

1 Introduced by Council Member White:
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4 **ORDINANCE 2022-578**

5 AN ORDINANCE FINDING THAT THE PROPOSED FACILITY
6 RELOCATION AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE
7 JACKSONVILLE FAIRGROUNDS ADJACENT TO THE CITY'S
8 EQUESTRIAN CENTER AT CECIL COMMERCE CENTER
9 PROPOSED BY THE GREATER JACKSONVILLE
10 AGRICULTURAL FAIR ASSOCIATION SHALL SERVE A
11 PUBLIC PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING
12 ON SAID PROPOSED FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS OF THE
13 JACKSONVILLE FAIRGROUNDS; PROVIDING FOR
14 SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair Association
17 (Jacksonville Fair) is proposing to relocate its campus from its
18 current constrained site in downtown Jacksonville to a larger and
19 more appropriate site on the west side of Jacksonville adjacent to
20 the City's Equestrian Center at the Cecil Commerce Center; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the new multi-million dollar fair campus will provide
22 much more space for larger and improved educational exhibits, better
23 vehicle access and parking for exhibitors and visitors, and more and
24 better space for the housing and exhibition of the livestock that are
25 such an important part of the fair experience; and

26 **WHEREAS**, to help fund the relocation, the Greater Jacksonville
27 Agricultural Fair Association is applying for a grant through the
28 Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services agriculture
29 education and promotion grant program pursuant to Section 288.1175,
30 *Florida Statutes*, in the amount of \$3 million dollars; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the new, relocated Facility will be situated on City-

1 owned property (RE Number 002254-0010) with other similar City-owned
2 uses such as the Equestrian Center, on the westside of Jacksonville,
3 within the City of Jacksonville, in Council District 12; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville is extremely supportive of the
5 Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair Association's proposed new
6 facility, will be supporting it with a substantial City financial
7 contribution, and wishes to support the Fair's application for state
8 funding for this most worthwhile project;

9 **WHEREAS**, the purpose of this ordinance is to make certain
10 findings, after holding a public hearing as required by Section
11 288.1175, *Florida Statutes*, that the facility improvements from the
12 relocation of the Jacksonville Fair serve a public purpose of such
13 expenditure and to certify as such; now therefore

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

15 **Section 1. Preamble.** The recitals contained in the
16 "whereas" provisions hereinabove are true and correct and are hereby
17 incorporated by reference herein.

18 **Section 2. Findings.** Based upon the information provided
19 to the City of Jacksonville by the Greater Jacksonville Fair
20 Association, we hereby find and certify as follows:

21 a. That the proposed Facility will be located within the
22 jurisdictional boundaries of the City of Jacksonville.

23 b. That the proposed Facility serves a public purpose.

24 c. The Jacksonville City Council supports the Greater
25 Jacksonville Agricultural Fair Association and the Greater
26 Jacksonville Fair's application for the Agriculture Education and
27 Promotion Facility Grant and encourages the State to approve the
28 application for funding.

29 **Section 3. Providing for a public hearing prior to**
30 **adoption.** Pursuant to Section 288.1175, *Florida Statutes*, a public
31 hearing shall be held prior to adoption of this ordinance.

1 **Section 4. Severability.** If any provision of this ordinance
2 or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
3 invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this
4 ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or
5 application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are
6 severable.

7 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
8 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
9 without the Mayor's signature.

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11 Form Approved:

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13 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

14 Office of General Counsel

15 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

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