

City of Jacksonville

117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

2:00 PM

Council Chamber,
1st Floor, City Hall

Transportation, Energy & Utilities Committee

Will Lahnen, Chair - Excused

Ju'Coby Pittman, Vice Chair

Matt Carlucci - Excused

Tyrona Clark-Murray - Excused Late Arrival 2:06 PM

Reggie Gaffney, Jr.

Mike Gay

Jimmy Peluso

Legislative Assistant: Vanessa Galan

Council Auditor's Office: Edward Linsky

Council Research: Nayeli Jimenez

Office of General Counsel: Carla Lopera

Administration: Brittany Norris

Planning Dept.: Laurie Santana

Meeting Convened: 2:01 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 2:33 PM

Present: 5 - Vice Chair Ju'Coby Pittman, Tyrona Clark-Murray, Reggie Gaffney Jr., Mike Gay and Jimmy Peluso

Excused: 2 - Chair Will Lahnen and Matt Carlucci

Attendance:

CP White - 2025-207

CM Salem - Visiting

Vanessa Galan – Legislative Services Division; Ed Linsky and Phillip Peterson- Council Auditor’s Office; Nayeli Jimenez – Council Research Division; Carla Lopera – Office of General Counsel; Brittany Norris- Mayor’s Office, and Laurie Santana- Planning Department.

Acting Chair Pittman convened the meeting, and the attendees introduced themselves for the record.

Item/File No.

Title History

1. [2024-0930](#) ORD-MC re Appts to the Governing Body of JEA; Amend Sec 21.03 (Composition; Compensation; Officers; Meetings), Article 21 (JEA), City Charter, to Allow a Limited Exception to the Requirement that Members Appointed to the Governing Body of JEA be Residents & Electors of the City to Prov that 1 Member Aptd by the Mayor & Conf by Council & 1 Member Nominated by the Council President & Conf by Council May Reside Outside the City but Must Either Reside Within the JEA Svc Territory or Maintain a Substantial Economic Business Interest Within the JEA Svc Territory as Determined by the City Council; Prov for Codification Instructions (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Salem) (Co-Sponsor CM Johnson)
11/26/24 CO Introduced: R, TEU
12/2/24 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
12/3/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
12/10/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
1/14/25 CO PH Only
3/17/25 R Approve 8-0
3/18/25 TEU Approve 4-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 12/10/24
Public Hearing Pursuant to Sec 21.13, City Charter & CR 3.601 - 1/14/25

APPROVE

Aye: 4 - Pittman, Gaffney Jr., Gay and Peluso

Excused: 3 - Lahnen, Carlucci and Clark-Murray

2. [2025-0135](#) ORD Approp \$4,000,000 from Gen Fund Operating - Fund Bal to the UF Health & Financial Technology Graduate Education Ctr Activity - Land Acquisition Cost Acct to Prov Funding for the City's Acquisition of a 2.85± Acre Improved Parcel of Real Property Located at 801 W. Bay St, Jax, FL 32204 (R.E. # 074487-0010) in Council Dist 7 with the Intent that the Funds Approp Herein will be Replenished Thru an Approp of Funds in the FY 25-26 Budget from the JEA Contribution Made Annually Pursuant to Sec 21.07 of the Jax City Charter; Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver a Real Estate Purchase Agrmt btwn the City & 801 Bay St LLC in a Not-to-Exceed Amt of \$4,000,000, & All Closing & Other Docs Relating Thereto, & to Otherwise Take All Necessary Action to Effectuate the Purposes of this Ord to Purchase the Subject Property; Prov for Oversight of the Acquisition by the Real Estate Div of the Dept of Public Works & Prov for Oversight of the Property Thereafter by DIA (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Salem)
2/25/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F, TEU
3/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/11/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/18/25 F Amend/Approve 6-0
3/18/25 TEU Amend/Approve 4-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/11/25

AMEND/APPROVE

Aye: 4 - Pittman, Gaffney Jr., Gay and Peluso

Excused: 3 - Lahnen, Carlucci and Clark-Murray

Ed Linksy, Council Auditors Office explained the NCSPHS amendment. NCSPHS Amendment was approved unanimously via a voice vote.

NCSPHS AMENDMENT

Increase appropriation to \$8 million to acquire the subject property and attach Revised Exhibit 1 (BT) to reflect increased appropriation

- **Appropriates \$4,000,000 from General Fund Operating Reserves to acquire the parcel located at 801 W. Bay Street**
- **Authorizes a purchase agreement with 801 Bay Street LLC in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000**
- **DIA Resolution 2025-02-05 authorized a Notice of Disposition contingent upon and immediately following the conveyance of the 801 W. Bay Street parcel to the City**
- **It is the intent that the funds appropriated through this bill will be replenished through an appropriation of funds in fiscal year 25/26 from the annual JEA contribution**

3. [2025-0136](#) ORD-MC Estab Braddock Lakes Community Dev Dist (Braddock Lakes CDD), Pursuant to Sec 190.005, F.S., & Ch 92, Ord Code; Naming the Braddock Lakes CDD; Describing the External Boundaries of the Braddock Lakes CDD; Naming the Initial Braddock Lakes CDD Brd of Supervisors; Including the Grant of Special Powers; Amend Sec 92.22 (Existing Community Development Districts), Ch 92 (Uniform Community Development Districts), Ord Code, to Include the Braddock Lakes CDD; Prov Codification Instructions; Prov for Conflict & Severability (MacGillis) (Introduced by the TEU Committee Pursuant to Sec 92.09, Ord Code)
2/25/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, TEU
3/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/3/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/11/25 CO Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 & Sec 190.005, F.S. & Sec 92.11 Ord Code - 4/8/25

DEFER

4. [2025-0137](#) ORD-MC Estab Bridle Creek Community Dev Dist (Bridle Creek CDD), Pursuant to Sec 190.005, F.S., & Ch 92, Ord Code; Naming the Bridle Creek CDD; Describing the External Boundaries of the Bridle Creek CDD; Naming the Initial Bridle Creek CDD Brd of Supervisors; Including the Grant of Special Powers; Amend Sec 92.22 (Existing Community Development Districts), Ch 92 (Uniform Community Development Districts), Ord Code, to Include the Bridle Creek CDD; Prov Codification Instructions; Prov for Conflict & Severability (MacGillis) (Introduced by the TEU Committee Pursuant to Sec 92.09, Ord Code)
2/25/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, TEU
3/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/3/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/11/25 CO Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 & Sec 190.005, F.S. & Sec 92.11 Ord Code - 4/8/25

DEFER

5. [2025-0141](#) ORD Approp \$600,000.00 from the Mobility Plan Proj-Zone 04 Acct to the Dunn Ave at Braddock Rd Signal Improvements - Engineering & Design Acct to Prov Funding for Signalization Design of the Braddock Rd & Dunn Ave Intersection; Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute the Locally-Funded Grant Agrmt btwn FDOT & the City; Amend the 25-29 5-Yr CIP Appvd by Ord 2024 505-E to Reflect this Approp of Funds to the Proj; Prov for Oversight by the Engineering & Construction Mgmt Div of the Dept of Public Works (B.T. 25-050) (Wilson) (Req of Mayor)
2/25/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F, TEU
3/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/11/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/17/25 NCSPHS Approve 7-0
3/18/25 F Approve 6-0
3/18/25 TEU Approve 5-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/11/25

APPROVE

Aye: 5 - Pittman, Clark-Murray, Gaffney Jr., Gay and Peluso

Excused: 2 - Lahnen and Carlucci

Council Member Gay asked which Mobility Fund this appropriation was coming from. Laurie Santana, Chief of Transportation Planning, stated that the funding was coming from Mobility Zone Four on the Northwest side of the River. Council Member Gay clarified if it's Northwest of Main Street. Ms. Santana agreed.

• Total cost of project, including design, acquisition, and construction is anticipated to be approximately \$6 million

6. [2025-0145](#) ORD Approp \$250,000.00 in Wildfire Defense Grant Prog Funding from the Forest Service of the US Dept of Agriculture (USDA) for Development of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan; Purpose of Approp; Prov for Oversight by the Office of Resilience of the Planning & Dev Dept (B.T. 25-051) (Sawyer) (Req of Mayor)
2/25/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F, TEU
3/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/11/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/17/25 NCSPHS Approve 7-0
3/18/25 F Approve 6-0
3/18/25 TEU Approve 5-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/11/25

APPROVE

Aye: 5 - Pittman, Clark-Murray, Gaffney Jr., Gay and Peluso

Excused: 2 - Lahnen and Carlucci

- **Grant funds will be used for contractual services associated with the development of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan**
- **City match not required**
- **Grant period ends 12/17/29**

7. [2025-0146](#) ORD-MC Pertaining to Drainage System Rehabilitation Projs; Amend Sec 754.102 (Definitions), Pt 1 (Establishment of Utility, Rates, & Enforcement), Ch 754 (Stormwater Management Utility Code), Ord Code, to Delete the Requirement for City Council Authorization of Drainage System Rehabilitation Projs Exceeding \$100,000 in Value; Prov Codification Instructions (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Peluso) (Co-Sponsor CM Carlucci)
2/25/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F, TEU
3/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/3/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/4/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/11/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/17/25 NCSPHS Approve 6-1 (Salem)
3/17/25 R Amend/Approve 7-0
3/18/25 F Amend/Approve 4-2 (Pittman, Diamond)
3/18/25 TEU Amend/Approve 5-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/11/25

AMEND/APPROVE

Aye: 5 - Pittman, Clark-Murray, Gaffney Jr., Gay and Peluso

Excused: 2 - Lahnen and Carlucci

Mr. Linksy explained the Finance amendment stating that it would require City Council approval for drainage projects exceeding \$1 million and also correct scrivener's items. The Finance Amendment was approved unanimously via a voice vote.

Council Member Peluso, the bill sponsor, explained that the intent of the legislation was to streamline the approval process for drainage projects. He emphasized that, as district council members on this committee, they all represented older neighborhoods. He expressed concern that the \$1 million cap could delay projects in these communities. He noted that there was an amendment in the Rules Committee to increase the cap to \$2.5 million, but after discussions in the Finance Committee, the amount was reduced to \$1 million. Motion/2nd for Council Member Peluso's floor amendment to change the cap to \$2 million. He acknowledged that he would not be present for the full Council vote on Tuesday because he would be on active-duty orders but stressed that he wanted this bill to be passed that will allow drainage projects to move forward more efficiently.

Council Member Gay recalled that during the Rules Committee meeting, the cap had been set at \$2.5 million. He was surprised to hear that it had been reduced to \$1 million and stated that \$1 million would not sufficiently fund major drainage projects. He initially supported a \$2.5 million cap but was comfortable with the compromise of \$2 million.

Council Member Clark-Murray asked Council Member Peluso whether \$2 million or \$2.5 million would be the preferred cap. Mr. Peluso responded that he would ideally support a \$5 million cap but since \$2.5 million had faced resistance in the Finance Committee, he proposed \$2 million as a compromise that could pass through the full Council. He noted that some members of the Rules Committee had supported a lower amount, so he wanted to find a realistic number that could gain consensus before Tuesday's vote.

Acting Chair Pittman agreed that \$2.5 million would be preferable but stated that she would support the \$2 million compromise if that was the best option to ensure passage. She asked Nina Sickler from Public Works to provide input on how the different thresholds would impact project approvals.

Nina Sickler, Director of Public Works, stated that a \$2 million cap would allow a greater number of projects to move forward quickly at the beginning of the fiscal year compared to a \$1 million limit.

Acting Chair Pittman asked Carla Lopera, Office of General Counsel to confirm the proper procedural steps to move forward. Ms. Lopera clarified that the committee was currently considering Peluso's amendment to the amendment, which would require City Council approval for projects exceeding \$2 million and correct scrivener's error.

Council Member Peluso's amendment to the amendment was approved unanimously via voice vote.

Council Member Clark-Murray asked Council Member Peluso whether he would prefer to defer the bill so that he could be present for the full vote, given that he would be away on active-duty orders. Peluso responded that he had not considered deferral but was willing to move forward if the committee believed that was the best approach. However, he preferred not to delay the bill, as it had already been through multiple committees and had been widely discussed.

Council Member Gay recommended moving forward, stating that there would still be opportunities to adjust the details in the full Council meeting. He emphasized that district council members understand the needs in their communities and that it was important to find a compromise that would allow the bill to pass.

Ms. Lopera clarified that the committee now needed to vote on the amendment as amended and then take a separate ballot vote on the bill as amended.

Acting Chair Pittman proceeded with a voice vote on the amendment as amended. It passed unanimously.

AMENDMENT

- 1. Require projects with a cost in excess of \$2 million to receive prior Council approval**
- 2. Correct scrivener's**

•Amends Section 754.102 (Definitions) to remove the requirement for Council authorization for individual Drainage System Rehabilitation (DSR) projects that exceed \$100,000, after Council has appropriated a lump sum amount for DSR projects in the annual budget

•Rules Committee approved an amendment to require projects with a cost in excess of \$2.5 million to receive prior Council approval

8. [2025-0184](#) ORD Closing & Abandoning &/or Disclaiming an Unopened, Unimproved, & Unnamed R/W in Maxville & Maxville Farms, as Recorded, at the Req of Applicant Andre Land Holdings LLC; Prov for Appvl Subj to Conds (Dist. 12 - White) (Wilson) (Req of Mayor)
3/11/25 CO Introduced: TEU
3/18/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
TEU PH Pursuant to Sec 336.10, F.S. - 4/1/25
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

9. [2025-0186](#) ORD Approp \$10,882 from the Special Council Contingency to the Gen Capital Projs Council Dist 5 - Other Construction Costs Acct to Prov Add'l Funds for Traffic Calming &/or Traffic Safety Improvements in Council Dist 5 in Accordance with the Provisions Outlined in Sec 11.13 of Ord 2023-504-E (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM J. Carlucci)
3/11/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F, TEU
3/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/18/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

10. [2025-0188](#) ORD-MC Relating to JEA & Article 21 (JEA), Charter of the City of Jacksonville; Amend Sec 21.07 (Fiscal & Budgetary Functions) of Article 21 (JEA), Charter of the City of Jacksonville; Prov for Codification Instructions; Apv an Amended & Restated Interagency Agrmt; Prov for Continued Oversight by the Finance Dept (Reingold) (Introduced by CM Boylan)
3/11/25 CO Introduced: R, F, TEU
3/17/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/18/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/25/25
Public Hearing Pursuant to Sec 21.13, City Charter - 4/22/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

11. [2025-0189](#) ORD Renaming the Public Park Currently Known as “Oakland Park,” Located at 657 E Union St, Jax, FL 32206, in Council Dist 7, Pursuant to Sec 122.105 (Public Buildings, Public Facilities & Public Parks Naming & Renaming Procedures), Ord Code, to Be Known as “Eartha M. M. White Historical Park” (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Peluso)
3/11/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU
3/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/18/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
TEU PH Per Sec. 122.105 - 4/15/25
Public Hearing Pursuant to Sec. 122.105, Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 4/22/25 & 5/13/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

12. [2025-0193](#) ORD Apv the Issuance by the Capital Projects Finance Authority of Its Utility System Revenue Bonds (First Coast Regional Utilities Project), in 1 or More Series, in an Aggregate Principal Amt Not to Exceed \$47,500,000, the Proceeds from the Sale of Which Will Be Used Principally to Finance & Refinance the Cost of Acquisition of Certain Utility System Improvements to Prov Svcs to “301 Villages” to Be Owned & Operated by First Coast Utilities, Inc.; Limited Appvls; Determining Credit Not Being Pledged; Acknowledging Receipt of the Indemnification Recipient of the Borrower; Apv & Auth the Execution & Delivery of an Interlocal Agrmt btwn the City & the Authority (Bryant, Miller, Olive, P.A. & Sawyer) (Req of the Capital Projects Finance Authority)
3/11/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F, TEU
3/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/17/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/18/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

13. [2025-0194](#) ORD Approp \$3,500,000 of Previously Approp but Lapsed Funds for the Fulton Cut Crossing Powerlines Proj & Reclassifying \$17,500,000 of Previously Auth Funds; Prov for Carryover of Funds to FY 26/27; Auth a \$34,500,000 Grant to JAXPORT, Comprised of \$27,500,000 of Funding Previously Auth, & the Appl of \$7,000,000 of Cost Savings from the JAXPORT Dredge Proj Auth by Ord 2020-377-E, to Support the Raising of the Fulton Cut Crossing Electric Transmission Lines, to Increase the Number & Capacity of Vessels Able to Call on JAXPORT Ports; Amend 2024-504-E, the FY 24-25 Budget Ord, to Replace the Revised Schedule B4 to Clarify & Partially Consolidate the “Fulton Cut Crossing Powerlines” & “JAXPORT Dredging (2020-377-E)” Projs; Auth the City to Enter Into an Agrmt with JAXPORT & JEA to Provide the Grant as Further Detailed Therein; Req that the Finance Dept Administer the Agrmt Auth Herein; Req 1 Cycle Emergency Passage (B.T. 25-058) (Sawyer) (Req of Mayor) (Co-Sponsors CMs Lahnen, Howland, Miller & Johnson)
3/11/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F, TEU
3/17/25 NCSPHS Emergency/Amend/Approve 7-0
3/17/25 R Emergency/Amend/Approve 6-0-1 (Gay)
3/18/25 F Emergency/Amend/Approve 6-0
3/18/25 TEU Emergency/Amend/Approve 5-0-1 (Gay)
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/25/25

EMERGENCY/AMEND/APPROVE

Aye: 5 - Pittman, Clark-Murray, Gaffney Jr., Peluso and White

Excused: 2 - Lahnen and Carlucci

Abstain: 1 - Gay

Mr. Linksy explained the emergency. The emergency was approved via a voice vote, 5-0-1 (Council Member Gay abstained). Council Member Gay stated that he will be abstaining from voting on the bill and emergency due to a potential business interest. Mr. Linksy explained the NCSPHS amendment he stated that the amendment attaches a revised Budget Transfer (BT) to ensure that the correct version is included. Additionally, it references language stating that the \$3.5 million transfer is intended to be replenished with a contribution from JEA next year as an aspirational goal. The NCSPHS amendment was approved 5-0-1 (Gay Abstained). Council Member Gay reiterated that he will be abstaining from voting on the bill and amendment.

Council Member Peluso asked for clarification, stating that he wanted to ensure that the reference to JEA's future contribution was only aspirational. He questioned what the amendment actually did, asking whether it codified anything.

Phillip Peterson, Council Auditors Office, responded that the mayor will present a budget that is expected to include an additional \$40 million contribution from JEA. If approved by the Council, it will be part of the budget. Whether or not the mayor includes sending that money back to reserves, or if Council decides to take action to cut something to send it back to reserves, would be separate decisions. He confirmed that the amendment does not codify anything but reflects the intent to replenish the money being taken from reserves with funds that will be included in next year's budget.

Council Member Clark-Murray asked Joey Greive, to provide further explanation from JAXPORT's perspective. She noted that, except for Council Member Pittman, most of the committee members were not on the Council when the original bill was passed. She explained that this bill continues work that was previously approved and makes necessary adjustments due to cost increases.

Joey Greive, CFO of JAXPORT, explained that in 2022, the city had planned a \$45 million power line raising project. Of that amount, \$22.5 million was granted by the state, and the remaining \$22.5 million was split between the port and the city. As the project progressed, JEA, received updated estimates that increased the total cost to \$117 million. Due to the significant cost increase, no single entity could cover the additional expenses alone, leading to negotiations involving JEA, JAXPORT, the Mayor's Office, and the State to restructure the funding plan. Mr. Greive outlined the new funding structure, explaining that JEA would now contribute \$32.5 million, while JAXPORT would also increase its contribution to \$32.5 million. The state's contribution remains at \$22.5 million. The city's contribution, which was originally a mix of grants and loans. He also addressed the \$5 million revolving line of credit from the original 2022 bill, stating that it would now serve as a contingency fund. If project costs exceed \$117 million, the \$5 million would be converted into a grant. Any costs above \$122 million would then be split between JAXPORT and JEA. He noted that this structure was designed to protect the city from further financial liability beyond what is already committed. Mr. Greive emphasized that the Mayor's Office structured the agreement to ensure that the city's exposure is limited and that the funding plan in Exhibit B of the ordinance details the financial commitments from each participating entity: the state, the city, JEA, and JAXPORT.

Council Member Clark-Murray thanked Mr. Greive for his explanation and noted that she hoped it clarified any concerns regarding the funding plan and the intent of the amendment.

NCSPHS AMENDMENT

- 1. Attach Revised Exhibit 1 to include corrected version of BT**
- 2. Include language of the intent to replenish the \$3.5 million transfer form reserves in fiscal year 2025-2026 from the JEA contribution made annually pursuant to Section 21.07 of the Jacksonville City Charter**

- **City will contribute up to \$34.5 million of funding toward the project**
- **JPA & JEA each to contribute \$32.5 million**
- **FDOT will continue to contribute \$22.5 million**
- **If cost overruns occur, the City will cover the first \$5 million (encompassed in \$34.5 million contribution). Any overruns after that will be split 50/50 between JPA & JEA.**
- **City's net out-of-pocket costs are increasing between \$19.5 million - \$24.5 million (depending on cost overruns) as compared to the previous agreement based on the previously authorized loan amounts now becoming grants to JPA (see separate handout).**
- **A one cycle emergency has been requested because the guaranteed maximum price of the contract for the project expires on April 3, 2025**

14. [2025-0207](#) ORD Deapprop \$1,704,017 from Gen Fund Operating Transfers Out, Including \$1,028,251 to the Solid Waste Disposal Fund & \$675,766 to the City Venues Fund & Recognizing \$675,766 in Add'l Revenue Received in the City Venues Fund; Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute a 1st Amdt to Contract btwn City & Meridian Waste Florida, LLC, for Residential Curbside Solid Waste & Recyclables Collection & Transportation Svcs (Service Area II); Rescinding Ord 2024-800-E; Prov for City Oversight by the Solid Waste Div of the Office of Admin Svcs; Req 1 Cycle Emergency Passage (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM White)
3/11/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F, TEU
3/17/25 NCSPHS Emergency/Amend/Approve 6-0
3/17/25 R Emergency/Amend/Approve 7-1 (Carlucci)
3/18/25 F Emergency/Amend/Approve 6-0
3/18/25 TEU Emergency/Amend/Approve 6-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 3/25/25

EMERGENCY/AMEND/APPROVE

Aye: 6 - Pittman, Clark-Murray, Gaffney Jr., Gay, Peluso and White

Excused: 2 - Lahnen and Carlucci

Mr. Peterson explained the emergency stating that the nature of the emergency was to continue providing solid waste services under mutually agreeable terms as proposed in the legislation. The emergency was approved unanimously via a voice vote

Council President White explained that the bill had already gone through all other committees. He stated that this was the Meridian bill and acknowledged that the previous version had not worked, leading to a veto. Following that, he had asked Meridian and the Mayor's Office to renegotiate, and they reached an agreement. He clarified that while this is a different bill number than the original, it essentially contains the same provisions with some additional modifications. He expressed hope that the committee would pass the bill so it could move forward.

Mr. Peterson explained the amendment stating that the amendments from NCSPHS include language to appropriate the prior approved funding from 2024-800, which was referenced by Council President White. The amendment attaches a revised Exhibit B and Exhibit 1, which is the Budget Transfer, to correct imbalanced accounts and descriptions necessary to fund the agreement. It revises the explanation of appropriation accordingly and fully rescinds the 2024-800 bill that had been previously approved by the Council. He stated that the amendment also attaches a revised First Amendment to the contract with Meridian. It corrects Section 7.1 regarding the time period extension, ensuring the agreement is extended for six years. It amends Section 3 of the First Amendment so that Section 3.5 is not entirely stricken but only modified in relation to the rate review process and Section 6 is updated to remove years that are no longer applicable to the contract. Section 7 clarifies that the monthly base rate Meridian will be paid is in accordance with Section 8, with adjustments to lump sum payment dates. Section 11 is removed from the First Amendment concerning maximum indebtedness, while Section 7.1 of the current contract is clarified to reflect the maximum indebtedness for this contract. Mr. Peterson stated that the amendment also corrects scrivener's errors in both the legislation and the agreement. The NCSPHS amendment was approved unanimously via a voice vote .

- **A one cycle emergency has been requested in order to allow Meridian to continue providing solid waste services pursuant to the mutually agreeable terms proposed in this bill**

Council Member Gay addressed the committee regarding a handout distributed to Council and the Waterways Commission. He explained that the commission was proposing to send a resolution to the Fish and Wildlife Commission in response to a proposal to open the Pumpkin Hill Preserve to commercial and private shrimping. He stated that the decision had upset many sports fishermen because it would heavily impact shrimp populations, which are a key food source for redfish and other species in the tributaries. He emphasized that allowing shrimping in the area would be harmful and unnecessary. He announced his intent to bring an emergency resolution to the Council and encouraged as many members as possible to understand the issue before Tuesday night. He invited any colleagues with concerns to reach out to him for a discussion.

Council President White asked whether the Council had any authority over the state on this issue and what actions could be taken to prevent it.

Gay responded that while the Council does not have direct authority, he had met with Fish and Wildlife representatives over the past two weeks and had sent a letter requesting a pause in the decision. However, FWC moved the proposal to the next stage. He stated that a small meeting would take place in April, and in May, the issue would go up for a vote. He planned to attend the April meeting, which may be held virtually, and may travel to Ocala in May to speak on the matter. He also noted that Jacksonville has one commissioner on the FWC and said he would reach out to her in hopes of gaining support.

Acting Chair Pittman adjourned the meeting.

NOTE: The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, April 1, 2025.

*******Note: Items may be added at the discretion of the Chair.*******

Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted; but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to KaraT@coj.net.

Minutes: Nayeli Jimenez- Council Research Division

njimenez1@coj.net 904-255-5140

Posted 03/19/2025 5:00 PM