

DONNA DEEGAN MAYOR CITY HALL SUITE 400 117 W. DUVAL STREET JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER 2024-03**

TO:

All Elected Officials, Department Heads, Division Chiefs, Independent

Agencies, Boards, Commissions, and Councils

FROM:

Donna Deegan, Mayor

**SUBJECT:** 

Mayor's LGBTQ+ Advisory Board

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor by the Charter of the City of Jacksonville and as chief executive and administrative officer of the Consolidated Government, it is ordered as follows:

**Section 1. Background.** Jacksonville has an extensive and viable LGBTQ+ community. Although precise calculations of the size of the LGBTQ+ community in Jacksonville are unknown, the percentage is estimated to be between that of the State of Florida's LGBTQ+ population, which is 4.6%, and that of the United States population, which is 7.1%, both percentages based on Gallup surveys. The Human Rights Campaign's 2023 Municipal Equality Index Scorecard, which scores the inclusiveness of municipal laws, policies, and services for LGBTQ+ people who live and work in our City, ranked Jacksonville lowest among all other large Florida cities, such as Miami, Tampa, and Orlando. The LGBTQ+ community desires to have a forum which will enable it to communicate with, and advise the City of Jacksonville about, matters regarding the LGBTQ+ community.

**Section 2. Purpose.** The purpose of this Executive Order is to provide a means by which the City of Jacksonville may obtain information and guidance on how to create a "sense of belonging" environment for the LGBTQ+ community within our City.

Section 3. LGBTQ+ Advisory Board created; Term; Officers. There is hereby created a council, titled the Mayor's LGBTQ+ Advisory Board ("Board"), which shall come into effect upon execution of this Executive Order. The Board shall consist of eleven (11) members. Each member shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor. Of those members initially appointed, three (3) members shall serve terms of two (2) years, three (3) members shall serve terms of (4) years. Board members shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms; provided however, members shall continue to serve on the Board until such time as their respective successors are appointed. For purposes of reappointment, the initial appointment shall count as a full term and the initial appointees may be reappointed for one (1) additional term thereafter. A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of

an unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. The Board shall elect annually one of its members to serve in each of the offices of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. The members of the Board shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed pursuant to the Ordinance Code for reasonable Board-related and approved expenses.

Section 4. Meeting; Notice; Quorum. The Board shall meet at least once a month to perform its functions. The Board shall meet at such times and in such places as may be fixed by the Chair in the monthly meeting call; provided, however, that such meetings shall be subject to the Government-in-the Sunshine requirements of Section 286.011, Florida Statutes, and Section 602.1208, Ordinance Code, and held in facilities owned or leased by the City. The Board shall provide its members at least 72 hours' advance notice of its meetings and provide the public such notice of its meetings as required by law. A majority of the membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting shall be necessary to decide any question. Written minutes shall be kept of all Board meetings by the Secretary. The minutes, resolutions, and other official records of the Board shall be public records as provided by law, including Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.

**Section 5.** Functions. The Board shall act as a liaison between the LGBTQ+ community and the City government. The Board shall report to the Mayor, at any time it deems necessary, any findings and/or recommendations it desires to make. At a minimum, the Board shall prepare an annual report consisting of findings and recommendations to the Mayor and, if requested by City Council, to City Council. This annual report shall be submitted no more than thirty (30) days after the close of the preceding calendar year.

**Section 6.** Rules. The Board is authorized to adopt, amend, and repeal rules of procedure for its organization and governance, provided such rules are not inconsistent with this Executive Order.

**Section 7.** Support Staff. The Neighborhood Services Office shall supply staff assistance to the Board.

Section 8. Effective Date. This Executive Order shall become effective upon its execution.

Approved as to conformity with sound fiscal policy:

Director of Finance

Approved as to Form

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Approved and issued:

Donna Deegan, Mayor

Approval Date: June 28, 2024

Effective Date: June 28, 2024

Michael T. Fackler, General Counsel