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Council Member
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November 13, 2017
(4:00 p.m.)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable City Council Members

FROM: Council President Anna Lopez Brosche
At-Large Group 1

Re: REVISED Electronic Text Communications During Meetings

As you may recall, the City Council adopted 2016-371 requiring the Council President to at least annually review and consider the Council President's Executive Policy on Electronic Communications During Meetings. Guided by the principles of equal access and transparency, I have revised the policy originally issued on March 1, 2016 to be as follows:

- 1. Sending or receiving text messages during meetings:** Sending or receiving text messages with a registered lobbyist, union member or union representative, or a member of the administration of the City of Jacksonville during any Committee or any City Council meeting related to official public business on the agenda is discouraged.
- 2. Replying to text messages during meetings:** During a Committee or City Council meeting, Council Members shall not reply to any text message from a registered lobbyist, union member or union representative, or a member of the administration of the City of Jacksonville related to official public business on the agenda.
- 3. Disclosure of text messages:** In the event a Council Member receives a text message during any Committee or any City Council meeting from a registered lobbyist, union member or union representative, or a member of the administration of the City of Jacksonville related to official public business on the agenda, the Council Member must disclose the receipt of such communication by filing it with the Legislative Services Division within 48 hours of receipt. The communications will be placed in the permanent bill file.

I would like to thank former Council President Anderson for his leadership in establishing this policy, the Special Committee on Electronic Communications for their contributions to transparency, and to Council Member Gulliford for submitting legislation (2015-697, eventually withdrawn) on this topic as a solution to ensuring that we uphold the principles of open government.

ALB/js

cc: Council Members/Staff
Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division
Carol Owens, Chief, Legislative Services Division
Jessica Matthews, Legislative Supervisor
Paula Shoup, Information Systems Administrators
Kyle Billy, Council Auditor
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