Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:

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ORDINANCE 2024-426-E

AN ORDINANCE EXPANDING THE USES OF EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ROUND TWO) PROGRAM") GRANT FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, TO INCLUDE AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING PURPOSES, AND EXTENDING THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE ERA2 PROGRAM FROM SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025, ALL AS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED IN ORDINANCE 2023-148-E, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 501, DIVISION N, OF THE CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021; PROVIDING FOR OVERSIGHT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, grant funds have been made available to the City through a reallocation of Emergency Rental Assistance Program (Round Two) (the "ERA2 Program") grant funds by the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") under Section 501(d), Division N, of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (the "Act"), in the amount of \$6,374,458.34 (the "ERA2 Funds"), of which \$4,374,458.34 has been allocated to the Housing and Community Development Division of the Neighborhoods Department and \$2,000,000.00 has been allocated to the Social Services Division of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department pursuant to Ordinance 2023-148-E; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2023-148-E appropriated the ERA2 Funds to be used for the provision of emergency rent and utility assistance on a short-term basis to eligible households in Duval County, Florida, to

prevent evictions and homelessness in accordance with the ERA2 Program established by the Act, and provided that the ERA2 Funds were authorized to be used through September 30, 2023;

WHEREAS, the Act and the guidance provided by Treasury provides that ERA2 Funds may be used for additional expenses and broader purposes than those set forth in Ordinance 2023-148-E, including certain eligible affordable rental housing purposes, and that such expenses may be incurred between March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City now desires to use the ERA2 Funds for such broader purpose including eligible affordable rental housing purposes through September 30, 2025; now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of the appropriation in Ordinance 2023-148-E is expanded so that the ERA2 Funds may be used for all lawful uses as set forth in the Act and the guidance provided by Treasury, including payment of rent, rent arrears, utilities and home energy costs, utilities and home energy costs arrears, affordable rental housing purposes and other expenses related to housing incurred by eligible households due, directly or indirectly, to the COVID-19 pandemic, in compliance with the Act.

Section 2. Administration of the ERA2 Program. The City's local administration of the ERA2 Program is hereby extended so that it may be conducted through September 30, 2025.

Section 3. Oversight Department. The Social Services Division of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, and the Housing and Community Development Division of the Neighborhoods Department shall continue to oversee the administration and distribution of their respective allocations of ERA2 Funds in accordance with the Act.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become

effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/Joelle J. Dillard

Office of General Counsel

Legislation prepared by: Joelle J. Dillard

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