

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 26—

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING STRONG SUPPORT FOR RETAINING THE WINN-DIXIE STORE LOCATED AT 1245 S. JEFFERSON STREET, MONTICELLO, FLORIDA, AND OPPOSING ITS CONVERSION TO AN ALDI LOCATION; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL TO RELEVANT PARTIES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Jefferson County is a rural area that works to preserve and utilize its unique agricultural, cultural, and natural resources to achieve economic sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the Winn-Dixie store located at 1245 S. Jefferson Street, Monticello, Florida 32344, has long served as a vital community grocery store, offering accessible, full-service options to residents of Monticello and Jefferson County, and has provided jobs, supported local events, and contributed to the social and economic fabric of our community for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Winn-Dixie is among the largest employers in Monticello and is the only full-service grocer in Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, should the Winn-Dixie convert into an ALDI, Winn-Dixie Associates without reliable transportation may struggle to find local employment as associates have been given no guarantee of employment with ALDI, and ALDI cannot guarantee that it will reopen within three to six months of Winn-Dixie's closure; and

WHEREAS, should Winn-Dixie close, local food access will be limited to discount and convenience stores, which offer fewer healthy options; and

WHEREAS, while ALDI accepts Electronic Benefit Cards (EBT), it does not accept WIC, reducing options for residents who depend on USDA's special supplemental nutrition program; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners ("Board") strongly supports maintaining a diversity of grocery options and retaining businesses that have demonstrated a long-term commitment to the residents of Jefferson County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The foregoing findings are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.

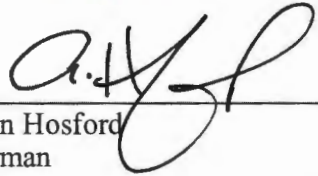
SECTION 2. The Board strongly urges Southeastern Grocers, LLC, and ALDI, Inc., to reconsider any plans to convert or close the existing Winn-Dixie store at 1245 S. Jefferson Street,

Monticello, Florida 32344, and instead maintain its operation as a full-service Winn-Dixie to continue serving the needs of the community.

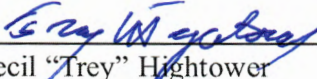
SECTION 3. The Board hereby directs the County Manager to transmit this Resolution to Southeastern Grocers, LLC, and ALDI, Inc., and any other appropriate stakeholders.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

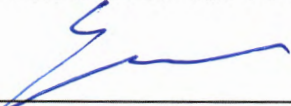
PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 7th day of August, 2025.


Austin Hosford
Chairman

ATTEST:


Cecil "Trey" Hightower
Clerk of Courts

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Evan Rosenthal
County Attorney