



**SAM C. NEWBY**  
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## OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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August 7, 2020  
12:30 p.m.

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable City Council Members

**FROM:** The Honorable Acting Council President Sam Newby

**SUBJECT:** Jacksonville Small & Emerging Business Special Committee

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In accordance with Council Rule 2.103 (a), as Acting President of the Jacksonville City Council, and in conjunction with the consultation with Council President Tommy Hazouri, I hereby create a Special Committee on the Jacksonville Small & Emerging Business program found in Chapter 126, Part 6, Jacksonville.

**Background:** The current Jacksonville Small and Emerging Business (JSEB) program has been in place since 2004, with several modification over the years. This JSEB program is a race neutral program developed in conjunction with two previous disparity studies (1990 and 2002) and federal case law. An oversight committee for the JSEB program was established to quarterly and annually review certain aspects of the JSEB program. In 2011, the City of Jacksonville commissioned a disparity study to evaluate the JSEB program and data from 2004-2010. The results of the disparity study were published in 2013.

**Charge:** A special Committee on Jacksonville Small and Emerging business is established to review the JSEB program codified in Chapter 126, Part 6, *Ordinance Code*, and identify any successes and challenges that the JSEB program may have. Based on the Special Committee JSEB program review, the Committee may recommend amendments to the JSEB program, including but not limited to, the JSEB program goals, training, access to capital, bonding, certification requirements, maximum threshold amounts in Section 126.608(c)(2), *Ordinance Code*, and the limitation on the number of program participation years in Section 126.608(c)(3), *Ordinance Code*, or other legislative improvements or programs supported by the evidence, disparity studies, and applicable federal and state law.

I look forward to receiving the committee's work product as they move along.

**Members:**

Council Member Ju'Coby Pittman, Chairwoman

Council Member Garrett Dennis

Council Member Terrence Freeman

**Deadline:**

The Jacksonville Small Business & Emerging Special Committee is tasked to report its findings and recommendations by June 30, 2021.

Thank you to each of the Council Members and the staff who make the commitment to serve on this important committee.

cc: Council Members/Staff  
Cheryl L. Brown, Director/Council Secretary  
Jessica Matthews, Chief, Legislative Services Division  
Kim Taylor, Council Auditor  
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division  
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