

## Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission

Marc El Hassan, Chair Greg Radlinski, Vice Chair Joe Andrews, Secretary

## **RESOLUTION 2013-1**

A RESOLUTION URGING THE CITY COUNCILTO AMEND ORDINANCE CODE CHAPTER 57 – TRUE COMMISSION – TO WIDEN MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY TO ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS.

**WHEREAS**, the TRUE Commission has the authority and responsibility to gather information on the soundness of the City's current and long-term financial status, operations and practices; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Commission to provide important information on and to raise public awareness of public finance issues by researching issues and reporting its findings to the Mayor and City Council, encouraging in-depth media coverage of these issues, and by meeting with community, neighborhood, and civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office recently nominated a resident of one of the Beaches cities to serve on the Commission, then subsequently requested withdrawal of the nomination after the Council Auditor's Office and Office of General Counsel pointed out that Ordinance Code Chapter 57 requires commission members to be residents of the "city", which the Code defines to mean City of Jacksonville, excluding the Beaches and Baldwin unless otherwise specified; and

WHEREAS, residents of the Beaches and Baldwin are, in fact, residents of the City of Jacksonville for purposes of paying county property taxes and receiving county services, and of electing the Mayor of the City of Jacksonville and six of the 19 Jacksonville City Council members, and residents of the Beaches and Baldwin utilize county services and have a vested interest in the City of Jacksonville operating in a fiscally responsible manner with their tax dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, the TRUE Commission believes that it is in the public interest for residents of the Beaches and Baldwin to be eligible to serve on the TRUE Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance 2013-350 pending before the City Council would amend Chapter 57 to change eligibility for service on the TRUE Commission from City of Jacksonville residents to county residents, which would include residents of the Beaches and Baldwin; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the TRUE Commission hereby urges the City Council to approve pending Ordinance 2013-350 and thereby extend eligibility for membership on the TRUE Commission to residents of the Beaches cities and the Town of Baldwin

Adopted by a unanimous vote of the Commission on the 13th day of June, 2013.

Marc Majed El Hassan

Chairman