

1 Introduced by Council Member Arias and Co-Sponsored by Council Member  
2 Johnson and amended by the Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public  
3 Health and Safety Committee:

4  
5  
6 **ORDINANCE 2026-180-E**

7 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,500,000 FROM THE  
8 TREE PROTECTION AND RELATED EXPENSES TRUST FUND  
9 (ORDINANCE) TO THE LEVEL 2 TREE PLANTING PROGRAM  
10 TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR TREE PLANTINGS ADMINISTERED  
11 BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ON PUBLIC  
12 PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR CONTINUED OVERSIGHT BY  
13 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS; PROVIDING AN  
14 EFFECTIVE DATE.

15  
16 **WHEREAS**, the Tree Commission was established by Ordinance  
17 2017-397-E, as described in Chapter 94, *Ordinance Code*, which outlines  
18 the various duties and responsibilities of the Tree Commission to  
19 develop and maintain a healthy tree canopy in the City; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the City currently maintains two Tree Protection and  
21 Related Expenses Trust Funds, the first was created pursuant to  
22 Section 25.04 of the *Jacksonville City Charter* and the second by  
23 ordinance which is codified in Section 111.760, *Ordinance Code*; and

24 **WHEREAS**, while these Funds are subject to differing guidelines  
25 and requirements, they both serve the fundamental mission of planting  
26 and maintaining trees along the public rights-of-way and on public  
27 lands within the City, so as to mitigate for the loss or destruction  
28 of protected trees and to replace the tree canopy in the City that  
29 has been lost through the process of land development; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the Tree Commission established the Level 2 Program,  
31 by Ordinance 2019-89-E, to provide individual citizens,

1 organizations, City departments, and/or Council Members with the  
2 opportunity to suggest locations for tree planting projects on public  
3 property within Duval County that proposes to use funds from the City  
4 of Jacksonville Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund; and

5 **WHEREAS**, during its meeting on February 18, 2026, the Tree  
6 Commission voted unanimously to recommend appropriating Tree  
7 Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund (Ordinance) monies as  
8 described herein for the continuation and expansion of the Level 2  
9 Tree Planting Program; now therefore

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

11 **Section 1. Appropriation.** For the 2025-2026 fiscal year,  
12 within the City's budget, there are hereby appropriated the sum(s)  
13 from the account(s) listed in subsections (a) to the account(s) listed  
14 in subsection (b):

15 (The account information is attached hereto as **Revised Exhibit 1**,  
16 labeled as "Revised Exhibit 1, Rev B.T., April 6, 2026 - NCSPHS" and  
17 incorporated herein by this reference)

18 (a) Appropriated from:

19 See **Revised Exhibit 1** \$4,500,000

20 (b) Appropriated to:

21 See **Revised Exhibit 1** \$4,500,000

22 (c) **Explanation of the appropriation:**

23 The funding above represents a total appropriation of  
24 \$4,500,000 from the Tree Protection and Related Expenses  
25 Trust Fund (Ordinance) to fund the continuation and  
26 expansion of the City's Level 2 Tree Planting Program (the  
27 "Level 2 Program").

28 **Section 2. Purpose.** The purpose of the appropriation in  
29 Section 1 is to provide funds for the continuation and expansion of  
30 the City's Level 2 Program which allows for tree plantings on public  
31 rights-of-way and public property by the Department of Public Works.

**Section 3. Oversight Department.**

The Public Works Department shall continue to oversee and administer the Level 2 Program described herein. The trees that are planted, and any that are removed as part of the planting, shall be recorded electronically on Plan-it Geo, or its equivalent, and shall note the species and size of each, as well as the date of planting or removal.

**Section 4. Effective Date.**

This Ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Shannon MacGillis

GC-#1747575-v1-2026-180-E.docx