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REVISED

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of Council
FROM: Council President Bill Gulliford
RE: Task Force on Consolidated Government

On October 1st 1968, almost forty five years ago, the City of Jacksonville and Duval County embarked on a bold journey, using a newly created form of consolidated government. Both of those governmental entities were replaced, by the Consolidated City of Jacksonville, after many hours of study and formation, and then a vote of the citizens by referendum.

Over the past forty plus years a number of questions, concerns, comments and suggestions to make changes in the consolidated government have been advanced. And yet, except for the limited scope of the Charter Review Commission meeting every ten years, there has been little formal review. No government, company or team can reach its full potential without regular and meaningful scrutiny and change. It is time for an in depth study that will then provide direction for action to improve our government, challenge the status quo and hopefully lead to better operations, structure and efficiencies.

I am hereby establishing a Task Force on Consolidated Government and have asked Councilmember Lori Boyer to serve as chair. She has the intelligence, leadership and dogged determination to accomplish this task. Together we have compiled a thirty-one member body with two alternates; people who have stepped up and requested to serve and those who have experience and knowledge of the government, making them valuable to the process.

CHARGE: Undertake an in depth review of the history, formation and operation of the consolidated government, including a full examination of all departments, divisions, board, commissions, and independent authorities. Study the relationship between the Beaches and Baldwin and the Consolidated City of Jacksonville.

CHAIR: Lori N. Boyer, Chair

DEADLINE: I look for this body to bring forth a final report with recommendations for reform and change through legislative action, local referenda and if necessary, suggested state legislative action, by **April 30, 2014**.

Recognizing that the work will be long and sometimes arduous, but extremely important to our future; I believe the potential reward is great. I cannot thank enough, each of the participants, for their willingness to serve. Each will bring a unique prospective and talent to the process. I believe when the final results are realized, the citizens of this wonderful City will be indebted by the contributions of each Task Force member.

BG/

cc: Council Members/Staff
Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division
Dana Farris, Chief, legislative Services Division
Rachel Welsh, Information Systems Administrators
Kirk Sherman, Council Auditor
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