JEFFREY R. CLEMENTS
Chief of Research
(904) 255-5137

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202
FAX (904) 255-5229

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2022-687

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President at the request of the Mayor

Date of Introduction: September 13, 2022

Committee(s) of Reference: F, NCSPHS

Date of Analysis: September 15, 2022

Type of Action: Appropriation; CIP amendment

Bill Summary: The bill appropriates $1,215,000 from the Parks and Recreation Department's Capital Projects – Acquiring and Preserving Land account to fund several land acquisition and preservation park improvements citywide. It amends the 2022-26 Capital Improvement Program to reflect the allocation of funds to the specific projects.

Background Information: This bill would appropriate almost all of the remaining balance in an account established under the 2005 Preservation Project to provide amenities in 2 preservation parks and to acquire land adjacent to 2 City-owned sites. The allocations are: $250,000 to the Betz-Tiger Point Preserve to construct a new restroom with septic system at the recently completed park development area to support picnicking, fishing, kayaking and trail use; $500,000 to the Julington-Durbin Preserve to construct a new restroom and parking improvements at the trailhead with water and sewer connections to Bartram Park Boulevard; $70,000 to the Ferngully Preserve to acquire a 4.85 acre adjacent parcel to enlarge and protect the preserve (to be supplemented with $62,500 in contributions from the North Florida Land Trust, the Audubon Society, and private donations to reach the appraisal price of $125,000 plus closing costs); and $395,000 to acquire 2 parcels totaling 0.81 acres adjacent to the Norman Studios complex on Arlington Road to reassemble the original studio property.

Policy Impact Area: Recreational amenity improvements

Fiscal Impact: The bill allocates remaining funds in a Preservation Project construction account to benefit recreational assets.

Analyst: Clements