

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2024-325

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

Date of Introduction: April 23, 2024

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, R, F, TEU

Date of Analysis: April 25, 2024

Type of Action: Appropriation; fund carry-over authorization; invocation of Procurement Code direct contracting exemption; authorization to execute research agreement; Ordinance Code waivers; designation of oversight agency; reporting requirements

Bill Summary: The bill appropriates \$200,000 from the Environmental Protection Fund's fund balance to a contract with the University of Florida Center for Coastal Solutions to commission a research study of septic tank vulnerability and remediation prioritization in Jacksonville. The funds are authorized to carry-over to FY24-25. The bill invokes the direct contracting exemption in the Procurement Code to permit a non-competitive contract with the Center for Coastal Solutions. The Mayor and other officials are authorized to execute a project agreement with the organization. The bill waives provisions of Ordinance Code Chapter 118 – City Grants – and Chapter 110 – City Treasury – to permit a not-for-profit entity to be funded without a competitive procurement process and to be paid in advance for work to be performed rather than via reimbursement. The Environmental Quality Division is designated as the City's oversight agency for the project. The bill requires that annual reports be submitted by the contractor to the Environmental Protection Board through project completion, at which time a final report is due.

Background Information: The University of Florida Center for Coastal Solutions will conduct a multi-criteria vulnerability assessment of all single family residential septic systems and a prioritization of single family residential septic to sewer conversion projects. These two tasks will empower Jacksonville, Baldwin, Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, and Jacksonville Beach to identify in a data-driven and geographically standardized way the level of risk septic systems may be facing in their jurisdictions, and to create septic-to-sewer conversion project groupings that are financially and spatially efficient and are most likely to reduce septic system failure risks. Payment to University of Florida will be made in four equal payments of \$50,000.00 pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Agreement.

Policy Impact Area: Septic tank remediation

Fiscal Impact: The bill appropriates \$200,000 from the Environmental Protection Fund's fund balance for the contract.

Analyst: Clements