

1 Introduced by Council Member Peluso and Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Members Johnson, Pittman and Freeman:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2025-442-A**

6 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE INSTALLATION OF  
7 SIGNAGE BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
8 TRANSPORTATION DESIGNATING THE ENTRANCE TO THE  
9 HISTORIC DURKEEVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD; DIRECTING  
10 THE CHIEF OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO TRANSMIT A  
11 COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION, ONCE ADOPTED, TO THE  
12 FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; PROVIDING  
13 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
14

15 **WHEREAS,** named after former Union soldier Joseph H. Durkee,  
16 the Historic Durkeeville Neighborhood was established in the early  
17 20th century as a predominantly African American neighborhood,  
18 providing refuge and opportunities for Black families during  
19 segregation; and

20 **WHEREAS,** Durkeeville served as a cultural and economic hub for  
21 African Americans, where businesses, churches, and schools  
22 flourished, creating a self-sustaining community that was  
23 instrumental in the Civil Rights movement of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; and

24 **WHEREAS,** the Historic Durkeeville Neighborhood contains the  
25 J.P. Small Memorial Stadium, formerly Durkee Field, home of the Negro  
26 League and minor league baseball teams, where figures like Hank Aaron,  
27 Leroy "Satchel" Paige, Roy Campanella, James "Cool Papa" Bell, and  
28 William "Judy" Johnson played the game on their way to baseball's  
29 Hall of Fame; and

30 **WHEREAS,** the Historic Durkeeville Neighborhood also contains  
31 Durkee Gardens Historic District, which is listed in the National

1 Park Service's National Register of Historic Places; now therefore

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

3 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby encourages the Florida  
4 Department of Transportation to install a marker on the off-ramp for  
5 Exit 353D on Interstate 95, designating the entrance to the Historic  
6 Durkeeville Neighborhood, and any other additional signage on the  
7 borders of the Historic District.

8 **Section 2. Directive to the Chief of Legislative Services**  
9 **Division.** The City Council hereby directs the Chief of the Legislative  
10 Services Division to forward a copy of this Resolution, once adopted,  
11 to the Florida Department of Transportation.

12 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
13 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
14 without the Mayor's signature.

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16 Form Approved:

17  
18 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

19 Office of General Counsel

20 Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

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