

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:
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4 **ORDINANCE 2025-538**

5 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$100,000 FROM THE
6 NORTHWEST OED FUND - CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT, TO THE
7 NORTHWEST OED FUND - SUBSIDIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS
8 TO PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS ACCOUNT, FOR THE
9 PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A NORTHWEST JACKSONVILLE
10 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND ("NWJEDF") BUSINESS
11 INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT (THE "BIG GRANT") TO
12 BAKER'S SPORTS, INC. ("COMPANY") TO FUND CERTAIN
13 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH
14 THE RENOVATION OF AN EXISTING BUILDING ON THE
15 PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5245 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
16 ("PROJECT"), AS INITIATED BY B.T. 25-104; MAKING
17 CERTAIN FINDINGS, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR
18 HER DESIGNEE, AND THE CORPORATION SECRETARY TO
19 EXECUTE AND DELIVER, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE
20 CITY, AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN
21 THE CITY AND COMPANY, TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT;
22 AUTHORIZING THE BIG GRANT; AUTHORIZING APPROVAL
23 OF TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE
24 DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
25 ("OED"); AFFIRMING THE PROJECT'S COMPLIANCE WITH
26 THE NWJEDF GUIDELINES APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY
27 ORDINANCE 2016-779-E, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR
28 CITY OVERSIGHT BY THE OED; PROVIDING AN
29 EFFECTIVE DATE.
30

31 **WHEREAS,** Baker's Sports, Inc. (the "Company") is seeking

1 public investment through the Northwest Jacksonville Economic
2 Development Fund in the amount of \$100,000.00, which consists of a
3 Northwest Business Infrastructure Grant (the "BIG Grant"), in order
4 to support certain infrastructure improvements related to the
5 renovation of an existing building on the property located at 5245
6 Commonwealth Avenue (the "Project"); and

7 **WHEREAS,** the Company estimates capital investment of
8 approximately \$900,000 and will support the retention of 165 existing
9 full-time jobs and 10 part-time jobs and the creation of an additional
10 30 full-time equivalent jobs, as further described in the Project
11 Summary, attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, and incorporated herein by
12 this reference; and

13 **WHEREAS,** for the reasons more fully described in the Project
14 Summary, the payment of the BIG Grant in the aforesaid amount serves
15 a paramount public purpose; and

16 **WHEREAS,** the recommended level of assistance is within Public
17 Investment Guidelines for a Northwest BIG Grant; and

18 **WHEREAS,** the Project will have a positive return of investment
19 for the City; and

20 **WHEREAS,** the Office of Economic Development ("OED") has
21 reviewed the application submitted by the Company for community
22 development and, together with representatives of the City, has
23 negotiated an Economic Development Agreement ("EDA") and, based upon
24 the contents of the EDA, has determined the EDA and the uses
25 contemplated therein to be in the public interest, and has determined
26 that the public actions and financial assistance contemplated in the
27 EDA take into account and give consideration to the long-term public
28 interests and public interest benefits to be achieved by the City;
29 and

30 **WHEREAS,** the Company has requested the City to enter into the
31 EDA in substantially the form placed **On File** with the Legislative

1 Services Division; now therefore

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

3 **Section 1. Findings.** It is hereby ascertained, determined,
4 found and declared as follows:

5 (a) The recitals set forth herein are true and correct.

6 (b) The location of the Company's Project in Jacksonville,
7 Florida, is more particularly described in the EDA. The Project will
8 promote and further the public and municipal purposes of the City.

9 (c) Enhancement of the City's tax base and revenues, are
10 matters of State and City policy and State and City concern in order
11 that the State and its counties and municipalities, including the
12 City, shall not continue to be endangered by unemployment,
13 underemployment, economic recession, poverty, crime and disease, and
14 consume an excessive proportion of the State and City revenues because
15 of the extra services required for police, fire, accident, health
16 care, elderly care, charity care, hospitalization, public housing and
17 housing assistance, and other forms of public protection, services
18 and facilities.

19 (d) The provision of the City's assistance as identified in
20 the EDA is necessary and appropriate to make the Project feasible,
21 and the City's assistance is reasonable and not excessive, taking
22 into account the needs of the Company to make the Project economically
23 and financially feasible and the extent of the public benefits
24 expected to be derived from the Project.

25 (e) The Company is qualified to carry out and complete the
26 construction and equipping of the Project, in accordance with the
27 EDA.

28 (f) The authorizations provided by this Ordinance are for
29 public uses and purposes for which the City may use its powers as a
30 county, municipality and as a political subdivision of the State of
31 Florida and may expend public funds, and the necessity in the public

1 interest for the provisions herein enacted is hereby declared as a
2 matter of legislative determination.

3 This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the provisions of Chapters
4 163, 166 and 125, *Florida Statutes*, as amended, the City's Charter,
5 and other applicable provisions of law.

6 **Section 2. Appropriation.** For the 2024-2025 fiscal year,
7 within the City's budget, there are hereby appropriated the indicated
8 sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsection (a) to the account(s)
9 listed in subsection (b):

10 (B.T. 25-104, attached hereto as **Exhibit 2** and incorporated
11 herein by this reference):

12 (a) Appropriated from:

13 See B.T. 25-104 \$100,000

14 (b) Appropriated to:

15 See B.T. 25-104 \$100,000

16 (c) Explanation of Appropriation

17 The funding above is an appropriation of \$100,000 from the
18 Northwest OED Fund - Contingency account, to the Northwest OED Fund
19 - Subsidies and Contributions to Private Organizations account, for
20 the purpose of providing a Northwest Jacksonville Economic
21 Development Fund ("NWJEDF") Business Infrastructure Grant to the
22 Company to assist in funding infrastructure improvements to support
23 the renovation of an existing building.

24 **Section 3. Purpose.** The purpose of the appropriation in
25 Section 2 is to provide the Company funding in the form of a Northwest
26 Jacksonville Business Infrastructure Grant in an amount not to exceed
27 \$100,000 to fund infrastructure improvements needed to complete the
28 Project.

29 **Section 4. Economic Development Agreement Approved.** The
30 Mayor, or her designee, and the Corporation Secretary are hereby
31 authorized to execute and deliver, for and on behalf of the City, the

1 EDA between the City and the Company, in substantially the form placed
2 **On File** with the Legislative Services Division (with such "technical"
3 changes as herein authorized), for the purpose of implementing the
4 recommendations of the OED as set forth herein and further described
5 in the Project Summary, attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.

6 The EDA may include such additions, deletions, and changes as
7 may be reasonable, necessary, and incidental for carrying out the
8 purposes thereof, as may be acceptable to the Mayor or her designee,
9 with such inclusion and acceptance being evidenced by execution of
10 the EDA by the Mayor or her designee. No modification of the EDA may
11 increase the financial obligations or the liability of the City and
12 any such modification shall be technical only and shall be subject
13 to appropriate legal review and approval of the General Counsel or
14 his or her designee and all other appropriate action required by law.
15 "Technical" is herein defined as including, but not limited to,
16 changes in legal descriptions and surveys, descriptions of
17 infrastructure improvements and/or any road project, ingress and
18 egress, easements and rights of way, performance schedules (provided
19 that no performance schedule may be extended for more than one year
20 without City Council approval), design standards, access, and site
21 plans which have no financial impact.

22 **Section 5. Designation of Authorized Official/OED Contract**
23 **Monitor.** The Mayor is designated as the authorized official of the
24 City for the purpose of executing and delivering any contracts, notes,
25 and documents and furnishing such information, data, and documents
26 for the EDA as may be required and otherwise to act as the authorized
27 official of the City in connection with the EDA, and is further
28 authorized to designate one or more other officials of the City to
29 exercise any of the foregoing authorizations and to furnish or cause
30 to be furnished such information and take or cause to be taken such
31 action as may be necessary to enable the City to implement the EDA

1 according to its terms. The OED is hereby required to administer and
2 monitor the EDA and to handle the City's responsibilities thereunder,
3 including the City's responsibilities under the EDA working with and
4 supported by all relevant City departments.

5 **Section 6. Further Authorizations.** The Mayor, or her
6 designee, and the Corporation Secretary, are hereby authorized to
7 execute the EDA and all other contracts and documents and otherwise
8 take all necessary action in connection therewith and herewith. The
9 Executive Director of the OED, as contract administrator, is
10 authorized to negotiate and execute all necessary changes and
11 amendments to the EDA and other contracts and documents, to effectuate
12 the purposes of this legislation without further Council action,
13 provided such changes and amendments are limited to amendments that
14 are technical in nature (as described in Section 4 hereof), and
15 further provided that all such amendments shall be subject to
16 appropriate legal review and approval by the General Counsel, or his
17 or her designee, and all other appropriate official action required
18 by law.

19 **Section 7. Oversight Department.** The OED shall oversee the
20 Project described herein.

21 **Section 8. NWJEDF Guidelines.** This Ordinance conforms to
22 the NWJEDF Guidelines adopted by City Council Ordinance 2016-779-E,
23 as amended.

24 **Section 9. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
26 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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