

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2021-385

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Priestly Jackson

Date of Introduction: June 22, 2021

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

Date of Analysis: June 24, 2021

Type of Action: Amending grant program criteria; authorizing preparation of grant agreement; designation of oversight agency

Bill Summary: The bill amends the eligibility criteria for participation in the Northwest Jacksonville Economic Development Fund's "Failing Non-Residential Septic Grant" program by removing the requirement that the business must be located on a property with a commercial zoning classification and by providing that the program is available to both for-profit and not-for-profit businesses, but not for homesteaded properties. It authorizes the Office of General Counsel to develop an agreement form for execution by the City and the grant recipient in compliance with the criteria of the grant program. The bill requests that the Office of Economic Development make semi-annual reports to the City Council on the use of the NWJED funds for the septic tank system grant program, including a listing of the grant recipient and their addresses, the amount of the grants, and status of the grant for each application. The Public Works Department is designated as the oversight agency for review of the septic tank installation and repair work and the Office of Economic Development is designated as the oversight agency for the grant application and reporting processes.

Background Information: Via Ordinance 2018-196-E the City Council created a grant program and criteria for the use of NWJEDF resources to assist businesses in the eligible area to repair or replace malfunctioning septic tanks and drain fields as an aid to the economic development prospects of the area until such time as a centralized sewer system can be made available. This bill clarifies the eligible use of those funds for both for-profit and not-for-profit businesses, and requests that the Office of Economic Development report twice a year to the Council on the progress of the grant funded projects.

Policy Impact Area: Economic development through septic tank remediation

Fiscal Impact: No direct impact to the City.

Analyst: Clements