

1 Introduced by Council Member Dennis & Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Member Gaffney and amended by the Neighborhoods, Community
3 Services, Public Health & Safety Committee:
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6 **ORDINANCE 2020-379-E**

7 AN ORDINANCE MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND
8 APPROPRIATING \$1,000,000 FROM OPERATING
9 RESERVES WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND/GENERAL
10 SERVICE DISTRICT TO PROVIDE ONE-TIME GRANTS UP
11 TO \$10,000 EACH TO SMALL BUSINESSES LOCATED IN
12 DUVAL COUNTY WHICH WERE IMPACTED BY COVID-19
13 AND HAD TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE AFTER THE
14 GOVERNOR AUTHORIZED PHASE 1 REOPENING ON MAY
15 4, 2020 IN ORDER TO PERFORM SANITIZATION OR
16 DEEP CLEANING MEASURES FOLLOWING EMPLOYEE OR
17 CUSTOMER EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 SO THAT THE
18 SMALL BUSINESS COULD REOPEN; PROVIDING FOR
19 MONTHLY REPORTS TO CITY COUNCIL; PROVIDING
20 FOR REVERTER OF UNSPENT FUNDS; REQUESTING THAT
21 THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
22 OVERSEE THE GRANT PROCESS AND PROGRAM;
23 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
24

25 **WHEREAS**, as elsewhere in the country, the citizens and
26 businesses of Duval County are suffering severe economic impacts
27 stemming in part from national, state and local measures closing
28 certain businesses, public schools, public beaches, imposing
29 emergency work-at-home requirements and limiting public gatherings
30 ("Emergency Measures") in an effort to slow the infection rate of

1 COVID-19; and

2 **WHEREAS**, on May 4, 2020, the State of Florida began its
3 limited Phase 1 reopening of businesses pursuant to Governor
4 DeSantis' Plan for Florida's Recovery; and

5 **WHEREAS**, since that time many local businesses have carefully
6 planned and formulated procedures for reopening to the public which
7 have included thorough cleaning guidelines as recommended by the
8 Centers for Disease Control and the use of masks and social
9 distancing to keep the public safe while in those businesses; and

10 **WHEREAS**, unfortunately, since the state-wide reopening
11 beginning on May 4th, several local businesses have had to close
12 temporarily when employees have either tested positive for COVID-19
13 or when employees have come in contact with customers or other
14 individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in order to reopen a building or premises following
16 such situation, many businesses have undertaken a heightened
17 cleaning procedure to sanitize for the public and sometimes
18 professional sanitization and cleaning companies are hired to
19 perform the work to ensure that building or premises is sterile
20 before reopening; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the costs upon small businesses to undergo such
22 additional deep cleaning procedures can be quite extensive,
23 especially when added to the correlating loss of income the
24 business faces while the business is closed for deep cleaning and
25 sanitization; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the City is mindful of the ongoing complications and
27 business interruptions that local businesses have faced in the
28 midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and desires to use funds to provide
29 reimbursement of the costs of sanitization and cleaning of
30 buildings and premises associated with COVID-19 outbreak closures,
31 up to \$10,000 per small business, provided that receipts or other

1 corresponding documentation showing the expenditure of these costs
2 by the small business and that is not subject to reimbursement
3 through insurance, contribution, or other set off; and

4 **WHEREAS**, disbursement of the grant funds pursuant to the
5 program outlined herein is intended to lessen the severe economic
6 impacts of business disruptions caused as a direct result of the
7 spread of the COVID-19 after small businesses have reopened
8 pursuant to the State reopening schedule but then have had to close
9 for deep cleaning and sanitization after employees or customers
10 have tested positive with COVID-19; now therefore

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

12 **Section 1. Findings.** It is hereby ascertained, determined,
13 found, and declared as follows:

14 (a) The recitals set forth herein are true and correct.

15 (b) By providing financial reimbursement for certain small
16 businesses who have incurred costs of deep cleaning and sanitizing
17 buildings or premises after the state-wide reopening on May 4, 2020
18 but had to close after an employee or customer tested positive with
19 COVID-19, which caused additional business interruptions and
20 expenses to the business, the program discussed herein (the
21 "Program") is designed to benefit small businesses affected and will
22 promote and further the public and municipal purposes of the City
23 and serve to limit the severe economic impacts of COVID-19.

24 (c) The Program is designed to provide rapid economic relief
25 to small businesses who have suffered business interruptions as a
26 result of deep cleaning and sanitization in order to maintain the
27 viability of such businesses, thus maintaining the City's tax base
28 and revenues.

29 (d) The Program will provide economic relief to small
30 businesses, thus encouraging ongoing compliance with the Emergency
31 Measures and benefitting the health, safety and welfare of the

1 citizens of Duval County.

2 (e) The provision of the City's assistance as identified
3 herein is a necessary expenditure incurred due to the public health
4 emergency with respect to COVID-19, were not accounted for in the
5 City's most recently approved budget, and will reimburse expenses
6 incurred after May 4, 2020 and prior to November 1, 2020;

7 (f) The public expenditures are appropriate to make the
8 Program feasible and the City's assistance is reasonable and not
9 excessive, taking into account the extent of the public benefits
10 expected to be derived from the Program, and taking into account all
11 other forms of assistance available.

12 (g) The authorizations provided by this Ordinance are for
13 public uses and purposes for which the City may use its powers as a
14 county, municipality and as a political subdivision of the State of
15 Florida and may expend public funds, and the necessity in the public
16 interest for the provisions herein enacted is hereby declared as a
17 matter of legislative determination.

18 (h) This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the provisions of
19 Chapters 163, 166 and 125, Florida Statutes, as amended, the City's
20 Charter, and other applicable provisions of law.

21 **Section 2. Appropriation.** For the 2019-2020 fiscal year,
22 within the City's budget, there are hereby appropriated the
23 indicated sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsection (a) to
24 the account(s) listed in subsection (b):

25 (The account information is attached hereto as **Revised Exhibit 1**,
26 labeled as "Revised Exhibit 1, Revised Acct Info, July 21, 2020 -
27 Finance" and incorporated herein by this reference)

28 (a) Appropriated from:

29 See attached **Revised Exhibit 1** \$1,000,000

30 (b) Appropriated to:

31 See attached **Revised Exhibit 1** \$1,000,000

1 (c) **Explanation of Appropriation:**

2 The funding above is f from Operating Reserves within the
3 General Fund/General Service District. The funds will be
4 used to provide financial assistance to Duval County
5 small businesses that have experienced additional
6 expenses due to deep cleaning and sanitizing after the
7 state-wide reopening on May 4, 2020 and necessitated
8 after employees or customers were exposed to COVID-19 and
9 the business had to close temporarily to create a sterile
10 environment for the business reopening.

11 **Section 3. Purpose.** The purpose of the appropriation in
12 Section 2 is to provide one time grants up to \$10,000 each to
13 eligible Duval County small businesses to reimburse them for
14 expenses incurred after the state-wide reopening on May 4, 2020 for
15 sanitization and deep cleaning undertaken and necessitated when
16 employees or customers were exposed to COVID-19 and the business
17 had to close temporarily to sterilize the building and premises.

18 **Section 4. Reverter.** Any funds that are not spent for the
19 purposes set forth in this Ordinance by December 31, 2020 shall
20 revert back to the account of origin.

21 **Section 5. Small Businesses Reimbursement Assistance**
22 **Program approved.** For a period from the Effective Date of this
23 Ordinance until November 1, 2020, the City is authorized to award
24 Reimbursement Assistance to eligible Duval County small businesses
25 in a one-time grant of up \$10,000 to approved applicants in
26 accordance with the criteria attached hereto as **Exhibit 2** and
27 incorporated herein reference. The program is designed to provide
28 reimbursement of expenses to Duval County small businesses that
29 experienced additional costs related to sanitizing and deep
30 cleaning the building or premises after the state-wide reopening on
31 May 4, 2020 and following an employee or customer testing positive

1 for COVID-19 causing the business to temporarily close while taking
2 heightened measures to disinfect or sterilize the building or
3 premises. The funds can be used for the costs associated with deep
4 cleaning and sanitization of the building, by the business or a
5 third party. The City will make a one-time payment of up to \$10,000
6 to approved applicants. The eligibility criteria include that an
7 applicant: (i) must be a small business located in Duval County;
8 (ii) demonstrate expenses incurred from deep cleaning and
9 sanitizing the building or premises after an employee or customer
10 tested positive for COVID-19 causing the business to temporarily
11 close after the state-wide reopening on May 4; (iii) the applying
12 business must own the building or represent that the business is
13 responsible for the expenses related to deep cleaning and
14 sanitizing the premises; and (iv) only one grant shall be
15 administered for each small business per address.

16 **Section 6. Oversight Department.** The Finance and
17 Administration Department shall provide oversight for the Program
18 herein.

19 **Section 7. Monthly Report.** The Finance and
20 Administration Department is required to make a report monthly to
21 the City Council concerning the use of the funds authorized hereby
22 for the Program, including the number of recipients and dollar
23 amounts of the Grants.

24 **Section 8. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
26 without the Mayor's signature.

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28 Form Approved:

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30 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

31 Office of General Counsel

1 Legislation prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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