

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



JEFFREY R. CLEMENTS
Chief of Research
(904) 255-5137

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202
FAX (904) 255-5229

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2024-934

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Johnson

Date of Introduction: November 26, 2024

Committee(s) of Reference: R, F

Date of Analysis: November 27, 2024

Type of Action: Ordinance Code amendment; appropriation

Bill Summary: The bill amends Ordinance Code Chapter 10 – Organization of the Council – in Section 10.105 - Postage and communication expenses of Council members – to increase the monthly allowance for cell phone and converged data services for City Council members from \$100 to \$150 and to provide that council members may share a portion of their communications allowance with their Executive Council Assistant. It appropriates \$22,405.80 from the Council Operating Contingency account to the Council Direct Expenditures – Allowance, Communications - Council account to provide funds for an increase in the allowance for this fiscal year.

Background Information: Currently council members and appointed officials and employees of the City Council staff are eligible to request, at their discretion, a communications allowance to cover all or a portion of their cellphone plan cost (excluding taxes and fees, optional additional data storage, device insurance, etc.) up to a maximum of \$100 per month. Executive Council Assistants are not eligible to request an allowance. This bill will increase the maximum monthly allowance to \$150 per month and permit council members to allow their ECA to share their allowance.

Policy Impact Area: Council member and staff communications allowance

Fiscal Impact: The bill appropriates \$22,405.80 from the Council Operating Contingency to the communications allowance account.

Analyst: Clements