Introduced by Council Member Becton:

RESOLUTION 2022-276

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE MAYOR'S FINAL ANNUAL BUDGET PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL; ENCOURAGING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT THE FINAL ANNUAL BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 USING ANTICIPATED AD VALOREM REVENUES BASED ON THE ESTIMATED ROLLED-BACK MILLAGE RATE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Section 106.201 of the Ordinance Code requires that the Mayor submit a final annual budget proposal to Council no later than the first City Council Committee meeting in July so that Council can begin its review of the Mayor's final annual budget proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office is currently working with City Departments to prepare the final annual budget proposal for the July submission; and

WHEREAS, each year the millage is fixed by Council, as the governing body of the county, pursuant to Section 200.011, Florida Statutes, but due to statutory timeframes, the Council sets a tentative millage rate in late July and the final millage rate in September of each year; and

WHEREAS, for the last seven fiscal years, the Mayor has proposed no adjustment in the millage rate, but due to the real estate economic boom in Jacksonville over the last decade and other favorable conditions, the millage rate has remained unchanged, but the effect is an increase in ad valorem revenues each year; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2015-2016 an additional \$25,231,378 ad valorem revenues were realized budget year over year (from 2014-2015), and has steadily increased each year: \$25,311,007 in 2016-2017,

\$35,330,769 in 2017-2018, \$46,069,270 in 2018-2019, \$48,650,711 in 2019-2020, \$50,660,102 in 2020-2021 and culminating in 2021-2022, to an additional \$54,703,509 of ad valorem revenues, which were included in the Mayor's final annual budget proposal before Council could vote on the tentative and proposed millage rates; and

WHEREAS, if the millage rate remains unchanged, the ad valorem revenue for fiscal year 2022-2023 is anticipated to increase due to:

(1) the cap on the increase to homesteaded property values being at the full 3% for the 2022 property valuations; (2) the continued amount of new construction in the Jacksonville market; and (3) the increase in price of property sales; and

WHEREAS, the rolled-back millage rate still generates additional ad valorem revenue based on the increase in assessed values on non-homesteaded properties, home sales and new construction. For example, for fiscal year 2021-2022, if the rolled-back millage rate had been adopted, it would have generated an additional \$19,353,555 in ad valorem revenue; and

WHEREAS, the City also continues to benefit from increasing revenues from other funding sources; and

WHEREAS, City revenues from the half-cent sales tax have grown from \$89.9 million in fiscal year 2015-2016 to \$114.9 million in fiscal year 2020-2021 (an annual average increase of \$5.0 million) and other state shared revenues grew during that same time period from \$66.3 million to \$80.9 million (an average annual increase of \$2.9 million), suggesting that the trend in these two revenue sources will be a continued increase; and

WHEREAS, due to unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic federal and state funding over the last two years, the City has received a total of \$422.5 million in additional funds (\$167.1 million in CARES Act Funding, \$171.9 million in American Rescue Plan ("ARP") funding, \$78.8 million in other COVID-19 funding and \$4.7 million in State passthrough COVID-19 funding)

to keep the Jacksonville economy moving forward and is anticipated to receive another \$171.9 million in ARP funding in June 2022; and

WHEREAS, with the approval of the LOGT in Ordinance 2021-223-E, beginning January 1, 2022, the City is also anticipated to receive additional local option gas tax ("LOGT") funding of \$12.4 million per year; and

WHEREAS, national real estate market predictions from Zillow have ranked Jacksonville as the second hottest in the nation and Zillow has forecasted that the typical home value in Jacksonville may rise by 22% through November 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to lessen the tax burden of the taxpayers of Duval County, especially now that residents are experiencing historic rates of inflation for regular household goods and services and that housing and rental rates and gas prices have reached record increases; and

WHEREAS, given the anticipated double-digit percentage increase in real estate values in Jacksonville resulting in higher ad valorem revenues, expected increases in the half cent sales tax revenues, the influx of COVID-19 funding and the newly available LOGT funding, which amounts to the City's budgeted revenues increasing by \$328,682,052 (Net Budgeted General Revenues increasing from \$1,051,131,543 in fiscal year 2015-2016 to \$1,379,813,595 in fiscal year 2021-2022), the Council encourages the Mayor to calculate anticipated ad valorem revenues using the rolled-back millage rate, as defined by Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, for the final annual budget proposal submitted to Council; now, therefore

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

Section 1. Encouraging the Mayor to Use the Rolled-Back Millage Rate for Ad Valorem Revenues in the Final Annual Budget Proposal Calculations. The Council encourages the Mayor to utilize estimated ad valorem revenues generated under the rolled-back millage rate for

the final annual budget proposal submitted to Council for fiscal year 2022-2023. The Council determines that given current economic conditions, the taxpayers of Duval County should receive economic relief in the form of a rolled-back millage rate providing lower ad valorem assessments for fiscal year 2022-2023 versus using a flat millage rate and that the City may be able to use other revenue sources outlined herein to offset the impact on the approved final budget.

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

13 Form Approved:

16 Office of General Counsel

Legislation prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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