

1 Introduced by Council Members Newby, Carlucci, Boylan, Priestly
2 Jackson, Carrico, Freeman, Howland, White, Salem, Clark-Murray, and
3 DeFoor and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Pittman and Morgan and
4 amended by the Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and
5 Safety Committee:

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8 **ORDINANCE 2022-724-E**

9 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING RENAMING A PUBLIC PARK
10 PURSUANT TO SECTION 122.105, *ORDINANCE CODE*;
11 RENAMING "MANDARIN PARK" LOCATED AT 14780
12 MANDARIN ROAD, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32223, IN
13 COUNCIL DISTRICT 6, AS "TOMMY HAZOURI, SR. PARK"
14 TO RECOGNIZE THE MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND
15 SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE TOMMY HAZOURI TO THE
16 CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND THE MANDARIN COMMUNITY;
17 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

18
19 **WHEREAS**, Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr., a Jacksonville native,
20 graduated from Andrew Jackson High School and earned his bachelor's
21 degree in history and government from Jacksonville University where
22 he was elected Student Government President; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri began his long career of public service in
24 1974 with his election to the Florida House of Representatives, where
25 he served six terms during which he was appointed Chairman of the
26 House Committee on Education, K-12, and the House Committee on
27 Retirement, Personnel, and Collective Bargaining, and was elected
28 Chair of the Duval Legislative Delegation; and

29 **WHEREAS**, following his service in the Legislature, Tommy Hazouri
30 was elected Mayor of Jacksonville in 1987 and made a tremendous impact
31 on the city during his term. He is best known for successfully

1 fighting to enact and enforce regulations that drastically reduced
2 the odors emitted from industrial manufacturing and processing plants
3 that had given Jacksonville a notorious reputation, for spearheading
4 the campaign that convinced voters to approve a sales tax to replace
5 the tolls on the city's bridges in order to eliminate traffic
6 bottlenecks and toll booths and thereby improve air quality, and for
7 recruiting several major corporations to locate and expand offices
8 in Jacksonville; and

9 **WHEREAS**, during his tenure he also led the effort to replace the
10 outdated and poorly maintained Blodgett Homes public housing complex
11 with new, modernized housing and a state office campus, and worked
12 in tandem with the City Council to enact a Minority Business
13 Enterprise program to enhance minority business participation in City
14 procurement opportunities; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri's career of public service continued in the
16 new century when he was elected to the School Board in 2004, serving
17 two terms through 2012 and being elected as Vice Chair in 2007-08 and
18 Chair of the board in 2008-09; and

19 **WHEREAS**, in 2015, Tommy Hazouri once again stepped up to serve
20 his community by seeking and winning a seat on the City Council as
21 an At-Large Council Member and was re-elected to a second term in
22 2019. His council colleagues elected him Vice President for 2019-20
23 and Council President for 2020-21; and

24 **WHEREAS**, during his tenure, his experience and leadership helped
25 guide the Council through several tumultuous issues, including the
26 proposed privatization of JEA, the sales tax for pension amortization
27 plan, the expansion of the local option gas tax for meeting
28 infrastructure needs, and several Jacksonville Jaguars stadium-area
29 development proposals; and

30 **WHEREAS**, his life-long concern for the interests and well-being
31 of Jacksonville's citizens, is evidenced by his work in continuing

1 to fulfill the intent of Consolidation, the adoption of a broadened
2 Human Rights Ordinance, the appointment of a Special Committee on
3 Social Justice and Community Investment, and laying the early
4 foundation for the creation of the Jacksonville Small and Emerging
5 Business (JSEB); and who, as a trusted and beloved civic leader,
6 measured every decision against his hallmark sentiment that sets the
7 standard for what should and must take place in the Council Chamber:
8 "It has to be all about Jacksonville"; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Council desires to honor the legacy of Tommy
10 Hazouri's dedication to the City of Jacksonville by renaming "Mandarin
11 Park" located at 14780 Mandarin Road to be known as "Tommy Hazouri,
12 Sr. Park" in order to recognize the contribution of Tommy Hazouri to
13 this City, and particularly to Mandarin, where he lived for many
14 years prior to his passing on September 11, 2021; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the provisions of Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*, for
16 renaming of the park have been met; the public hearings have been
17 held and the Planning and Development Department has submitted its
18 report to the Council; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Historic Preservation Section of the Community
20 Planning Division of the Planning and Development Department has
21 provided their report, including the recommendation of the Historic
22 Preservation Commission, in accordance with Section 122.105(b),
23 *Ordinance Code*, attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, and recommends approval
24 of the proposed name change; now, therefore

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

26 **Section 1. Renaming of Park to Honor Thomas L. "Tommy"**
27 **Hazouri, Sr.** The "Mandarin Park" located at 14780 Mandarin Road,
28 Jacksonville, Florida 32223 in District 6, is hereby renamed to "Tommy
29 Hazouri, Sr. Park" in recognition of the many contributions of Tommy
30 Hazouri to the City of Jacksonville and to honor the legacy of Mr.
31 Hazouri, a longtime resident of Mandarin.

1 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become
2 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
3 without the Mayor's signature.

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5 Form Approved

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7 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

8 Office of General Counsel

9 Legislation prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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