

1 Introduced by Council Member Ferraro:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2022-265**

5 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING DISPOSITION OF MONUMENTS  
6 ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY; SETTING A PUBLIC  
7 REFERENDUM ON WHETHER CITY SHOULD REMOVE  
8 HISTORIC MONUMENTS ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY;  
9 PROVIDING FOR REFERENDUM APPROVAL OF THIS  
10 ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR A FINANCIAL IMPACT  
11 STATEMENT TO BE DEVELOPED AND PLACED ON THE  
12 BALLOT; DIRECTING THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS TO  
13 PLACE THE REFERENDUM QUESTION ON THE 2022  
14 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022;  
15 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
16

17 **WHEREAS**, on June 9, 2021, the Confederate Monument in James  
18 Weldon Johnson Park (formerly known as Hemming Park) was removed by  
19 the City of Jacksonville and Mayor Curry announced that removal was  
20 planned for other historic monuments and markers; and

21 **WHEREAS**, while the Mayor brought forth a plan for removal of one  
22 historic monument since that time; that legislation was not enacted  
23 so the structure remains intact; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the Council finds that the decision as to whether these  
25 historic monuments and markers should be removed by the City from  
26 City-owned land should be resolved as soon as possible to prevent  
27 inaction from further frustrating the work of Council; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the Council finds that it is not in the best interest  
29 of the City to delay such decision and that citizen input on this  
30 issue is important; as a result, the question should be offered to  
31 and decided by the voters, and upon adoption of this ordinance, a

1 public referendum shall be held during the General Election ballot  
2 to be held on November 8, 2022 for the voters to decide the question;  
3 now therefore

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

5 **Section 1. Referendum.**

6 (a) A referendum of the qualified electors residing in Duval  
7 County, Florida is hereby called to be held on November 8, 2022, the  
8 2022 General Election, to determine whether the City of Jacksonville  
9 should remove historic monuments and markers on City-owned property,  
10 as set forth in Section 4 of this ordinance, shall become effective.

11 (b) The referendum shall be held and conducted in the manner  
12 prescribed by law for holding elections under a referendum provision.

13 (c) All qualified electors in Duval County shall be entitled  
14 and permitted to vote in the referendum. The places and times of  
15 voting shall be those polling places and times established for voting  
16 by law. The inspectors and clerks for the referendum shall be  
17 designated by the Supervisor of Elections in accordance with  
18 applicable State law.

19 (d) Upon approval of this ordinance, the Supervisor of  
20 Elections shall notify the Mayor, City Council President, General  
21 Counsel and Council Auditor, by hand and certified mail, of a duty  
22 to prepare, within thirty (30) days of such notice, an up to seventy-  
23 five (75) word financial impact estimate of the increase or decrease  
24 of any revenues or costs to the City of Jacksonville resulting from  
25 the implementation of the proposed charter amendment. The financial  
26 impact estimate shall be constructed, within the thirty (30) day  
27 period, by a committee composed of one representative appointed by  
28 the Mayor, one appointed by the City Council President, the General  
29 Counsel or his or her designee chosen from the General Counsel's  
30 office, the Council Auditor and one member having appropriate fiscal  
31 expertise in the subject matter of the proposed charter amendment and

1 selected by the other members stated above. The Office of the Council  
2 Auditor and the Department of Finance shall be made available as  
3 resources. The Council Auditor shall chair the committee and ensure  
4 the timely completion of the financial impact estimate in time to be  
5 included on the referendum ballot and advertised as required for the  
6 charter amendment.

7 (e) The Supervisor of Elections is authorized and directed,  
8 when printing the absentee ballots and ballot strips for use in the  
9 voting machines for the special referendum election called in  
10 Subsection 1(a) hereinabove, to print the ballot title and referendum  
11 question set forth in Sections 3 and 4 hereof on said absentee ballots  
12 and ballot strips at the appropriate place therefor. Immediately  
13 after said question shall be provided a space for the voter to  
14 indicate whether the vote is "yes" or "no" on the question.

15 **Section 2. Notice of Referendum.** The Supervisor of  
16 Elections is directed to ensure at least thirty (30) days notice of  
17 the referendum by publishing at least twice in a daily newspaper of  
18 general circulation in Duval County, once in the fifth week and once  
19 in the third week prior to the week in which the referendum is to be  
20 held, in the manner provided in Section 18.05 of the City Charter and  
21 Section 100.342, Florida Statutes.

22 **Section 3. Ballot Title.** The Council hereby directs that  
23 the ballot title for the referendum question be in substantially the  
24 following form:

25 "CITY REMOVAL OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS AND MARKERS  
26 ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY"

27 **Section 4. Official Ballot.** The Council hereby directs  
28 that the following referendum question, in substantially the form set  
29 forth below, be placed on the ballot at the election to be held on  
30 November 8, 2022, the 2022 General Election:

31 "Shall the City of Jacksonville remove historic

1 monuments and markers, defined as fixed assets  
2 that are identifiable because of particular  
3 historic, national, local, or symbolic  
4 significance, on City-owned property?"

5 (\_\_\_\_\_) YES.

6 (\_\_\_\_\_) NO.

7 **Section 5. Referendum Results.** The Supervisor of Elections  
8 for Duval County, Florida shall certify the results of the referendum  
9 to the Florida Department of State in accordance with law.

10 **Section 6. Exercise of County Powers.** This ordinance is  
11 enacted by the Council exercising its power as the governing body of  
12 Duval County, Florida, under Section 3.01, of the Charter of the City  
13 of Jacksonville. All duly qualified electors of the county shall be  
14 entitled to vote thereon.

15 **Section 7. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become  
16 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
17 without the Mayor's signature.

18  
19 Form Approved:

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21           /s/ Paige H. Johnston          

22 Office of General Counsel

23 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

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