

Introduced by Council Member Johnson:

RESOLUTION 2025-414

A RESOLUTION HONORING GRETCHEN MITCHELL FOR HER
35 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE
JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY; PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Gretchen Mitchell began her career with the
Jacksonville Public Library in 1990 as a librarian at the Webb
Wesconnett Regional Branch, and over the course of 35 years, has
demonstrated unwavering dedication to library services and the
citizens of Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mitchell is a member of both the Florida Library
Association and the American Library Association, and holds a Bachelor
of Arts degree from Rollins College and a Master of Library and
Information Science degree from Florida State University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mitchell most recently served as Deputy Chief
Librarian for Support Services, a role she assumed in May 2018 after
previously holding the position of Assistant Director for Support
Services from 2009 to 2018; and

WHEREAS, throughout her tenure, Ms. Mitchell provided
executive oversight of critical areas including facilities, safety
and security, finance collection management, and technology services
across the library system; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mitchell collaborated with the Florida State
College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) to lead a major initiative to offer
hotspots and laptops to students through library locations, helping
document the effort in the publication *Fostering Student Success:
Academic, Social and Financial Initiatives*; and

1 **WHEREAS**, during Ms. Mitchell tenure as Administrative
2 Supervisor from 2003 to 2009, she was responsible for the operations
3 of seven library branches and later the Main Library, overseeing
4 branch renovations and the construction of new facilities under the
5 Better Jacksonville Plan; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Mitchell has been a committed mentor and leader
7 within the Sunshine State Library Leadership Institute, serving five
8 times as a mentor since 2005 and participating in the Library's
9 mentoring managers program; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Mitchell was honored as the Jacksonville Public
11 Library's Employee of the Quarter in the third quarter of 2008-2009,
12 a testament to her leadership, mentorship, and professional
13 excellence; and

14 **WHEREAS**, after 35 years of impactful service, Gretchen
15 Mitchell retired on May 2, 2025, leaving a legacy of innovation,
16 mentorship, and commitment to public service in Jacksonville's
17 library system; now therefore

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

19 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends
20 Gretchen Mitchell for her 35 years of distinguished service to the
21 Jacksonville Public Library and recognizes the lasting impact of her
22 leadership on the library system as an institution and her impact on
23 the broader community.

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

Form Approved:

/s/ Shannon MacGillis

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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