

# PAUL M. HARDEN

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December 4, 2020

The Hon. Tommy Hazouri  
Council President  
Jacksonville City Council  
117 W. Duval St., Suite 425  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

**Re: Lot J Development**

Dear President Hazouri:

Following the Committee of the Whole meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2020, we scheduled a work session among the Auditor's office, the Office of General Counsel, the development team and the administration. The Auditor's staff and John Sawyer were kind enough to make themselves available today from 9:00 a.m to noon.

Based upon direction from the Council, the group went through the Auditor's review and list of recommendations, to determine what issues remain upon which there was not a full agreement. The vast majority of the items were agreed to, subject to drafting language.

Based upon the group discussion and Council input, Mr. Sawyer is preparing a document which incorporates into the November 25<sup>th</sup> drafts the Council Auditor's earlier recommendations upon which everyone has agreed, the final Council Auditor's recommendations, received on December 3<sup>rd</sup> upon which everyone agreed, the DIA recommendations, and the Becton/Cumber amendment to add a 1.5% surcharge on the hotel development. It is my understanding Mr. Sawyer, in working with the Greenberg Traurig firm, will have that document ready by Monday morning.

Ms. Taylor is preparing a list of those changes made to the originally filed document based upon the Auditor's office original recommendations, and Auditor's office final list of recommendations (delivered December 3<sup>rd</sup> to the Council). The Auditor's recommendations, of course, will be incorporated into Mr. Sawyer's document. Ms. Parekh has prepared a list of items that need to be explained or resolved by Council, in Ms Taylor's opinion, as policy decision. Ms. Parekh's list is attached hereto.

As you can see, the remaining open items are not complex and, once resolved, will result in a complete agreement, subject to any amendments raised by Council members that have not been covered by the Council Auditor or DIA review. (The only two that I am aware of at this time are the proposed Hazouri/DeFoor amendment requiring liquidated damages of \$152 million and the Diamond amendment drafted by the Ethics Officer.)

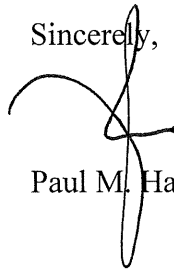
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I would respectfully request these matters be taken up Tuesday night or at a special Council meeting scheduled before December 11<sup>th</sup>. I understand Councilman Gaffney is scheduling a work session prior to the Council meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be in attendance and be prepared to go through this attached list as well as the two Council member amendments of which I am aware.

An added benefit of the December timeline is it allows for work to begin, so there will be no loss of parking for the 2021 Florida/Georgia game. That is, the surface parking can be in place prior to the 2021 game. I know this is a big concern of the City.

Thank you much for your consideration and attention.

Sincerely,



Paul M. Harden

PMH/jc  
attachment

c: The Hon. Joyce Morgan  
The Hon. Al Ferraro  
The Hon. Aaron L. Bowman  
The Hon. Kevin Carrico  
The Hon. LeAnna Cumber  
The Hon. Michael Boylan  
The Hon. Reggie Gaffney  
The Hon. Ju'Coby Pittman  
The Hon. Garrett L. Dennis  
The Hon. Brenda Priestly Jackson  
The Hon. Danny Becton  
The Hon. Randy White  
The Hon. Rory Diamond  
The Hon. Randy DeFoor  
The Hon. Terrance Freeman  
The Hon. Ronald B. Salem  
The Hon. Matt Carlucci  
The Hon. Samuel Newby  
Cheryl L. Brown, Director/Council Secretary  
John C. Sawyer, Jr., Esq.  
Kim Taylor, Council Auditor  
Jordan Elsbury, Chief of Staff  
Brian Hughes, Chief Administrative Officer