

Introduced by Council Member White and Co-Sponsored by Council Member
Ferraro:

ORDINANCE 2022-578-E

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

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

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

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

1 **WHEREAS**, the new, relocated Facility will be situated on City-
2 owned property (RE Number 002254-0010) with other similar City-owned
3 uses such as the Equestrian Center, on the westside of Jacksonville,
4 within the City of Jacksonville, in Council District 12; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 **Section 3. Providing for a public hearing prior to**
31 **adoption.** Pursuant to Section 288.1175, *Florida Statutes*, a public

1 hearing shall be held prior to adoption of this ordinance.

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

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

11
12 Form Approved:

13
14 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

15 Office of General Counsel

16 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

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