

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller:
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4 **ORDINANCE 2025-324**

5 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,100,000 FROM THE
6 TREE PROTECTION AND RELATED EXPENSES TRUST FUND
7 - CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PRIVATE SOURCES ACCOUNT TO
8 THE COUNTY-WIDE TREE PROG-REMOVE-REPLACE - TRUST
9 FUND AUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES ACCOUNT FOR REMOVAL
10 AND REPLACEMENT OF DEAD/DYING OR HAZARDOUS TREES
11 ON PUBLIC PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER;
12 PROVIDING FOR CONTINUED OVERSIGHT BY THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS; REQUESTING ONE CYCLE
14 EMERGENCY PASSAGE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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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 different guidelines
25 and requirements, both serve the fundamental mission of planting and
26 maintaining trees along the public rights-of-way and on public lands
27 within the City, so as to mitigate for the loss or destruction of
28 protected trees and to replace the tree canopy in the City that has
29 been lost through the process of land development; and

30 **WHEREAS,** the County-Wide Tree Planting Program - Right of Way
31 (also known as the "Remove and Replace Program") was initiated by

Ordinance 2018-775-E to authorize the Department of Public Works to remove trees within the public rights-of-way and public parks of the City that are damaged, dead, in impending decline, or that have become a hazard to the public health, safety and welfare, and to replace such trees within certain established guidelines; and

WHEREAS, during a special meeting on April 28, 2025, the Tree Commission voted to recommend appropriating funds to the Remove and Replace Program in the total amount of \$2,100,000 from the Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund established by Ordinance in Chapter 111, *Ordinance Code*; now therefore

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

Section 1. Appropriation. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, within the City's budget, there are hereby appropriated the indicated sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsections (a) to the account(s) listed in subsection (b):

(The account information is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated herein by this reference)

(a) Appropriated from:

See **Exhibit 1** \$2,100,000

(b) Appropriated to:

See **Exhibit 1** \$2,100,000

(c) Explanation of the Appropriation:

The funding above is an appropriation of \$2,100,000 from the Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund - Contributions from Private Sources account to the County-Wide Tree Prog-Remove-Replace - Trust Fund Authorized Expenditures account (the "Remove and Replace Program" or "Program") to provide funding for removal and replacement of diseased, deceased and declining trees within the City's rights-of-way and parks.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of the appropriation in

1 Section 1 is to provide funding for the City's Remove and Replace
2 Program wherein the Department of Public Works removes and replaces
3 trees within the City's public rights-of-way and parks that are
4 damaged, dead, in impending decline, or a hazard to the public health,
5 safety and welfare. As part of its administration of the Program,
6 the Department of Public Works shall ensure that any trees that are
7 planted or removed are recorded electronically on Plan-it Geo, or its
8 equivalent, and shall note the species and size of each, as well as
9 the date of planting or removal.

10 **Section 3. Carryover.** The funds appropriated herein shall
11 not lapse but shall carryover to subsequent fiscal years until
12 expended.

13 **Section 4. Oversight Department.** The Public Works
14 Department shall continue to oversee and administer the Program
15 described herein.

16 **Section 5. Requesting One Cycle Emergency Passage Pursuant**
17 **to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** One cycle emergency passage of this
18 legislation is requested. The nature of the emergency is that funding
19 for the Remove and Replace Program is nearly depleted, and there is
20 a desire for the City Council to act upon the request for the
21 appropriation of funds as soon as possible.

22 **Section 6. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
23 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
24 without the Mayor's signature.

25 Form Approved:

26
27 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

28 Office of General Counsel

29 Legislation Prepared By: Shannon MacGillis

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