

1 Introduced by Council Member Freeman and Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Members Carlucci and Johnson:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2024-638-A**

6 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE USE OF COUNCIL  
7 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNTS, WHEN AND WHERE  
8 APPROPRIATE, IN A MANNER THAT CLEARLY INDICATES  
9 EQUITY AMONG ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS WHEN PROPOSING  
10 USES OF CONTINGENCY FUNDS AND DETERMINING HOW  
11 THE FUNDS ARE SPENT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE  
12 DATE.

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14 **WHEREAS,** the City has traditionally used a variety of budgeting  
15 and financing mechanisms when preparing and acting upon fiscal year  
16 budgets and mid-year appropriations aimed at sound fiscal practices  
17 in the best interests of the City and its taxpayers; and

18 **WHEREAS,** of utmost importance to the City Council in this  
19 process is the application of said budgeting and financing mechanisms  
20 in a way that promotes appropriate transparency, efficiency and  
21 fairness in the budgeting and legislative process; and

22 **WHEREAS,** a common budgeting mechanism that has been utilized  
23 over the years has been to place City funds in a contingency account  
24 for a certain purpose while more specific information and parameters  
25 are developed with respect to the particular initiative, project or  
26 activity to be funded from that contingency; and

27 **WHEREAS,** one example of such a contingency account is the  
28 Special Council Contingency into which various funds may be allocated  
29 during the budget process which are ultimately used to fund a variety  
30 of Council initiatives and programs proposed by each Council Member  
31 or the Council as a whole; and

1           **WHEREAS,** in the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget  
2 (2023-504-E) the Mayor included a contingency account known as the  
3 "Council President Contingency account" into which funds were set  
4 aside for various initiatives and programs to be identified and funded  
5 during FY 2024 from this account; and

6           **WHEREAS,** by identifying a specific Council leadership position  
7 in the name of said account, it could be implied that only that  
8 individual was authorized to propose and make decisions on the use  
9 of said funds without consideration of other programs or initiatives  
10 Council Members may wish to propose; and

11           **WHEREAS,** the City Council wishes to discourage the use of such  
12 contingency accounts in the future to ensure it is clear that  
13 decisions with respect to use of City funds are to be made by the  
14 Council as a whole and not by any particular Council Member or  
15 leadership position on the Council; now therefore

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

17           **Section 1. Encouraging the Use of Council Contingency**  
18 **Accounts, When and Where Appropriate, that Promote Equity Amongst All**  
19 **Council Members in the Budgeting Process.** The City has historically  
20 applied a variety of budgeting and financing mechanisms that encourage  
21 and promote sound fiscal practices as well as efficiency, transparency  
22 and fairness in the budgeting process. Such practices include the  
23 establishment of contingency accounts where appropriate and when such  
24 action supports and promotes good government. To further the goals  
25 of fairness in budgeting, the Council encourages the use of  
26 contingency accounts, only when/where appropriate, that are clearly  
27 intended to promote equity amongst the Council Members in proposing  
28 uses of contingency funds and in making decisions regarding how the  
29 funds are spent. This practice should be used in lieu of creating  
30 contingency accounts named in such a manner to suggest they are to  
31 be overseen or administered by a particular Council Member or

1 leadership position.

2           **Section 2.           Effective Date.**   This Resolution shall become  
3 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
4 without the Mayor's signature.

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6 Form Approved:

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8                     /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos          

9 Office of General Counsel

10 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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