

1 Introduced by the Special Committee on Homelessness and Affordable
2 Housing (Council Members J. Carlucci, Amaro, Arias, Miller and Peluso)
3 and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Salem, Lahnen, Carlucci, Johnson,
4 Boylan, White and Freeman:
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7 **ORDINANCE 2024-111-E**

8 AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 86 (
9 HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION), *ORDINANCE*
10 *CODE*, TO CREATE A HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES
11 COMMISSION AND TO ESTABLISH THE FUNCTIONS,
12 POWERS AND DUTIES OF SAID COMMISSION; PROVIDING
13 FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION
14 INSTRUCTIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
15

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

17 **Section 1.**

18 **Creating a New Chapter 86 (Homelessness Initiatives Commission),**
19 ***Ordinance Code*.** A new Chapter 86 (Homelessness Initiatives
20 Commission), *Ordinance Code*, is hereby created to read as follows:
21

22 **CHAPTER 86 – HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION**

23 **Sec. 86.101. – Intent.**

24 It is the intent of this Chapter to create an advisory body to oversee
25 and make recommendations regarding the use and distribution of all
26 funds deposited in the Homelessness Initiatives Special Revenue Fund
27 established in Section 111.920, *Ordinance Code*.
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29 **Sec. 86.102. - Establishment.**

30 Addressing the needs of Duval County's homeless and chronically
31 unhoused populations is an issue of significant concern and importance
to the City and the Jacksonville community. To ensure funds deposited

1 in the Homelessness Initiatives Special Revenue Fund are utilized in
2 a way that maximizes the impact of those dollars in combatting
3 homelessness and supporting a variety of programs and initiatives to
4 meet the needs of the homeless and chronic unhoused populations in
5 Duval County, there is hereby established an advisory commission to
6 be known as the Homelessness Initiatives Commission (hereinafter
7 referred to as the "Commission").

8 **Sec. 86.103. - Composition; Liaisons; Terms; Removal.**

9 (a) *Composition.* The Commission shall be composed of seven voting
10 members as follows:

11 (1) Four members of the general public appointed by the Council
12 President and confirmed by Council.

13 (2) Three members of the general public appointed by the Mayor
14 and confirmed by Council.

15 To the extent possible, each of the members of the general
16 public should possess specialized knowledge about the needs of
17 the homeless and chronic unhoused populations. This would
18 include individuals who currently work or have worked with these
19 populations and/or individuals who have knowledge of existing
20 programs, initiatives and services as well as knowledge of
21 current or potential funding sources that are or could be
22 directed to those programs, initiatives and services.

23 (b) *Liaisons.* The City Council President shall annually appoint a
24 City Council Member to serve as a liaison to the Commission.
25 In addition, the Sheriff shall appoint a liaison to the
26 Commission from amongst his staff with preference given to an
27 officer who regularly works and interacts with the Duval County
28 homeless and/or chronically unhoused populations. These are
29 non-voting positions and the liaisons shall not be considered
30 members of the Commission for Florida's Open Meetings Law
31 purposes.

1 (c) *Terms.* Members shall be appointed for staggered three-year
2 terms commencing March 1 or upon confirmation by Council,
3 whichever is earlier, but shall serve until their successor is
4 appointed and confirmed by the City Council. Of the initial
5 appointments, three members appointed from the general public
6 shall serve for two-year first full terms and four members
7 appointed from the general public shall serve for three-year
8 first full terms. The Council President's initial appointments
9 shall include two members to serve an initial three-year first
10 full term and two members to serve an initial two-year first
11 full term. The Mayor's initial appointments shall include one
12 member to serve an initial two-year first full term and two
13 members to serve an initial three-year first full term. No member
14 shall serve more than two consecutive full terms; but
15 appointments to fill vacancies for partial terms (less than 50
16 percent of a full term) and initial appointments under the
17 preceding sentence for less than three years, shall not be deemed
18 to be full terms and may be reappointed for up to two additional
19 consecutive full terms.

20 (d) *Removal.* Commission members appointed by the Mayor shall serve
21 and be removed at the pleasure of the Mayor. Members appointed
22 by the Council President shall serve and be removed at the
23 pleasure of the Council President.

24 **Sec. 86.104. - Functions, powers and duties.**

25 In addition to such powers, duties and authority as may be set
26 forth elsewhere in the Ordinance Code, the Commission is hereby
27 authorized to:

- 28 (a) Review and assess the current unmet needs of Duval County's
29 homeless and chronic unhoused populations and any gaps in
30 existing programs and services targeting these populations;
31 (b) Annually review and recommend programs, initiatives and services

1 to be funded by Homelessness Initiatives Special Revenue Fund
2 dollars, including specific amounts to be allocated to those
3 programs, initiatives and services, for inclusion in the City's
4 annual budget;

5 (c) Identify funding sources, both public and private, to assist in
6 the provision of appropriate services for Duval County's
7 homeless and chronic unhoused populations and make
8 recommendations to the City Council and the Mayor with respect
9 to how these funding sources are best utilized and administered,
10 including how said funding could be leveraged for additional
11 funds;

12 (d) Create a five-year Strategic Plan outlining appropriate
13 programs, services and initiatives to combat homelessness -
14 this Strategic Plan should be tailored to address the unique
15 needs of Duval County's homeless and chronic unhoused
16 populations; the initial Strategic Plan shall be presented to
17 the Council committee of reference tasked with reviewing and
18 making recommendations on measures addressing homelessness on
19 or before December 31, 2024;

20 (e) Create an annual Action Plan that includes specific goals and
21 measurables to effectuate the Strategic Plan; the initial Action
22 Plan shall be presented to the Council committee of reference
23 tasked with reviewing and making recommendations on measures
24 addressing homelessness on or before September 1, 2024;

25 (f) Annually review the Strategic Plan and Action Plan and make
26 recommendations to the Council committee of reference tasked
27 with reviewing and making recommendations on measures addressing
28 homelessness for updates and changes to both Plans on or before
29 March 1 each year;

30 (g) Act as a motivating and coordinating body to encourage joint
31 public and private participation in serving the needs of Duval
32

County's homeless and chronic unhoused populations.

Sec. 86.105. – Organization and proceedings.

- (a) *Officers.* The Commission shall select a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from among its members to serve for a one-year term commencing in July and may create and fill such other offices as it may deem necessary or desirable.
- (b) *Rules of procedure.* The Commission shall establish rules of procedure necessary to its governing and the conduct of its affairs, consistent with the applicable provisions of the Ordinance Code.
- (c) *Voting; quorum.* All decisions and recommendations of the Commission shall require a concurring vote of a majority of the members present. Four members shall constitute a quorum.
- (d) *Administrative support.* The Commission shall receive staff support from the Neighborhoods Department.
- (e) *Meetings.* The Commission shall meet at least monthly with the exception that the Commission may meet once between June and August of each year and once between November and December each year so long as it timely meets all deadlines and obligations outlined in this Chapter. All meetings shall be open to the public in accordance with Florida's open meetings law.
- (f) *Notice.* Notice of regular meetings shall be posted at least seven days in advance, excluding weekends and holidays, on the City of Jacksonville web events calendar. Notice of special meetings shall be posted at least 48 hours in advance, excluding weekends and holidays, on the City of Jacksonville web events calendar. No other advertisement or notification is required.
- (g) *Compensation.* Members shall serve without compensation, pension or retirement benefits; however, members may be compensated for travel expenses as provided in Chapter 106, Part 7, *Ordinance Code*.

1 (h) *Compliance.* The Commission shall be subject to the provisions
2 of Chapter 112, Part III, *Florida Statutes*, and Chapters 50, 58
3 and 602, *Ordinance Code*, except as may be set forth in this
4 Chapter.

5 **Section 2. Severability.** The provisions of this Ordinance,
6 including sections and subsections within the Ordinance, are intended
7 to be severable and if any provision is declared invalid or
8 unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision
9 shall be severed and the remainder shall continue in full force and
10 effect, with the Ordinance being deemed amended to the least degree
11 legally permissible.

12 **Section 3. Codification Instructions.** The Codifier and
13 the Office of General Counsel are authorized to make all chapter and
14 division "table of contents" consistent with the changes set forth
15 herein. Such editorial changes and any other necessary to make the
16 *Ordinance Code* consistent with the intent of this legislation are
17 approved and directed herein, and the changes to the *Ordinance Code*
18 shall be made forthwith and when inconsistencies are discovered.

19 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
20 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
21 without the Mayor's signature.
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23 Form Approved:

24
25 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

26 Office of General Counsel

27 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos
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