



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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Dear Council President Kevin Carrico,

Public trust is vital to our success as a democracy. Whether it's a U.S. Senator or a member of the Mosquito Control Board, we cannot allow trust to be eroded. During your tenure, there have been a number of incidents that have led to controversy, however, none have led to an investigation from the State Attorney's Office. Our City deserves better than what we have been seeing from our Council, and I think you should accept responsibility as one of the key reasons why.

It's no secret that JEA has been under a spotlight since the 2024 federal trial, and since then it is up to us to rebuild confidence in our public utility. Whether these text messages have anything to do with the most recent JEA leadership conversations is not for me to determine or speculate on. I am concerned that the public is connecting recent behavior to that of prior scandals, and it's of paramount importance that trust is restored, especially with the attempted sale and federal conviction still so fresh in our minds.

As your colleague, I think it is in the best interest of this Council that you temporarily step down in your position as the City Council President. This would only be temporary, and would conclude once the State Attorney's Office has removed any possibility of wrongdoing. I am not asking you to leave Council, and I am not asking you to step down permanently; nor is this meant to be political, partisan, or harmful to you. This is intended to increase public trust in the institution of City Council, and to ensure we hold each other accountable. I urge you to consider this request and do what is in the best interest for Jacksonville.

Respectfully,

Jimmy Peluso