



**Terrance Freeman**  
City Council President  
At-Large, Group 1  
E-Mail: TFreeman@coj.net


117 West Duval Street  
City Hall, Suite 425  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
Office (904) 255-5215

## OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

August 2, 2022  
2:00 P.M.

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable City Council Members

**FROM:** The Honorable Council President Terrance Freeman 

**SUBJECT:** Deferral of 2022-513 ARP Funding Legislation and additional ARP Funding until Finance Committee September 7, 2022

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On July 21, 2022, Mayor Lenny Curry presented to the City Council and the citizens of Jacksonville a balanced budget, in Ordinance 2022-504, the "Proposed Budget". As you are aware, the Proposed Budget, was accompanied by numerous budget bills. Ordinance 2022-513, appropriating the second tranche of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funding "ARP Funding Legislation" received by the City is one of those bills. This ARP Legislation proposes to fund a number of improvements and initiatives for the City to address the needs of our community, including setting aside funds for the payment of debt, funding a variety capital improvements and enhancements, providing additional funding for indigent health care through UF Health (Shands), and placing money in reserves for future qualified expenses, just to name a few.

Our Council Auditors are currently reviewing and analyzing the budget documents in detail, as I am sure many of you are doing as well. Next week, the budget hearings begin on Thursday, August 11, 2022. At that time our capable Finance Committee, led by Chair Aaron Bowman, will work with the Administration, Council Auditors and key stakeholders to review the budget as presented. The Finance Committee and the Auditors intend to address the ARP Funding Legislation and the Proposed Budget throughout the Finance Committee hearings and act on the Proposed Budget at the Finance Committee on September 7, 2022, and the ARP Funding Legislation will be taken up no earlier than September 7, 2022.

As mentioned above, currently only a portion of the ARP allocation has been recommended to be appropriated for specific projects and purposes in FY 2022-2023, with the remainder of these funds to be placed in a contingency as set forth in Ordinance 2022-513. I believe in the work this Finance Committee will complete in the coming weeks. For the health of our city, it is vital that we continue to make sound financial decisions for all of Jacksonville.

Therefore, as Council President, I will defer all pending legislation or legislation filed hereafter that would appropriate money away from the recommended ARP Funding Legislation or that would otherwise propose alternative appropriations from the recommendations in the Proposed Budget until after the Finance Committee has undertaken its review. It is the charge of the Finance committee to review the numerous budget bills and make recommendations thereon. The Finance Committee will be undertaking this charge during the month of August and take action on the Proposed Budget on September 7, 2022. As with all committees, all council members are welcome to attend and participate.

As Council President, I am committed along with the Mayor to making sound, fiscally responsible decisions. We must allow the Finance Committee to do its work reviewing the Proposed Budget and ARP Funding Legislation before we discuss other possible uses of ARP contingency funds or other proposed budgeted funds.

cc: Council Members/Staff  
Margaret M. Sidman, Director/Council Secretary  
Merriane G. Lahmeur, Chief, Legislative Services Division  
Kim Taylor, Council Auditor  
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division  
CITYC@COJ.NET  
Media Box  
File Copy