

# CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION

## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



**COLLEEN HAMPSEY,**  
**RESEARCH ASSISTANT**  
(904) 255-5151

117 West Duval Street  
City Hall, Suite 425  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
FAX (904) 630-3403

**Bill Type and Number:** Resolution 2023-695

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council President at the request of the Mayor

**Date of Introduction:** September 26, 2023

**Committee(s) of Reference:** R

**Date of Analysis:** September 25, 2023

**Type of Action:** Appointment confirmation

**Bill Summary:** This bill confirms the appointment of William J. Burke, to the Tree Commission, replacing Chris D. Flagg, as a landscape architect, for a partial term to expire on December 31, 2023, followed by a first full term to expire on December 31, 2025.

**Background Information:** The Tree Commission is established as an advisory board pursuant to Chapter 94, *Ordinance Code*, and empowered to study, make recommendations, and formulate an overall plan with respect to the planting of trees and the health of the City's tree canopy which includes maintenance of an inventory of the urban tree canopy, conducting educational outreach programs, preparing and analyzing maps, identifying issues relating to health of public trees, recommend and develop opportunities for the City's grant writing office to aide in solicitation of donations to support the tree canopy, perform an annual audit of funded projects to be included in an annual report to the Mayor's Office and City Council. Finally, it is the duty of the Commission to review expenditure proposals for planting projects and formulate a priority list, based on established criteria for recommendation to the Council.

Section 94.103, *Ordinance Code*, provides that two Tree Commission members from the general public are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Council. Members should possess a specialized knowledge about trees and, to the extent possible; members should represent each Council At-Large residency area and come from various categories, including one who is a landscape architect.

Mr. Burke holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia and is a registered landscape architect. He works for HDR Engineering and also serves as a little league coach and cub scout den leader. Mr. Burke resides in Duval County in council district 7.

**Policy Impact Area:** Tree Commission operations

**Fiscal Impact:** No direct cost to the City

**Analyst:** Hampsey