

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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**Bill Type and Number:** Resolution 2021-97

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council Member Dennis

**Date of Introduction:** February 9, 2021

**Committee(s) of Reference:** R

**Date of Analysis:** February 11, 2021

**Type of Action:** Request to DIA

**Bill Summary:** The bill encourages and requests the Downtown Investment Authority to explore the sale or lease of City property at 816 West Union Street to the Jacksonville Brotherhood of Police Officers for use as a headquarters building for the organization or to suggest an alternative location in the LaVilla area suitable for that purpose, and to report its findings to the City Council within 60 business days after completing its review. The DIA is also requested to consider whether a standalone use for the building is most appropriate, or whether it could be used in conjunction with a mixed-use project or other neighborhood-serving use.

**Background Information:** The Jacksonville Brotherhood of Police Officers is a not-for-profit corporation serving as a benevolent society for African-American police officers. It derives from the era when Jacksonville's police force was segregated and officers in the "Colored Division" were not permitted to join the Fraternal Order of Police, so formed their own organization. The building at 816 W. Union Street was constructed in the early 2000s as part of a failed restaurant project to which the City provided economic development incentives. The property was deeded back to the City by the developer and the building has remained vacant since. The DIA issued an RFP for its reuse in 2016, which did not produce a successful proposal.

**Policy Impact Area:** Downtown redevelopment

**Fiscal Impact:** The parcel was valued by the Property Appraiser at \$398,319 (just market value) in 2020.

**Analyst:** Clements