

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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**Bill Type and Number:** Ordinance 2024-118

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council Members M. Carlucci, Amaro, J. Carlucci and Miller

**Date of Introduction:** February 13, 2024

**Committee(s) of Reference:** NCSPHS, F

**Date of Analysis:** February 15, 2024

**Type of Action:** Appropriation; fiscal year carry-over authorization; authorization to execute amendment to grant agreement; designation of oversight agency

**Bill Summary:** The bill appropriates \$2,027,000 from General Fund – Fund Balance to provide an additional grant to the Jacksonville Historical Society to assist in the renovation of the former Florida Casket Company building on Palmetto Street in the Sports Complex into a Jacksonville History Center. The funds are authorized to carry-over until March 31, 2026. The bill authorizes the Mayor to execute a second amendment to the FY 2022-2023 City Grant Agreement between the City of Jacksonville and the Historical Society to extend the term of the agreement to March 31, 2026 and to increase the City’s maximum indebtedness under the agreement by an additional \$2,027,000 for a new total maximum indebtedness not-to-exceed the lesser of (i) \$2,577,000 or (ii) 75 percent of the Project Budget. The Grants and Contract Compliance Division of the Finance and Administration Department is designated as the City’s oversight agency for the project.

**Background Information:** In 2020 the City provided \$50,000 toward the Casket Factory renovation project - \$35,000 from the City Council Operating Contingency and \$15,000 from the Mayor’s Contingency Fund. In 2022 the City executed a grant agreement with the Historical Society providing that the City would reimburse the JHS in an amount not-to-exceed the lesser of (i) \$500,000 or (ii) 29.1 percent of the project budget for the renovations. The agreement was to expire on September 30, 2023, but delays in the work led to an extension of the expiration date to March 31, 2024. Project costs have increased substantially, leading to the request for additional City funding.

The Jacksonville History Center in the 1920 Florida Casket Factory building will incorporate a state-of-the-art local museum featuring rotating curated exhibits, a dedicated facility for the collection, archiving, and processing of diverse historical documentation and artifacts, and an events venue. The JHS received a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission for the proposed exterior changes to the building and has received final approval from the Downtown Development Review Board for the project.

**Policy Impact Area:** Historic preservation

**Fiscal Impact:** The bill appropriates \$2,027,000 from General Fund – Fund Balance.

**Analyst:** Clements