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| **LORI N. BOYER**PresidentCouncil Member, District 5Office (904) 630-1382Fax (904) 630-2906E-Mail: lboyer@coj.net  |  | 117 West Duval StreetCity Hall, Suite 425Jacksonville, FL 32202TDD: (904) 630-1580 |
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| **OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL** |
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July 15, 2016

11:00 a.m.

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:**  Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Council President Lori N. Boyer

 District 5

**RE:** Special Committee on Hemming Park

In accordance with Council Rule 2.103(a), as President of the Jacksonville City Council

I hereby appoint a Special Committee for the review of the current status and future direction of Hemming Park.

BACKGROUND: On December 16, 2011, former Council President Joost convened an Ad Hoc Select Committee to review issues related to the direction of Hemming Plaza and recommend a course of action. The committee began meeting in January 2012 and the final report was due by the end of March 2012.

 The recommendations of the Committee resulted in the issuance of an RFP for management and operation of the renamed Hemming Park and Friends of Hemming Park was awarded the contract for operation. Private fundraising to support operation of the park has not materialized as originally contemplated and recent audits and discussion have revealed concerns over both the financial direction and sustainability of the current operation as well as the need for greater clarity regarding the City’s goals for the Park and its operation.

CHARGE: Review and assess the current contract with FOHP, the financial audit of FOHP conducted by the Council Auditors, financial sustainability of FOHP proposals for continued operation, other alternatives for management including but not limited to Downtown Vision, Inc and the City, and such other matters as the committee may deem appropriate regarding future goals for, and operation of, Hemming Park. The Committee shall make recommendations regarding any pending Hemming Park legislation, contract extensions, budget proposals, and future operation and management of the Park.

 In making your recommendation, consult with interested stakeholders including the Downtown Investment Authority and other interested parties.

**MEMBERS:** Council MemberGreg Anderson – Chair

 Council Member Danny Becton

 Council Member Anna Lopez Brosche

 Council Member John Crescimbeni

 Council Member Reggie Gaffney

 Council Member Bill Gulliford

 Council Member Sam Newby

 Council Member Scott Wilson

 All interested Council Members are encouraged to attend.

**DEADLINE:** The Special Committee on Hemming Park is tasked to report its findings and recommendations on the charge set forth above by 10/30/2016.

I appreciate the willingness of the members to devote the necessary attention to this important issue.

LNB/ns

cc: Council Members/Staff

 Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary

 Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division

 Carol Owens, Interim Chief, Legislative Services Division

 Rachel Welsh, Information Systems Administrators

 Kirk Sherman, Council Auditor

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