

1 Introduced by Council Member Boylan and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Hazouri, Newby, Becton, Bowman, Carlucci, Cumber, DeFoor,
3 Dennis, Diamond, Ferraro, Freeman, Gaffney, Morgan, Pittman,
4 Priestly-Jackson, Salem, White, and Wilson:
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7 **ORDINANCE 2019-518-E**

8 AN ORDINANCE RENAMING FLYNN PARK, LOCATED AT
9 2738 ORANGE PICKER ROAD, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA
10 32223, IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 6, TO THE "WALTER
11 ANDERSON MEMORIAL PARK"; PROVIDING AN
12 EFFECTIVE DATE.
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14 **WHEREAS**, Flynn Park is a park in Mandarin located at 2738
15 Orange Picker Road in an area that historically was predominately
16 African American; and

17 **WHEREAS**, in the 1950s parks in Duval County were racially
18 segregated and there were no public parks in Mandarin for use by
19 African Americans; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 1955, Walter W. Anderson (1922-2009), an African
21 American veteran of World War II and a life-long resident of
22 Mandarin, conveyed approximately four acres to Duval County for
23 nominal consideration with the restriction that it was to be used
24 for park purposes only, in order to make a public park available
25 for use by African Americans; and

26 **WHEREAS**, for almost a decade the park developed on the site
27 was the only park available for use by African Americans and even
28 after desegregation it continued to be used predominately by
29 African Americans living nearby; and

30 **WHEREAS**, although at one time the population of Mandarin was
31 three-fourths African American, there is no park or other public
32 facility in Mandarin named for any African American; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the park was originally named for Joe James for
2 reasons unknown today, but at some point was changed to "Flynn
3 Park," apparently for James J. Flynn (1886-1939), a Mandarin
4 resident; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Flynn family was one of Mandarin's prominent
6 families in the twentieth century and their name lives on in Flynn
7 Road, one of Mandarin's main roadways; and

8 **WHEREAS**, since James Flynn had no known connection to the
9 park, while Walter Anderson donated the land for the park to meet a
10 need resulting from racial segregation, it is appropriate and
11 fitting to honor Walter Anderson for his contributions to the
12 Mandarin community; now therefore

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

14 **Section 1. Flynn Park renamed.** The Flynn Park located at
15 2738 Orange Picker Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32223, in Council
16 District 6, shall hereinafter be known as the "Walter Anderson
17 Memorial Park."

18 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become
19 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
20 without the Mayor's signature.

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22 Form Approved:

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24 /s/ *Margaret M. Sidman*

25 Office of General Counsel

26 Legislation Prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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