

1 Introduced by Council President Newby at the request of the Mayor &
2 Co-Sponsored by Council Members Diamond, Becton, Morgan, Salem,
3 Gaffney, DeFoor, Carrico, White, Boylan, Priestly Jackson, Newby,
4 Freeman, Bowman, Cumber, Carlucci, Dennis, Ferraro, Hazouri, and
5 Pittman & amended on the Floor of Council:
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8 **ORDINANCE 2021-570-E**

9 AN ORDINANCE MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND
10 APPROPRIATING \$4,000,000 IN CORONAVIRUS
11 RELIEF, FISCAL RECOVERY, AND CRITICAL CAPITAL
12 PROJECTS FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
13 TREASURY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN
14 RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 (THE "ARP ACT") TO
15 FUND CONTINUED COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS,
16 INCLUDING COVID-19 TESTING, VACCINATIONS, AND
17 OTHER HEALTH-RELATED NEEDS AND SERVICES, AS
18 INITIATED BY B.T. 21-112; PROVIDING FOR
19 OVERSIGHT BY THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
20 DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER OF FUNDS
21 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; REQUESTING
22 EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING
23 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
24

25 **WHEREAS,** the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") was
26 first discovered in the United States in January 2020 and since
27 that time this severe, acute respiratory illness has infected over
28 32 million and killed over 610,000 Americans; and

29 **WHEREAS,** communities throughout the United States have
30 recently experienced a rise in the number of COVID-19 cases due to

1 various factors, including the introduction of a new, highly-
2 contagious variant of the Coronavirus; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the number of positive COVID-19 cases in Florida has
4 surged significantly in the past several weeks, with the highest
5 one-day totals occurring in Duval County over the last few days;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville recognizes that one of the
8 most effective means of preventing the spread of COVID-19 is to
9 make safe, readily-available testing opportunities and other
10 health-related services available to its citizens so that
11 individuals who test positive for COVID-19 can be identified and
12 educated on appropriate precautions they can take to prevent
13 further spread of the virus; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the United States federal government recognizes that
15 state, territorial, tribal and local governments have been called
16 on to respond to COVID-19 at an immense scale, including efforts to
17 prevent and address spread of the disease in a manner that is
18 tailored to meet the specific needs of each community; and

19 **WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (the
20 "ARP Act") was signed into law and provided for the distribution of
21 Coronavirus relief, fiscal recovery, and critical capital-project
22 funds to state, territorial, tribal and local governments of the
23 United States to be used for various purposes, including efforts to
24 respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the City desires to appropriate and authorize
26 disbursement of \$4,000,000 in local Coronavirus relief funds in
27 accordance with the ARP Act for the provision of COVID-19 testing,
28 vaccinations, and other health-related needs and services as more
29 specifically provided herein; now, therefore

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

31 **Section 1. Findings.** It is hereby ascertained,

determined, found and declared as follows:

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

(b) The disbursements and actions authorized hereby to fund relief efforts to address the spread of COVID-19 will benefit the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Duval County.

(c) The distribution of ARP Act funds as set forth herein is necessary and appropriate, and is reasonable and not excessive, taking into account the extent of the public benefits expected to be derived from the expenditures authorized hereby, and taking into account all other forms of assistance available.

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

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

Section 2. Appropriation. For the 2020-2021 fiscal year, within the City's budget, there are hereby appropriated the indicated sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsection (a) to the account(s) listed in subsection (b):

(B.T. 21-112 is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated herein by this reference)

(a) Appropriated from:

See attached **Exhibit 1** \$4,000,000

(b) Appropriated to:

See attached **Exhibit 1** \$4,000,000

(c) **Explanation of Appropriation:**

1 The funding appropriated above represents \$4,000,000 in
2 Coronavirus relief, fiscal recovery, and critical capital
3 projects funds received by the City from the federal
4 government pursuant to the ARP Act.

5 **Section 3. Purpose.** The purpose of the appropriation in
6 Section 2 is to support continued COVID-19 response efforts by
7 providing funds for COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and other
8 health-related needs and services in accordance with the ARP Act.

9 **Section 4. Oversight Department.** The Finance and
10 Administration Department shall provide oversight for all ARP Act
11 expenditures authorized hereunder.

12 **Section 5. Carryover.** The funds appropriated in Section
13 2 of this Ordinance shall not lapse but shall carryover into fiscal
14 year 2021-2022.

15 **Section 6. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
16 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
17 introduction of this legislation is requested. The nature of the
18 emergency is that access to safe, readily available COVID-19
19 testing opportunities, vaccinations, and other vital health-related
20 services is necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of
21 the City's residents. Since the federal and state COVID-19 testing
22 sites closed in June, there has been a significant increase in the
23 number of COVID-19 positive cases. Many residents are required to
24 wait in long lines, often in inclement weather, or are waiting 3 to
25 4 days for an appointment to be tested for COVID-19, which is
26 contributing to the continued spread of the virus. Emergency
27 passage of this legislation is necessary to expedite opening
28 additional COVID-19 testing locations in Duval County in an effort
29 to prevent further spread of the Coronavirus throughout the
30 community.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/ Paige H. Johnston

Office of General Counsel

Legislation prepared by: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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