

1 Introduced by Council Members Bowman, Becton, White, Freeman and
2 Diamond:

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5 **ORDINANCE 2021-212**

6 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING A NEW
7 PILOT PROGRAM ENTITLED "MILITARY AND VETERANS'
8 APPRECIATION PROGRAM" FOR REDUCED ADMISSION AT
9 CERTAIN PARKS; PROVIDING FOR CITY OVERSIGHT BY
10 THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
11 DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR A SUNSETTING OF THE
12 PROGRAM UNLESS EXTENDED BY LEGISLATION;
13 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

14
15 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville ("City") recognizes the
16 strong presence of active military service members and veterans
17 living in Jacksonville and the surrounding communities; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the City acknowledges the many sacrifices made by
19 active military service members and veterans and seeks to ensure
20 the continued economic wellness, employment, veteran quality of
21 life and availability of benefits to active military service
22 members and veterans in Jacksonville; and

23 **WHEREAS**, as an added benefit to active military service
24 members and veterans, the City desires to begin a pilot program for
25 one year, which would reduce the park admission fees for active
26 service members and veterans by ½ for admission to Kathryn Abbey
27 Hanna Park and Huguenot Memorial Park; and

28 **WHEREAS**, if the pilot program is successful, the City will
29 consider making such fee reductions applicable permanently; now
30 therefore

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

1 **Section 1. Approval and Adoption of the "Military and**
2 **Veterans' Appreciation Program."** There is hereby approved and
3 adopted within the City a "Military and Veterans' Appreciation
4 Program" which will allow for active military service members and
5 veterans, regardless of residency in Jacksonville, to receive a
6 reduction of ½ of the daily admission fees charged at Kathryn Abbey
7 Hanna Park and Huguenot Memorial Park (which may be applied to car,
8 pedestrian and biker admission but not on annual passes). In order
9 to qualify for the reduced admission fees, the active military
10 service member or veteran must produce at the park entrance at the
11 time of admission a state issued military ID or a DD214 ID. The
12 "Military and Veterans' Appreciation Program" will initially run as
13 a pilot program for a period of one year beginning on June 1, 2021
14 and ending on May 31, 2022. The Parks, Recreation and Community
15 Services Department is tasked with tracking the number of active
16 military service members and veterans which participate in the
17 "Military and Veterans' Appreciation Program" and receive the
18 reduced admission fees, tabulating the totals broken down further
19 by park and by participant type (active service vs. veterans and
20 car, pedestrian or biker), and the cost of the Program, and shall
21 submit a preliminary report to the Council on or before December
22 31, 2021 and a final report to Council by June 15, 2022. The Parks,
23 Recreation and Community Services Department shall also include in
24 its final report any recommendations regarding the pilot program,
25 including whether it is recommended that the program should be made
26 permanent and whether any modifications to the program are
27 suggested.

28 **Section 2. Oversight Department.** The Parks, Recreation,
29 and Community Services Department shall oversee the Program as
30 described herein.

31 **Section 3. Sunset.** The provisions of this Ordinance

1 providing for a pilot program for "Military and Veterans'
2 Appreciation Program" as described in Section 1, shall sunset, be
3 repealed, and be of no further effect on May 31, 2022, unless
4 extended in subsequent legislation.

5 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
6 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
7 without the Mayor's signature.

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9 Form Approved:

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11 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

12 Office of General Counsel

13 Legislation prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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