

1 Introduced by Council Member Amaro:
2

3 **RESOLUTION 2026-409**

4 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING TIM COST
5 FOR HIS SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF JACKSONVILLE
6 UNIVERSITY AND CONGRATULATING HIM ON HIS NEW
7 ROLE AS CHANCELLOR OF JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY;
8 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Tim Cost has served as president of Jacksonville
11 University since 2013, becoming the first alumnus to lead the
12 University, guiding it through an era of transformation and growth;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS**, during his tenure, President Cost led Jacksonville
15 University through significant expansion, growing the institution
16 from three colleges, five schools, and two institutes, to five
17 colleges, nine schools, and three institutes, along with the
18 introduction of new, in-demand major fields of study including speech
19 language pathology, clinical mental health counseling, occupational
20 therapy, accelerated nursing, business analytics, engineering, law,
21 data science, AI, cybersecurity, and robotics; and

22 **WHEREAS**, in 2022, President Cost oversaw the establishment and
23 launch of the Jacksonville University College of Law, which expanded
24 access to legal education and the development of the legal workforce
25 in Northeast Florida, and whose first graduating class achieved the
26 second-highest bar passage rate in the state; and

27 **WHEREAS**, President Cost advanced a partnership with Lake Erie
28 College of Osteopathic Medicine to create the region's first four-
29 year medical school, scheduled to open in the fall of 2026; and

30 **WHEREAS**, under President Cost's leadership, Jacksonville
31 University strengthened its financial standing and philanthropic

1 support by increasing the endowment by more than 50 percent, leading
2 the investment of \$100 million into the University's campus,
3 completing the ASPIRE campaign that raised more than \$120 million,
4 launching the Florida EPIC program to support STEAM education,
5 regional economic investment and job creation, and spearheading the
6 University's historic \$175 million "Future. Made." comprehensive
7 campaign; and

8 **WHEREAS**, since Tim Cost became President of Jacksonville
9 University, the University has consistently ranked as a premier
10 institution for students' return on investment and outcomes, with the
11 University being selected as one of America's Best Colleges by US
12 News and World Report and named one of the top 500 universities in
13 the country by Forbes; and

14 **WHEREAS**, after 14 years of distinguished service as President
15 of Jacksonville University, Tim Cost will transition to serve as
16 Chancellor of Jacksonville University, where he will focus on
17 partnerships, fundraising, alumni, community, and government
18 relations, to advance the University's mission; now therefore

19 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

20 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends Tim
21 Cost for his exemplary and invaluable leadership as President of
22 Jacksonville University and his lasting contributions to the City.
23 The City Council congratulates Mr. Cost on his appointment as
24 Chancellor to Jacksonville University and offers its best wishes for
25 his success in this new role.

26 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution 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/ Shannon MacGillis

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

6 GC-#1752180-v3-Reso_Tim_Cost_(Amaro).docx