

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



NAYELI JIMENEZ
Research Assistant
(904) 255-5140
NJimenez1@coj.net

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2025-324

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Miller

Date of Introduction: May 13, 2025

Committee(s) of Reference: F, TEU

Date of Analysis: May 12, 2025

Type of Action: Appropriation; one-cycle emergency

Bill Summary: This bill appropriates \$2,100,000 from the Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund – Contributions from Private Sources account to the County-Wide Tree Program – Remove and Replace – Trust Fund Authorized Expenditures account. This funding is designated for the removal and replacement of dead, dying, or hazardous trees on public property throughout the City. The legislation requests one-cycle emergency passage and provides for continued oversight by the Department of Public Works.

Background Information: The Tree Commission, established under Ordinance 2017-397-E and codified in Chapter 94, Ordinance Code, is charged with maintaining and enhancing the City's tree canopy. The City manages two Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Funds: one created by Section 25.04 of the Jacksonville City Charter and the other by Section 111.760, Ordinance Code. Both funds support the planting and maintenance of trees in public rights-of-way and lands to mitigate tree canopy loss. The County-Wide Tree Planting Program (Remove and Replace Program), authorized by Ordinance 2018-775-E, enables the Department of Public Works to remove and replace trees that are hazardous or in decline. On April 28, 2025, the Tree Commission recommended appropriating \$2,100,000 to this program. The Department of Public Works will continue to oversee and administer the program, ensuring trees are recorded electronically (e.g., species, size, date) through Plan-it Geo or its equivalent.

Policy Impact Area: Public Infrastructure; Urban Forestry

Fiscal Impact: This bill appropriates \$2,100,000 from the Tree Protection and Related Expenses Trust Fund – Contributions from Private Sources to the County-Wide Tree Program – Remove and Replace account. The appropriation is non-lapsing and includes carryover authority.

Analyst: Jimenez