

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor and
2 amended by the Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and
3 Safety Committee:
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6 **ORDINANCE 2026-188-E**

7 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE
8 MAYOR, OR HER DESIGNEE, AND THE CORPORATION
9 SECRETARY TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER THAT CERTAIN
10 STIPULATION OF PARTIES FOR THE PERMANENT CLOSURE
11 OF 8th STREET EAST RAILROAD-HIGHWAY GRADE
12 CROSSING, FDOT CROSSING NUMBER 713594W, AND THE
13 OPENING OF OTIS ROAD PUBLIC RAILROAD-HIGHWAY
14 GRADE CROSSING, BETWEEN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE
15 AND THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
16 TRANSPORTATION ("FDOT"); PROVIDING FOR
17 OVERSIGHT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS;
18 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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20 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to CIP Project entitled Cecil Mega Site Rail
21 Spur project, the City of Jacksonville ("City") authorized the
22 construction of a new rail spur into the 600-acre City-owned Mega
23 Site at Cecil Commerce Center (the "Project"); and

24 **WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate the Project, it is necessary to
25 close the 8th Street East Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing, Florida
26 Department of Transportation ("FDOT") Crossing Number 713594W, and
27 to open the Otis Road Public Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing;

28 **WHEREAS**, in order to open and close the respective crossings,
29 FDOT requires that a Stipulation of Parties for the opening and
30 closure be executed by the City, Norfolk Southern Railway, and the
31 FDOT, and legislation is required to authorize execution of the

1 Stipulation of Parties by the City; now therefore,

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

3 **Section 1. Authorization.** The Mayor, or her designee, and
4 the Corporation Secretary are hereby authorized to execute and deliver
5 on behalf of the City, that certain Stipulation of Parties for the
6 Closure of 8th Street East Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing, FDOT
7 Crossing Number 713594W, and the opening of the Otis Road Public
8 Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing (collectively, the "Project"),
9 between City of Jacksonville, FDOT, and Norfolk Southern Railway (the
10 "Stipulation of Parties"), in substantially the form placed **Revised**
11 **On File** with the Legislative Services Division. The city filed
12 applications with FDOT to permanently close the 8th Street East Public
13 Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing and to open the Otis Road Public
14 Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing. Pursuant to the Stipulation of
15 Parties, the City will undertake: (i) all work necessary for the 8th
16 Street East closure, which shall include closure of the Public
17 Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing, including but not limited to,
18 removal of all evidence of the track crossing within the City's right-
19 of-way and restoration of the roadway and sidewalks within the right-
20 of-way; and (ii) all work necessary to install and maintain the Otis
21 Road Public Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing, inclusive of automated
22 railroad grade crossing warning devices, and traffic control devices,
23 signs, pavement markings, flashing light signals and automated gates.
24 All costs associated with the Project will be borne by the City and
25 paid utilizing funding from the Capital Improvement Program under the
26 project entitled "Cecil Mega Site Rail Spur."

27 **Section 2. Oversight.** The Department of Public Works shall
28 oversee the project described herein.

29 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
30 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
31 without the Mayor's signature.

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Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation prepared by: John Sawyer

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