

1 Introduced by Council Member Morgan and amended on the Floor of
2 Council:

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5 **ORDINANCE 2019-333-E**

6 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, AND AUTHORIZING THE
7 MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, AND CORPORATION
8 SECRETARY TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER AN AGREEMENT
9 BETWEEN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND THE
10 WILDLIFE RESCUE COALITION OF NORTHEAST
11 FLORIDA, INC., FOR LEASE OF PROPERTY WITHIN
12 THE ARLINGTON LIONS CLUB PARK, LOCATED AT
13 4322-1 RICHARD DENBY GATLIN ROAD,
14 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32277, FOR USE AS AN
15 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CENTER FOR WILDLIFE
16 RESCUE AND REHABILITATION; PROVIDING FOR
17 OVERSIGHT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
18 RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES; PROVIDING
19 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

20
21 **WHEREAS**, the mission of the Wildlife Rescue Coalition of
22 Northeast Florida, Inc. ("WRCNEF") is to ensure respect for all
23 wildlife through education and conservation, while providing
24 orphaned, injured and displaced native wildlife with a second
25 chance at life; and

26 **WHEREAS**, WRCNEF is a volunteer group of citizens,
27 rehabilitators, veterinarians and wildlife advocates who have come
28 together to help native wild animals in Northeast Florida, whether
29 they be furred or feathered, clawed or pawed; and

30 **WHEREAS**, since 2003 the WRCNEF has served Baker, Clay, Duval,
31 Flagler, Nassau, St. Johns and Putnam counties, taking in

1 approximately 2000 wild animals a year for medical treatment,
2 rehabilitation, foster care and release back into their native
3 habitat; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the goal of WRCNEF is to educate the public as well
5 as treat and rehabilitate wildlife; and

6 **WHEREAS**, WRCNEF would like to open an educational center that
7 will allow people of all ages to come and learn about and
8 appreciate wildlife; and

9 **WHEREAS**, its current wildlife rescue center is located at 6853
10 Seaboard Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32244, and is on
11 approximately .34 acres of property with approximately 2,200 square
12 feet of indoor facilities (consisting of five donated construction
13 trailers), as well as outdoor enclosures and pens for opossums,
14 raccoons, squirrel, deer and tortoises; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the current rescue center is overcrowded on this
16 property and the existing indoor facilities (the five donated
17 construction trailers) are dilapidated and are not in a condition
18 to be relocated; and

19 **WHEREAS**, WRCNEF would like to be more centrally located within
20 the City and to relocate to an area that can allow for a new
21 modular building or trailer for the rescue center, and for an
22 experiential learning center for students to include medical
23 triage, isolation area and support care of animals; and

24 **WHEREAS**, WRCNEF envisions a separate modular building or
25 trailer for the public, including a lobby, educational area and
26 housing for permanent non-releasable educational animals and a
27 separate area for kitchen, food preparation, laundry and storage;
28 and

29 **WHEREAS**, WRCNEF believes that the location depicted in **Revised**
30 **Exhibit 1**, labeled as "Revised Exhibit 1, Rev Map, June 3, 2019 -
31 NCSPHS" at Arlington Lions Club Park is suitable for its wildlife

1 rescue center and educational facility; and

2 **WHEREAS**, the City does not offer municipal services for
3 animals other than shelters for domestic animals (primarily dogs
4 and cats); and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Council finds that the lease of property
6 described in **Revised Exhibit 1**, labeled as "Revised Exhibit 1, Rev
7 Map, June 3, 2019 - NCSPHS" to WRCNEF is appropriate and serves a
8 public purpose by providing for the residents of the City an
9 opportunity to be educated on wildlife rehabilitation and habitat
10 and would also serve the City as a facility that can assist with
11 non-domestic animals, now therefore

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

13 **Section 1. Agreement approved and execution authorized.**

14 There is hereby approved, and the Mayor, or his designee, and
15 Corporation Secretary are hereby authorized to execute and deliver,
16 the Lease Agreement between the City of Jacksonville and the
17 Wildlife Rescue Coalition of Northeast Florida, Inc., attached
18 hereto as **Second Revised Exhibit 2**, labeled as "Second Revised
19 Exhibit 2, Second Rev Agmt, June 25, 2019 - Floor", and such
20 insurance provisions as the City of Jacksonville Risk Management
21 Division may provide, and incorporated herein by this reference
22 (the "Agreement"). The Agreement provides for an experiential
23 learning center and wildlife rescue facility which will be located
24 at the Arlington Lions Club Park at 4322-1 Richard Denby Gatlin
25 Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32277. The Agreement is for a ten year
26 term with an annual rental amount of \$1.00 per year.

27 **Section 2. Oversight.** The Department of Parks,
28 Recreation and Community Services shall oversee the project
29 described herein.

30 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become
31 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective

1 without the Mayor's signature.

2 Form Approved:

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4 /s/ Paige Hobbs Johnston

5 Office of General Counsel

6 Legislation prepared by Paige H. Johnston

7 GC-#1289850-v1-2019-333-E