

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2026-97-E**

5 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS  
6 MADE BY THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AGAINST OTIS  
7 ELEVATOR COMPANY AS SET FORTH IN THE FOURTH  
8 JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT CASE NUMBER 16-2024-CA-  
9 000270; APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF  
10 A PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE AGREEMENT;  
11 AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL COUNSEL AND HIS  
12 DESIGNEE(S) TO TAKE ALL FURTHER ACTION TO  
13 RESOLVE THE CLAIMS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville ("City") asserted claims  
16 against Otis Elevator Company ("Otis Elevator") relating to breach  
17 of contract and damages arising out of elevator service and elevator  
18 maintenance at several buildings owned by the City, which are more  
19 fully described in a lawsuit filed by the City in the Fourth Judicial  
20 Circuit styled City of Jacksonville v. Otis Elevator Company, Duval  
21 County Circuit Court Case No. 16-2024-CA-000270 ("Lawsuit"); and

22 **WHEREAS**, Otis Elevator has agreed to pay the City \$100,000 in  
23 settlement of the Lawsuit in exchange for a mutual release and  
24 dismissal of the Lawsuit; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the City and Otis Elevator wish to resolve all matters  
26 relating to the Lawsuit, thereby avoiding the risk of increased costs,  
27 expenses, and attorney's fees associated with potential litigation;  
28 and

29 **WHEREAS**, the parties have developed a proposed Settlement  
30 Agreement and Release ("Settlement Agreement") to resolve the claims  
31 without admitting any liability or fault;

1 Now therefore, **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of  
2 Jacksonville:

3 **Section 1. Settlement Approval and Authorization.** There is  
4 hereby approved, and the Mayor, or her designee, and the Corporation  
5 Secretary are authorized to enter into the Settlement Agreement in  
6 substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated  
7 herein.

8 **Section 2. Further Action Authorized.** The General Counsel, or  
9 his designee, is authorized to take such further action and to execute  
10 all other documents necessary to effectuate the approved settlement.  
11 Following completion of the payment as set forth in the Settlement  
12 Agreement, the General Counsel, or his designee, is authorized to  
13 file a notice of dismissal with prejudice of the Litigation as  
14 provided in the Agreement.

15 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective  
16 upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the  
17 Mayor's signature.

18  
19 Form Approved:

20  
21 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

22 Office of General Counsel

23 Legislation Prepared By: Tiffiny Douglas Pinkstaff

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