Introduced by Council Member Dennis and Substituted by the Rules Committee:

## RESOLUTION 2021-464-A

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING GOVERNMENTAL PERMITTING AGENCIES TO ASSIST THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE WITH FACILITATING LONG-TERM FLOOD CONTROL IMPROVEMENTS AND RESTORATION OF THE NATURAL CHANNEL ASSOCIATED WITH THE MCCOYS CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, McCoys Creek is located west of downtown, with the headwaters of McCoys Creek beginning west of Leland Street and traveling through several neighborhoods, including Lackawanna, Mixon Town, the Rail Yard District, and Brooklyn. The creek outfalls to the St. Johns River near the Acosta Bridge; and

WHEREAS, for more than 50 years, chronic flooding from McCoys Creek has impacted McCoys Creek Boulevard and adjacent neighborhoods; as widely reported on July 4, 2021, multiple people had to be rescued from vehicles trapped along McCoys Creek Boulevard when an afternoon rain event caused the streets to flood; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jacksonville has committed \$105 million over the next three years to restore McCoys Creek to a natural state and in the process, mitigate the ongoing and chronic flooding on McCoys Creek Boulevard and in nearby neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the restoration project is planned to restore the natural channel design, expand the flood plain and give room for water runoff, is anticipated to take almost two years (pending weather and other delays), and requires the City's coordination with

governmental permitting agencies; and

WHEREAS, ongoing flooding of McCoys Creek has caused hardship for the surrounding neighborhoods, including some that are economically challenged, and has created adverse impacts on City residents; and

WHEREAS, given the investment that the City of Jacksonville is making toward these improvements, the City Council desires to encourage governmental permitting agencies to work in coordination with and assist the City of Jacksonville with making long-term flood control improvements so that the project can be completed on an expedited basis; now therefore

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

Section 1. The City Council hereby strongly encourages governmental permitting agencies to work in coordination with and assist the City of Jacksonville with making long-term flood control improvements for the McCoys Creek Restoration Project so that the project can be expedited.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Paige H. Johnston

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

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