

Introduced by Council Member Carlucci:

RESOLUTION 2022-

A RESOLUTION STATING THE WILL OF THE COUNCIL TO REMOVE STATUARY AND MONUMENTS GLORIFYING THE CONFEDERACY FROM PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PUBLIC PARK SPACES AND REQUESTING THE MAYOR, THE CITY ADMINISTRATION, AND THE CITY COUNCIL TO PRODUCE AND PRESENT A REVISED PLAN AND TIMELINE FOR SUCH REMOVAL WITH APPROPRIATIONS NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000 FOR SUCH REMOVAL; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, statuary and monuments erected post-Civil War that express glorification of the Confederacy and its causes, or were erected during the Jim Crow era, have become objects of divisiveness in Jacksonville and will be subject to removal from public property and public park spaces; and

WHEREAS, the Council values the wellbeing, security, freedom, and equality of all Jacksonville citizens and will assess the appropriateness of commemorative monuments and statuary located on public property and in public park spaces; and

WHEREAS, when a surrounding structure enclosing such statuary, or a platform upon which such monuments stand, renders a complete removal cost-prohibitive by exerting a financial burden greater than \$500,000 upon the City budget, it is the Council's intent to appropriate up to a total of \$500,000 in the upcoming budget to fund the complete removal of all such monuments and statuary, if necessary; and

WHEREAS, to help offset any funding gaps that may result if removal costs exceed \$500,000, the Council hereby requests that the Mayor and City Administration also consider alternative funding options to cover any costs beyond the \$500,000 cap in City dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Council strongly recommends that any relocation of such monuments and/or statuary, whether as a whole or in part, include consideration of a designated museum environment for the items that reflects a concerted effort to recontextualize the items by the inclusion of educational components concerning U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, for the purpose of this resolution, a cemetery or burial ground existing on public land shall not be considered "public property" or "public park space" and thereby does not require assessment by the Council and does not necessitate the removal of existing statuary or monuments herein described; and

WHEREAS, the Council adopted its annual strategic plan on January 25, 2022, via Resolution 2021-0893, which states in Section 1 the Council's desire to "Facilitate a community conversation to develop a roadmap for removal, relocation, remaining, renaming, etc. of all Confederate monuments/markers on city property", and that "The plan should be completed by July 2022 to facilitate inclusion of funding in the FY 2022/23 annual budget"; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

Section 1. The City Council hereby expresses its determination to move Jacksonville forward by considering the adverse impact of such statuary and/or monuments upon our citizens and, in an effort to seek unity across our city, hereby requests that the Mayor, the City Administration, and the City Council produce a revised plan and timeline to remove such statuary and/or monuments from Jacksonville's public property and public park spaces.

Section 2. Recognizing that the removal of these statuary and/or monuments may incur substantial costs in some instances, the Council hereby expresses its commitment to appropriate up to \$500,000 to remove these monuments and allow consideration of alternative funding options to cover any costs beyond the \$500,000 cap in City dollars to help offset the costs of removal.

Section 3. Any plans made to carry out the intent expressed herein should be completed and presented to the Council on or before July 26, 2022, to facilitate inclusion of funding in the FY 2022/23 annual budget per Council Resolution 2021-0893.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.