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Introduced by Council Member Carrico and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Ferraro and Bowman and substituted by the Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee:

ORDINANCE 2022-574-E

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 804 (JACKSONVILLE TRAFFIC CODE), ORDINANCE CODE, TO AMEND SECTION 804.806 (PEDESTRIANS WALKING WHERE SIDEWALKS NOT PROVIDED; NOT TO SOLICIT RIDES; CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS ALLOWED) TO DELETE CERTAIN REDUNDANT PROVISIONS AND TO INCLUDE RIDERS OF ANIMALS; TO AMEND SECTION 804.807 (CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS BY PERMIT) TO MODIFY THE PERMITTING PROCESS AND TO AUTHORIZE PERSONAL CHARITABLE SOLICITATION PERMITS; CREATING A NEW PART 17 (PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICLE SAFETY), CHAPTER 804 (JACKSONVILLE TRAFFIC CODE), ORDINANCE CODE; PROVIDING A STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT; PROVIDING PROCEDURES FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; REPEALING SECTION 250.118 (NEWSPAPER STREET SALES ALLOWED), ORDINANCE CODE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in a report issued on July 12, 2022, Jacksonville was identified as the sixth worst municipality in the country for pedestrian deaths as a result of being struck by vehicles on Jacksonville streets; and

WHEREAS, in data from the Florida Department of Transportation, from the time period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, Duval County experienced a total of 471 vehicle/pedestrian crashes,

from which there were 34 fatalities; and

WHEREAS, in the most recent data from the Florida Department of Transportation, from the time period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, Duval County experienced a total of 492 vehicle/pedestrian crashes, from which there were 48 fatalities; and

WHEREAS, the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization has conducted studies and made recommendations regarding Duval County's pedestrian/vehicle safety issues and remedies in 2018 and 2019; and

WHEREAS, the City has implemented a number of the recommendations through its Context Sensitive Streets Standards Committee and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office has conducted a detailed intersection analysis to identify site conditions that might contribute to vehicle/pedestrian safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, in a study dated September 2021, the Florida Department of Transportation evaluated Florida pedestrian and bicycle safety strategies to combat the comparatively high percentage (Florida is the second highest ranked state in the country for vehicle/pedestrian deaths) and recommended enhanced "legislation, regulations, policies and programs to support the overall goal of eliminating fatal and serious injury crashes involving people walking and biking"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 337.406 (1), Florida Statutes, it is unlawful to use any state road right-of-way in any manner that interferes with the safe and efficient movement of traffic, and the failure to prohibit activities that violate this principle "will endanger the health, safety, and general welfare of the public by causing distractions to motorists, unsafe pedestrian movement within travel lanes, sudden stoppage or slowdown of traffic, rapid lane changing and other dangerous traffic movement, increased vehicular accidents, and motorist injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Section 337.406 (1), Florida Statutes specifically prohibits on all state roads distribution or sale of any merchandise, goods, property or services and solicitation for charitable purposes unless such activities are permitted for a limited duration by a local government "if it is determined that the use will not interfere with the safe and efficient movement of traffic and the use will cause no danger to the public."; now, therefore

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

Section 1. The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Amending Chapter 804 (Jacksonville Traffic Code), Ordinance Code. Chapter 804 (Jacksonville Traffic Code), Ordinance Code, is hereby amended to amend Part 8 (Pedestrians' Rights and Duties), Section 804.806 (Pedestrians walking where sidewalks not provided; not to solicit rides; certain charitable solicitations allowed), Ordinance Code and Section 804.807 (Charitable solicitations by permit), Ordinance Code; and to create a new Part 17 (Pedestrian and Vehicle Safety) to read as follows:

CHAPTER 804. JACKSONVILLE TRAFFIC CODE

PART 8. PEDESTRIANS' RIGHTS AND DUTIES

Sec. 804.806. - Pedestrians walking where sidewalks not provided; not to solicit rides; certain charitable solicitations allowed.

- (a) Pedestrians or riders of animals walking along a street or roadway where sidewalks are not provided shall walk as far over as possible on the left side of the street or roadway facing approaching traffic.
- (b) No person shall stand or be upon or go upon any roadway for the purpose of soliciting a ride or the sale of any thing or

service or for charitable contributions or for the purpose of soliciting any business or employment from the occupant of any vehicle. unless said solicitation is permitted pursuant to Section 804.807 herein.

- (c) Subsection (a) shall also be applicable to riders of animals.
- (d) No person shall stand or be upon or go upon any shoulder or berm or any neutral ground of any roadway for the purpose of soliciting a ride, employment, business, or charitable contribution or for the purpose of soliciting the sale of any thing or service from the occupant of any vehicle, unless said solicitation is permitted pursuant to Section 804.807 herein. Neutral ground mean and include any area which divides a roadway or divides the roadway for vehicles driving in opposite directions.
- (e) (b) Violation of this Section shall constitute a class A civil offense.

Sec. 804.807. - Charitable solicitations by permit.

- (a) A permit for <u>charitable</u> solicitation <u>onin</u> the right-of-way of any <u>public street or highway</u>designated roadway, as defined in <u>Section 804.1701</u>, in the City, as required pursuant to Chapter <u>804</u>, Part 17, may be obtained from the <u>NeighborhoodsPublic</u> <u>Works</u> Department, provided the applicant meets the following criteria:
 - (1) The applicant's name and address and, if applicable, its charitable solicitation organization's Florida registration number in the City, including the name and address of the charitable organization to receive funds from the solicitation.
 - (2) The applicant shall provide a plan for review and comment by the City Traffic Engineer, which plan will maximize the safety of the applicant's representatives, as well

as the motoring public, at the locations where the solicitation will take place. Within 90 days from the effective date of this Section, the City's Traffic Engineer shall develop a definitive list of safety methods to identify and provide visibility to all individuals who will be operating in the right-of-way and to alert traffic approaching the intersection(s) or road segment(s) where such charitable solicitations will be occurring. Such safety methods shall be included in the applicant's safety plan.

- (3) The applicant shall indicate in specific detail the location of such solicitation, together with the hours thereof, not to exceed 2436 total hours in any 4872 consecutive hour period.
- (4) The applicant shall provide an indemnification and hold harmless for the organization, if applicable, and all individual solicitors in favor of the City in a form satisfactory to the City attorney.
- (5) No person under the age of 2118 years shall participate inconduct any solicitation in the right-of-way pursuant to a permit granted under this Section.
- (6) All solicitation shall occur during daylight hours <u>(from</u> sunrise to sunset) only.
- (7) Unless determined to be indigent, #the applicant shall provide proof of commercial general liability insurance against claims for bodily injury and property damage occurring on City roadways and rights-of-way or arising from the applicant's solicitation activities or use of the City roadways and rights-of-way by applicant or the applicant's agents, contractors, volunteers or employees having limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence

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certificate of insurance shall name the City of Jacksonville as an additional insured and shall be filed with the Neighborhoods Public Works Department by no later than 48 hours before the date of solicitation. If an applicant seeks an indigency determination, he or she must provide an application for determination of civil indigent status, such application being the same application used by the Clerk of Court. A complete application for determination of civil indigent status must be submitted with the permit application and shall be reviewed and evaluated using the same methodology and criteria as the Clerk of Court. Each permit application shall be approved only if it is determined that the use will not interfere with the safe and efficient movement of traffic and the use will cause no danger to the public. Decisions on permits and indigency determinations must be made within five (5) business days from the date of submission of a completed application. The failure to render a decision on a permit or indigency within this time shall result in a positive determination. The decision on the permit and indigency determination shall be the final action of the City. A copy of all approved permits shall be forwarded to the Sheriff's Office Chief of Patrol, or to their successor individuals or others as designated by the Sheriff.

general aggregate (per location).

No permit shall be issued for any commercial or other non-charitable activities. No more than one (1) permit shall be issued for any intersection or road segment at any one time.

(8) In the event that a permit is denied, said applicant may request emergency injunctive relief from the Circuit Court of the Fourth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida. Due to the overriding public interest in preventing unsafe conditions for motorists and pedestrians within the rights-of-way of designated roadways, no provisional permits shall be issued by the City.

- (8) All funds raised from the solicitation shall be donated to a not-for-profit charitable organization licensed and registered to do business in the State of Florida.
- (b) The applicant shall comply with all other laws, City codes and regulations pertaining to public safety, traffic and solicitation, including Sections 614.117, 614.138, 614.143 and 614.144, Ordinance Code.
- subsequent permits to any individual or group violating the parameters of a previously issued permit or violating any requirements of this Section, or any other City ordinance or any state statute involving traffic safety.
- (d) During active solicitation, at least one solicitor at each location shall be in possession of a copy of the authorizing permit and the certificate of insurance and shall display the copy to any law enforcement officer upon request. All solicitors shall possess picture or other form of governmentissued identification.
- (e) Permits issued pursuant to this Section shall be for a specific time period not to exceed 4872 consecutive hours.
- (f) No individuals or group shall be granted more than two permits per calendar year.
- (g) For purposes of this Section only, the term right-of-

way shall have that definition for "public rights-of-way" provided in Section 804.1701be deemed to include all portions of any public roadway normally available for use by motor vehicles and all medians or traffic islands within such roadways, but shall not include sidewalks or other areas adjacent to the roadway.

(h) Soliciting in the right-of-way without a valid permit issued pursuant to this Section shall be punished by the Sheriff by a fine not exceeding \$50 for a first offense and \$250 for a second or subsequent offense.

* * *

PART 17. - PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICLE SAFETY.

Sec. 804.1701. - Pedestrian and Vehicle Safety.

- (a) Definitions. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this Section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this Subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:
 - system (including interstate/intrastate entrance and exit ramps), and arterial and collector roadways and rights-of-way. For purposes of this definition, collector and arterial roadways and rights-of-way shall be those roadways (and their rights-of-way) classified as a collector or higher on the Functional Highway Classification Map of the Comprehensive Plan. It also encompasses the first 440 feet of local roadways intersecting with these designated roadways and any areas within the rights-of-way not designated or intended for pedestrian use. The portions of these designated roadways subject to this Section include the portions within the area open for vehicular traffic

- (including medians), plus four feet outside of the shoulders and/or curbs.
- (2) Legally parked means a vehicle that is standing, stopped, or parked in an area designated, or legally authorized, for parking.
- (3) The traveled portion of a designated roadway means any portion of a designated roadway (including travel lanes, turn lanes, bike lanes and shoulders) that is normally used by moving motor vehicle traffic that is not an area designated for or routinely used as a parking area for the general public.
- (4) Median means any area separating traffic lanes on a roadway. A median includes, but is not limited to, any paved or unpaved, marked or unmarked, landscaped or non-landscaped, portions of a roadway which exist between lanes of traffic.

For the purpose of this Section, the phrase "public rights-of-way" shall be defined as set forth in Section 334.03(21), Florida Statutes, and Section 711.103, Ordinance Code, and they may be amended from time to time.

- (b) Prohibitions. Except as provided herein, or as otherwise permitted by law or through a valid permit issued pursuant to Section 804.807, it is unlawful to make any use of the public rights-of-way in a manner that interferes with the safe and efficient movement of people and property from place to place on a public road or right-of-way. Such prohibited activity includes:
 - (1) Occupancy of median. It is unlawful for any person to stop, stand, or otherwise occupy or remain in a median on any designated roadway when that person is not in the process of lawfully crossing the road in accordance with

applicable traffic and safety laws. Stopping, standing, or otherwise occupying a median through two consecutive opportunities to cross in accordance with applicable traffic and safety laws is prima facie evidence of a violation of this Subsection.

- (2) Physical interaction on roadway. It is unlawful for any person to engage in any physical interaction between a pedestrian and an occupant of a motor vehicle, including but not limited to the transfer of any product or material, while the motor vehicle is not legally parked and is located on the traveled portion of a designated roadway.
- (3) Commercial use of public rights-of-way. It is unlawful to use any public right-of-way for commercial activity.

 Commercial activity prohibited by this Section includes, but is not limited to, vending or sale of goods, display of goods for sale, storage of goods for sale in connection with commercial activity, or repair or manufacturing of goods. Signage is not "commercial activity" regulated by this chapter; however, there shall be no signage placed or displayed in any median, except for safety signage that may be required by a permit issued pursuant to Section 804.807.
- (c) Exemptions. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the following:
 - (1) Law Enforcement, fire and rescue, or other government

 employees or contractors acting within the scope of

 their lawful authority;
 - (2) A person lawfully conducting inspection, construction,

 maintenance, repair, survey, or other similarly
 authorized services;

- (3) A person responding to lend aid during an emergency situation or who is within the roadway due to a mechanical or physical defect in his or her vehicle that occurred while driving in the roadway;
- (4) Entering or exiting a bus or other public transit system;
- (5) Use of public roads and rights-of-way that have been closed to vehicular traffic for a special event permitted by the appropriate governmental entity—; and
- (6) A person or entity engaged in charitable solicitations while in possession of a valid permit issued pursuant to Section 804.807, so long as such person is in compliance with the requirements of that Section and the terms of the permit and safety plan, and any person engaged in donating to such permitted organization or individual.
- (d) <u>Penalties.</u> The following civil and criminal penalties may be assessed by administrative or judicial process.
 - (1) In addition to other penalties authorized herein, a person who violates this Section may be administratively or judicially assessed a civil penalty of up to \$100 for each violation, provided:
 - (i) For the first offense, the offender is given an educational notice from the Sheriff's Office educating the offender, and the notice shall be documented in the Sheriff's information system for due process and recordkeeping.
 - (ii) For the second violation, the offender shall also be given an official warning and may be trespassed as applicable from the non-pedestrian part of the hundred block of the right-of-way.
 - (iii) For the third violation, if an additional warning

is not appropriate, a civil citation shall be issued.

- (iv) For the fourth violation, in conjunction with the civil penalties, the offender may be arrested or given a notice to appear, as applicable, with a maximum of 10 days penalty if the violator is arrested and convicted.
- (2) A person who aids or participates in a violation for which a civil penalty may be assessed under this Part shall be considered a principal in the violation and may be assessed a civil penalty of up to the maximum amount prescribed for that violation.
- (3) Due to the transient nature of these activities, each incident occurring more than every twenty (20) minutes after the violation has been corrected shall constitute a separate violation.

Section 3. Repealing Section 250.118 (Newspaper street sales allowed), Part 1 (In General), Chapter 250 (Miscellaneous Business Regulations), Ordinance Code. Section 250.118 (Newspaper street sales allowed), Part 1 (In General), Chapter 250 (Miscellaneous Business Regulations), Ordinance Code, is hereby repealed. A copy of the repealed Section 250.118 is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature; however, for the first thirty (30) days after the effective date, the Sheriff shall conduct a public education campaign and only issue warnings to violators.

2 Form Approved:

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/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos Office of General Counsel

Legislation prepared by: Gaby Young

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