

INTRODUCED: May 10, 2021

AN ORDINANCE No. 2021-124

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources; to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Department of Economic Development called the VUU Center for African American History and Culture Project DHR Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund; and to appropriate the grant funds received to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the new Department of Economic Development’s VUU Center for African American History and Culture Project DHR Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund by \$1,000,000.00 for the purpose of providing a grant of such funds to Virginia Union University for the Virginia Union University Center for African American History and Culture Project.

Patron – Mayor Stoney

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: MAY 24 2021 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That the Chief Administrative Officer is authorized to accept funds in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources for the purpose of providing a grant of such funds to Virginia Union University for the Virginia Union University Center for African American History and Culture Project.

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: MAY 24 2021 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

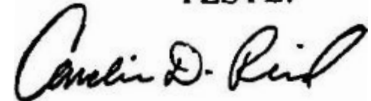
§ 2. That Ordinance No. 2020-050, adopted May 11, 2020, which adopted a Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, and made appropriations pursuant thereto, be and is hereby amended by creating a new special fund for the Department of Economic Development called the VUU Center for African American History and Culture Project DHR Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund for the purpose of providing a grant of funds in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 to Virginia Union University for the Virginia Union University Center for African American History and Culture Project.

§ 3. That Ordinance No. 2020-050, adopted May 11, 2020, which adopted a Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, and made appropriations pursuant thereto, be and is hereby amended by increasing revenues from the funds accepted pursuant to section 1 of this ordinance by \$1,000,000.00 and increasing the amount appropriated to the new Department of Economic Development's VUU Center for African American History and Culture Project DHR Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund by \$1,000,000.00 for the purpose of providing a grant of such funds to Virginia Union University for the Virginia Union University Center for African American History and Culture Project.

§ 4. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

A TRUE COPY:

TESTE:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Camelin D. Reed".

City Clerk



CITY OF RICHMOND

INTRACITY CORRESPONDENCE

O&R REQUEST

DATE: April 9, 2021 **EDITION:** 1

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor *LM.S.*

THROUGH: J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Acting Chief Administrative Officer *JELS*

THROUGH: Sheila White, Acting Director of Finance *Sheila White*

THROUGH: Jay A. Brown, Director of Budget and Strategic Planning *JAB*

FROM: Sharon L. Ebert, DCAO – Planning & Economic Development Portfolio *Sharon Ebert*

RE: To accept funds in the amount of \$1,000,000 from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources to facilitate a grant of such funds to Virginia Union University for the VUU Center for African American History and Culture historic preservation project

ORD. OR RES. No. _____

PURPOSE: To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Historic Resources (“DHR”); to amend Ord. No 2020-050, adopted May 11, 2020, which adopted the Special Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, by creating a new special fund for the Department of Economic Development called the “VUU Center for African American History and Culture Project DHR Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund”; and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the VUU Center for African American History and Culture Project DHR Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund by \$1,000,000.00 for the purpose of providing a grant of such funds to Virginia Union University (“VUU”) for the VUU Center for African American History and Culture historic preservation project.

REASON: An ordinance is necessary to authorize the acceptance of funds from DHR and to appropriate such funds to a Special Fund in order to facilitate disbursement to VUU across multiple fiscal years.

RECOMMENDATION: The City Administration recommends approval.

BACKGROUND:

In January 2021, DHR notified VUU that the Commonwealth of Virginia appropriated \$1,000,000 for the VUU Center for African American History and Culture historic preservation project. See DHR award letter attached. The award letter indicates that the funds cannot be provided directly to VUU from the Commonwealth and, instead, must pass through the appropriate local government (in this case, the City). The deadline for the funds to be transferred from the Commonwealth to the City is June 30, 2021; however, the funds will be disbursed by the City to VUU over time (including subsequent fiscal years) as the project is completed (which will be facilitated by appropriating such funds into a special fund). The City's sole responsibilities will be to (1) accept the grant funds from the Commonwealth and (2) distribute the grant funds to VUU over time and only upon receipt of written notification to release funds from DHR. There is no requirement or expectation that the City will provide any match or expend any funds (beyond distributing the \$1,000,000 provided by the Commonwealth). The foregoing limited City responsibilities will be memorialized in a three-party MOU/Grant Agreement executed by the parties following adoption of this ordinance, subject to approval as to form by the Office of the City Attorney.

The majority of the funds will go towards the preservation and renovation of the historical Industrial Hall and the hiring of key staff, namely a Museum Curator and Director. The renovated Industrial Hall will provide space on for an academic learning center for discussions about art, history and culture, and house VUU's growing art collection. This initiation is part of the Center for African-American History and Culture, established in 2019, to serve as both a comprehensive educational and research center as well as a historical, cultural, and artistic anchor for the Commonwealth of Virginia and the global community – supporting VUU's vision to develop transformative leaders who will continue in the long tradition of fighting for social justice and equity while making positive contributions to the African-American community. The Center's key initiatives revolve around 4 areas of work. The funds provided by this allocation will help execute projects related to:

- Collecting, securing, and displaying artifacts representing Africans' history from slavery to the present day
- Researching African-American Culture (English, Religion, Psychology, Education, Policy, History)
- Racial sensitivity training, Professional Development opportunities for the community (industry, companies, non-profits)
- Responding to the call of the hour with events and programming, as it has done throughout its storied past

FISCAL IMPACT / COST: No direct impact/cost as the result will be a net neutral from a City fiscal perspective. The City will receive \$1,000,000 from the Commonwealth and then distribute such funds to the recipient over time as the project is completed and DHR directs the City to release funds.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: The result will be a net neutral from a City fiscal perspective.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY: Yes, this O&R requests an ordinance to amend the FY2020-2021 special fund budget in order to appropriate the funds received from the Commonwealth prior to June 30, 2021. Appropriating the funds into a special fund created solely for this purpose will facilitate both (1) the funds to be accepted/appropriated prior to the June 30, 2021 deadline and (2) the funds being disbursed by the City in subsequent fiscal years.

REVENUE TO CITY: The City will receive \$1,000,000 in new revenues but those funds will be disbursed to the recipient over time so the result will be net neutral.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: May 10, 2021

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: May 24, 2021

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee (May 20, 2021)

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES: N/A

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Budget and Strategic Planning, Finance, Economic Development, City Attorney's Office

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Amendment to Ord. Nos. 2020-050

REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S): None

ATTACHMENTS: DHR Award Letter for the VUU Center for African American History and Culture historic preservation project

STAFF: Kimberly Chen, Senior Manager



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Matt Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Julie V. Langan
Director

Tel (804) 367-2323
Fax (804) 367-2391
www.dhr.virginia.gov

January 8, 2021

Ms. Felicia Cosby
VP of Government and Community Affairs
Virginia Union University
1500 N. Lombardy Street
Richmond, VA 23220

RE: 2020/2021 State Grant for the Center for African American History and Culture

Dear Ms. Cosby,

I am hereby notifying you formally that the General Assembly appropriated \$1,000,000.00 for your project for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. This amount will be available upon execution of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) currently being drafted by DHR. The funds will be passed from DHR to local governments, and we intend for that to happen as soon more possible after execution of the MOU, but no later than June 30, 2021. Your project, however, does not have to be completed by that date. Funds are expected to be passed from the local government to you upon approval by DHR of your reimbursement requests. These are details that will be outlined in the MOU and/or the Grant Agreement that will accompany it.

As I hope you are aware, these state funds must be matched dollar for dollar with non-state funds or with in-kind goods and services. Only those expenditures made between July 1, 2020 and project completion can be considered as eligible project costs for the 2020-2021 grant. We ask that you complete and return the enclosed application form which will assist DHR in understanding specific details about the budget and scope of work for your project.

In moving forward, DHR's role will be to help you follow the State's procurement procedures as applicable, to see that matching share requirements are met, and that the project results in work that meets accepted preservation standards and practices. DHR also intends to shoulder as much of the grant administration burden as possible for your local government. In this regard, Jim Hare, DHR's Director of Special Projects, will be the main point of contact you and your local government during the grant

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Tel (804) 367-2323
Fax (804) 367-2391

Western Region Office
962 Kime Lane
Salem, VA 24153
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Fax (540) 387-5446

Northern Region Office
5357 Main Street
PO Box 519
Stephens City, VA 22655
Tel (540) 868-7029
Fax (540) 868-7033

period of performance. He may be contacted by email at jim.hare@dhr.virginia.gov or by his direct line, 804-482-6445, or cell phone, 617-620-4498.

The important next steps are:

- Approval by Richmond City Council
- Determine and finalize the match requirements
- Execute the MOU between DHR, the locality (the fiscal agent for the grant pass-through), and the project management (the grant recipient)
- Negotiate and record preservation easement

We look forward to working with you in the coming months to ensure the success of your project. Thank you for your leadership in valuing Virginia's significant historic resources.

Sincerely,



Julie V. Langan
Director

cc: Ms. Kimberly Chen, City of Richmond

Attachment: 2020/2021 Grant Application

Administrative Services
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