

1 Introduced by Council Member Ferraro and amended by the Neighborhoods,
2 Community Services, Public Health and Safety Committee:

3
4
5 **ORDINANCE 2022-265-D**

6 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING DISPOSITION OF MONUMENTS
7 ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY; SETTING A PUBLIC
8 REFERENDUM ON WHETHER CITY SHOULD REMOVE
9 HISTORIC MONUMENTS ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY;
10 PROVIDING FOR REFERENDUM APPROVAL OF THIS
11 ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR A FINANCIAL IMPACT
12 STATEMENT TO BE DEVELOPED AND PLACED ON THE
13 BALLOT; DIRECTING THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS TO
14 PLACE THE REFERENDUM QUESTION ON THE 2022
15 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022;
16 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
17

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

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

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

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

1 and decided by the voters, and upon adoption of this ordinance, a
2 public referendum shall be held during the General Election ballot
3 to be held on November 8, 2022 for the voters to decide the question;
4 now therefore

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

6 **Section 1. Referendum.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

