

1 Introduced by Council Members Boylan and Carlucci and Co-Sponsored  
2 by Council Members Salem, Amaro, White and Johnson and amended by the  
3 Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and Safety  
4 Committee:

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6  
7 **ORDINANCE 2025-16-E**

8 AN ORDINANCE RENAMING A PUBLIC PARK PURSUANT TO  
9 SECTION 122.105 (PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PUBLIC  
10 FACILITIES AND PUBLIC PARKS NAMING AND RENAMING  
11 PROCEDURES), *ORDINANCE CODE*; RENAMING "LOSCO  
12 REGIONAL PARK" LOCATED AT 10931 HOOD ROAD SOUTH,  
13 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32257 IN COUNCIL DISTRICT  
14 6, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "RICHARD H. 'DICK' KRAVITZ  
15 REGIONAL PARK" IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE AND  
16 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DICK KRAVITZ TO THE CITY OF  
17 JACKSONVILLE AND THE MANDARIN COMMUNITY;  
18 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

19  
20 **WHEREAS**, Richard H. "Dick" Kravitz, a native of Philadelphia,  
21 earned his bachelor's degree in education from Temple University and  
22 a master's degree in sports administration from Ohio University before  
23 moving to Jacksonville in 1963; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Kravitz served as general manager for the  
25 Jacksonville Suns baseball team and the Jacksonville Tea Men of the  
26 North American Soccer League through the 1970s before being appointed  
27 in 1979 as Executive Director of the Jacksonville Sports and  
28 Entertainment Commission by Mayor Jake Godbold; and

29 **WHEREAS**, in 1987 Dick Kravitz was elected to the Jacksonville  
30 City Council in District 4, representing the Mandarin area and a  
31 large swath of the southeastern portion of the city, then was

1 subsequently re-elected without opposition in 1991 and in 1995 to a  
2 renumbered District 6 focused on Mandarin; and

3       **WHEREAS**, while on the City Council he was elected Council  
4 President for the 1995-96 Council year and was particularly known as  
5 a tireless advocate for bringing much-needed new parkland acquisition  
6 and development and improvements to existing parks in the rapidly  
7 growing Mandarin area, rectifying past failures to provide adequate  
8 recreational resources to meet the City's Comprehensive Plan Level  
9 of Service standards as the area's population exploded; and

10       **WHEREAS**, among the 17 park sites added to or substantially  
11 improved during Mr. Kravitz's tenure in office are many of Mandarin's  
12 most significant recreational and conservation resources, including  
13 Rogers Park, which allowed youth seeking to play organized soccer to  
14 stay in Jacksonville rather than travel to St. Johns County due to a  
15 lack of fields in the area, Tommy Hazouri, Sr. Park (formerly known  
16 as Mandarin Regional Park), Palmetto Leaves Regional Park, Losco  
17 Regional Park, the Julington Durbin Creek Nature Preserve, and the  
18 crowning jewel of his advocacy efforts, the Walter Jones Historical  
19 and Nature Park; and

20       **WHEREAS**, because of his dedicated service over the course of  
21 two decades representing the Mandarin area at both the city and state  
22 level with capability and integrity, and particularly in recognition  
23 of his particular advocacy for the creation and development of new  
24 parks to meet the needs of the growing Mandarin community, it is  
25 fitting that Dick Kravitz's legacy be permanently memorialized with  
26 the naming of a park in his honor; and

27       **WHEREAS**, the provisions of Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*,  
28 for the renaming of the park have been met; the public hearings have  
29 been held and the Planning and Development Department and Historic  
30 Preservation Commission have submitted a report and recommendation  
31 to the City Council, respectively; and

1           **WHEREAS,** the Historic Preservation Section, Community Planning  
2 Division of the Planning and Development Department has provided its  
3 report and recommends approval of this renaming; the Historic  
4 Preservation Commission reviewed said report and recommends approval  
5 of the proposed renaming as reflected in the Report of the Historic  
6 Preservation Section and Advisory Recommendation of the Jacksonville  
7 Historic Preservation Commission attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**; now  
8 therefore

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

10           **Section 1.           Renaming of Park to Honor Richard H. "Dick"**  
11 **Kravitz.** The "Losco Regional Park" located at 10931 Hood Road South,  
12 Jacksonville, Florida 32257 in Council District 6, is hereby renamed  
13 the "Richard H. 'Dick' Kravitz Regional Park" in accordance with the  
14 procedures set forth in Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*. The Council  
15 desires to honor Dick Kravitz for his service to the City of  
16 Jacksonville and the Mandarin community, particularly for his  
17 advocacy and accomplishments in acquisition and development of new  
18 park land and the substantial improvement of existing public parks  
19 in Jacksonville.

20           **Section 2.           Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become  
21 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
22 without the Mayor's signature.

23  
24 Form Approved:

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26           /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos          

27 Office of General Counsel

28 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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