

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2023-805

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

Date of Introduction: November 14, 2023

Committee(s) of Reference: R

Date of Analysis: November 14, 2023

Type of Action: Appointment confirmation and *Ordinance Code* waiver

Bill Summary: This bill confirms the Mayor's appointment of Tamara G. Baker, to the Downtown Investment Authority Board, as a downtown real property owner, replacing George R. Saoud, for a first full term to expire June 30, 2026.

Subsection 55.107 (b) (Board membership; term of office and appointment; removal; vacancies; office-holding), *Ordinance Code* is waived because although Ms. Baker's business has operated downtown in the Cecil W. Powell & Co. building for several years, she does not own that property.

Background Information: The Downtown Investment Authority is established pursuant to Chapter 55, Part 3, *Ordinance Code*, and charged as the sole development and community redevelopment agency for Downtown for the City of Jacksonville pursuant to Chapter 163, Part III, *Florida Statutes*.

Section 55.307(b)(1), *Ordinance Code*, provides that five of the nine members of the board be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Council, in various categories, including a downtown real property owner.

Ms. Baker holds a bachelor's and master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Florida and a PH. D in civil engineering from the University of Alabama-Huntsville. She is a professional engineer and general contractor licensed in Florida. Ms. Baker is the owner/operator of Baker Design Build located at 219 N Newnan St. in downtown Jacksonville. She resides in Duval County in council district 5.

Policy Impact Area: Downtown Investment Authority Board operations

Fiscal Impact: No direct cost to the City

Analyst: Hampsey