

Introduced by Council Member Carlucci:

ORDINANCE 2026-644

AN ORDINANCE RENAMING THE PUBLIC PARK CURRENTLY KNOWN AS "CEDAR POINT PRESERVE," WHICH INCLUDES CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 2, LOCATED ON CEDAR POINT ROAD NEAR DARCY DRIVE AND 7 CREEKS TRAIL, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, PURSUANT TO SECTION 122.105 (PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND PUBLIC PARKS NAMING AND RENAMING PROCEDURES), *ORDINANCE CODE*, TO BE KNOWN AS "MIDDLEBROOK PRESERVE"; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Jacksonville owns the land currently known as "Cedar Point Preserve," which includes approximately 620± acres of real property located on Cedar Point Road near Darcy Drive and 7 Creeks Trail, located in Council District 2 (R.E. No(s) 159885-0000, 159908-0050, 159909-0000, 159909-0100, 160293-0000, 160294-0000, 160717-0000, 160718-0020, and 160718-0030), as graphically depicted in **Exhibit 1**, attached hereto (the "Subject Property"); and

WHEREAS, Mark Middlebrook devoted his life to Jacksonville, answering the call of public service with a steady commitment to neighborhood advocacy and the protection of the city's natural landscapes; and

WHEREAS, Mark Middlebrook served the public through his roles in the administration of Mayor John Delaney, where he acted as a primary architect of the Preservation Project Jacksonville, a landmark initiative that resulted in the acquisition and protection

1 of more than 50,000 acres of environmentally sensitive land; and

2 **WHEREAS**, Mark Middlebrook's leadership ensured the creation of
3 one of the largest urban park systems in the United States,
4 transitioning the city's focus from mere land acquisition to
5 meaningful public access, thereby connecting residents to the
6 Timucuan Preserve and the St. Johns River; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Mark Middlebrook later served as the Executive Director
8 of the Timucuan Parks Foundation, where he fostered vital partnerships
9 between the National Park Service, Florida State Parks, and the City
10 of Jacksonville to maintain and promote the city's vast preserve
11 system; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Jacksonville now desires to
13 formally honor Mark Middlebrook's lifelong commitment to
14 environmental preservation and community advocacy by renaming Cedar
15 Point Preserve as "Middlebrook Preserve," which will serve as a
16 lasting testament to his conservation efforts and public service; now
17 therefore

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

19 **Section 1. Renaming the Subject Property "Middlebrook**
20 **Preserve."** The Subject Property currently known as "Cedar Point
21 Preserve" is hereby renamed "Middlebrook Preserve" in accordance with
22 the procedures set forth in Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*. The
23 City's Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department currently
24 oversees and maintains this park and will continue to be responsible
25 for its maintenance and upkeep.

26 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
27 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
28 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

2

3 /s/ Carla A. Schell

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Carla A. Schell

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