

1 Introduced by Council Members Newby, Carlucci, Boylan, Priestly
2 Jackson, Carrico, Freeman, Howland, White, Salem, Clark-Murray, and
3 DeFoor:

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6 **ORDINANCE 2022-724**

7 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING RENAMING A PUBLIC PARK
8 PURSUANT TO SECTION 122.105, *ORDINANCE CODE*;
9 RENAMING "MANDARIN PARK" LOCATED AT 14780
10 MANDARIN ROAD, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32223, IN
11 COUNCIL DISTRICT 6, AS "THOMAS L. "TOMMY"
12 HAZOURI, SR. PARK" TO RECOGNIZE THE MANY
13 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE
14 TOMMY HAZOURI TO THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND
15 THE MANDARIN COMMUNITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
16 DATE.

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

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

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

1 the odors emitted from industrial manufacturing and processing plants
2 that had given Jacksonville a notorious reputation, for spearheading
3 the campaign that convinced voters to approve a sales tax to replace
4 the tolls on the city's bridges in order to eliminate traffic
5 bottlenecks and toll booths and thereby improve air quality, and for
6 recruiting several major corporations to locate and expand offices
7 in Jacksonville; and

8 **WHEREAS**, during his tenure he also led the effort to replace the
9 outdated and poorly maintained Blodgett Homes public housing complex
10 with new, modernized housing and a state office campus, and worked
11 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; and

23 **WHEREAS**, during his tenure, his experience and leadership helped
24 guide the Council through several tumultuous issues, including the
25 proposed privatization of JEA, the sales tax for pension amortization
26 plan, the expansion of the local option gas tax for meeting
27 infrastructure needs, and several Jacksonville Jaguars stadium-area
28 development proposals; and

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

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

8 **WHEREAS,** the Council desires to honor the legacy of Tommy
9 Hazouri's dedication to the City of Jacksonville by renaming "Mandarin
10 Park" located at 14780 Mandarin Road to be known as "Thomas L. "Tommy"
11 Hazouri, Sr. Park" in order to recognize the contribution of Tommy
12 Hazouri to this City, and particularly to Mandarin, where he lived
13 for many years prior to his passing on September 11, 2021; and

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

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

19 **Section 1. Renaming of Park to Honor Thomas L. "Tommy"**
20 **Hazouri, Sr.** The "Mandarin Park" located at 14780 Mandarin Road,
21 Jacksonville, Florida 32223 in District 6, is hereby renamed to
22 "Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. Park" in recognition of the many
23 contributions of Tommy Hazouri to the City of Jacksonville and to
24 honor the legacy of Mr. Hazouri, a longtime resident of Mandarin.

25 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become
26 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
27 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved

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3 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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