



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBER JIMMY PELUSO
DISTRICT 7
OFFICE (904) 255- 5207
FAX (904) 255-5230

SUITE 425, CITY HALL
117 WEST DUVAL STREET
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202
E-MAIL: JPELUSO@COJ.NET

**Noticed Meeting Council Member
Peluso RE CBA
September 10, 2024
Minutes**

Location: Front Steps, City Hall at St. James, 117 West Duval Street, Jacksonville, Fl 32202

Attendance: Council Member Jimmy Peluso, Council Member Raul Arias, Council Member Dr. Rahman Johnson, Council Member Reggie Gaffney, Jr., Travis L. Williams and David Garfinkle with Lift Jax, Inc., Suzanne Pickett - President and CEO of the Historic Eastside Community Development Corporation, Ariane Randolph, Executive Council Assistant Sonia Johnson, Executive Council Assistant Brooks Dame, Executive Council Assistant Cory Armstrong, Jimmy Midyette - Diversity Manager, Human Rights Commission, Steve Cassada.

Meeting Convened: 4:01 p.m.

Council Member Jimmy Peluso opened the press conference and welcomed the public. He observed that the Special Committee on the Community Benefits Agreement had completed its work and the Community Benefits Agreement would be voted on tonight. He thanked all the many partners who had been integral to getting to this point, the Together Eastside Coalition, the Special Committee Members, Jacksonville Jaguars, Mayor Donna Deegan, and President Mark Lamping. He acknowledged gratefully the organizations who participated: Chamber of Commerce, Sulzbacher, Jacksonville Civic Council, Changing Homelessness, Goodwill, JAXUSA, Kids Hope Alliance, Ability Housing, and many small businesses.

Council Member Raul Arias thanked the Administration, the Jaguars, and all who had dedicated many hours to working on the CBA. He shared this CBA was a success and set a high bar for future cities. Council Member Arias confirmed the CBA was a good product he was proud of. Council Member Peluso thanked Council Member Arias for his steady leadership through the process.

Travis L. Williams, Chief Operations Officer of Lift Jax, Inc. thanked all the parties involved. He noted the similarity to the opening of the Debs Store, when it also rained and likened it to abundance and hope. He thanked the Together Eastside Coalition and shared his excitement in the strategic investment the CBA represents.

Suzanne Pickett - President and CEO of the Historic Eastside Community Development Corporation stated the importance of the investment in people, and in this community. She thanked the Eastside neighbors for their hard work on this project.

Ariane Randolph shared she is a 4th generation Eastside resident. She currently lives in the home her grandmother bought during the Jim Crow Era. Ms. Randolph affirmed the community, thanking residents for advocating for what is right and to ensure the community remains strong and children come home to grow their families here. She stated it was empowering to have a seat at the table and to create a vision with and for the community.

Council Member Peluso and Council Member Raul Arias answered media questions, then thanked all for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Brooks Dame, Executive Council Assistant to Council Member Jimmy Peluso. The following items were submitted for public record and can be accessed by contacting the Legislative Services:

09102024 Noticed Meeting Council Member Peluso RE CBA
09102024 Agenda Noticed Meeting Council Member Peluso RE CBA
09102024 Minutes Noticed Meeting Council Member Peluso RE CBA

cc: Council Members and Staff
Margaret “Peggy” Sidman, Director/Council Secretary
Merriane Lahmeur, Chief, Legislative Services Division
Teresa Eichner, Chief, Public Information Division
Yvonne Mitchell, Chief, Administrative Services Division
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division
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