



RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Jacksonville Aviation Authority ("JAA") is an independent public agency and body politic established in 2001 by the Florida legislature to own, operate, develop, and manage the public aviation system serving Northeast Florida; and

WHEREAS, the JAA does not receive regular funding from the COJ, and the majority of the Board of Directors are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Jacksonville appoints, and the City Council confirms, three members of the JAA Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jacksonville ("COJ") is a consolidated municipal government and political subdivision of the State of Florida charged with promoting the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens through the provision of essential governmental services, land use planning, infrastructure, public safety, economic development, and stewardship of public resources, while working cooperatively with independent authorities, including the Jacksonville Port Authority, Jacksonville Transportation Authority, and the Jacksonville Aviation Authority, to foster transportation, commerce, and sustainable economic growth for the benefit of the residents and businesses of Jacksonville and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of an independent authority (JAA) reflected the public policy determination that a specialized aviation authority would better promote economic development, improve transportation infrastructure, enhance operational efficiency, and support the long-term growth of commercial and general aviation throughout Northeast Florida; and

WHEREAS, since its formation, the JAA has successfully owned, managed, and operated Jacksonville International Airport, Cecil Airport, Herlong Recreational Airport, and Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport, each serving unique commercial, military, corporate, cargo, and

general aviation functions within the regional transportation network all which have received multiple awards for their outstanding work; and

WHEREAS, as delineated in Chapter 2026-204, Laws of Florida, the JAA is responsible for Economic Development for the Cecil Airport section of Cecil Field; and

WHEREAS, a multi-year dispute exists between the COJ and the JAA over the structure, roles, and responsibilities of the JAA ("Dispute"), including, but not limited to: expenditures the JAA can or cannot make within the guidelines of the Federal Aviation Administration's governance, the COJ's authority as it relates to the JAA's budget, and the question as to whether the Office of General Counsel can provide legal representation and impartial advice to the disputing entities; and

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2026 the JAA's Board of Directors voted to allow outside legal counsel to file suit against the COJ on or after August 16, 2026 seeking a judicial resolution to the Dispute if the parties cannot resolve the dispute within the 30 days of the Board's vote; and

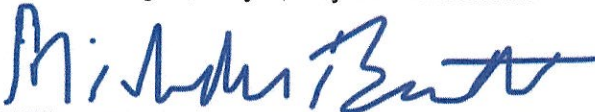
WHEREAS, both the COJ and JAA agree that JAA was created by act of the Florida Legislature and having been informed of House Speaker-Designate Sam Garrison's intent to have the 2027 Florida Legislature provide clear direction to the COJ and the JAA via legislative action.

NOW, THEREFORE, the JAA agrees to refrain from filing its proposed lawsuit against the COJ. Further, the COJ and JAA jointly request that the 2027 Florida Legislature pass legislation providing clear direction as to the structure, roles, and responsibilities of the JAA.

Agreed upon this 31st day of July, 2026 by:


Michael Weinstein
Chief Administrative Officer
For: Mayor Donna Deegan
Under Authority Of:
Executive Order No: 2025-04


Donna Deegan, Mayor, City of Jacksonville



Michelle Barnett, Board Member and Designee for the Jacksonville Aviation Authority