

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2021-100

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Members Hazouri, Carlucci, Pittman, DeFoor

Date of Introduction: February 23, 2021

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

Date of Analysis: February 25, 2021

Type of Action: Borrowing authorization; appropriation; budget ordinance amendment; CIP amendment; quarterly reporting requirement

Bill Summary: The bill authorizes borrowing of \$100 million in either commercial paper or fixed-rate debt to provide funding for wastewater system improvements and appropriates the \$100 million to the Water/Wastewater System Fund. It amends the FY20-21 budget ordinance (2020-504-E) to replace Schedule B4 to add the \$100 million line item for the Water/Wastewater System Fund to the FY20-21 Debt Management Fund Detail. It amends the 2021-25 Capital Improvement Program to incorporate the funding for this initiative. Quarterly reporting to the City Council on the progress of the initiative is required.

Background Information: The bill is intended to continue the start that has been made by the City and JEA in addressing the need to remediate large numbers of failing septic tanks, particularly in the Florida Department of Health's identified Septic Tank Priority Area listing. The City and JEA jointly provided \$30 million to phase out septic tanks in the Biltmore C, Beverly Hills and Christobel neighborhoods, the top three areas on the 2020 Septic Tank Phase-Out Prioritization List, but that amount has proved insufficient to complete the work. Pending Ordinance 2021-118 would appropriate an additional \$29.9 million to complete those projects. The City is estimated to have over 65,000 septic tanks currently in use, with over 22,000 operating in the 37 identified priority area neighborhoods.

Policy Impact Area: Septic tank remediation

Fiscal Impact: The bill authorizes borrowing of \$100 million for the project via either short-term commercial paper or long-term fixed rate bonds.

Analyst: Clements