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An Information Brochure on Annexation for the Metropolitan Area of Jacksonville, Florida

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AN INFORMATION BROCHURE ON
ANNEXATION
FOR THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

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OF
ARTHUR N. SOLLEE

PREPARED UNDER THE AUTHORIZATION OF
THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

by

J. E. DOVELL

and

ARTHUR W. SMITH

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

AUGUST, 1962

DOVELL AND SMITH, CONSULTANTS

GAINSVILLE, FLORIDA

September 12, 1962

Mayor Haydon Burns and
Council President Brad Tredinnick,
Members of the City Council and the
City Commission, City of Jacksonville,
Jacksonville, Florida.

Gentlemen:

This informational brochure has been prepared under your authorization of July, 1962. At that time we proposed to present you with the "facts" concerning annexation from an unbiased viewpoint without recommendations. This information follows this policy throughout.

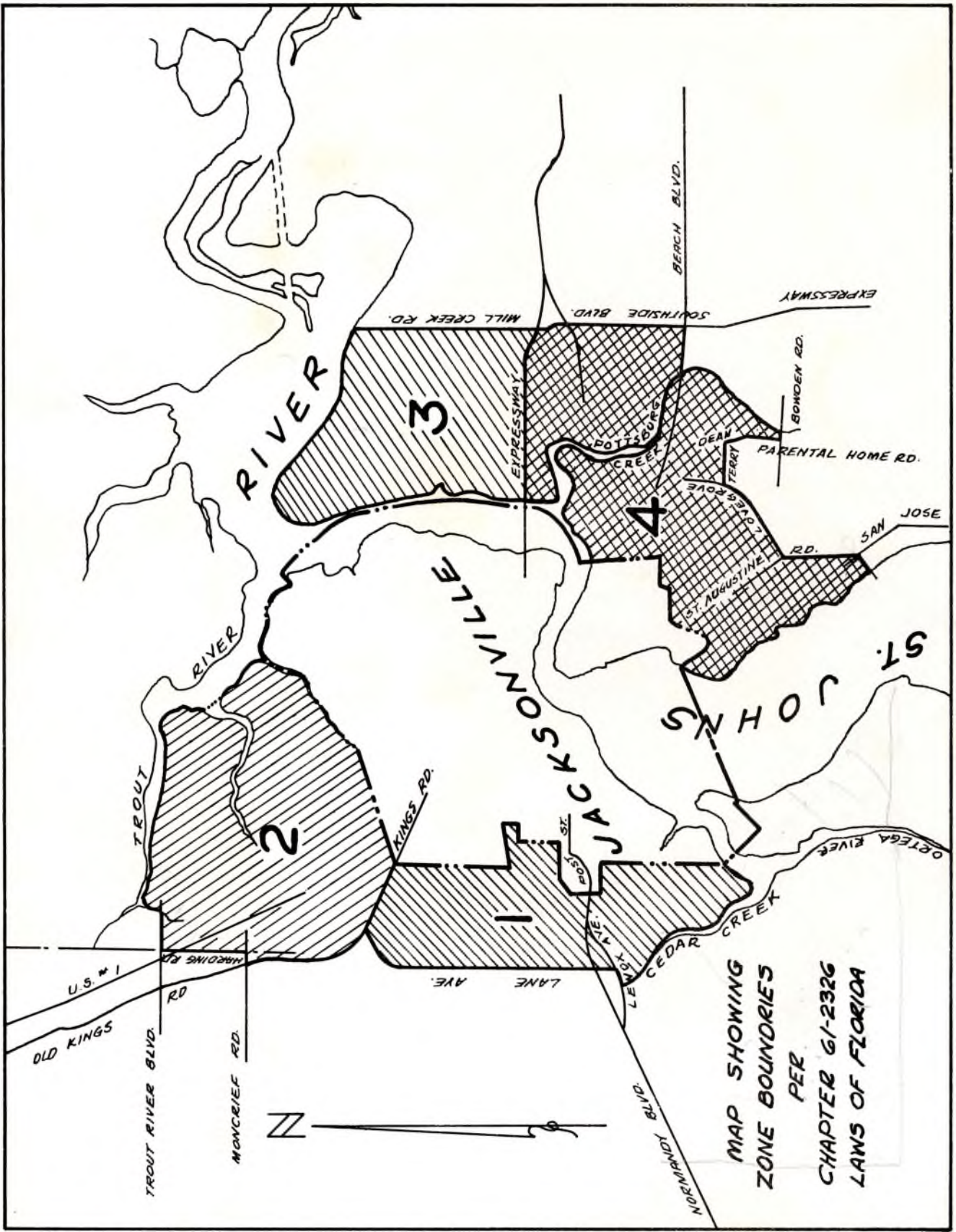
We hope that this information will be of aid to you in communicating suburban growth problems to all interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. Dovell

Arthur W. Smith

JED/phm



MAP SHOWING
 ZONE BOUNDARIES
 PER
 CHAPTER 61-2326
 LAWS OF FLORIDA

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MAP ON THE FACING PAGE, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTIONS BY METES AND BOUNDS OF THE FOUR ZONES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ANNEXATION AND A LIST OF MAJOR SUBDIVISIONS HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR THE READERS CONVENIENCE.

Generally, Zone One covers territory adjoining the City on the west and southwest, extending from the Ortega River and Cedar Creek to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad west of New Kings Road and bounded on the west by Lane Avenue. In this territory are such major subdivisions as Lake Shore, St. Johns Park, Murray Hill Heights, Edgefield and Grand Crossing.

Zone Two covers territory adjoining the City on the northwest, extending from the city limits on the south to Trout River on the north and from the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and Old Kings Road to Trout River on the east, and includes such major subdivisions as Lake Forest, Riverview, Magnolia Gardens, Ribault Hills, Indian Hills, Sherwood Forest, Harbor View, Ribault Manor, Lake Forest Hills and Ribault Heights, Floradale, Beverly Hills.

Zone Three covers the Arlington area, extending north from the Jacksonville Expressway on the south to the St. Johns River on the north, and from Mill Creek Road on the east to the St. Johns River on the west.

Zone Four covers an area on the Southside, extending from Jacksonville Expressway on the north to Beach Boulevard and Lovegrove Road and the Old St. Augustine Road on the south, and from the Jacksonville Expressway on the east to the present city limits and the St. Johns River on the west, and includes such major subdivisions as Clifton, Glynlea, San Souci, San Souci Manor, South Land, Hagens, Azalea Terrace.



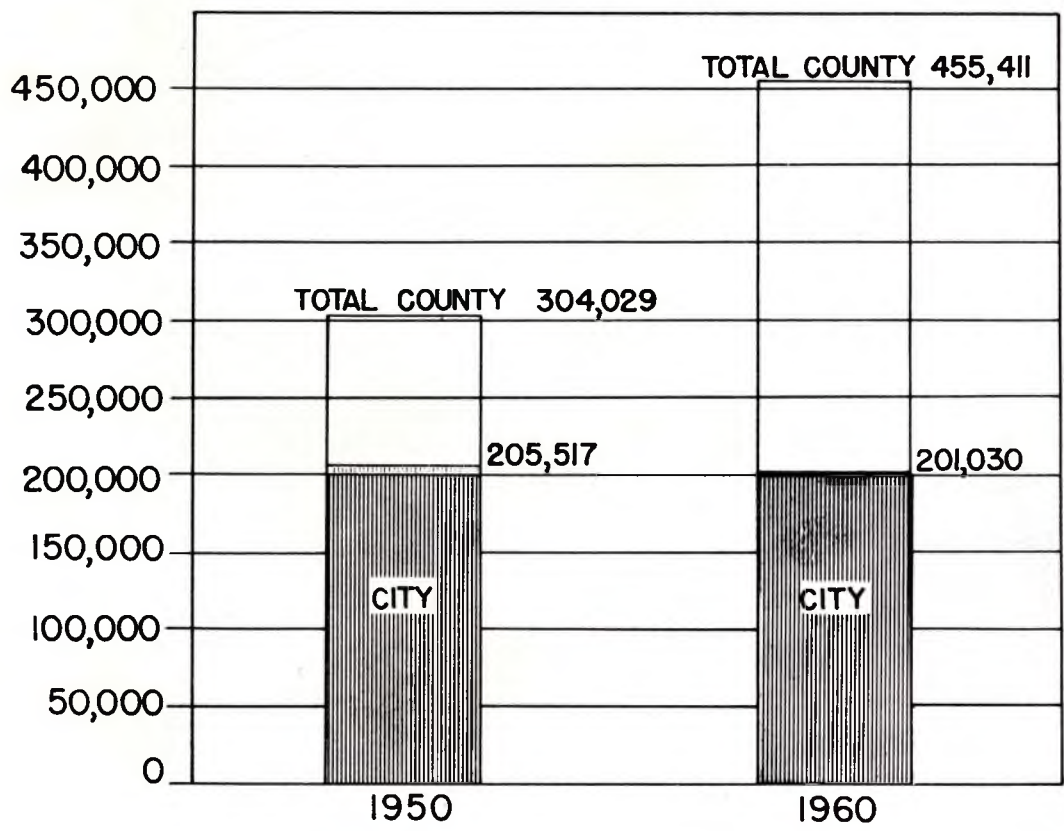
LOOKING EAST. OCEAN IS IN UPPER VIEW AND IS 18 MILES DISTANT! NOTICE HOW THE ST. JOHNS RIVER CURVES ITS WAY TO OCEAN AT "X"



LOOKING WEST. RECREATIONAL AREA IN FOREGROUND. GATOR BOWL GAME IN PROGRESS AND ALL AREAS ARE JAMMED WITH CARS. ROUND BUILDING IN CENTER IS NEW 13,000 SEAT COLISEUM.

The U. S. census shows that the City of Jacksonville had less population in 1960 than it had in 1950, yet it is obvious that there are more people down town, more cars on the streets, and more houses being built every day. The reason for this apparent conflict in facts is that while the city was losing population, the suburban areas outside the city limits were showing a phenomenal growth. A glance at Chart I shows pictorially how the city has declined from 2/3's of the county total, less than 1/2 of the total.

CHART I



The annexation report which the city has had prepared by independent consultants shows a total of 130,900 people living in these suburbs today. This is more than the entire population of over 90% of the cities in Florida.

The State Legislature has authorized a special election to be held to determine if these 130,900 persons are to become citizens of Jacksonville. The only real issue which will be decided in this election is to determine which government will have the authority and responsibility to provide services to these people.

If a majority of the citizens of Jacksonville and a majority of the citizens of the zones shown on the map vote yes then the City of Jacksonville will be responsible for providing the needed services. If the citizens of the city or the citizens of the suburban zones vote no then the services will need to be provided either by the county, private companies or through special tax districts.

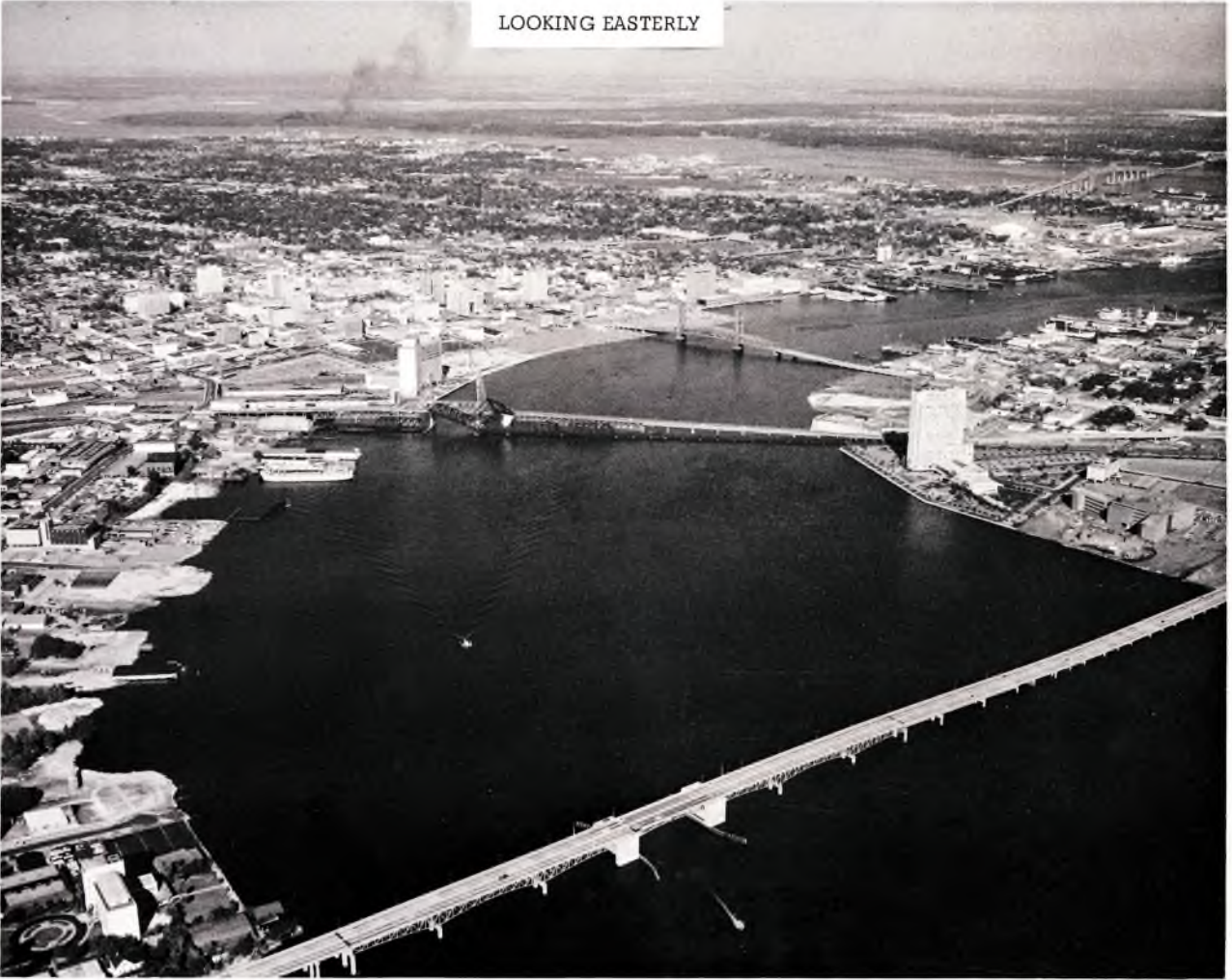
The most important fact to remember, however, is that the needs exist and must be fulfilled by someone if the people are to continue having a safe and decent place to live. It will cost money to provide these services regardless of who provides them. The county levies a tax against taxable property. In addition to property tax the city has other sources of revenue, not available to the county.

A list of services which people living in an urban area require may be found in chart II. This chart illustrates the present devices used to fulfill these needs and compares this with the responsibility for serving the needs in the event annexation takes place.

CHART II

COMMUNITY NEED	PRESENT METHOD OF FULFILLING		RESPONSIBILITY AFTER ANNEXATION
	IN SOME AREAS	IN OTHER AREAS	IN ALL AREAS
Water Supply	Private Wells	Private Water System	City Water System
Sanitary Sewers	Septic Tanks	Private Sewer System	City
Fire Protection	None	Voluntary Fire Depts.	City
Police Protection	Sheriff on Call Basis	Sheriff on Call Basis	City Police on Preventive Basis
Street Building	Private Developers	County Roads	City Highway Dept & Private Developers
Street Cleaning	No One	No One	City Street Cleaning Department
Street Maintenance	Private Developers	County Road Dept.	City Highway Dept.
Storm Sewers & Drainage	No One	County Road Dept.	City Highway Dept.
Electricity	City	City	City
Gas	Private Companies	None	Private Companies
Telephone	Private Companies	Private Companies	Private Companies
Garbage Collection	None	Private Companies	City
Playgrounds, Libraries	None	County	City
Building Codes	County	County	City
Courts	County	County	City and County
Schools	County	County	County

LOOKING EASTERLY



The estimated cost in round figures of providing these services by the city and the estimated revenue expected from the areas subject to annexation are found in the following table. The initial capital outlay need only be paid the first year.

CHART III

SOURCE	REVENUE	SERVICE	ANNUAL EXPENDITURES	INITIAL CAPITAL OUTLAY
Property Tax	\$1,500,000	Fire	\$ 934,000	\$ 915,000
Occupational License	133,000	Police	967,000	116,000
Cigarette Tax	916,000	Streets	636,000	-
Utility Tax	556,000	Street Lights	29,000	73,000
Miscellaneous	267,000	Refuse Collect ion	691,000	915,000
		Health	458,000	
Total	\$3,372,000	Administration	<u>186,000</u>	
		TOTAL	\$3,901,000	\$2,019,000

ANNUAL COSTS TO INDIVIDUALS IN THE EVENT OF ANNEXATION

1. PROPERTY TAX - In addition to existing county tax, new city property owners also will be required to pay a city tax which in 1962 was 19.4 mills city tax (\$19.40 for each thousand dollars of taxable property). However, no tax will be collected the first year after the annexation election.
2. OTHER TAXES LEVIED - City occupational licenses, city building and other inspection permits, city bicycle tags. No license required until October 1, after effective date of annexation.
3. CIGARETTE TAXES - No new tax but money now collected from the existing tax will go to the new City of Jacksonville rather than to the State of Florida.
4. UTILITY TAX - 10% of total utility bills. However city electric rates will be cheaper than those now charged to non-residents.
5. FIRE INSURANCE RATES - Will be reduced as city extends fire protection.
6. GARBAGE COLLECTION - In the city this will be free. Non-residents presently pay \$24.00 to \$30.00 per year for this service.

To illustrate the above details Chart IV shows a typical cost sheet before and after annexation.

In addition to the financial changes resulting from annexation the following facts are also important to know in the event of annexation:

1. All city ordinances will be enforced throughout the area.
2. Citizens who have lived in the area for six months will be permitted to vote in City elections.
3. County zoning laws will remain in effect until changed by the city.
4. Liquor licenses will not be revoked.
5. Buildings under construction will be permitted to be finished without city permit.

CHART IV

TYPICAL COSTS BEFORE AND AFTER ANNEXATION, PROVIDED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS AND INVOLVING ONLY CITY FUNCTIONS.

1. A \$10,000 masonry house under "Homestead Exemption" assessed at \$4,500 and protected by volunteer fire department.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Outside City</u>	<u>Inside City</u>
City Property Tax	Exempt	Exempt
Fire Insurance	12.00	6.00
Increased Utility Rates	24.00	None
Utility Tax	None	30.00
Garbage Collection	24.00	None
Income Tax Savings *	<u>None</u>	<u>-4.80</u>
Total	\$60.00	\$31.20

The Above Table results in a \$28.80 saving to the home owner under "Homestead Exemption".

2. A \$20,000 masonry house under "Homestead Exemption" assessed at \$9,000 and protected by volunteer fire department.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Outside City</u>	<u>Inside City</u>
City Property Tax	Exempt	\$77.60
Fire Insurance	24.00	12.00
Increased Utility Rate	36.00	None
Utility Tax	None	45.00
Garbage Collection	24.00	None
Income Tax Savings *	<u>None</u>	<u>-32.15</u>
Total	\$84.00	\$102.45

The above table results in an \$18.45 increased cost to the home owner.

* Property Tax & Utility Tax are deductible from Federal Income Tax.