

INTRODUCED: May 10, 2021

AN ORDINANCE No. 2021-125

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$500,000.00 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 Valentine Museum/JXN Project 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 Valentine Museum/JXN Project Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund by \$500,000.00 for the purpose of providing a grant of such funds to the Valentine Museum Foundation, Inc. for the JXN Project celebrating the 150th anniversary of Jackson Ward.

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 \$500,000.00 from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources for the purpose of providing a grant of such funds to the Valentine Museum Foundation, Inc. for the JXN Project celebrating the 150th anniversary of Jackson Ward.

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: MAY 24 2021 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

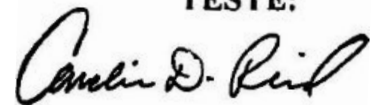
§ 2. That Ordinance No. 2020-050, adopted May 11, 2020, which adopted a Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, and made appropriations pursuant thereto, be and is hereby amended by creating a new special fund for the Department of Economic Development called the Valentine Museum/JXN Project Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund for the purpose of providing a grant of funds in the amount of \$500,000.00 to the Valentine Museum Foundation, Inc. for the JXN Project celebrating the 150th anniversary of Jackson Ward.

§ 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 \$500,000.00 and increasing the amount appropriated to the new Department of Economic Development's Valentine Museum/JXN Project Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund by \$500,000.00 for the purpose of providing a grant of such funds to the Valentine Museum Foundation, Inc. for the JXN Project celebrating the 150th anniversary of Jackson Ward.

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

A TRUE COPY:

TESTE:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Camille D. Reil".

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 *J.M.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 \$500,000 from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and to enable the transfer of such funds to The Valentine Museum for the JXN Project historic preservation project

ORD. OR RES. No. _____

PURPOSE: To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$500,000.00 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 “Valentine Museum/JXN Project 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 Valentine Museum/JXN Project Historic Preservation Grant Special Fund by \$500,000.00 for the purpose of providing such grant funds to The Valentine Museum for the JXN 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 The Valentine across multiple fiscal years.

RECOMMENDATION: The City Administration recommends approval.

BACKGROUND:

In March 2021, DHR notified The Valentine Museum and the JXN Project that the Commonwealth of Virginia appropriated \$500,000 for the JXN Project historic preservation project. See DHR award letter attached. DHR has indicated that the funds cannot be provided directly to The JXN Project from the Commonwealth and, instead, must pass through the appropriate local government (in this case, the City) and a not-for-profit entity (in this case, The Valentine Museum). 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 The Valentine Museum 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 The Valentine Museum 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 \$500,000 provided by the Commonwealth). The foregoing limited City responsibilities will be memorialized in a 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 purpose of the JXN Project is to contextualize and celebrate the 150th anniversary of Jackson Ward and to elevate its hidden history as the "Birthplace of Black Entrepreneurship" -- an often under-told and overlooked story when discussing the origins of Black excellence and enterprise in the national narrative. The most immediate initiative includes an effort to recontextualize the name Jackson Ward, which compelling evidence suggests was likely named for Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, so that it is identified with Giles B. Jackson and his story. Born enslaved, Giles B. Jackson would become the first Black attorney certified to practice law before the Virginia Supreme Court in 1887. The same sentiments are shared for other Black Richmonders, both past and present, who embody the spirit of Jackson Ward -- such as Abraham Skipwith, Alfred "A.D." Price, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, Charles Gilpin, John Jasper, John Mitchell Jr, Lillie Estes, Lorna Pinckney, Maggie L. Walker, Neverett Eggleston, Oliver Hill, and W. W. Browne. There is a no more earnest way to capture "a more complete and honest picture of the complex history" of the city than by sharing the stories of a space like Jackson Ward, where Black Richmonders juxtaposed enslavement and exploitation with entrepreneurship and enterprise -- even before emancipation.

FISCAL IMPACT / COST: No direct impact/cost as the result will be a net neutral from a City fiscal perspective. The City will receive \$500,000 from the Commonwealth and then distribute such funds to The Valentine Museum 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 \$500,000 in new revenues but those funds will be disbursed to The Valentine Museum 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 JXN 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

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www.dhr.virginia.gov

March 19, 2021

Ms. Sessa Joi Moon, Ph.D
Director, The JXN Project

Via Email: seshamoon@yahoo.com

RE: 2020/2021 State Grant for the JXN Project

Dear Ms. Moon,

I am hereby notifying you formally that the General Assembly appropriated \$500,000 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. As you know from our conversations, the funds will be passed from DHR to local governments, and we intend for that to happen as soon as 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/fiscal agent to you upon approval by DHR of your reimbursement requests. These are details that will be outlined in the MOU.

Only those expenditures made between March 31, 2021 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. 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 for you and your local government/fiscal agent during the grant period of performance. He may be contacted by email at jim.hare@dhr.virginia.gov or by his direct line, **617-620-4498**.

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Fax: (804) 367-2391

Western Region Office
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Salem, VA 24153
Tel: (540) 387-5443
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

The important next steps are:

- DHR will review & approve the scope of work upon receipt from you
- DHR will draft the MOU for review and finalization
- Execute the MOU between DHR, the locality (City of Richmond), the fiscal agent for the grant pass-through (Valentine Museum), and the JXN Project management (the grant recipient)

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:

Stephanie Williams, DHR Deputy Director
Sharon Ebert, City of Richmond
Kimberly Chen, City of Richmond
William Martin, Valentine Museum

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