

LEGISLATIVE FACT SHEET

DATE: April 19, 2023

BT or RC No: **BT23-085**

(Administration & City Council Bills)

SPONSOR: **Office of Economic Development**

(Department/Division/Agency/Council Member)

Contact for all inquiries and presentations: **Office of Economic Development**

Provide Name: **Kirk Wendland** Contact No: **255-5455**

Email **kwendland@coj.net**

PURPOSE: White Paper (Explain why this legislation is necessary. Provide, who, what, when where, how and the impact.) Council Research will complete this form for Council introduced legislation and the Administration is responsible for all other legislation. (Minimum of 350 words – Maximum of 1 page)

The Cecil Commerce Center (Cecil) is a 6,000-acre industrial park owned by the City of Jacksonville since 1999. The City has experienced success attracting large manufacturing and distribution facilities to Cecil. The proposed 3-mile rail spur construction project will provide direct access to the 600-acre City-owned Mega Site. The project would include clearing of vegetation and installation of rail spur and needed drainage infrastructure. The rail spur right-of-way is all owned by the City of Jacksonville. The new rail spur would be partially constructed on the former rail bed utilized by the U.S. Navy, when they occupied the former NAS Cecil Field.

There are currently only a few certified Mega Sites in the state; thus, the addition of rail access to the site will allow the City to better market this site for development. The 600-acre tract of land has received great interest over the past year from parties that would like to utilize a portion and/or all of the 600-acre Mega Site to establish a large, advanced manufacturing, operation.

The City applied for and was awarded a Florida Job Growth Grant in the amount of \$5.5 million between the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the City of Jacksonville (Recipient) to assist with the construction of a new, 3-mile rail spur into the 600-acre City-owned Mega Site, at Cecil Commerce Center. The total project cost is estimated at \$8 million, which includes a City contribution of \$2.5 million. This will require an amendment to the CIP and will appropriate \$5.5 million from the grant and \$2.5 million from the City towards the construction of a new rail spur into the 600-acre City-owned Mega Site at Cecil Commerce Center.

APPROPRIATION: Total Amount Appropriated \$8,000,000 as follows: List the source **name** and provide Object and Subobject Numbers for each category listed below:

(Name of Fund as it will appear in the title of the legislation)

Name of Federal Funding Source(s)

From: _____ Amount: _____
To: _____ Amount: _____

Name of State Funding Source(s)

From: Grant Capital Improvement Projects/Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Amount: \$5,500,000

To: Grant Capital Improvement Projects/Cecil Mega Site Rail Spur Amount: \$5,500,000

Name of COJ Funding Source(s)

From: General Fund - GSD/Transfer from Fund Balance Amount: \$2,500,000

To: Grant Capital Improvement Projects/Cecil Mega Site Rail Spur Amount: \$2,500,000

Name of In-Kind Contributions:

From: _____ Amount: _____
To: _____ Amount: _____

Name & No. of Bond Account(s):

From: _____ Amount: _____
To: _____ Amount: _____

PLAIN LANGUAGE OF APPROPRIATION/FINANCIAL IMPACT/OTHER:

Explain: Where are the funds coming from, going to, how will the funds be used? Does the funding require a match? Is the funding for a specific time frame? Will there be ongoing maintenance and staffing obligation? Per Chapter 122 & 106 regarding funding of anticipated post-construction operation costs. (Minimum of 350 words – maximum of 1 page.)

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ACTION ITEMS: Purpose/Check List. If "Yes" please provide detail by attaching justification and code provisions for each.

ACTION ITEMS:

Emergency? Yes _____ No **X** _____

Justification of Emergency: If yes, explanation must include detailed nature of emergency.

Federal or State Mandate? Yes _____ No **X** _____

Explanation: If yes, explanation must include detailed nature of mandate include Statue or Provision.

Fiscal Year Carryover? Yes _____ No **X** _____

Note: If yes, note must include explanation of all-year subfund carryover language.

Fund 33101 is an all-years fund.

CIP Amendment? Yes **X**__ No _____

Attachment: If yes, attach appropriate CIP form(s). Include justification for mid-year amendment.

The City must pass legislation for the grant appropriation prior to executing the grant agreement with DEO. As such, an amendment is required in the current fiscal year.

Contract/Agreement Approval? Yes **X**__ No _____

Attachment & Explanation: If yes, attach the Contract/Agreement & provide name of the Department and include contact name and telephone number of the person r that will provide oversight. Indicate if negotiations are on-going and with whom. Has OGC reviewed/drafted? OGC has reviewed the grant agreement. OED will provide oversight and administration in coordination with Public Works.

Related RC/BT? Yes **X**__ No _____ If yes, attach appropriate RC/BT form(s)

Waiver of Code? Yes ___ No **X**

Code Reference: If yes, identify code section(s) in space below & provide detailed explanation (including impacts) within white paper.

Code Exception: Yes _____ No **X** _____

Code Reference: If yes, identify code section(s) in space below & provide detailed explanation (including impacts) within white paper.

Related Enacted Ordinances? Yes _____ No **X** _____

Code Reference: If yes, identify related code section(s) and ORD reference number in the space below & provide detailed explanation and any changes necessary within whitepaper.

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED: Purpose/Check List. If "Yes" please provide detail by attaching justification and code provisions for each.

ACTION ITEMS:

Continuation of Grant? Yes **X**__ No _____

Explanation: How will the funds be used? Does the funding require a match? Is the funding for a specific time frame and/or multi-year? If multi-year, note year of grant. Are there long-term implications for the General Fund?

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Commerce Center. The total project cost is estimated at \$8 million, which includes a City contribution of \$2.5 million. The City will own the rail spur and will be responsible for operations and maintenance costs, which will be passed along to the businesses utilizing the rail.

Surplus Property Certification? Yes No Attachment: If yes, attach appropriate form(s)

Reporting Requirements? Yes No

Explanation: List agencies (including City Council/Auditor) to receive reports and frequency of reports, including when reports are due. Provide name of the Department and include contact name and telephone number of the person responsible for generating.

Reporting is required quarterly to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

Executive Director: 
(Signature)

Date: 4/19/2023

Prepared By: 
(Signature)

Date: 4/19/2023

ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSMITTAL

To: MBRC, c/o Budget Office, St. James Bldg., Suite 325

Thru: N/A
(Name, Job Title, Department)

From: Kirk Wendland, Executive Director, Office of Economic Development (OED)
Initiating Department Representative (Name, Job Title, Department)

Phone: 255-5455 E-Mail: kwendland@coj.net

Primary Contact: Kirk Wendland, Executive Director, Office of Economic Development (OED)
Initiating Department Representative (Name, Job Title, Department)

Phone: 255-5455 E-Mail: kwendland@coj.net

CC: Rachel Zimmer, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of the Mayor
Phone: 255-5006 E-Mail: rachelz@coj.net

COUNCIL MEMBER/INDEPENDENT AGENCY/CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICER TRANSMITTAL

To: Mary Staffopoulos, Office of General Counsel, St. James Bldg., Suite 480

Phone: 255-5062 E-Mail: mstaff@coj.net

From: N/A
Initiating Council Member/Independent Agency/Constitutional Officer

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Primary Contact: N/A
(Name, Job Title, Department)

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

CC: Rachel Zimmer, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of the Mayor
Phone: 255-5006 E-Mail: rachelz@coj.net

Legislation from Independent Agencies requires a resolution from the Independent Agency Board approving the legislation

Independent Agency Action Item:

Board(s) Action/Resolution? Yes _____ No **X** _____

Attachment: If yes, attach appropriate documentation. If no, when is board action scheduled?

FACT SHEET IS REQUIRED BEFORE LEGISLATION IS INTRODUCED