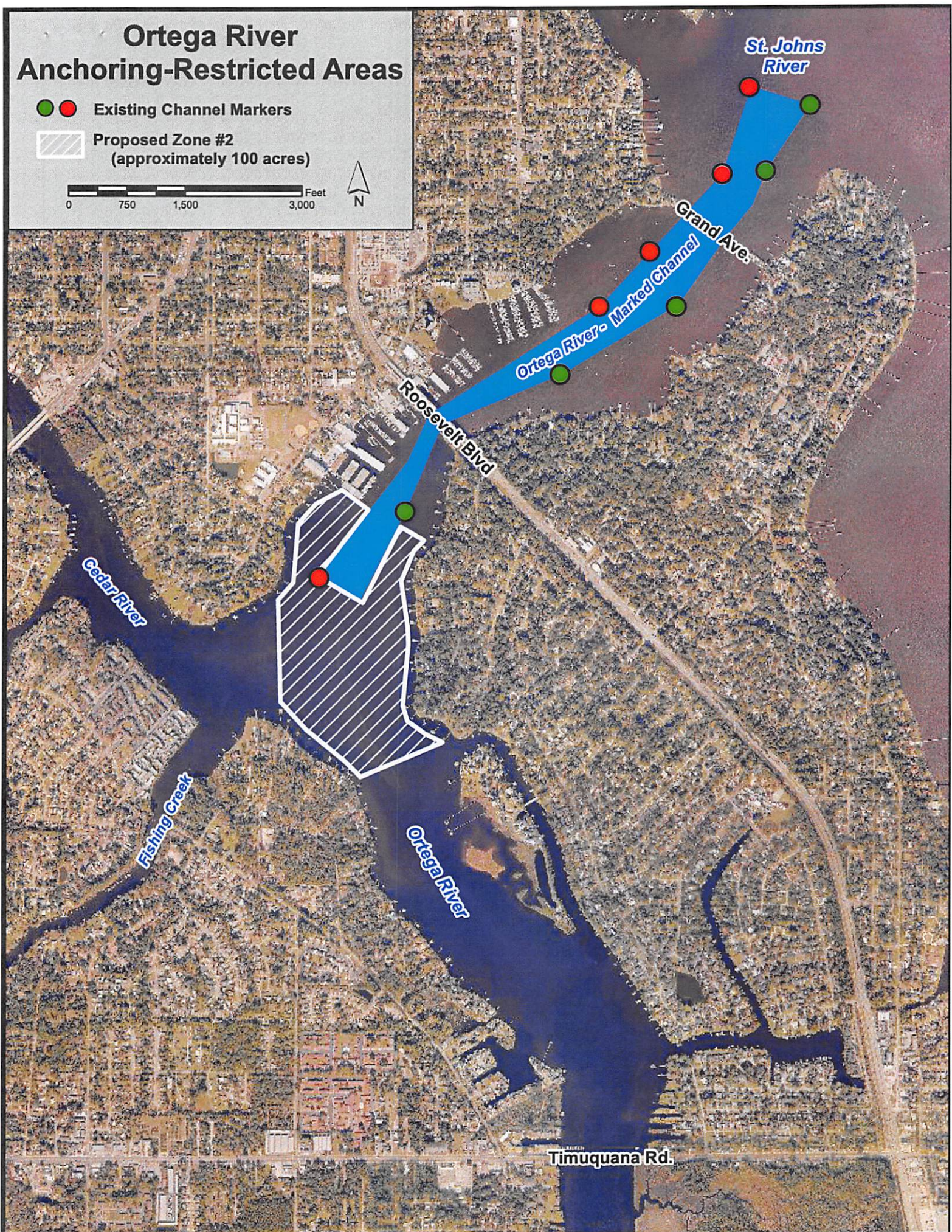


Ortega River Anchoring-Restricted Areas

  Existing Channel Markers

 Proposed Zone #2
(approximately 100 acres)

0 750 1,500 3,000 Feet

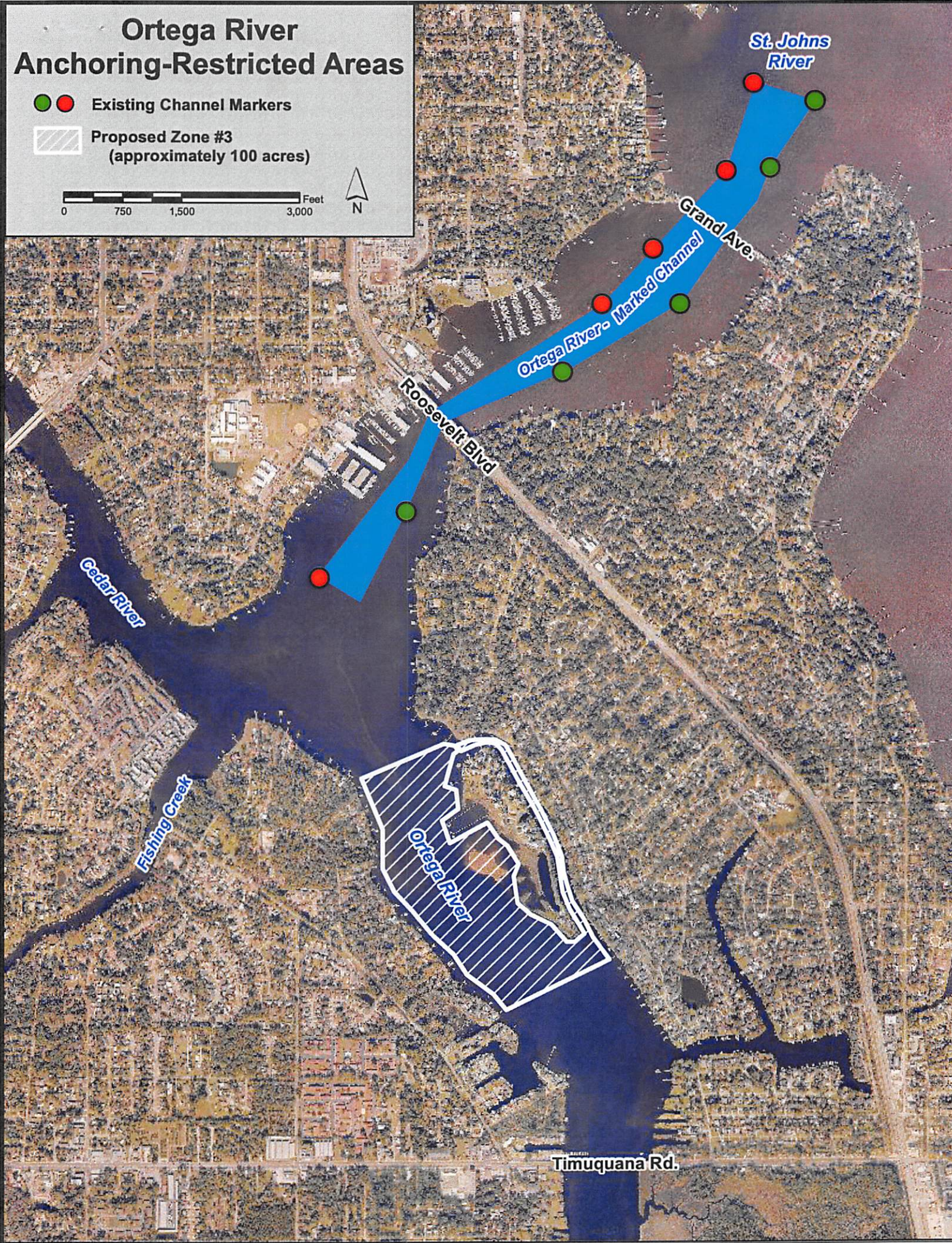


Ortega River Anchoring-Restricted Areas

● Existing Channel Markers

▨ Proposed Zone #3
(approximately 100 acres)

0 750 1,500 3,000 Feet



St. Johns
River

Grand Ave.

Ortega River-
Marked Channel

Roosevelt Blvd

Cedar River


Fishing Creek

Ortega River

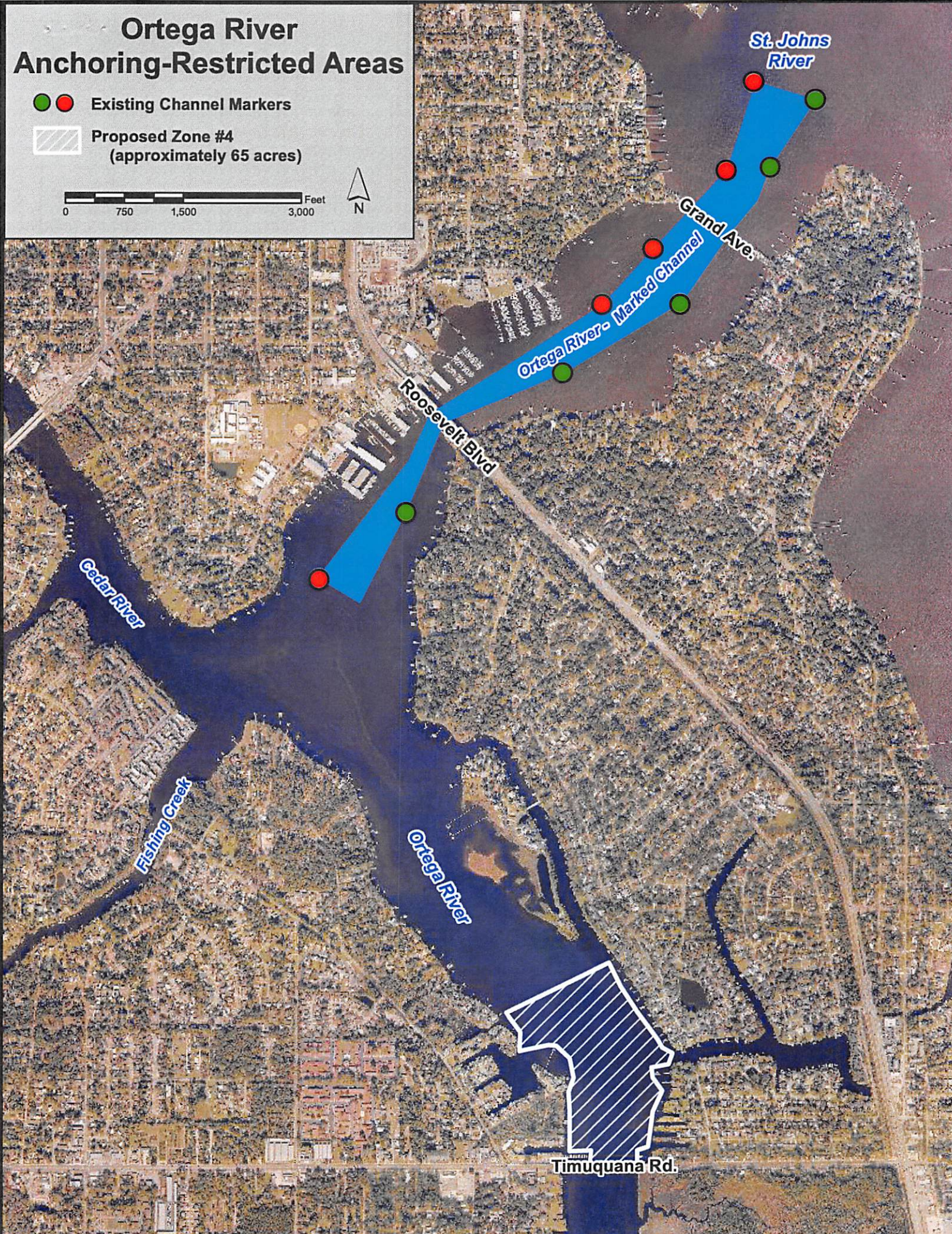
Timuquana Rd.

Ortega River Anchoring-Restricted Areas

  Existing Channel Markers

 Proposed Zone #4
(approximately 65 acres)

0 750 1,500 3,000 Feet



St. Johns River

Grand Ave.

Ortega River- Marked Channel

Roosevelt Blvd

Cedar River

Fishing Creek

Ortega River

Timuquana Rd.