Introduced by Council Member Salem:

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ORDINANCE 2022-415

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$8,000,000.00 FROM THE TREE PROTECTION AND RELATED EXPENSES TRUST FUND, FUND 15304, FOR THE LEVEL 2 COUNTY-WIDE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE TREE PLANTING ON PUBLIC LAND DUVAL COUNTY (THE "LEVEL 2 PROGRAM") INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, SUGGESTED BY DEPARTMENTS, AND/OR COUNCIL MEMBERS; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE; APPROVING AND REQUESTING THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO CONTINUE TO ADMINISTER THE LEVEL 2 PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CRITERIA HEREIN PROVIDED; PROVIDING A CARRYOVER OF FUNDS INTO SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Tree Commission is an advisory body of the City of Jacksonville formed to encourage and coordinate the efforts of the various public and private entities that are concerned with the conservation and enhancement of the City's Tree Canopy; and

WHEREAS, the Tree Commission established the Level 2 Program, which was approved by the Council and funded with \$1,000,000 by Ordinance 2019-89-E, and further funded yearly, with the last funding of \$2,000,000 by Ordinance 2021-455-E; and

WHEREAS, there has been a great deal of interest in the Level 2 Program by the public from all areas of the City; and

WHEREAS, total calendar-year expenditures on Level 2 Projects by the City are set forth as follows: 2020 - \$1,915,918; 2021 -

\$1,868,292, and 2022, to date - \$1,500,000; and

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WHEREAS, as of May 18, 2022, the unencumbered amount in the Level 2 Program was \$2,217,700.17, but the anticipated expenditures within the next year are approximately \$7,000,000; and

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2022, the Tree Commission voted to recommend increasing the funding for the Level 2 Program by an amount to be calculated by the Public Works Mowing and Landscape Division, as staff to the Tree Commission and the Oversight Division for the Level 2 Program, in consultation with the Tree Commission's Council liaison; and

WHEREAS, the projects on the horizon and in need of funding for City parks tree plantings are as follows:

- District 1 including Blue Cypress Phase 2, Lake Lucina,
 Rondette, Bruce Park, Parkwood Heights, Justina Road,
 Arlingwood, Sunny Acres \$500,000
- District 2 Buck Park, Ed Austin Skate Park, Sheffield, Fort Caroline Playground \$200,000
- Miscellaneous Parks Flossie Brunson, S-Line, 4-Corners, Warren Schell, Crystal Springs, Grunthal, Woodstock, Ringhaver, Dinsmore, Albert Field, Greenland Park - \$400,000
- RiversEdge Southbank Riverwalk Four parks and right-of-way
 \$600,000
- McGirts Creek Preservation Park Restoration \$500,000
- Hanna Park Proposed Special Events Pavilion \$300,000
- Northbank Riverwalk Phase 2 \$300,000

WHEREAS, the funding needs for the Public Works Mowing and Landscape Division for tree plantings averages \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, the tree plantings for the Gold Star Parkway as the new entrance roadway to the City's Veteran's Cemetery is estimated to be \$3,000,000, now therefore

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

Section 1. Appropriation for the Level 2 Program. For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, within the City's budget, there are hereby appropriated the indicated sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsection (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:

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See **Exhibit 1** \$8,000,000.00

(b) Appropriated to:

See Exhibit 1 \$8,000,000.00

(c) Explanation of the appropriation - The funding above is to provide \$8,000,000.00 (\$2,000,000.00 from the current-year revenue and \$6,000,000.00 as a transfer from fund balance) from the Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund, Fund 15304 (f/k/a "the Ordinance Code fund"), for the Level 2 Program, administered by the Department of Public Works.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of the appropriation in Section 1 is to provide \$8,000,000.00 for Public Works to coordinate with applicants comprised of individuals, groups, and/or Council Members to plant trees on public property in Duval County.

The Level 2 Program provides individual citizens, organizations, City departments, and/or Council Members with the opportunity to suggest a location for a tree planting project on public property within Duval County that proposes to use funds from the City of Jacksonville Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund. City Council sponsorship through separate legislation is not required. If someone is interested in suggesting a planting location for the City to implement, then the following are the requirements to utilize the Level 2 Program.

1. The location of the proposed planting must be:

- a. In Duval County; and
- b. On public property (i.e., a road right-of-way; a local, state or national park; Duval County School Board property; etc.); and
- 2. It is preferred, but not required, that the citizen or organization's request be at least in a schematic format for locations and species of trees proposed;
- 3. The Public Works Department's certified City Arborist shall approve the schematic design proposed, or generate a design for implementation;
- 4. Upon receipt or generation of a schematic design for a planting project, the Public Works Department shall provide a copy of same to the District Council Member representing the location of the project;
- 5. The request shall be heard by the Tree Commission for a recommendation to the Mayor's Budget Review Committee for approval; and
- 6. The project shall be administered by the Public Works Department which may separately bid the project or may utilize the City's Continuous Tree Contractor.
- Section 3. Oversight Department. The Public Works Department shall continue to oversee the Level 2 Program described herein. The trees that are planted, and any that are removed as part of the planting, shall be recorded electronically on Plan-it Geo, or its equivalent, and shall note the species and size of each, as well as the date of planting or removal, and the ordinance number, if applicable, appropriating the funding.
- Section 4. Carryover. The funds appropriated in this ordinance shall not lapse but shall carryover to subsequent fiscal years.
 - Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become

effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Susan C. Grandin

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Susan C. Grandin

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