

Introduced by Council Member Peluso:

ORDINANCE 2025-223

AN 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 AN 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,

1 to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the response; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 **CHAPTER 86 - HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION**

Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Shannon MacGillis

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