Introduced by Council Member Peluso:

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ORDINANCE 2025-223

ΑN ORDINANCE REGARDING THE HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION; AMENDING SECTION 86.104 (FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES), CHAPTER 86 (HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION), ORDINANCE CODE, TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE TO CREATE AN INITIAL ANNUAL ACTION PLAN; REQUESTING ONE CYCLE EMERGENCY PASSAGE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS; PROVIDING ΑN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council established the Homelessness Initiatives Commission (the "Commission") on March 12, 2024, pursuant to Ordinance 2024-111-E (the "Enabling Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, the full composition of the members of the Commission were not appointed until August 27, 2024; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the delay in the appointments of the members of the Commission, the September 1, 2024, deadline for the creation of an annual Action Plan and the December 31, 2024, deadline for the creation of a five-year Strategic Plan, were extended to March 31, 2025, and December 31, 2025, respectively, pursuant to Ordinance 2024-765-E; and

WHEREAS, subsequently with the passage of House Bill 1365 (2024) by the Florida Legislature and the City Council's passage of Ordinance 2024-687-E, the newly-formed Commission immediately turned its attention to monitoring the City's response to the increased stress on available services and resources for Duval County's homeless and chronically unhoused populations, services already under stress,

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to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the response; and

WHEREAS, while monitoring the effects of the implementation of the two new laws, including bringing online additional beds and other services for the homeless and chronically unhoused populations as necessary to mitigate the effects of the anti-camping laws, the Commission, transitioning from a reactive phase toward a proactive phase, worked diligently to create a Request for Proposal ("RFP") to hire a consultant to facilitate the creation of a 1-year Action Plan and a 5-year Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, said RFP was published March 12, 2025, and based on the City procurement process it is anticipated that the consultant will be in place no sooner than approximately 12 weeks from the publishing of the RFP; and

WHEREAS, at a Special Meeting held on March 14, 2025, Shantel Davis, Chair of the Homelessness Initiatives Commission, requested the assistance of Council Member Peluso, City Council liaison to the Homelessness Initiatives Commission, to file legislation to extend the 1-year Action Plan deadline to December 31, 2025, to match the date set for the 5-year Strategic Plan which will allow the Commission sufficient time to prepare data-driven decision-making, а transparent, accountable and actionable 1-year Action Plan; now therefore

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

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Amending Section 86.104 (Functions, powers and duties), Chapter 86 (Homelessness Initiatives Commission), Ordinance Section 86.104 (Functions, powers and duties), Chapter 86 Code. (Homelessness Initiatives Commission), Ordinance Code, is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 86 - HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION

In addition to such powers, duties and authority as may be set

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Sec. 86.104. - Functions, powers and duties.

authorized to:

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forth elsewhere in the Ordinance Code, the Commission is hereby

(e) Create an annual Action Plan that includes specific goals and measurables to effectuate the Strategic Plan; the initial Action Plan shall be presented to the Council committee of reference tasked with reviewing and making recommendations on measures addressing homelessness on or before December 31, 2025 March 31, 2025;

Requesting One Cycle Emergency Passage Pursuant Section 3. to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency. One cycle emergency passage of this legislation is requested. The nature of the emergency is that the current deadline for the Homelessness Initiatives Commission to create a 1-year Action Plan is March 31, 2025, and there is a desire for the City Council to act upon the request for an extension as soon as possible.

Codification Instructions. The Codifier and the Section 4. Office of General Counsel are authorized to make all chapter and division "tables of contents" consistent with the changes set forth herein. Such editorial changes and any others necessary to make the Ordinance Code consistent with the intent of this legislation are approved and directed herein, and changes to the Ordinance Code shall be made forthwith and when inconsistencies are discovered.

Effective Date. Section 5. This Ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved: 2 3 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos Office of General Counsel 4 5 Legislation Prepared By: Shannon MacGillis 6 GC-#1677892-v4-HIC_1_Yr_Action_Plan_Ext_(Peluso).docx