

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller:
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4 **ORDINANCE 2025-429**

5 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN EXCEPTIONAL PLANTING
6 PROJECT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA
7 CAMPUS LOCATED AT 1 UNF DRIVE, JACKSONVILLE,
8 FLORIDA 32224, PURSUANT TO SECTION 94.107
9 (EXCEPTIONAL PLANTING PROJECTS REFERRAL TO CITY
10 COUNCIL), CHAPTER 94 (TREE COMMISSION),
11 *ORDINANCE CODE*, IN A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF
12 \$375,000; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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14 **WHEREAS**, the Tree Commission was established by Ordinance
15 2017-635-E, as described in Chapter 94, *Ordinance Code*, which tasks
16 the Tree Commission to, among a number of other duties, identify and
17 implement initiatives and projects that develop and maintain a healthy
18 tree canopy throughout the City; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the City Council established the City's "Level 3 Tree
20 Planting Program" pursuant to Ordinance 2020-213-E, which allows
21 entities to propose tree planting projects on public property to be
22 funded by the Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund; and

23 **WHEREAS**, on April 28, 2025, the Tree Commission voted to
24 recommend approval to use \$367,000 in funding from the City's Level
25 3 Tree Planting Program for a Level 3 tree planting project submitted
26 by the Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of Florida, Inc.
27 (the "Public Trust") for the planting of 199 trees over five locations
28 throughout the University of North Florida ("UNF") campus (the
29 "Project"), with no existing trees expected to be removed because of
30 the Project; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the Public Works Request to the Mayor's Budget Review

1 Committee for approval of the UNF Tree Planting Project, the Staff
2 Report, and the Level 3 Application for UNF Tree Planting Project
3 ("Application"), have been placed **On File**, with the Legislative
4 Services Division, and there is sufficient funding available in the
5 City's Level 3 Tree Planting Program for the Project; and

6 **WHEREAS**, staff of the Public Trust will administer and provide
7 oversight for the Project, which is designed to create enhanced tree
8 canopy, shade, wildlife habitat and other important ecological
9 services at the UNF campus for the benefit Duval County residents
10 that live on the campus and who attend school at UNF, as well as the
11 many visitors to the University of North Florida; and

12 **WHEREAS**, on May 12, 2025, the Mayor's Budget Review Committee
13 recommended approval of the Project to be funded in the amount of
14 \$367,000 from the City's Level 3 Tree Planting Program; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Section 95.107, *Ordinance Code*, provides that any
16 Level 2 or Level 3 planting project that, in whole or in cumulative
17 portions or stages, exceeds \$300,000 is deemed an "Exceptional
18 Planting Project" that upon a favorable recommendation from both the
19 Tree Commission and the Mayor's Budget Review Committee shall require
20 Council approval prior to commencement of the project; now therefore

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

22 **Section 1.** The City Council approves the Level 3
23 Exceptional Planting Project submitted by the Public Trust
24 Environmental Legal Institute of Florida, Inc., for the planting of
25 199 trees in five locations on the University of North Florida campus,
26 pursuant to Section 94.107 (Exceptional Planting Projects Referral
27 to City Council), Chapter 94 (Tree Commission), *Ordinance Code*, as
28 approved by the Tree Commission and the Mayor's Budget Review
29 Committee. The cumulative total funding from the City's Level 3 Tree
30 Planting Program for the Project shall not exceed \$375,000, which
31 includes the estimated cost of \$367,000 for the Project based on the

1 Application by the Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of
2 Florida, Inc., and a small contingency to cover additional incidental
3 costs which may arise during implementation of the Project.

4 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
5 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
6 without the Mayor's signature.

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8 Form Approved:

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10 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

11 Office of General Counsel

12 Legislation Prepared By: Shannon MacGillis

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