

TO: The Honorable Chairperson and
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Jim Dean, Administration

SUBJECT: Request: Board Adoption of a Resolution of the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners supporting the construction of a Publix Supermarket within Jackson County, Florida. - **Jim Dean, County Administrator**

Background: A RESOLUTION OF THE JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PUBLIX SUPERMARKET WITHIN JACKSON COUNTY, FLORIDA; RECOGNIZING THE COUNTY'S LACK OF ADEQUATE GROCERY RETAIL OPTIONS; ACKNOWLEDGING THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF SUCH A DEVELOPMENT; IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR NEW MARKETS TAX CREDITS AND OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOLS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Strategic Plan Goal: Vibrant & Growing Economy

Previous Action:

Amount of Funds to Be Expended or Requested:

Source of Funds:

Originating Office: Administration

Reviewed By: Jennifer Collins
Jennifer Collins
Lynsey Darragh
Jim Dean

Recommendation: Adopt

Potential Motion: I move to adopt the resolution supporting the construction of a Publix Supermarket within Jackson County, Florida and authorize the Chairman to sign.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-___

A RESOLUTION OF THE JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PUBLIX SUPERMARKET WITHIN JACKSON COUNTY, FLORIDA; RECOGNIZING THE COUNTY’S LACK OF ADEQUATE GROCERY RETAIL OPTIONS; ACKNOWLEDGING THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF SUCH A DEVELOPMENT; IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR NEW MARKETS TAX CREDITS AND OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOLS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Jackson County currently faces a limited availability of full-service grocery retail options, resulting in residents traveling outside the County to meet basic food and household needs; and

WHEREAS, the absence of additional grocery stores contributes to increased transportation burdens, limits access to affordable and nutritious food, and places Jackson County at a competitive disadvantage when compared to neighboring counties; and

WHEREAS, the construction of a Publix Super Market within Jackson County would significantly improve local access to groceries and essential goods, while enhancing overall quality of life for County residents; and

WHEREAS, Jackson County is strategically positioned to serve as a regional retail hub, capable of drawing customers not only from within the County but also from surrounding counties, thereby expanding the economic footprint of such a development beyond County borders; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Publix Super Market would generate new employment opportunities, expand the local tax base, stimulate ancillary commercial development, and promote long-term economic growth within the County; and

WHEREAS, depending upon the final location and structure of the proposed development, the project may qualify for New Markets Tax Credits or other state and federal economic development incentives, which could enhance the financial feasibility of the project and attract additional private investment into Jackson County; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners desires to publicly express its support for economic development initiatives that address essential community needs, promote private investment, and strengthen the County’s economic vitality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JACKSON COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

Support Expressed.

The Jackson County Board of County Commissioners hereby expresses its strong support for the construction and operation of a Publix Super Market within Jackson County, Florida.

Economic Development Recognition.

The Board recognizes that such a development would address a critical shortage of grocery retail options, provide meaningful economic benefits to County residents, and serve as a regional draw for surrounding counties.

Incentive Eligibility.

The Board acknowledges that, depending upon site selection and project structure, the proposed development may be eligible for New Markets Tax Credits or other applicable economic development programs, and supports reasonable efforts to explore such opportunities consistent with applicable law.

County Cooperation.

The Board authorizes County staff to cooperate, as appropriate and lawful, with developers, economic development partners, and relevant agencies to facilitate evaluation, planning, and potential development of the project.

No Financial Obligation.

Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed as obligating Jackson County to expend funds, grant incentives, or approve any specific land-use or zoning action, all of which shall remain subject to applicable processes and approvals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ___ day of _____, 2026, by the Board of County Commissioners of Jackson County, Florida.

Jamey Westbrook, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Clerk/Deputy Clerk

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