



PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: The Gullah/Geechee Nation consists of a group of people ranging from Jacksonville, North Carolina to Jacksonville, Florida; and

WHEREAS: Originating from contact between enslaved people of African descent and the people indigenous to the Southern United States' Low Country, Gullah/Geechee people developed a unique Gullah language and culture. Descendants reside throughout the Southeastern Low Country, on all the Sea Islands, and thirty-five miles inland of the St. Johns River; and

WHEREAS: Jacksonville is proud to be home to the largest population of Gullah/Geechee people in the Southeast, and serves as a focal point for the celebration of Gullah/Geechee arts and culture; and

WHEREAS: The Jacksonville Gullah Geechee Nation Community Development Corporation (JGGN CDC) serves to connect, preserve, and celebrate the history and culture of the Gullah/Geechee people here in Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS: The Jacksonville Gullah Geechee Nation CDC continues to host an annual October Gullah Fest, celebrating the heritage of Gullah/Geechee people throughout Northeast Florida; and

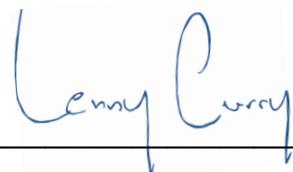
WHEREAS: The City of Jacksonville recognizes and honors the impact of Gullah/Geechee culture and heritage in the community and the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2022 as

THE 15TH ANNUAL OCTOBER GULLAH FEST

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to celebrate Gullah/Geechee culture and recognize the history and contributions of our Gullah/Geechee citizens.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 19th Day of September in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Two



MAYOR